Admission Tax
Cut in Half
On July 1st

GOP Opposition Looms;
‘Backward Step’ Is Cry

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Unless Congress acts in the meantime to renew or extend present excise taxes effective July 1, 1947, the wartime Federal admissions tax will drop from the present 20 per cent rate to the present 10 per cent rate, by virtue of President Truman's proclamation of yesterday which terminated his war powers.

Federal admission taxes during November, 1946, amounted to $36,293,291, compared to $36,393,291 collected during the same month in 1945, the U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue reported from Washington yesterday.

The Presidential proclamation appears to have Republican Congressional leaders "confused and sitting on" (Continued on page 11)

Schartay Heads
RKO Studios

Dore Schary, Vanguard Films producer, who is committed to the David O. Selznick company until next December, will join RKO Radio as executive vice-president in charge of production under a five-year agreement announced by N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO. No definite date has yet been fixed for Schary to shoulder his new duties as Rathvon's associate, but conferences are proceeding between the RKO

(Continued on page 11)

Filing of Decree on Eve of Holiday
Found Offices Closed, Many Away

With only nine hours remaining in the year 1946 and, perhaps, as a toast or gesture to the New Year, the anti-trust decree, handed down Tuesday afternoon by the New York Federal Court, caught the industry completely by surprise. Although expected at any time during the past month, the decree was filed at about 3:05 P.M. when many industry executives already had begun their New Year's holidays or were heading out of town either for rest or business.

Virtually all home offices had proclaimed a holiday recess at 11 P.M. A number of company attorneys who were still in their offices, upon learning of the court's action, remained until late in order to get copies of the decree to begin studying it immediately.

Some executives who were at early holiday parties when word of the decree's filing was received, left immediately to seek copies and consult with attorneys.

(Continued on page 11)
Personal Mention

SIR ALEXANDER KORDA is due in New York from Florida today, and is scheduled to leave here for England on the Queen Elizabeth tomorrow.

SEYMOUR MAIER, 10mm sales chief for Loew's, International, will leave by plane today for a three-month tour of Latin America.

JOHN CORFIELD, and PAUL SOOKIN, British producers, will return to England from here tomorrow on the Queen Elizabeth.

PAT PINELL, Columbia salesman in Denver, and CATHERINE WAIN, were married recently.

AL GROSS, M-G-M office manager in Denver, is recuperating from pneumonia.

RALPH WHEELRIGHT, screen writer, is en route to New York from the Coast.

JERRY WALD, Warner producer, has arrived here from Burbank.

MARIAN CARL, actress, is here from the RKO Radio studios.

'Best Years' Is Cited

CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—"The Best Years of Our Lives," has been chosen the best picture of 1945-46 by the Chicago Film Critics. Lesner, film critic of The Chicago Daily News. Eight foreign films chosen by Lesner as the best, from the standpoint of entertainment value, were: "It's a Wonderful Life," "The Killers," "Notorius," "Diary of a Chambermaid," "Strange Love of Martha Ivers," "Anna and the King of Siam," "My Dinner with Andre," "Lady in the Dark," "Saratoga Trunk." Best foreign films of the year as chosen by Landor, were: "Cesar and Cleopatra," "Open City," "La Caine" and "Once There Was a Girl."

Fonda in New Post

BENNINGTON, Vt., Jan. 1.—David G. Fonda has assumed his new duties as general manager of American Theatre Corp., in Waterfield, N. Y. He was formerly manager of the General Stark Theatre, here, for two years and had been affiliated with that theatre for seven years. He has been succeeded by Gary Buckley who is the son of Mrs. C. H. Buckley who heads the local theatre corporation.

'Kilroy' to Monogram

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 1.—Steve Brody, president of Monogram, has closed a deal with Dick Irving Hyland, who is to release their initial production, "Kilroy Was Here." Jackie Cooper and Jackie Coogan will be starred in the comedy, which goes before the cameras at Monogram on Jan. 15.

Industry Overseas

Has 'Solemn Duty'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Export and production segments of the industry have a "solemn duty to perform" in their behalf, the Motion Picture Export Council met on Post-War Economic Policy and Planning, said in a report summing up hearings conducted on industry export problems in Washington.

First, films must be produced to portray the true American way of life, then the council said, every effort must be made to get U. S. films into nations which now maintain economic "curtains.

The House group talked against censorship of foreign films in its recommendations that it be encouraged to continue efforts to eliminate discriminatory barriers against U. S. films abroad. The Committee praised the work of George Canty, State Department film consultant, who handles trade agreements pertaining to films. It was pointed out that lower hearings on film exports and the State Department's cultural film program, it was said, "No mention was made in the report about American curtailment of films from Russia and other nations which do not permit our pictures. It left the impression of striking back in the air."

Fresno, Cal., Warns On Fire Hazards

FRESNO, Cal., Jan. 1.—In an effort to heighten fire precautions here, fire marshal W. D. Speed, has notified local exhibitors that any laxity in fire regulations will have fire curtains and decorations, both in the installation of electric motors and the use of inflammable materials. All electric motors and freezing motors were ordered to be immediately turned out, and fireproofing of upholstery, drapes, curtains and decorations were specified. It is unnecessary, with a stipulation that the manager of the theatre must post certificates certifying the date when materials were fireproofed.

WB Shifts Managers

MEMPHIS, Jan. 1.—Two changes on memehis theatre picture decision-making announced today by Harry Kalmine, president of the circuit, James Barnes, Memphis manager since Howard Whaley's departure last January, will be transferred to the Warner Theatre in Oklahoma City, his place to be taken by James McCarthy, manager of the Warner Theatre in Madison, Wis.

Steinberg in E-L Post

HERB STEINBERG has been added to Jerry Pickman's publicity staff at the E-L Post, here. Herb, a New York newspaper contact, while Marie Slate will handle syndicates, and Leo Brody, magazines, Steinberg, who is head of the Picture Relations Co., which handles physical distribution for Eagle-Lion.

1st Selznick Sales Conference Friday

First of a series of conferences between home office executives and key field personnel of the new Selznick Sales conference Friday here tomorrow. Present at the meeting, conducted by Milton Kuslow, domestic general sales manager, will be Harry C. Coogan, Pacific Coast sales manager, from Chicago, and Thomas Duzine, New England sales manager.

Other division managers are expected in New York for additional conferences. As in charge of sales on the Pacific Coast, and a Southern sales manager is expected to be named in the near future.

DeMille's AFRA Suit Appeal Is Dismissed

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 1.—Superior Court Judge William E. Dick has dismissed the AFRA appeal by Cecil B. DeMille from a court order disallowing his suit to restrain the American Federation of Radio Artists from levying an assessment against him for use in a political campaign. Wilson卡通刊出版 the application was filed, under the AFRA's article of incorporation.

The suit was first brought when DeMille, then a Federation member, objected to the payment of a $1 assessment in December, 1944. The assessment was to be used to fight a state legislative proposal that would guarantee the right to work regardless of affiliation—a proposal that eventually was defeated.

Ryder Heads SMPE; Jan. 23 Board Meet

LOREN L. RYDER, Paramount studio engineering executive, yesterday became president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers. Donald E. Hyndman, Eastern division sales manager of Eastman Kodak, will be vice-president, and William S. Jones, owner of 3M Photo, will be secretary.

Ryder will preside at a special meeting of the Eastern division to get essential information to Ryder at ceremonies to be conducted at an SMPE board of governors meeting scheduled for Jan. 23, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, here.

Testimonial for Epstein

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 1.—Ely J. Epstein, new RKO Radio sales manager in this territory, will be honored at a testimonial luncheon by the local Motion Picture Association, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on Jan. 20. William K. Boyle is chairman of the arrangements committee.

David Schiller, 64

Funeral services for David Schiller, manager of Loew's Dyckman's Theatre, New York, were held this week in his home in Englewood, N. J., on Monday. Schiller, member of the late E. A. Schiller, vice-president of Loew's, Inc., was 64.

Coming Events

Jan. 3—Pooled television network coverage of Congress in session, 12 Noon.

Jan. 7—Annual meeting of the Motion Picture Association of America, Waldorf-Astor Hotel, New York.


Jan. 19-20—Meeting of Monogram franchise holders and branch managers, Coronado Hotel, San Diego.

Jan. 13-19—American-Mexican "Variety Club Week" in Mexico City to inaugurate the Variety Club of Mexico.


Jan. 22-23—Annual convention of the Western Pennsylvania Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners, Bristol Hotel, Pittsburgh.

Jan. 26-28—Meeting of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, Fraser Hotel, Charlotte.

Jan. 27—Federal Communications Commission to resume hearings on film censorship, Manhattan, N. Y.


Feb. 2-3—Virginia Motion Picture Theatre Association convention, Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

Film Truckers' Strike Averted in Detroit

DETOIT, Jan. 1.—The film truckers strike scheduled to take place here beginning at midnight last night has been averted by the signing of a new contract for 1947 by the owners and Local No. 299, teamsters union. Leonard C. Ritter, G. E. DeLaveque of Cinema Service has announced.

Although the terms of the contract are undislosed, both sides are described as satisfied with the new pact.

'Plainsman', 'Guy' Get Legion Ratings

Republic's "The Plainsman and the Lady," and Universal's "Swell Guy," have been classified by the National Legion of Decency, both in Class A-II.

Enter QP Awards: Latta

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 1.—C. J. Latta, Warner Theatre's zone manager, urged his home office managers to enter the annual Quigley Awards competition. Latta voiced his interest in the award before a district meeting here, attended by managers from the Albany, Troy and Utica areas.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor, Published daily except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Co., Inc., 90 Fifth Ave., New York 3, N. Y. Periodicals postage paid at New York, N. Y. and additional mailing offices. PB. 2455. United States patents No. 637,286 and 777,247. Copyright, 1934, by Martin Quigley. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1926, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign single copy, 10c.
SWEET WARNER MUSIC FOR 1947!

A GAL IN CALICO
OH, BUT I DO
A RAINY NIGHT IN RIO
THROUGH A THOUSAND DREAMS
A SOLID CITIZEN OF THE SOLID SOUTH
I HAPPENED TO WALK DOWN FIRST STREET

All these new song sensations in one picture
Now braving for the New Year to
ARTHUR SCHWARTZ & LEO ROBIN!

THE SWEETEST MUSIC ON THE AIR AND THE
SWEETEST MUSICAL BUSINESS ANYWHERE IS NOW
COMING FROM

"THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL"
IN TECHNICOLOR

TARRING

DENNIS MORGAN · JACK CARSON · JANIS PAIGE · MARTHA VICKERS · S.Z. SAKALL · ALAN HALE · ANGELA GREEENE · DONALD WOOD

CARMEN CAVALLARO · ORCHESTRA
"Socko Capra pic! 'It's a Wonderful Life' will enjoy just that at the b.o., and eminently deserves to do so! Word-o'-mouth will accelerate the whirring of theatres' wickets!" — Variety

"A wonderful motion picture! That it will do wonderful business is as sure as anything in show business can be. A picture for all kinds of audiences!" — Motion Picture Herald

"Should account for high grosses in all situations! Exceptionally entertaining . . . superbly enacted by James Stewart and Donna Reed! Excellent, enjoyable entertainment for the entire family. Appears, destined for long and deserved popularity!" — Showmen's Trade Review

"A thoroughly engrossing picture! One of the important exhibition ventures of 1947. It can't miss such an exalted niche!" — Boxoffice

"Outstanding! One of the great films of this or any year! Has all the ingredients to make up swell entertainment! . . . Capra and his touch at his best!" — The Exhibitor

"This is one of the great ones; headed for smash biz! Stirring, profound, intensely human! This is for Everyman! Frank Capra has created a grand picture of humanity! A candidate for many laurels!" — Film Daily

"Going to do wonderful things at the boxoffice! James Stewart's performance of Academy Award stature!" — M. P. Daily
"The entertainment values are guarantee of sensational box-office! Production beyond reproach... top showmanship in the filming!" —Daily Variety

"Excellent mass entertainment! Powerful, deeply appealing human-interest drama. Everyone who will see the picture will love it." —Harrison's Reports

"A truly wonderful motion picture! It is going to roll up record-breaking grosses... and be among the nation's top few everywhere!" —Film Bulletin

Screen Play by Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett, Frank Capra
Additional Scenes by Jo Swerling
Produced and Directed by Frank Capra
Released through RKO Radio Pictures
News Strike Hurts Rochester Theatres

ROCHESTER, N.Y., Jan. 1.—Not even expansion of local radio broadcasts to convert theatre news, along with the city's 325,000 residents, has succeeded in overcoming some losses which have been reported. The current strike of press-room workers against the Democrat and Chronicle and The Rochester Times-Union by Frank Gannett. The shutdown began Nov. 8 when printers, followed by other workers, struck. The Typographical Union, walked off their jobs.

Both newspapers have kept their news staffs at work and The Times-Union has been issuing about 20 post-size bulletin key news while they are being distributed to public places like theatres, clubs and restaurants.

Albert Finke Dies In Portland, Ore.

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 1.—Albert J. Finke, 51, vice-president of Evergreen Theatres in Oregon, including the Portland, Palace, Bush, Music Box, Liberty and Hollywood Theatres, Portland, and four others in Oregon and Washington, died suddenly last Sunday of a heart attack. A native of San Francisco, he was actively connected with the theatre business for the past 25 years. He took an active part in civic programs and headed the Motion Pictures War Activities Committee. He is survived by his wife, a son and a daughter. All pallbearers included leaders in the film industry, state and city officials.

Stafford-Pallos Film To George Schafer

American distribution rights to "The Sixteenth Bar" have been acquired by George J. Schafer Associates. The recently-completed John Stafford-Pallos production, titled "Teharan," was filmed entirely on location in Rome and in the Iranian interior.

Directed by William Freshman, from an original story by Dorothy Hope, "The Sixteenth Bar" is built around the 1937 meeting of the Nine Men of Teharan, and the incidental plot on the life of President Roosevelt.

Swigert's Mother Dies

Mrs. Catherine S. Swigert, mother of Earle Swigert, Paramount's Mid-Eastern manager, died at her home in North Wales, Pa., Monday. She was 78 years old. Funeral services will be held at the Harzuff Funeral Hall, North Wales, Saturday afternoon, with interment in the Lutheran Cemetery in Perkasie, Pa. Mrs. Swigert is survived by three other sons and a daughter.

$31,366 for War Wounded

A check for $31,366, representing contributions raised under the aegis of the Men's Service Bureau, will be given to the service department within the circuit's 63 houses, has been presented by George P. Storars to Walter Young, publisher of the Journal-American for the newspaper's War Wounded Christmas Gift Fund.

Georgia Exhibitors Form New Group

ATLANTA, Jan. 1.—Meeting at the Piedmont Hotel, here, organization of Georgia Motion Picture Theatre Owners Operators of Georgia was completed with the following officers elected to serve for 1947: President, Martin, and Martin Thomson Theatres, Hawkinsville; O. C. Lamm, vice-president, Lamm Enterprise Co., Rome; W. J. Thompson, vice-president, Martin, and Martin, Coliseum; John Thompson, secretary, and Martin, treasurer, Martin, Thomson, Catonsburg.


Exhibitors and their wives were greeted at a cocktail party and dinner tendered by the organization. The organizational meeting concluded with the sessions of the regional meetings held in Vidalia, Albany and Rome, since October.

According to Thompson, through the organization, practically every independent owner and operator in Georgia has been brought together, and concrete steps have been made to the membership, anything previously undertaken by a State organization here have been formulated.

Monogram Signs 174 For 1947 Product

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 1.—Five circuits with a total of 174 situations, have signed for Monogram program for 1947-48, according to an announcement by president Steve Brody. They are: M. and P. Theatres Corp., operating houses in the states of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Washington; Wisconsin, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, and Oregon; Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska; Texas; Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Florida; North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida; Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee; and Puerto Rico.

Art Anderson Tribute

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 1.—For his efforts in bringing to a successful conclusion the local Variety club's heart hospital fund-raising campaign, an "Art Anderson Appreciation Fund" of the Northwest Variety Club has been assigned to raise money to establish a home in the hospital to be the residence of Minnesota campus as a tribute to the reining chief banker of the club. Art Anderson, it was disclosed this week.

300 Attend M. and T. Circuit Celebration

MACON, Ga., Jan. 1.—More than 300 employees and guests were on hand for the Martin and Thomson circuits' annual dinner dance, held at the Hotel Dempsey, here, and at which Tommy Thompson announced the 1946 year's operating results and bonus plan which is to pay all employees with a minimum of one month's service. Commissioners Thompson and R. E. Martin Sr. were presented with gold pen-and-ink sets by B. Harvard, Winder, manager, on behalf of the company's managers club.

Special guests at the affair included Bud Morgan, editor of the Macon Telegraph, and Arthur B. Elmore, director of the Macon Symphony, Mountains, North Carolina, and B. D. Jones, president of the Kiwanis Club.

Motion Picture Daily

Thursday, January 2, 1947

UW Acquires Castle Under New Program

Substantiating earlier disclosures that United World Films, 16mm, unit of Universal, will enlarge its scope in the home and non-theatrical distribution field, UW has acquired the business of Castle Films, 16mm, and 8mm, home and non-theatrical production-distribution company. It was jointly announced here Tuesday by Matthew Fox, UW board chairman, and Edmund Castle, head of Castle Films. Acquisition of Castle, Fos- saig, represents augmentation of the seventy-five years of theatrical and non-theatrical production-distribution program launched jointly by UW and the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Britain last month, as reported in Motion Picture Daily on Dec. 19.

Under the absorption, Fox disclosed, Castle Films becomes a division of UW, with Castle continuing as manager of the division. As a subsidiary, Castle will retain its present functions, its organization and present personnel for the production and distribution of pictures in 16mm, and 8mm. All present Castle dealers and sales outlets throughout the world will be maintained. Additionally, Castle becomes a vice-president and a member of the board of UW; Harry J. Spies, former manager of Castle, will also fill those posts; Mur- ray Goodman, Castle sales manager, re- mains in that capacity, and Don Har- rison will continue as production head. Castle, its manager said, will make available under the new set-up some 40 or 50 subjects in 1947. The firm buys as well as produces films, with distribution arranged principally at home projectionists. Fox, said M. Harrison, last in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York and Washington will henceforth operate under the UW umbrella, as all additional exchange outlets to be set up in Boston, Atlanta, Dallas and perhaps St. Louis. Harrison was previously manager of the 100,000 new low-gauge projectors will be made in 1947.

WB Radio 'School'

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 1.—To provide all-around training for its younger players, the Warner studio has launched a radio series known as "Star-Makers Radio Theatre," and broadcast every Tuesday night over Station KFWB.

"It's a Joke" Opens In Austin Jan. 21

World premiere of "It's a Joke," Soviet Union Eagle-Lion production, will take place in Austin, Texas, at the Paramount Theatre, on Tuesday, Jan. 21, simultaneously with the inaugural screening in New York and H. Jester, it was announced today by A. W. Schwalberg, Eagle-Lion vice-president and general sales manager.

Following this, the picture, made under executive supervision of Bryan Foy, E-L production vice-president, will begin release in West Wayne, San Antonio, Jan. 22; Metropolitan The- atres, Houston, Jan. 23, and the Majes- tics, the New York, and Delmar, radio's 'Senator Claghorn' who stars in the film, and June Lockhart who has the romantic lead, will head a caravan of stars from New York.

Vermont to Produce Series for 20th-Fox

Edmund H. Reek, vice-president and producer of 20th Century-Fox Movietone News, has been named by 20th Verm- ont to supervise the production of a series of special short subjects.

The series has been associated with 20th Century-Fox as head of the foreign versions department. Prior to that he was a documentary producer, in Europe, and during the war he was associated with the Office of War Information.

Warner Zone Meeting

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 1.—Programs and policies for 1947 were dis- cussed at a quarterly meeting of the Warner Management Corp.'s regional officers. John D., Alaska and Utah, attended the meeting at which zone headquarters, here. Managers of 11 home offices and assistant zone manager C. A. Smalkowitz, and contact manager J. P. Faughan presided.
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<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>MONO.</th>
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<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td>SECRET HEART OF SIGMA CHI Claudette Colbert Walter Pidgeon D—97 mins. (Rev. 11/29/46)</td>
<td>SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elise Knox Phil Regan M—93 mins. (Rev. 11/27/46)</td>
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<td>Dec. 28</td>
<td>SINGIN' IN THE CORN Judy Canova C—61 min. (Rev. 11/25/46)</td>
<td>SONG OF THE SIERRAS Jimmy Wakely and 'Lasses' White D—681</td>
<td>BLUE SKIES Bing Crosby Fred Astaire M—107 min (Rev. 9/36/46)</td>
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<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO Louis Hayward Barbara Britton D—137 mins. (Rev. 11/27/46)</td>
<td>(Dec. Release) GINGER Frank Albertson Barbara Reed</td>
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<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>THE JOLSON STORY Cylinda Williams, Benny Motzler, William Tabbert M—129 mins. (Rev. 9/16/46)</td>
<td>WILD COUNTRY Eddie Dean</td>
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<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>VACATION DAYS Freddie Stewart June Preisser</td>
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**Notes:**
- Dates are based on national release schedules and are subject to change.
- Letters denote the following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action.
- Production numbers are in parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.
**Final Decree**

(Continued from page 1)

The decree enjoin the distributor defendants (Continued on page 1)

"From granting any license in which minimum prices for admission to a theatre are fixed . . . by the parties . . . to the exclusion of all higher arbitration . . . or in any manner."

"From agreeing with each other or with others, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of maintaining a system of clearance."

"From granting any clearance between parties to the exclusion of all other competition" and, in competitive situations, from granting clearance "in excess of what is reasonably necessary to protect the licensee in the runs granted."

"From further performing any existing franchise . . . and from making future thees in the manner described above."

"From making or further performing any formula deal or master agreement.

"From performing or entering into any license in which the right to exhibit one feature is conditioned upon the licensor's taking one or more other features."

**Injunctions**

The defendants, as exhibitors, are enjoined:
- From making or continuing to perform pooling agreements whereby given theatres of two or more exhibitors normally in competition are operating in a single area thereby making the business policies of such exhibitors are collectively determined . . . or where pooling arrangements are divided among the owners according to prearranged percentages.
- From acquiring or offering to acquire any beneficial interest in any theatre . . . in conjunction with any other defendant or in conjunction with any independent where such interest shall be greater than five per cent unless such interest shall be 10 per cent or more.
- From expanding . . . present theatre holdings" except through dispositions or as parties and defendants and between defendants and independents—and then only if the court shall first find "that such acquisition will not unduly restrain competition."

"From operating, booking or buying films from any independent agent where such agent is known . . . to be also acting in such manner for any other exhibitor, independent or affiliate."

**Modifications**

In modifying its original competitive-bidding provisions, the statutory court, composed of Federal Judges Augustus N. Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John B. Moore, took partial cognizance of an alternative guaranteed of "some run" suggested by distributor associations and the testimony of the holders at the final decree. To this end, the decree provides that: "A license to exhibit each feature . . . in any competitive area shall be offered to the operator of each theatre in such area who desires to exhibit it on some run (other than a flat rental where feature is to be exhibited in the theatre of the licensor) selected by such operator and upon terms and conditions set up by special public hearings. Setting up specific machinery for handling bids, the court provides that, where a run is determined to be given to an exhibitor in the area not less than 20 days in advance of the date when bids will be received. The offer "shall state the amount of a flat rental as a minimum for such license for a specified number of days. Within 15 days after the licensing date, the court may . . . what he desires and what he is willing to pay for such feature, rental, or the minimum gross receipts, or both." The distributor may reject all offers but, in the event of acceptance of any, shall grant a license upon the runs to the highest responsible bidder, having a theatre of a size, location and equipment adequate to yield a reasonable return to the licensor.

In a supplemental memorandum, the court explained that the competitive-bidding provisions have been modified "in order to meet some of the objections raised at the hearing. To this end, the court provides . . . to bid for any exhibitor in a competitive area who may desire to do so." It was ex-

"The Supreme Court of exhibitor organizations had filed amicus curiae briefs objection to the so-called "auction" sales, and the American Theatres Association and Confederation of Southern Associations had sought to intervene in the case, threatening to appeal to the high court if their petition was denied.

Supporting their plea for voluntary arbitration, the exhibitors in the motion picture system, the judges pointed out in their memorandum that: "These tribunals and trial courts provide a 15-20 per cent cancellation privilege, viz., "To the extent that any of the features have not been traded as shown prior to the granting of the license to a customer, said license shall be deemed null and void upon return of the feature."
Text of Salient Provisions of Decree

Court Adheres U.S. Jurists Who Made the Decision
To Original June Opinion

COMPLETE text of the salient provisions of the final decree in U. S. vs. Paramount et al. follows:

"It is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed, as follows:

The defendant Screen Gems, Inc. and the corporation named as Universal Pictures Company, Inc., are hereby dismissed as to the defendants Screen Gems, Inc., and the corporation named as Universal Pictures Company, Inc., merged during the pendency of this case into the defendant Universal Corporation. The complaint is also dismissed as to all claims against the remaining defendants herein based upon their acts as producers, whether as individuals or in conjunction with others.

Price Fixing
"Each of the defendant distributors is hereby enjoined and restrained from granting any license in which minimum prices for admission to a theatre are fixed by the parties either in writing or through any committee, or through arbitration, or upon the happening of any event or in any manner or by any means.

Clearance
"2. From granting any license in which minimum prices for admission to a theatre are fixed by the parties either in writing or through a committee, or through arbitration, or upon the happening of any event or in any manner or by any means.

Franchise Agreements
"5. From further performing any existing franchise to which it is a party and from making any franchises in the future. The term 'franchise' as used herein means a licensing agreement or series of licensing agreements, entered into as part of the same transaction, in effect for more than one picture season and covering the exhibition of pictures released by the distributor during the entire period of the agreement.

Formula Deals and Master Agreements
"6. From making or further performing any formula deal or master agreement to which it is a party. The term 'formula deal' as used herein means a licensing agreement with a "minimum run," the period of which the theatre in which the pictures are to be booked is considered to have been run, all exclusions being made by agreement.

Judge H. W. Goddard

Judge A. N. Hand

Judge John Bright

Single Sales
"7. From offering or entering into any license in which the right to exhibit one feature is conditioned upon the licensor taking one or more other features. To the extent that any of the features have not been trade shown prior to the granting of the license for more than a single feature, the licensee shall be given the licensor the right to reject twenty percent of such features not trade shown prior to the granting of the license, such right of rejection to be exercised in the order of release within ten days after there has been an opportunity afforded to the licensee to inspect the feature.

Some Run
"8. From licensing in the future any feature for exhibition in any theatre or its own, or in any manner except the following:

(a) A licence to exhibit each feature released for public exhibition in any competitive area shall be offered to the operator of each theatre in such area who desires to exhibit it. Such licence or licenses (other than upon which such feature is to be exhibited in the theatre of the licensor) selected by such operator, and upon uniform terms.

(b) Each licence shall be granted solely upon the merits and without discrimination in favor of affiliates, old customers, or others.

Competitive Bidding
"(c) Where a run is desired, or is to be offered, upon terms which exclude simultaneous exhibition in competing theatres, the distributor shall
notice, not less than thirty days in advance of the date when bids will be received, all exhibitors in the competitive area, offering to license the features upon one or more runs, and in such offer shall state the amount of a flat rental as the minimum for such license for a specified number of days of exhibition, the time when the exhibition is to commence and the availability and clearance, if any, which will be granted for each such run. Within fifteen days after receiving any such notice, any exhibitor in such competitive area may bid for such license, and in his bid shall state what run such exhibitor desires and what he is willing to pay for such feature, which statement may specify a flat rental, or a percentage of gross receipts, or both, or any other form of rental, and shall also specify what clearance such exhibitor is willing to accept, the time and days when such exhibitor desires to exhibit it, and any other offers which such exhibitor may care to make. The distributor may reject all offers made for any such feature, but in event of the acceptance of any, the distributor shall grant such license upon the run bid for to the highest responsible bidder, having a theatre of a size, location and equipment adequate to yield a reasonable return to the licensor. The method of licensing specified in this subdivision shall not be required in areas where there is no competition among theatres or in run, or in which there is no offer made by any exhibitor within the time above mentioned. The words 'exclude simultaneous exhibition' shall be held to mean the exhibition of a specified run in one theatre with clearance over other theatres in the competitive area. The words 'competitive area' shall refer to the territory occupied by more than one theatre in which it may fairly and reasonably be said that such theatres compete with each other for the exhibition of features on any run.

(d) Each licence shall be offered and taken, theatre by theatre and picture by picture.

(ec) A theatre is not a defendant's own theatre unless it falls therein a legal or equitable interest of minority five per cent or more, either directly or through affiliates or subsidiaries.

Refusal of Run
"9. From arbitrarily refusing the demand of an exhibitor who offers a theatre in competition with another theatre not owned or operated by a defendant distributor, or its affiliate or subsidiary, made by registered mail, addressed to the home office of the distributor, to license a feature to him for exhibition on a run selected by the exhibitor, instead of licensing it to another exhibitor for exhibition in his competing theatre on such run. Such demand shall be deemed to have been received either upon the receipt by the exhibitor of a refusal in writing or upon the expiration of ten days after the receipt of the exhibitor's demand.

Defendant Exhibitors
"Each of the defendant exhibitors...is hereby enjoined and restrained:

(1) From performing or enforcing agreements referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the preceding section II hereof to which it may be a party.

(2) From making or continuing to perform pooling agreements whereby given theatres of two or more exhibitors normally in competition are operated as a unit or whereby the business policies of such exhibitors are collectively determined by a joint committee or by one of the exhibitors or whereby profits of the 'pooled' theatres are divided among the owners according to predetermined percentages.

(3) From making or continuing to perform agreements that the parties may not acquire other theatres in a competitive area where a pool operates without first offering them for inclusion in the pool.

(4) From making or continuing leases of theatres under which it leases any of its theatres to another defendant or to an independent operator of a theatre in the same competitive area in return for a share of the profits.

Divestiture
"(5) From continuing to own or...
Court Adheres

(From preceding page)

acquiring any beneficial interest in any theatre, whether in fee or shares of stock, excepting agreements with another defendant, and from continuing to own or acquire such an interest, except an interest independent (meaning any former, present or putative motion picture theatre operator which is not owned or controlled by defendant, and such interest, if any, which violates this provision), one defendant may acquire the interest of another defendant or independent but such defendant serving which he revealed that such provision shall remain in the provision, that one defendant may acquire the interest of another defendant or independent without such interest shall remain in the provision, that one defendant may acquire the interest of another defendant or independent without such interest shall remain in the provision.

Show Cases

(“Nothing contained in this decree shall be construed in any way whatsoever, the right of each distributor to license, or in any way to arrange or provide for the exhibition of any or all the motion pictures which it may at any time desire to license, and under such terms, and subject to such conditions as may be satisfactory to it, in any theatre in which such distributor desires, is hereby vested by the provisions of the clause of this decree, a proprietary interest of 95 per cent or more directly or indirectly or subsidiaries.”)

Nullifies Existing Decree

Section five decrees that: “The provisions of the existing decree shall be hereby declared to be of no further force, effect, except it may be necessary to conclude arbitration proceedings now pending and to liquidate in an orderly manner the financial obligations of the defendants and the American Arbitration Association, incurred in the establishment of the new decree arbitration system. Existing awards and those made pursuant to pending proceedings shall remain enforceable. But this shall in no way preclude the parties or any other persons from setting up and entering into such arrangements as may be satisfactory to the parties in any theatre or any distributor desires, is hereby vested by the provisions of the clause of this decree, a proprietary interest of 95 per cent or more directly or indirectly or subsidiaries.”

Reviews

"Stagecoach to Denver" (Republic)

R EPUBLIC'S latest Red Ryder offering, adequately sprinkled with gunplay, hard riding and the other action elements that characterize standard Western fare, serves up, additionally, some extra kiddie appeal in the persons of a trio of youngish, likable youngsters, Bobby Ellis, who plays Red's little flier "Sid-kick" named "Little Beaver," and Bobbie Hyatt, in the role of an orphan lad who becomes the innocent victim of the machinations of a ruthless stage-coach owner. Handsome Allan Lane plays the dashing, straight-shooting Red Ryder tollbooth in a manner that Rem and the precocious of the villain, and Martha Wentworth, as a trusting middle-aged townsman. Bewhiskered Emmet Lynne is entrusted with some mild comedy roles.

The proceedings have to do with villain Roy Barcroft's land-grabbing prosopsestives. He constructs his one of the stagecoaches destroyed on the road in order to kill an honest land commissioner. Young Hyatt, also a passenger, is on the trail of the crook. The incident arouses Red's suspicions; he starts to check up, and before long is mixing with Barcroft and his henchmen. Needless to say, in the end Barcroft is exposed as a land swindler and is brought to a just defeat. R. G. Springsteen directed; Sidney Picker was associate producer.


Charles L. Franke

"Johnny O'Clock" (J.E.M. Production-Columbia)

SPARKED by Dick Powell and Evelyn Keyes in the top roles, and em- bodied with a strong supporting cast, "Johnny O'Clock" is the kind of real thrill-plugger that contains within its bosom some of the most suspenseful melodrama of the type which has been registering well with theatre-goers, and is bound to bring smiles to exhibitors as they hear the coined bon mots in their tills.

Modeled on the gangster-type plots of pre-war vintage, the film offers Dick Powell as the egoistic, terse-spoken overseer and junior partner in a lavish gambling house, with Tyce involved, with Jim Bannon, a corrupted cop, in shaking down other gambling houses. Two murders follow Bannon's announcement that he is planning to break off with Powell and "muscle-in" on the larger racket, headed by Thomas Gomez; in effect is Bannon, the other is doing favors for men. Suspicions pointing at Powell and Gomez, who are ostensibly partners, the action winds up with a gun-battle between the two and a few gripping moments while Powell, the victor, oscillates between shooting his way to freedom past the law, represented by Lee J. Cobb, or surrendering himself to stand trial and also to fate for his illegal activities.

While the story-line, concocted by Milton Holmes, is a bit thin in spots, it holds water well in the telling, particularly because of the direction and scenario by Robert Rossen, Edward G. Nealis produced, with Holmes as associate. Also in the cast is Ellen Drew.

Performances are generally good and, fortunately, brutality and violence, which have been coming into vogue to an increasing degree in current fare, is suggested, but it is kept down to a minimum.

Running time, 85 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

Irvcing Kaplan

Coast Unions

(Continued from page 1)

Council to meet tomorrow for general discussion of the issues at stake. How- ever, producers will not attend the meeting, their reply to the invitation being that, in part: "Anxious as we are for the end of the strike, we do not feel we have any proper place at the conference you have called." All along the producers' stand has been that settlement could be effected only by the unions involved in the strike.

In a letter, Byron Price, vice-president here of the Motion Picture Association, issued a New Year's Day statement in which he said 10 major studios have issued during the year lump-sum retroactive paycheck aggregating $17,000,000 to 900 employees. Recipients were members of 43 unions and guilds.

Additional payments totaling $1,600,000 will be made to members of five other unions when final contracts are signed. Price said.

German Film Starts

In British Zone

By Hubert C. Ze LOEWENSTEIN

Berlin, Dec. 27 (By Airmail)—The first feature produced in the British zone of occupation is now in work. It is called "Zugvoegel," ("Migrating Birds") and is directed by Rolf Meyer, for release "Studio 45." There are no filmmaking bureaus in the British Zone today; therefore unknowns are being used.

The difficulties German pictures en- countering are the same everywhere. Meyer had to start out with 20 maids and he never got any more. Each one had to be treated as a little irreplace- able treasure, carefully saved and used again.

An international film club has just been founded in Berlin. Its opening was attended by Erich Pommer, U. S. head of German production, German actors and producers, and officers representing the various unions.

A Swiss organization, founded a year ago for the 'reestablishment of the German actors' guilds,' has published its first annual report showing that 13,500 pounds of food, clothes and other items have been distributed among German actors and other performers in the American, British and French zones.

Screen Guild Prod.

Expanding Abroad

Screen Guild Productions, organized about 18 months ago, has broken con- siderable ground in its development of outlets in Europe with franchise deals already closed in some situations and others pending, according to William Feeney, who has returned here recently from the Coast.

Feeney said he will leave here about Jan. 20 for a complete tour of the Continent in behalf of further franchise arrangements for the company, whose 1946-47 program is now set at 20 to 25

Distribution deals on a franchise basis to date have been signed with groups in Belgium, Spain, Portugal and Holland. Feeney believes the franchise agreements will add to the company's entire program and in certain instances transactions call for an advance against a percentage, he said.

Authorize New Station

Middleboro, Ky., Jan. 1. —The Federal Communications Commission has tentatively authorized the Pinnacle Broadcasting Co. here to operate a new station on 1400 kilo- cycles, 250 watts, unlimited time. The Pinnacle Broadcasting Co., which has applied for the same allocation, has a right to appeal the FCC's ruling to the appropriate court.

New Radiant Offices

Chicago, Jan. 1.—The opening of New York and San Francisco branch offices has just been announced by the Radiant Manufacturing Co., makers of projection screens. The New York and San Francisco offices will be under the supervision of District Man- agers, Harry Millar and Jack Neuman, respectively.
50% Tax Slash

(Continued from page 1)

a fire." Several Republicans have al- ready said the new law would throw any luxury tax cut "until personal

The President's surprise move places the new Congress "a step back-ward," it was indicated in Republican quarters. Rep. Harold Knutson, (R-Minn.), incoming chairman of the House Ways and Means Commit-
tee, asserted that the President's action would "necessitate a complete re-appraisal of our tax picture."

Asked if he thought the incoming Repub-
lican committee would be willing to go along with the cut in corporate taxes, Knutson reverted to his foregoing statement.

Exhilarating tax cut will cost the

Chambiss H. Collier

Memphis, Jan. 1. — Chambiss
Hayden Collier, who owned and oper-
ated the Globe Theatre at Drew, Miss, died last Friday at Methodist

2. 3. 4.

head and Daniel T. O'Shea, Vanguard

president, to settle this point.

Since his last four pictures were

a radio lot, Schary is not a newcomer

in studio. In a statement to RKO studio

personnel, Schary indicated there

were "real places on the earth" where

our sights and change in some of our

perspectives," and added: "I intend to

augment our creative manpower, but

there is going to be no loose, ill-con-

sidered or slashing changes in person-

nel in the immediate future."

THE END

1. Mr. Dakers, of London, has been

Segal to Century

Maurice Segal formerly of the 20th Century-Fox production department, has

joined Century Theatres' publicity-

advertising department under Edward

Shapiro, former Twentieth-Fox publicist

on a new house publication which the thea-

tre group is planning and will also

double as exploiter.

Jocan Will Produce

Chicago, Jan. 1. — Advance Pro-

ductions, Inc., a new producing firm, has

been formed by Jocan Will, former

owner of the Monroe Theatre, loop house.

Headquarters of the company will be

located here. Rights to 12 plays have been

acquired.

had been searching for "a man of production experience and the great creative talent" to become his associ-

ate and overseer in the "creative as-

pects of our work."
Season's Greetings from Republic Pictures
Films Pose Big Problems For Congress

To Weigh Divorce, Labor; May By-pass Tax

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Legislative measures of great importance to the industry will be reviewed by the 86th Congress, which convenes tomorrow.

A primary problem is the reduction of admission and corporation taxes. It is believed that there may be no attempt to raise the 10 per cent pre-war.

(Continued on page 5)

US Interest in Films Widens

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The nation’s capital is becoming one of the most film-conscious capitals in the world, with practically every Government department and Congress displaying an increasing interest in the industry as one of the top media of communication through which great public service can be realized.

A summary of stronger emphasis placed recently on films indicates not only an educational asset, evidenced in the use of films by the War and Navy Departments as a visual aid for training servicemen and the creation.

(Continued on page 7)

Goldwyn Calls for World-wide Awards

“The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences’ annual awards should include pictures made all over the world and not be limited to American films,” opined Samuel Goldwyn yesterday following his return here on the Queen Elizabeth from England. “The day is gone, or it will be gone before long,” Goldwyn added, when awards of the kind made by organizations such as the New York Film Critics (which voted Goldwyn’s

(Continued on page 7)

ATA Favors An Appeal

Clear indication that the American Theatre Association will fight that part of the New York Federal Court decree dealing with competitive bidding was given by a spokesman for the organization today. “An appeal is in order,” it was said.

Thurman Arnold, counsel, is now in Washington and will come to New York next week to discuss with ATA principals the matter of appeal, first of the denial of its petition to intervene in the case and then for elimination of the bidding paragraph in the decree.

A different stand was assumed by George B. Brooks, who in association with John G. Jackson represents the Conference of Southern Associations, which like ATA is strongly opposed to competitive bidding. Brooks said that his opinion the decree provides considerable relief, as compared with the court’s original opinion. On this he was referring to clause in the decree which stipulates that bidding is to be put on an elective basis, that is, is to be made available only when exhibitors in competitive situations request it.

However, he stressed that ultimate determination of CSA’s position as to be made by the membership. Robert Barton, CSA attorney, in Richmond, will meet with the group on the “practical effects of the decree,” he said.

Gene Autry Forms His Own Company

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 2.—Gene Autry has established his own independent producing company, Gene Autry Productions, to make four high-budget Westerns annually during the next two years for Columbia release. Autry will use Columbia facilities, with Armand L. Schaefer as associate producer. Autry is president of the new company, and Mitchell Hamblin, vice-president.

British PCA Aide Urged by Corfield

The American Production Code in Britain would be very advantageous to British producers if they expect to sell pictures in the U. S., John Corfield, J. Arthur Rank producer, said here yesterday on the eve of his departure for England.

(Continued on page 7)

Divorce in Five Years, Now U.S. Aim

Washington, Jan. 2.—Estimating that “complete theatre divorce” can be obtained in approximately five years, the Department of Justice, appealing the industry anti-trust suit decision to the U. S. Supreme Court, will ask the high tribunal to impose temporary measures to defeat monopoly” during that changeover period, it was reported as Government attorneys prepared today to analyze the final decree handed down by the New York Federal District Court.

Spokesmen indicated that the Department would “yield” to a system of policing the decree if it is upheld on appeal. The government, however, will not support a system of voluntary arbitration, as requested by the New York Court. It was added.

CIEA Urges Divorce

Far from satisfied with the terms of the industry decree handed down Tuesday by the New York Federal Court, the Conference of Independent Exhibitors Associations will hold fast to its original position of backing the Department of Justice in the latter’s

(Continued on page 6)

Distributors Weigh Appeal of Decision

The distributors embarked following yesterday on interpretation and study for possibilities of appeal the New York Federal Court decree governing distributor-exhibitor business conduct with competitive bidding, for

(Continued on page 6)

Para. News Covers 20 Years of History

The 20-year period from 1927 to date, and all the important news events which were recorded by the newsreel cameras are the subjects of Paramount News’ “Two Decades of History,” which was screened for the

(Continued on page 7)

Holds Decree Leaves ‘Much To Be Desired’

NEW HAVEN, Jan. 2.—In the first professional analysis of the final decree in the New York anti-trust suit to be made public, Herman Levy, general counsel of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, declared today that “while the decree still leaves much to be desired by independent exhibitors, it is better than what might have been expected from the opinion rendered by the court in June.

“The exhibitor attack against so-called ‘auction’ selling had some effect,” Levy states in his analysis. “This much is very important: the decree has eliminated the language of the June opinion which was acceptable of the interpretation of permitting ‘auction block’ selling, that is, going from theatre to theatre to get the highest bid.

“In MPTOA’s final brief filed with the court we asked the judges to draw

35 Cases Now Before AAA

Although 33 cases and two appeals are still pending before the film division of the American Arbitration Association, there was no indication yesterday whether these would be the final cases set for disposition before

(Continued on page 6)

Decree Hits SROs ‘Duel’ Road Shows

The Selznick Releasing Organization’s plan to roadshow “Duel in the Sun” may be curtailed as a result of the New York Federal Court’s refusal to exempt roadshows from the injunction against the fixing of admis-

In This Issue

“Green for Danger” is reviewed on page 10.
Personal Mention

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount's Western division sales manager, will leave here today for Los Angeles.

R. BIGGERS of the Gay Theatre, KNOXVILLE; JOHN STILLMAN, Tennessee distributor, and R. H. MACKAY, Mrs. HAYNES of the Clairmont Theatre, in that Georgia town, were recent Atlanta Film Row visitors.

MILTON SPERLING, president of United States Pictures, has delayed his trip to New York, from wood, to confer there with BEN KALMENSON, Warner distribution vice-president, who is now on the Coast.

JULES LAPIUS, Warner's Eastern division sales manager, and SAM LEPKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, will return to New York headquarters today from a trip to the Indianapolis and Cincinnati areas.

CHARLES C. PENNY, Paramount's special representative in Indiana and Ohio, has returned his headquarters in the latter city on Monday after a long illness.

ELMER SICHEL, Long Island booker for Century-Theatres, and Miss. SICHEL, returned to their regular duties at a distributor's headquarters, Artline Patricia, born at Bronx Hospital, here.

GROVER PARSON, PRC's Southern sales manager at Atlanta, is visiting Charlotte with RALPH MCCOW, special representative of United-Lex-Leo.

SAM SHAIN, trade press representative at 20th Century-Fox's home office, is ill with pneumonia.

RALPH RICHARDSON, British actor, has been knighted in London.

Name Glenn Mentch E-K Sales Head

Glenn W. Mentch has been appointed manager of Eastman Kodak's sales service division. Mentch's appointment took effect yesterday. He had been assistant manager of the division.

Tone-Hakim Production

Columbia Pictures will release "The Mating Call," original screenplay by Ben Hachtel to be produced by Frank Tone and Raphael Hakin, S. Sylvan Simon has been borrowed by M-G-M to direct the film, which will star Tone.

Bergman Is Promoted

CLEVELAND, Jan. 2. – Edwin R. Bergman, PRC branch manager, has been promoted to a special sales post, and Mark Goldman, manager of the PRC Pittsburgh office has been named his successor.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE three-judge statutory court handed the industry greetings late Tuesday afternoon, whether or not the mentioned "Happy New Year" will echo in the wake of the decision in the case of the U.S. America versus Paramount Pictures, et al remains to be seen. Plus one extremely vital step—appeals to the U.S. Supreme Court by plaintiff and defendant, the reasons for which are fully and on the side of caution, presumed or actual soothsayers, like this one for instance, do well to weigh their typewriters as they go.

This returns us to a safety island resorted to several times before, its text taking the form of a simple prelude which makes it clear we are no less than or whatsoever, certain tentative conclusions drawn from local and long distance telephoning appear to be reasonable.

Distributor defendants may find themselves in position to return to that which the consent decree of 1940 and the New York decision of June 11 had ruled out—the coupling of shorts, reissues, Westerns and imports with the sale of any other feature. The June 11 decision read: "... nor shall any distributor defendants require an exhibitor to license shorts, reissues, Westerns or foreign films as a condition of licensing other features." Paragraph 7, Section 2 of the decree merely excluded the companies: "From performing or entering into any license in which the right to exhibit one feature is conditioned upon the taking one or more other features."

The qualifying phrase, in italics which are ours, is absent. It may prove very significant.

Although, as anticipated, each license is to be offered theatre-by-theatre and picture-by-picture, it has been generally expected a distributor could sell blocks of five under these conditions. Already the doubt has increased if he will do so under the 20 per cent cancellation clause in the final decree. Simple mathematics are enough to demonstrate rejection can apply only when the minimum of five is sold; 20 per cent of anything less will end up with cancellation of part of a whole feature. Distributor attitudes in this direction of course, are hardly available at this juncture. But, if and where an out is sought, quicksilver analysts are assuming every escape shape by simply not making groups of five available.

Speculation is on the way up, too, over the working mechanics of the ordered system of competition by bidding where the exhibitor so elects. Vested in the distributor is the right to reject all bids on a given attraction. If he does, however, he is faced with an inability to get his picture played. He is similarly obligated to set up the flat rental, minimum, which he is willing to accept. But the entire process on the other hand, is privileged to declare how he intends meeting this figure—whether by agreeing to the number of dollars the distributor wants by percentage, or some other method.

Herman Levy, for the MP'TO council, here raises an interesting point. He asks how can the distributor, or anyone else for that matter, determine which is the acceptable bid if the dollars are to be arrived at by percentage which can be calculated only after the attraction has played off.

Moreover, if his interpretation is correct, Levy sees an advantage to the theatreman in that he can be offered one bid from competing exhibitors, thus removing from the distributor any ideas about re-opening the letter or peddling for a higher quotation. Therefore, he foresees a condition which will establish automatic checks and balances on the cost of film, and, more importantly in his view, eliminate the auction system over which theatre voices were raised in mighty thunder when the proposal was first advanced.

How the exhibitor-defendants can hope to resolve their theatre holdings, how troublesome the business of placing proof of clearance on the distributor; what about roadshows and what precisely, defines a competitive area?—these are some of the other weighty matters currently telescoped in the cause of space and investigation. To be remembered above all else, however, is that this decree is final insofar as the New York court alone is concerned.

There is a place called Washington.
Shocking?

She's Sensational!
It's GRABLE GERSHWIN and GREAT....

BETTY GRABLE

DICK HAYMES

THE Shocking MISS PILGRIM

IN TECHNICALCOLOR

Anne Revere • Allyn Joslyn • Gene Lockhart

Elizabeth Patterson • Elisabeth Risdon • Arthur Shields • Charles Kemper • Roy Roberts

Written for the Screen and Directed by GEORGE SEATON • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG

From a Story by Ernest and Frederick Maas • Music by George Gershwin and Lyrics by Ira Gershwin • "But Not In Boston" "For You For Me For Evermore" • "Sweet Packard" • Tour of the Town • "Welcome Song" • "Stand Up and Fight" "Changing My Tune" • Aren't You Kind of Glad We Did?" • One Two Three" • "Waltzing Is Better Sitting Down" "Waltz Me No Waltzes" • Dances Staged by Hermes Pan • Costumes Designed by Orry Kelly

All the Sensational Boxoffice Hits are Made by 20 Century-Fox
Film Prose Big Problems

(Continued from page 1)

Exercise rate, which was cut in half by President Truman on Tuesday when he gave up many of his war powers.

Congressman Harold Krouton of Minot, minority leader of the House Ways and Means Committee, asserted that it is the mission of the GOP to win the war in the next 100 days. The plan will include corporation and other business taxes, including excess profits on sales.

High Republican Congressional leaders predicted here today that there will be no "additional increase" of the Federal income tax for the current fiscal year.

Divorce Pattern

Coming to the forefront with the divorce legislation to be tackled on the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, will be Senator William Langer of North Dakota, who intends to call in exhibitor representatives to consult on the "patent rights of the divorcées who should take the money now," there is expected to be no Justice Department objection to the legislation.

With virtual elimination of all commercial construction in sight, Congress is not expected to act on building controls.

Labor measures are likely which will reduce the chances for jurisdictional disputes, such as the present Hollywood strike. Senator Robert Taft of Ohio, Steering Committee Chairman, and California's Senator William Knowland have both announced that "labor unions must assume responsibility with power." Knowland has threatened to introduce a law to prevent jurisdictional strikes if the Hollywood situation is not promptly cleared up.

During the past few years Congress has been rapidly closing toward a "Federal aid to education program." This endeavor would include a sweeping educational act, as has been announced by the U.S. Office of Education. The UOE is already cooperating with the Motion Picture Association by sponsoring the production of educational films, at the suggestion of MPA president, Eric Johnston.

Top priority will be given trade barriers imposed on American films abroad.

The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate and the House on Post-War Economic Policy and Planning intend to hold hearings on foreign trade, which both sides of the Congress have expressed a keen interest in the problem of free international information. The hearings have been deferred to "an overhanging, as several committee reports made during the last Congress indicate that the Sherman and Clayton acts do not adequately protect the small business man and lack the teeth to break trusts."

At the request of the Census Bureau, the Review will be asked to consider a plan for a business and manufacturing census. These censuses encountered strong opposition last session because Republican members objected. Former Commerce Secretary Henry Wallace, who supervised the administration of the project, scheduled to include the film industry and possibly the entire economy of the United States, the surveys would cost more than $12,000,000. Census Bureau headquarters have been in touch with MPA officials regarding the survey. Eric Johnston has already disclosed that the Association has volunteered to conduct a national and international census. Johnston contends that the industry "knows less about itself than any other industry of business."

Republican lawmakers have warned that a majority of the Government information services are due for a drastic overhaul by the end of the fiscal year; the Motion Picture Division is now located in the Department of Commerce.

Film activities in a majority of the Federal agencies will be halted. House Leader Joseph W. Martin of Mass., has indicated he will fight every move on the part of the Administration to propagate their policies to the people. Senate side, Senator Taft has said that when the "new leadership is through, there will be less propaganda issued by the Government and more facts reaching the people."

The State Department is scheduled to be asked to continue its cultural relations film program. Appropriations will be exhausted in July and Congress will be asked to grant more funds for the program. Even while the Democrats retained control of Congress there was a sharp increase in the number of documentary film programs. The Senate restored the cut, but such action during this session is unlikely.

No Detail Estimate

Again concerning film trade barriers, Senator Constance Bailey, the M.P.A. film consultant, asserted today that although it is difficult to venture now any detailed estimate of what will be the final results of the forthcoming International Trade Charter conferences, the film industry is optimistic that the export problems on pictures will be given "top consideration" at the conference. The brief already has been presented to the M.P.A. and goes into detail to explain the trade ramifications being encountered by the industry.

Meanwhile, Claire Wilcox, director of the Office of International Trade, disclosed that "considerable attention will be paid to the problem of eliminating national trade monopolies abroad. Monopoly countries are Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary and Yugoslavia, where there is a 'tendency to monopolies in Holland, where there is a private-system of trading in films. The solution of the problem is a 'tendency to monopolies in Holland, where there is a private-system of trading in 'tendency to monopolies in Holland, where there is a private-system of trading in commerce,' called Biscoscoop Bond.

Of the six monopoly nations, U.S. films are permitted to a limited extent. The M.P.A. and the Czechoslovakia have negotiated film agreements with the M.P.E.A., which give the industry a fair deal, permitting more than 62 programs in each country yearly.

Eastman, Vanguard Publicist, Is Dead

James P. Eastman, 34, assistant to Ted Balwin, director of promotion-exploitation at Vanguard Films, died yesterday at his home here.

Eastman was a captain in the Army during World War II and served as an aide to Major Gen. Terry Allen in the European Theatre. Survivors include his brother and a mother-in-law. Funeral arrangements have not been set.

Eastern Pa—So. N. J. Allied Meets Sunday

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—The annual meeting of the Allied Theatre Owners of South Pennsylvania, and Southern New Jersey will be held at the Warwick Hotel, here, Sunday.

With Washington sessions slated for the near future, Sunday's meeting is expected to be attended by leaders of the various units of the organization.

M. R. Austin Named PRC's Denver Chief

DENVER, Jan. 2.—M. R. (Aud) Austin, who has been selling here for Producers Releasing Corp., has been named managing director of that company's exchange, according to Eddie Ashkins, who resigned.

Testimonial for Nolte

BALTOWORE, Jan. 2.—A testimonial dinner is to be given to C. Elmer Nolte, Jr., general manager of the Frank Dureck Circuit in Maryland and New Jersey. The dinner will be held in observance of Nolte's election to the office of Illustrious Potentate of Boumi Temple.

K.C. House Damaged

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 2.—Fire near the Brookside Theatre, a Fox Midwest house, caused some damage when smoke and water seeped into the basement. New Year's afternoon and evening shows were canceled but programing resumed today at the usual time.

Mrs. McMahon Services

Funeral services for Edmond M. McMahon, President of RKO Pictures, and Dr. E. McN. McMahon, RKO assistant comptroller, will take place today at the church of the Holy Rood, Westbury, L. I., following a solemn Mass at St. Agnes Church.
35 AAA Cases (Continued from page 1)

the AAA begins liquidation of its tribunals under the New York Federal Court decision. The principal stumbling block, which was developed in the interpretation of the decree has arisen over the issue of whether the 60-day stay in taking effect would hold them in abeyance to receive new cases until March 1.

No Comment by Braden

J. Noble Braden, executive director of the AAA's film division, said yes
terday that he could offer no comment on the application or interpreta-
tion of the ruling until he had consult-
ed with AAA attorneys at the language of the decision. He added that the day-long huddle with law-
year's yesterday would be inconclusive because they had not yet examined the 45-page complementary document containing the findings of fact and conclusions of law.

Termination of current operations of the arbitration system, which has divisions in 31 cities, is considered foreshadowed in the court decree in section five, declaring that the existing consent decree, under which the AAA was created in August 1940, was to be offor further force or effect; except insofar as may be necessary to wind up the arbitration proceedings now pending and to liquidate in an orderly manner the financial obligations of the defendants and the American Arbitration Association.

'Reasonable System'

However, the decree continued, "this shall in no way prejudice the set-uping up of a reasonable system of ar-
bitration either through the use of the present boards or any others as among themselves.

In view of the court's recommendation for establishment of a volun-
tary arbitration system, Braden as-
serted: "We have always been ready to help any industry in setting up an arbitration system. If it is decided to set up a system, we are ready to discuss it with the people concerned."

'Duel' Roadshows (Continued from page 1)

sion prices in license agreements, even though SRO is not a defendant in the
Government suit, industry attorneys said here yesterday.

It was pointed out that the fixing of minimum admissions having been found to be illegal, actions could be brought, even by attorneys against any non-defendant company which included a minimum admission clause in its contracts.

However, some attorneys said they saw nothing to prevent SRO from
proceeding against its own company of "Duel" between now and March 1, effective date of the de-
crete provision. Moreover, it was pointed out that the roadshow ban could probably be taken by the Society of Independent P. Producers, which is considering roadshows for "Arch of Triumph," "Carnegie Hall" and possibly other productions, and that the effective date of the injunc-
tion would be stayed by such appeals until April 1. Thereafter, there

Granting a two-year postponement of the deadline for partial dissolution of existing partnerships was affiliated and independent theatre owners, or companies convicted on cross-licensing which the Government had requested, U. S. District Judges Hand, J. R. Brown and John Bright have outlined findings relating to, in their respective cases, charges that in company violations of the anti-trust laws lies outside the realm of di-
vergence, which was sought by the Department and Justice.

In 45 pages of "Findings of Fact and Conclu-
sions of Law," filed along with their final decree in the New York equity case, the statutory court de-
crees: "The illegalities and restraints specified are in many, if not most, of the best theatres and block-booking, price-fixing, non-competitive granting of runs and clearances, unreasonable clearances, formula deals, master agreements, franchise agreements, and certain discriminations among licensees between defendants and in-
dependent exhibitors."

The court's "Conclusions of Law" find all the defendants—Paramount, Warner Bros., 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Columbia, Universal and United Artists—in violation of the Sherman Act, by:

"Acquiring in the establishment of a price-fixing system by conspiring with one another to maintain theatre admission prices at levels which would allow each with other to maintain a nation-
wide system of runs and clearances to be substantially uniform in each local competitive area.

The defendants as distributors alone, their theatre-owning subsidiaries exempt, are found to be in violation by:

"Conspiring with each other and with the nation-
wide system of fixed minimum motion picture theatre admission prices to:

Conspiring with each other to maintain a nationwide system of runs and clearances which is substantially uniform as to each local competitive area;

"Agreeing individually with their respective licensees to fix minimum motion picture theatre admission prices;

"Conspiring with each other to maintain a nationwide system of runs and clearances which is substantially uniform as to each local competitive area;

"Agreeing individually with their respective licensees to grant dis-


Scophony Postponement

Hearing on the petition of Scophony Li
dia, a division of cross-complaints brought by Scophony Corp. of Ameri-
ca and Arthur H. Levy, its president, in connection with the Government's Scophony anti-trust suit, which was scheduled for Dec. 31, has been further postponed until Jan. 7.

Taunton, Mass., May Tax

Harrigan, Jan. 2—Peter B. Gay, Taunton Mayor, councilman, has pro-
nounced an ordinance in Taunton that would tax theatres and other places of entertainment extra accounts for Sunday operating.

CIEA Urges (Continued from page 1)

pursuit of divestiture, according to competent sources here.

The group, which comprises National-
Alied and the Pacific Coast Con-
vention of Independent Theatre Owners, among others, contends that com-
petitive bidding as dictated by the de-
crete of January 1 was good for the public, and that it should not be conducted on a flat-rental basis.

Services for Mrs. O'Neill

A funeral mass was celebrated yes-
terday at St. Aloysius Roman Catholic Church in New York City for Mrs. Mary O'Neill, wife of the publicist for Loew's State Theatre here.

Distributors Weigh (Continued from page 1)

the most part the immediate focal point, envisioned by the lawyers as the greatest potential in film operations.

Chaotic conditions would present themselves, the institution of such selling, one film defendant, agreed. All that agreed that competi-
tive bidding for the six months prior to departure from present selling at

Complications Expected

Although the court ruled bidding to be adopted only in such instances as where it is requested by exhibitors, M-G-M's experiment in price selling were pointed to as evidence of various complications which might be expected.

In the case of M-G-M, theatrenumbering in the hundreds requested secured by the number of factors which had to be weighed in present results, type of operation and possible results, particularly when a fourth or fifth run house owned a pair of runs. These results came from scattered parts of the country, rather than being concentrated in a few areas.

All lawyers made it clear that it is too early to tell whether the action will work. First to be taken up, they said, are interpretation of the phraseology and their striking companies, and then consideration of the possi-
bilities of appeal.

Meeting Probable

In all probability a meeting of counsel for the live-theatre owning defen-
dants will be held early next week.

Thomas Turner Cooke, counsel for Universal, has assured exhibitors on the likelihood of appeal, but made it clear that any move would have to be consented to by his client. Cooke said that probably he will file a motion for amended findings and as a result of a decision at least that part of the decree which denies illegal franchise deals with inde-
dependent exhibitors. "I believe," also be said by he himself, he would make an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court on the whole decree.

"Considering every reason to believe" that the decree is illegal in that it "exerted the powers of a legis-

Lawyers in many cases construed the court's document as one which would severely curtail the servicing of top-scale productions which ordinarily would be designed for road-showing. Without roadshow producers would have no reasonable guarantee of adequate returns for multi-million dollar films, they said.
Holds Decree
(Continued from page 1)

the final decree so as not to include any language susceptible of the interpretation could abolish the rule that as now worded does not open the door to an 'action block' selling. It is true that complete and unqualified blocs in prohibited; it is possible under certain circumstances, but that is a quite different matter from the word in the 'action block'.

Six for Music

I then is concerned. I then is concerned. I then is concerned. I then is concerned. I then is concerned.

Para. News
(Continued from page 1)

See Million Gross By 'Edge' at Roxy

Predicting a gross of more than $1,000,000 by the end of the eighth week of "The Razor's Edge" at the Roxy Theatre in New York City, F. W. Balahan and Irving Lesser, directors of the theatre, yesterday announced that in the 20th Century-Fox film rolled up a "sensational net gross" of $175,634 in its sixth week, ending last Sunday, of $10,369 better than the all-time world's high for a week of gross set by Thalberg's, added. These scenes include the box office crash and the ensuing depression, the Coolidge days, the inauguration of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the NRA, TVA, AAA and other agencies which revolutionized the American social and economic order.

Events Leading to War

Following this is a pictorial report on international events—events which were to lead to the Second World War. The movement from Manchuria by the Japanese, the rise to power of Hitler and Mussolini, the ruthless crushing of Ethiopia, Hitler's attempt to get into the Balkans and into Russia, and Chamberlain's and Daladier's appeasement pleas for "peace in our time." The world is a part of this war, the bombing of London, the suffering of civilians, Pearl Harbor, the entry of the United States, President Roosevelt, and the surrender of the Axis powers. Finally there are scenes of a world working for the present peace through the United Nations.

Running 22 minutes, "Two Decades of Drama," is a synchronized and artistically presented newsreel-documented into which has been incorporated all the elements of drama, nostalgia and color of contemporary history. It is set for national release tomorrow.

Samuel Goldwyn
(Continued from page 1)

"The Best Years of Our Lives" will distingui...
Salesmen’s Group Not Unionizing

Chicago, Jan. 2—Arthur M. Van Dyke, Chicago sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, endorsed the recently elected president of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America, reports that his organization is 특정한 장소 (상황)에 대해 설명. 

Stanley Walsh, executive secretary of the Colosseum, said that 13 film-salesmen’s groups throughout the country, making a membership of nearly 500, are now affiliated with the Colosseum. Van Dyke said that the organization for this year was to gain representation in all 31 exchanges throughout the country.

Van Dyke succeeded Frank W. Soley as president in the national convention held recently in St. Louis. Soley, with RKO Pictures, was elected executive secretary. Mel Keller of Portland, Ore., was elected executive vice-president, and N. Presby of Milwaukee was elected executive secretary.

A vice-president and a committeeman were also elected. They are: Eastern district, Ross Williams, Cincinnati; vice-president and George Nathan, Wilming- 

NAB Sets 2 District Sessions for Spring

Washington, Jan. 2.—Scheduling a meeting of the National Association of Broadcasters in the second district May 26-27 at Wil- 

Polish Agreement Now in Effect

Washington, Jan. 2.—The new in-

Four from M-G-M Release This Month

M-G-M will release four features nationally in January. The first is "Till the Clouds Roll By," Technicolor musical; second, "Gallant Bess," is Bettino Brrai and is scheduled for the third, "The Mighty McGuck," and the fourth, "The Lady in the Lake."

10 New RM Members

Washington, Jan. 2.—Ten new members have been admitted to the Radio Manufacturers Association by the Radio directi- 

New Utah 'U' Exchange

Salt Lake City, Jan. 2.—A new exchange of Utah editors and film buyers for Film Television is planned. The group will meet twice a year. The exchange is under the direction of Robert Leonard.

Albany Variety Club Plans Five Events

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Five events have been arranged by the local Variety Club for January. The first will be a testimonial dinner for Alex Seyles, manager of Fabian’s Fashion at Town House, next Monday, Ray Fine, proprietor of the House and a member of Tent 9, will make a speech following the presentation of a picture to Dr. H. W. Schodroff, Grand Theatre man-

RMA Reports 1,544 Nov. Video Sets

Washington, Jan. 2.—Production of 1,544 television receivers by Radio Manufacturers Association members was reported for November, the association announces. This was the largest number of tele-

Annual W B Meeting is Set for Feb. 15

Annual meeting of Warner Brothers stockholders will be held Tuesday, Feb. 15, in Wilming- 

WGN’s New Call Letters

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Call letters of WGN’s new television station will be KDOA. It was announced yester-

Gildred Mexico Circuit

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—A theatre circuit is being organized here by Theodore Gildred, American operator of a large local studio, and Jesus Grovas, producer-president of Producciones Grovas.

Coast Will Start Dimes’ Drive Jan. 15

The opening “kick-off” for the 1947 March of Dimes campaign will be January 1 at the WGN Athletic Club, Wednesday, Jan. 15, where Earl Warren, governor of California, will be guest of honor. Stars will attend, along with the leading leaders in motion pictures, radio, and officials of the Los Angeles chapter of the National Federation, union officials and industrialists.

Four More Receive Charters in N. Y.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Strat- 

Five Westinghouse Stations Raise Rates

Philadelphia, Jan. 2.—Night base rate for Westinghouse radio sta-

Dahlworth Incorporates

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Dahl-

Gildred Mexico Circuit

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—A theatre circuit is being organized here by Theodore Gildred, American operator of a large local studio, and Jesus Grovas, producer-president of Producciones Grovas.
Argentine producer are shielding their cries for increased quota restrictions under the banner of nationalism. Nat Liebeskind, owner and operator of the Avenida Theatre in Buenos Aires, declared here. Liebeskind, the only American exhibitor in Argentina, is here on a three-month trip.

With the Argentine import law now reserving 40 per cent of playing time for foreign product, U.S. distributors here have begun to press for an increase to 50 per cent, Liebeskind continued, adding that he believed the increase stands a "good chance" of adoption because of the local political situation. He added that Argentinean film men are beginning a campaign to impose import limitations on foreign films, a limitation which does not now exist. The practices of the Peron government, however, have not interfered with his policies, he added.

Associated with several companies in the audio-visual equipment department in the course of his more than 30 years in the industry, Liebeskind became an exhibitor in 1942. Previously he had worked in radio and records. He recalled that he became involved in a controversy when he expressed criticisms of the film industry, and now most companies have dropped the practice of supplying Spanish "voices" in the theatres of Europe because they realized that it proves unprofitable to be observed.

"The death knell of dubbed pictures sounded when Argentina declared all one dubbed and supported by a heavy exploitation budget and the other with English titles and practically unhealed," he declared. "We have the definite office figures," he declared. The dubbed picture, which was offering well-known stars and was shown in a house of larger capacity, was outgrossed by 50 per cent, according to Liebeskind.

Argentina has a government-appointed reviewer inspect all product, principally for its political content. So asked if "it is possible" for a film to be "unpolitical," he asserted, "that the American Production Code Administration does such an effective job that probably 90 per cent of U.S. product is cleared."

**Banks Reduce Loans For Mexican Films**

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—Banks specializing in financing the film industry have drastically reduced their credit, it is announced, because of the country's depression, it is shown by their latest balance sheets.

The industry's own bank, the Banco Cinematografico, reported loans, credits and discounts of $3,452,358, a decrease of almost $800,000 in a month, and the credit of the three most prominent producers in the industry. The manager of which is Raul de Anda, prominent producer, announced accommodations of only $60,123.

**New Fire Retardant**

A new type of fire retardant claimed to be the first to offer permanent protection for theatre draperies, curtains, and other fabric has been announced by National Theatre Supply. The new product, known as 'Chez-Flame,' is exclusively distributed in this country by the American office of Royal Chemical of New York.

Canada Films to Mexico

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—Clara Films Mundiales, producer-distributor, will start the distribution of Canadian pictures in Mexico about Jan. 15. This company will begin 1947 with the production of five pictures.

**Japanese Warned of Theatre Crowding**

Ten members of the Japanese cabinet and some 40 Japan legislators have been warned by Motion Picture Ex- porters Council general manager Charles Mayer that the chronic overcrowding of Tokyo theatres not only constitutes a menace to public health and a serious fire hazard, but is resulting in the loss of patronage from the better class of fans. The Jap lawmakers, who took time out from Diet sessions to attend a preview of "The Southerner" in MPEA's Tokyo office, heard Mayer put in a strong plea for immediate remedial action be taken to repair the repair of old houses and construction of new ones.

Tokyo's old war fires of 1940-41 and 288 houses destroyed escape from fire and bombs. Of the 60 new or rebuilt houses that have been added to this number during the two post-war years, many are of flimsy and shack-like construction.

**Film Subtitling Is Preferred by Chile**

By MARIO ROMERO

SANTIAGO, Dec. 26 (By Airmail).—The practice of dubbing Spanish voices into American and English pictures has not been well received by the Chilean public. Many complaints were voiced by theatre-goers, who claimed that the substitution of voices weakened or obstructed presentations.

Recently Paramount put the matter to a test. Two versions of 'And God Made Women' were exhibited concurrently in the Teatro Real and the Teatro Santiago, one dubbed, the other with Spanish subtitles. The dubbed version placed in the Santiago, which usually runs Spanish-speaking pictures. Ballot boxes were installed in the lobbies of both theatres and votes recorded for one result. Result: Teatro Real, showing the version with subtitles, polled 300 for dubbing and 3,257 against. Teatro Santiago, showing the dubbed version, polled 1,178 for dubbed and 744 against. Totals: 4,178 against dubbing, with 1,478 in favor.

Even more significant were boxoffice returns which ran higher at the Real than the English pictures as shown and where the picture remained an extra week after the dubbed version was withdrawn. The only American company still bringing dubbed films into Chile is M.G.M.

The Chilean film industry spent 16,000,000 pesos chilenos (about $534,000) on the production of 10 full-length pictures during 1946, only three of which were produced by Chile Films; six by independent producers. The independent producer's version is considered good, but the average cost of the Chile Films was 2,900,000 pesos.

**Record Production in '47 for Mexico**

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—Producers here hope to have high hopes for 1947 as they estimate 96 productions in the New Year, the highest number for any year in the New World. The Mexican industry has really existed with the making here in 1931 of the first talking picture. The producers' estimate indicates that the depression which the industry here has suffered for some months is passing and will make a strong comeback. The number of pictures estimated was arrived at by questioning of its members by the Mexican Motion Picture Producers Association.

Gershman in U. S. Deal

Hollywood, Jan. 2.—Edward Gershman, vice-president and business manager of United Producers of America, has returned here after a six-week trip to the East, during which he visited clients in Chicago, Detroit, Washington and New York. While in the East, Gershman attended two pictures of the State Department and the first of a new series for the Navy.

Argentina for Clasa

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—Preparations are being completed by Clasa Films Mundiales for the production of a Mexican picture in the Argentina. Production is expected to start early in February.

440 Theatres Now in French Reich Zone

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, Dec. 26 (By Airmail).—Taking its cue from the Americans, Britons and Russians, the French movie producers are effective- ly filling the film vacuum created by the German defeat. Reports from the French zone say that 440 theatres are operating there with more than 1,000- persons attending the shows each evening. Many French films are exhib- ited, but, up to a short time ago, many had to be subtitled. To remedy this condition, French authori- ties, while with no German studios located in their zone, have made deals with the Russians and Americans for their pictures to be dubbed in Berlin and Munich.

French officials now have decided to acquire their own studios, which will be located at Thienen and at Re- ningen. The dubbing studio at Thie- ningen is small, but completely equipped.

In Berlin, Gen. Robert A. McClure has just signed the first license for 13 French films to be produced as pic- ture producer in the U. S. Zone and the American sector of Berlin.

Gustav Froehlich, is at present in Berlin playing the lead in the musical comedy "Thousand Dollar Waltz" ("The Truth"). This picture, soon to be completed, is a production of "Studio 45," located in the former UFA studios and in the American sector of the Reich capital.

**Reports on Need of Equipment Abroad**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—With all but two of an estimated 71 theatres in Lebanon and Syria in need of new equipment, and with only about 12 of 73 houses in Iran operating with still usable projection and sound equip- ment, reports to the United States, Iran, and Algeria sorely require replace- ments and rehabilitation for their exhi- bition outlets, according to the U. S. Commerce department report issued here today. Nathan Goldman, motion picture industry official, conducted the survey, which showed that payment for all exports of this type will have to be made on a deferred basis.

Malta is in the worst way for new equipment due to the extreme bombing which the British Mediterranean base received during the war, the rep- ort stated.

**New Mexican Circuit**

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—Enrique Azzacariga, operator of the local first-run, Cines Alameda, Bucaril and Cine Continental, and radio stations XEU and XEO Bernades and Nezlin Simon, multi-millionaire industrial and entertainment promoter, are ex- pected to close the deal here, which is expected to start before the end of winter.
**Review**

"Green for Danger"  
(Lauder-Gilliat-General Film Distributors—British)

PRACTITIONERS normally in the pseudo-philosophic fields of film making, Frank Lauder and Sidney Gilliat—widely regarded as the British counterpart of the Hecht-MacArthur team—herein deliberately essay to concoct an honest-to-goodness melodrama. Right well do they succeed, thanks to Brinon with recollections of those still current, terrifying little bugs of the paralysed—the bombardings, the picture might well have developed disturbingly. That it doesn't is due to the shrewd tincture of laughs and quiet smiles which Lauder and Gilliat have introd to the picture.

Locate of the picture is the operating theatre of a wartime hospital, in which mysterious killings occur. The surgeon concerned, the anaesthetist, the nursing sisters, all successively come under suspicion as the slayer. There's an unceremonious fraying of nerves until the aforesaid slayer is unmasked in as pretty a piece of nerve-tangling slenderness as we have lately seen. It was a hazardous project, the making of a such a thing; for, one actor emerged from the whole proceeding. But the actors don't, for the very good reason that the surgeon is played by Leo Genn and the anaesthetist by Trevor Howard. Selective American audiences saw Leo Genn in "How Green Was My Valley" and Howard as the doctor in "Brie In Encounters," hence the impeccable quality of both men's work.

Then there's Alistair Sim, the Scotland Yard sleuth who nearly calls the tune on the slayer. The chief of the real Scotland Yard would cock his smile at Sim's inability in picture. Nevertheless, the performance is sheer joy. So much so that British producers will be falling over themselves to prevail upon Sim to undertake a series of Inspector Cockrell parts. Which, in the edition of this piece, wouldn't, but could be a pity, seeing that Sim is far too good an actor to be typed.


By PETER BURNUP

**Perkins Gets New Paramount Post**

Robert V. Perkins, who had been Paramount International's branch manager for the Philippines, has been named district manager for the Philippines, China and Japan, by George Waltner, president of International.

Perkins succeeds F. C. Henry, who was promoted last week to division manager for the territory that includes Japan, Korea, Philippines, Indo-China, China, the Straits Settlements, the East Indies, Burma and India.

Richmond Tax Is Now in Effect

RICHMOND, Jan. 2.—At a stormy session of the board of aldermen, mayor Edward's tax proposal was passed into law. One part of the new tax program includes a five per cent on all admissions to places of amusement. It was expected that the mayor will sign the papers today so that the tax will go into effect immediately.

The city common council last week passed the bill despite much opposition and over strong protests by every amusement operator in the city.

By PETER BURNUP

**Austrian Reports On Mexican Video**

"Television in Mexico has caught the people's fancy as has no other 20th Century entertainment," said Walther B. Austrian, president of RKO Televisiion Corp., who has returned from a nine-month tour through Mexico. "Last month a demonstration which included Mexican bull fights from the Plaza del Toros and choros from the Yucatan was seen in several cities miles away left us a huge section of the population gawping. "In the last week while I was in Mexico City," said Austrian, "I have had dozens of visits and conferences with members of every group that represents television. I have determined to be first with television in Mexico. Plans are underway for the establishment of a transmitter in Mexico City. The Bijuas Theatre, one of the city's oldest houses, was bought by Harry Dryer, its present manager, who was a partner of Steffes for many years."

**3 Steffes Theatres Sold for $290,000**

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 2.—Three Minneapolis loop theatre's were sold today by the estate of the late W. A. (Al) Steffes, at the price of $290,000, Steffes, veteran Northwest theatre operator, died on June 19.

The Alvina, located on 4th Avenue, the Curley house, and the World, a 350-seater, were purchased by George Grannstrom and associates. Grannstrom is president of the Highland Theatre Corp. of St. Paul, which operates several independents in that city. The Bijou Theatre, one of the city's oldest houses, was bought by Harry Dryer, its present manager, who was a partner of Steffes for many years.

**Disney and Goldwyn Engage Greenberg**

Berk Greenberg has been engaged jointly by Walt Disney and Samuel Goldwyn Productions as special sales rep for the company. It is contemplated that his headquarters will be in Singapore. He will work in cooperation with Leon Britton, Far East division manager, in the sales and distribution of Disney and Goldwyn product in that division of RKO's foreign operation, which is headed by Philip Reisman.

Greenberg has been connected with Disney's film operation for ten years, six of which were spent in the Far East.

**Legewie Promoted By 20th's Silverstone**

Henry Silverstone, president of 20th-Fox International and Inter-America corporations, has named Edward Legewie manager of the firm's foreign operations, succeeding Boris Vermon, who will supervise the distribution of a special series of shorts for Fox International.

Legewie, who has been assisting Vermon for the last six months, has had many years experience in the field of work, both in America and Europe.

**Critics' Quotes . . .**

"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE" (RKO Radio-Liberty)  
By Cecilia Ager, PM, New York.

The framework of some ideas in "It's a Wonderful Life" mark it as a picture built along noble lines. It tickled, thought, that its lesson was less foolishly in more convincing characters... —Arthur Kohn, New York Post.

"A warm and merry comedy... the perfect Christmas entertainment... a splendid cast. —Richards, Philadelphia Times.

"Quaint and engaging modern parable on virtue being its own reward... (James) Stewart does a warmly appealing job. —Rosely Crompton, New York Times.

"Like any other Capra masterpiece, this is a humorous fantasy. Once more this director will demonstrate the fallacy of the old Hollywood maxim that fantasy is poison at the box-office. —Allan Cook, New York World Telegram.

**Film Flares, None Hurt**

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—Film caught fire in the projection booth of the Sedgwick Theatre on German town, when manager Ed Schelch bought by operator Howard Ingram before firemen arrived. Manager Lee Balsby ushered out 900 children, many of whom had been held. The next performance was able to be shown as usual.

**Kelly, Others Leave Today for England**

Arthur Kelly, president of Great Mercury Pictures, and Sir Alexander Korda, British producer, are among the more than 2,000 passengers scheduled to leave for England today aboard the Queen Elizabeth which it sails from New York. Others from the motion picture industry who have booked passage are: Michael Powell, Paul Soksin and John Corfield, British producers associated with the Arthur Rank production; Paul Sheriff, Rank art director; Lawrence Evans, London representative of Music Corp. of America; Madeline Carroll, Marlene Dietrich, Margot Grahame and Rod Cameron, screen stars.

**Jolley in E-L Post: Care Forms Company**

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 2.—Art Jolley will be branch manager of National Care Forms Company here, it was announced today.

Harry Care, who operated an independent film organization here until a week ago, has been named to fill the post. Care's former organization was established here by Eagle-Lion Films.

This is the second new film outlet announced in recent weeks here.

Perkins succeeds F. C. Henry, who was promoted last week to division manager for the territory that includes Japan, Korea, Philippines, Indo-China, China, the Straits Settlements, the East Indies, Burma and India.

By PETER BURNUP

**Follows through with a Spanish movie distribution deal. —Edward Legewie, Silverstone.**
Myers Finds Decree ‘Weak’ On Divestiture

Allied States Counsel Holds Appeal Needed

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5—In an analysis of the final decree handed down in the Government’s industry anti-trust suit, Attorney General Myer, Allied States counsel, stated that the judgment is “woefully weak on divestiture and that the court placed too much weight on producer-distributor ownership and operation of theaters.” He said an appeal of the case is imperative.

Myers blasted the court action, which fails to permit a disappointed bidder to examine the bid on which the award was made in competitive bidding.

“Under the decree, favoritism in the granting of runs may be practiced without its coming to the attention of the injured party. It is not to be expected that the Department of Justice will audit, analyze and compare the bids on every transaction,” Myers commented.

In a bulletin to members of Allied, Myers asserted that the association (Continued on page 6)

Industry to ‘Adopt’ Greek War Orphans

Individuals, organizations, theatres and companies throughout the industry will be invited to share in the “adoption” for one year of 15,000 Greek children orphaned by the war, a project which will be undertaken to honor Spyros P. Skouras, president of the 20th Century Fox. It was announced by S. H. Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, that this will be the project of the Fabian family to honor S. H. Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, at a luncheon at the Astor Hotel here on Friday attended by publishers and editors of the industry’s press.

Spryn P. Skouras

Bidding Means Chaos: Fabian

In the most vehement denunciation of the New York decree’s competitive bidding provision to date, Si Fabian, president of the American Theatre Association, on Friday indicted that method as involving “viciousness and chaos.”

In a statement confirming that ATA will endeavor to appeal from that portion of the New York Federal Court decision upon the approval of its board of directors, Fabian said: “This decree directs from competitive bidding with all of the viciousness and chaos we know it to entail. The sound theatre operator stands today facing an era that will make the earlier price wars pall by comparison. He faces competition from those with bigger banks and who have no immediate concern with profit or loss.

“He faces competition from amaz-

(Continued on page 7)

NYC Gives Veterans License Priorities

War veterans will be given special consideration by the New York City license department in granting here of theatre and other licenses during 1947, city license commissioner Benjamin Fielding disclosed.

Under this policy, Fielding added, veterans with service-connected disabilities will receive top priority, with processing of veterans’ applications generally to be faster than those of ordinary applicants.

Chartering of New Foundation Delayed

Chartering of the Motion Picture Foundation, in the District of Columbia, has been delayed until early in this year, it is indicated here by spokesmen for the committee which has been working on that project. Technical details are understood to have been responsible for the postponement.

Following the original planning of the foundation in New Orleans, early last month, its leaders hoped the corporate structure might be completed within the current calendar year so that gifts to the charity fund might be dedicated from 1946 taxes by the companies making them.

WB Raises Investments Abroad to $8,852,847

Dinner for Golden Wedding of Zukors

Adolph Zukor, chairman of Paramount’s board of directors, and his wife, Marguerite, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a dinner at the Savoy-Plaza here, Friday.

The event will be confined largely to the couple’s family and close personal friends. Their daughter, Mrs. Mildred Z. Loew of New York, will be present, and their son, Eugene, was scheduled to leave Hollywood over the weekend with his wife.

Largely as a result of the acquisition of another 12½ per cent interest in Associated British Pictures, the foreign investments of Warner Brothers increased in the past year from $4,248,870 to $8,852,847, the company reports.

The Warner investment in ABC now amounts to $8,164,836, compared with $3,636,701 in the previous year, when these holdings represented only 25 per cent of ABC’s ordinary shares.

Total foreign assets of Warner Brothers increased to $14,337,140, compared with liabilities of $6,997,640, making net assets of $7,339,500.

Assets in foreign countries aside from Great Britain amount to $1,221,286.

(Continued on page 7)

Appeal of NY Suit Based on Inconsistency

Attorneys to Hold First Decree Meeting Today

As distributor counsel at the weekend completed their preliminary studies of the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit prior to assembling today in the first of a series of meetings to determine their future course of action, spokesmen for the attorneys and other industry observers regarded an appeal by the defendants to the Supreme Court as probable, based at least partly on “contradictions and improprieties” held to be contained in the decree.

Among the chief inconsistencies—attorneys declared—is that the decree, in effect, permits the selling of a season’s product in advance and then declares that dates of availability must be specified when the pictures are offered for sale. Section Seven, he pointed out, says: “To the extent that any of the foregoing have not been trade shown prior to the granting of the (Continued on page 6)

Arbitration Revival Believed Unlikely

Distribution executives and their legal advisors here yesterday saw little likelihood that the industry arbitration system set up under the consent decree will be revived voluntarily now that the system has been terminated by the final decree in the New York equity case.

Despite the fact that U. S. District Judges Augustus N. Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright, who heard the case and wrote the decree, have strongly recommended that the system be perpetuated in “order to avoid cumbersome and dilatory court litigation,” first distributor reaction is that it would be rather unworkable without the backing of the court and the Government, which it has had during the past six years.

“An exhibitor now will be able to file a suit much more easily than he

(Continued on page 6)
Personal Mention

WOLFE COHEN, vice-president of Warner International, is expected here today after a visit to Caracas and Central American territories.

RODNEY WEISS, head of Warner Theatres real estate department, and W. STEWART McDONALD, comptroller of WB Theatres, will be in Cleveland today and tomorrow.

IRVING MAAS, vice-president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association, is now expected back in New York from Europe Jan. 12.

JACK F. DAILEY, administrative assistant of Radio City Music Hall, is scheduled to leave here today by plane for Hollywood.

HUGH O'NEIL, Paramount Eastern and Southern division sales manager, will return to New York from the Coast today with his wife, AWLIE WHEELAN.

JULES LAPIDUS, Warners' Eastern division sales manager, returns this week to the Coast after the weekend to visit the Central district.

EDWARD C. RAFERTY, president of United Artists, is expected back at the home office today from Chicago.

LOU SMITH, director of publicity and advertising for Liberty Films, is in New York from the Coast.

FRED MOHRER, Paramount treasurer, is due back at his desk today from a Florida vacation.

DURLEY NICHOLS, RKO Radio producer-director, is due back in New York today from Hollywood.

GEORGE S. SMART of the M-G-M legal department left here over the weekend for Louisville.

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation manager, has left here for Dallas.

GABRIEL PASCI, British producer, arrived here last week by plane from Rome.

JESSE L. LASKY is scheduled to arrive here from the Coast tomorrow.

Will Address Amca

Douglas Leigh, builder of many of the electric theatre advertising signs along Broadway, will address the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers on "Selling With Spectaculars," at a lunch-on in the Town Hall Club here on Jan. 9. A number of prominent industry officials will occupy the dais.

Warner Buy Theatre

BOOYA, Colombia, Jan. 5—The San Jorge Theatre has been taken over by Warner Brothers following improvements.

Tradewise . . .

AS this was being written, it was not easy to find anyone who would say without qualification that he liked the New York City motion picture anti-trust suit. But the feeling in the government anti-trust suit against the industry any better than the same court's opinion of the motion picture industry? The many who liked the latter. Appeals are to be expected.

Preliminary study indicates that the lengthy court hearings and the many pages of briefs which became part of the record of the eight and one-half year case last October and November had but little influence on the final decree. The court did take cognizance of the scope and intensity of the exhibition opposition to its so-called "function" selling plan and of the government's adamant stand against continuance of the industry arbitration system.

In the case of the latter, the court, by memorandum accompanying its decree, expressed the belief that it had acknowledged its competitive bidding proposals so that such bidding "will only be necessary within a competitive area and, in such an area, where, it is desired by the exhibitors." The purpose of the effect of the provision on the subject would appear to be quite different from that intended by the court as revealed in the court's language quoted above. For example, under the decree any one exhibitor in a competitive area may make competitive bidding mandatory upon all other exhibitors in that area, even though the latter may be opposed to that method of selling, by initiating a bid when a picture is offered. Accordingly, the court has not restricted competitive bidding to areas "where it is desired by the exhibitors." They can be required to take it by a single recalcitrant in any competitive area.

As for arbitration, the court ordered its termination with obvious reluctance. It "strongly recommended" that some such system be continued and declared that "this (provision) shall in no way prejudice parties or any other persons from setting up a reasonable system of arbitration either through the use of the present boards or any other in the future."The Justice Department has suggested at various times that the entire cost of arbitration be borne by the defendants, including costs of filing complaints: that restrictions and limitations be placed upon the defendants' legal representation, and that the rules of arbitration be greatly broadened, as a condition to the government's support of the arbitration system. The proposals, heretofore, have not been well received by company defense attorneys, nor there is very much reason to believe that they would be any more acceptable now.

However, with the 1940 consent decree now voided by the Federal court, the government's approval of a voluntary system of industry arbitration is much more likely to become a reality than is the case under the New York district court's decree. Though or not a continuation of the present system or a practicable new system, so vigorously recommended by the court, can or will be established is highly uncertain at this time. If one is not, the complete enforcement, interpretation and administration of the final decree, and the determination of the disputes arising hereunder, will be in the cumbersome, costly and dilatory processes of the Federal courts.

Meanwhile, no major phases of the New York court's decree are likely to become effective for many months to come. The court set the effective date for March 1 on all provisions except competitive bidding, which will be effective July 1, and divestiture of theatres owned more than five per cent and 95 per cent or less, will not be ordered until the defendants were given two years to comply with.

The government itself will appear on the divestiture order seeking complete divestiture of affiliated theatres. Only the defendants may appeal on the same order, contending that it is too harsh or that insufficient time for divestiture is permitted. Appeals are more likely than the competitive bidding provisions, since several companies are of the firm belief that while the court has the power to join them from a selling method which it has found to be illegal, it cannot go beyond that and specify by one selling method as the only legal method. Appeals also are considered likely on the court's refusal to permit removal of specific theatres. It could be many months before the high court disposes of all the issues which may be raised on appeal.

Motion Picture Daily

Monday, January 6, 1947

Newsreel Parade

NEW YEAR celebrations in New York and Philadelphia are featured by 放映 unusually brief subjects highlighted in the New York City motion picture anti-trust suit. Here are some of the highlights:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 37—President Truman proclaims new GOVERNMENT holiday in 1947. President Truman's proclamation ending two holidays, has the Brooklyn jail break and Japan's earthquake. Complete contents follow:

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 38—Minneapolis airport closed by fire. Singer Dave Brubeck and his band, Dick Haymes and his band, and Merman and his band, were all flying to New York City and other 40 Congressmen belong to theWahl party.

ROKO PATHE NEWS, No. 40—GPO ma- machine guns are used by airborne troops to repel Japanese fighters. Japanese fighters take Los Angeles.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 1—Earthquake from Japan and Christmas celebrations. Ice-cream food news. New Congressmen return to Congress.

SMPE Will Discuss 'Magnetic Sound'

Magnetic sound for motion pictures, a subject at the last semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, held in Hollywood, will be the topic of the next meeting of the Atlantic Coast section on Jan. 16 in the Hotel Pennsylvania, it is announced by James Frank, Jr., new chairman of the section.

A special program detailing the new development will be presented by Marvin Carrrs, Armour of the Research department of Varga. The program will be the first session presided over by Frank following his election as successor to Frank E. Cahill, Jr., in the Atlantic Coast chairsmanship.

Yates States Murry Bound by Contract

Hollywood, Jan. 5.—Unless and until the California State Supreme Court decides otherwise, George MURPHY will be required to make pictures exclusively for Republic, President Eth- erson has said. Murphy's contract with Autry will be the first session presided over by Frank following his election as successor to Frank E. Cahill, Jr., in the Atlantic Coast chairman.

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Hal Roach Abandons Hollywood Premieres

Producer Hal Roach, who releases through United Artists plans to obtain audience reactions to his films for which he has purchased a new Lockheed Lodestar passenger plane to fly about the country to attend previews of his films in an effort to determine just how his product is received by audiences in cities and towns, both large and small.

The producer believes that this customary Hollywood preview-audience services do not provide a true cross-section of the nation's thinking and will not permit the producer to obtain an accurate evaluation of the film's potential drawing power. Roach plans to assemble his top studio executives and fly his pictures to selected spots across the country.

15 Permits Granted For Construction

Washington, Jan. 5.—The gradual elimination of commercial building controls, their theoretical permits authorized last week by the Office of Temporary Controls, Applications granted were: Theatre Enterprise, Inc., Monahans, Tex., to rebuild fire loss, $60,000; A. P. Las- tetter, Conway, N.C., theatre repairs of $1,267; Robert N. Tully, manager of Jacksonville, Fla., to rebuild fire loss, $16,300; Arthur Weavers of Paulding, Ohio, to loss by fire, $4,000.

Also, the Elmwood Theatre Corp., granted a permit for repairs at Elm- wood, Neb., $4,000; William Vaise, Odessa, to theatre repairs; A. R. Belcher, Princeton, Va., to direct a drive-in theatre of masonry construction, $22,000; R. L. Gardner, Carlsbad, N.M., theatre construction, $1,000.

Also, Grady H. Harrison, College Station, Tex., drive-in theatre, $10,000; G. H. Little, Tuscaloosa, Ala., drive-in theatre, $1,275; M. B. Spencer, Kingston, N.C., theatre, $6,500; A. W. Ashburn, Miss., theatre, $6,000; Clyde C. Mikells, Temple, Okla., $10,000, and the Tampa Negro Theatre Co., of Tampa, Fla., theatre repairs, $1,250.

Butterfield Circuit to Aid ‘Dimes’ Drive

All 118 theatres of the Butterfield Circuit will participate in the “March of Dimes” campaign, which opened during the week of Jan. 24-30. J. O. Brooks is chairman of Butterfield.

Weening to Paramount

Siegfried Weening has joined the Latin American division of Par- mount International Films. Weening was recently general manager for Republic in Trinidad, W.I., and has a background of many years in the film business. abroad. Pracht said that Weening will direct his first Paramount assignment in Latin America in February.

Swell Guy’ Railroad Premiere Tonight

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Newspaper, magazine and syndicate representatives have started to arrive here from as far West as Chicago, to be on hand to-morrow night in the inauguration of the first regular nightly on-train motion picture showings by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad.

This regular service for C. and O. passengers will be inaugurated on The George Washington, bound from here to Cincinnati with the world pre- miere of United States ’Swell Guy’ produced by Mr. Hal Roach and Blyth, star of the film, has arrived here from California to make the trip with representatives as guests of Robert Y. Wood, president of the board of the C. and O.

Acceptances of the C. and O. invitations by press representatives from New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Norfolk, Richmond, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Chicago, have passed the 60 mark. U-I representatives who will make the trip include: Ben Katz, Charles Simonelli, Milton Livingston and Robert Wile.

Swell Guy’ Awards to Variety Club Members

A “Swell Guy” award to the memory of each of the 25 tents of the Variety Clubs of America most worthy of receiving it for his work during 1946 will be made by Mark Hellinger, pro-ducer-director of United States ’Swell Guy,” for Universal release.

The “Swell Guy” of 1946 in each major market area will be selected by a special committee of that tent’s executive, ceramic and mahogany statuette of Laur’d and in appropriate local ceremonies be arranged by the in- dividual tents.

Farm to Address N.Y.U. Radio Class

Lynn Farmol, director of advertising —publicity for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, will be the guest speaker to address the New York University radio publicity and promotion tonight. Farmol will analyze comparative ad- vertising and directing and the techniques in the fields of motion pictures and radio.

The course is conducted by Richard Silver, director of publicity of station WNY.

Collier’s Editorial Lauds ‘Best Years’

An editorial salvo is given Samuel Goldwyn’s “The Best Years of Our Lives” in the current issue of Collier’s, which refers to it as a motion picture which you should not miss. “It is a highly significant and important drama, and an interesting and exciting picture,” says the editorial. “It is a plea for action, for the film is unqualified and un- solicited endorsement.”

Eastman Services Held

Funeral services for James P. East- man, 34, Vanguard Films publicist, who died at his New York apartment early in the week, were held yesterday evening at the Coughlin Funeral Par- ker, here. Interment will be at Ari- loud, N.Y., where the family establishment of Mr. Eastman was served as a captain in the U. S. Army overseas during World War II.

Unger Names Silver District Manager

Mark N. Silver, New York branch manager of United Artists, has been promoted to district manager of the Pennsylvania - Washington territory, with the appointment of Joseph J. Unger, general sales manager. Silver, whose appointment is effective immediately, will preside over the Philadelphia and Washington branches, under the supervision of Edward M. Schnitzer, eastern sales manager. He will make his headquarters in Philadelphia.

He started with the company as field representative in 1933, became a salesman in Washington in 1936 and was named eastern sales manager in 1943. Last year, Silver was named manager of the New York branch. He is a veteran of the industry, having started in the long years ago as a salesman for Paramount in Al- bany, later entering the theatre division with Paramount.

The Pennsylvania-Washington dis- trict was created by Unger last year following a realignment of the branches so as to create more comprehensive service to exhibitors. The post of district manager had been vacant until now, and Silver’s appointment brings to full strength the roster of district managers which com- prises: Jack Ellis-New York, New Jersey; Clayton Eastman, New England; Roe Dusselroad, Central; Rud Lohrenz, Midwest; C. W. Allen, South; Fred Cooper, West, W. E. Callaway, West Coast, and Charles S. Chaplin, Canadian.

Korda Sails Without Distribution Tie-up

Sir Alexander Korda, British pro- ducer, has left New York Friday on the S.S. Queen Elizabeth on his return to England, is going back without any distribution deal after a series of conferences in this country with several companies, according to Murray Holprin, Korda-London Films representative here.

Prominent among the outlets men- tioned in the negotiations was the Selmic Releasing Organization.

Beaton Joins Korda

Cecil Beaton, photographer-designer, has joined Alexander Korda organization as an associate producer, and left New York Fri- day for London to work with Korda’s Technicolor and Warner Bros. in England to supervise the costumes for Korda’s first Oscar Wilde produc- tion, "Salome." Later he will design Korda’s Technicolor production of Wilde’s "The Ideal Husband," which the British producer recently purchased.

Brooks Will Produce

MEXICO City, Jan. 5.—Oscar Brooks, former Warner manager here, will produce under Mexican picture, will start as a producer this year.
every record in
seven weeks at the Roxy . . . and
opening days... single days... holiday
Los Angeles • Philadelphia • Detroit • Omaha •
Salt Lake City • Cleveland • San Francisco •
Springfield • Wichita • Hutchinson • Seattle •
Amsterdam • Easton • Pittsburgh • Richmond •
Cincinnati • Joplin • Evansville • Columbus •
San Jose • Fresno • Denver • San Diego • Santa
Pomona • San Bernadino • Santa Barbara •
Collins • N. Platt • Sterling • Mc Cook • Las Cruces

EVERY THEATRE HAS THE Edge

"MARGIE" in Technicolor • "MY DARLING CLEMENTINE" •
"13 RUE MADELEINE" • "CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA"
Razor's Edge has smashed the history of show business in its las set giant new all-time highs for plays...weekends...and full weeks in Milwaukee • Kansas City • St. Louis • Chicago Stockton • Baltimore • Atlantic City • Portland Spokane • Dayton • Salina • Oklahoma City Lancaster • Providence • Topeka • Green Bay Memphis • Dallas • Aberdeen • Oakland • Sacramento Ana • Bakersfield • Phoenix • Tucson • Riverside • San Pedro • Las Vegas • Boulder • Ft. Soc • Pocatello • Ogden • Tacoma and holds over everywhere!
Myers Finds
(Continued from page 1)
will be “extremely busy” during the coming years to adequately and aggressively protect the interests of independent exhibitors whose new decree is rendered by the U. S. Supreme Court.

Commenting on an appeal, Myers stated: “So far as the government is concerned, it would seem to be honor-bound to appeal from this judgment. Its objectives have not been attained. The precedent created in rejecting divestiture or dissolution must be overruled if the law is to be effectively enforced in the future. Moreover, to permit these defendants to retain their vast theatre holdings whilst cutting the lesser Crescent and Schine circuits not only would be unjust but would make the Sherman Act ridiculous.

Myers said that the competitive market envisaged by the court is a result of its pet selling scheme. It cannot possibly be realized as long as the defendants retain their circuits. He also pointed to the danger of permitting the major defendants to cross-license each other.

Concluding his analysis, Myers said: “It is highly probable that all parties will announce their positions promptly and that appeals will be filed promptly. He stated that if he and a half-year-old litigation may soon be brought to a final conclusion.”

Fabian on Bidding
(Continued from page 1)
teers attracted to the industry in the false belief that product is assured. He faces competition from affiliates who are assured of one product, their own, without competition, are placed in a superior bidding position for the best of the remaining product.

“Competitive bidding enables a company almost direct distribution to adopt practices that will intensify rather than eliminate monopoly and will inevitably lead to further and multiplied proceedings down into the future.”

Commenting on the ATA petition to intervene in the case, which was denied, rather than seek to appear as amicus curiae, Fabian said: “We have protected our right of appeal, and added a subject to approval by our board of directors our papers will be filed at an early date.”

He concludes: “I make this statement because I want ATA members and the many thousands of non-member exhibitors who voted overwhelm-ingly in favor of ATA to realize the situation action to know that the fight is not over.”

Appeal on NY Suit
(Continued from page 1)
license for a single feature, the lien- see shall be given by the licensor the right to reject 20 per cent of such features,” and Section Eight says that the offer of competitive bids shall specify “the time when the exhibition is to commence.”

A second inconsistency, also regarded as grounds for appeal, is seen in that part of Section Eight which provides that a competitive bidding offer shall state the amount of a flat rental as the minimum for such li- cense and, at the same time, provides that the bid “may specify a flat rental, or a percentage of gross receipts, or both.”

Meanwhile, this confusion in the competitive-bidding regulations set up by the court is giving distributor executives more concern than any other features of the decree, it was indicated at the weekend. They see the difficulty in determining which of two bids may be considered higher, when one is on a flat rental basis and the other in percentage terms, as leading to addi- tional litigation. And the exhibitors share this fear, one company spokes- man declared.

The distributors regard their problems as simplified by the court’s “modification” of competitive bidding by limiting it to competitive areas and to instances where exhibitors request it. Some theatre owners in all such areas will call for bids, and which situations never did present any problems, they point out.

Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president and general sales manager, intends to move slowly in putting the bidding provisions into effect. First he will call his home office organization together for a thorough discussion of the decree’s terms and will then hold meetings with key field personnel, both to get their views and the views of exhibitors with whom they have come in contact.

These interpretations will be sifted and will have a bearing on the company’s final policy. Connors also stated that 20th-Fox will take full advantage of the time between now and the July 1 effective date of the bidding procedure, as well as any additional time which may be granted by a stay pending the outcome of an appeal.

Most other companies are expected to follow a similar course, although at least two of them, RKO and M-G-M, already have conducted some competitive sales on a limited basis. William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice president in charge of distribution, whose “expert- ments” with bids have not been regarded as entirely successful, has called for a break in of the decree to be sent to him in Florida, where he is planning to remain until Jan. 20.

Arbitration
(Continued from page 1)
can resort to arbitration,” one distributor spokesman said, observing that the benefits of the nationwide, organized system heretofore enjoyed would have been taken away by the new decree.

Company executives, however, are expected to hold meetings in the near future to explore the practicality, if any, of offering the voluntary form of arbitration. They have been anxious to see the arbitration principle continued, with its scope even broad- ered, but they regard the court’s action as a blow to the cause.

Among factors to be considered be- fore a final decision is reached are: whether the New York case will be appealed and, if so, how many and what features of the final decree will be stayed pending the appeal’s out- come. Arbitration rulings which might later be upset by Supreme Court action are to be avoided, the distributors feel.

Opinion Divided
Opinion appeared to be divided among several company attorneys whether or not the 60-day appeal or injunc- tion contained in the decree would apply to the AAA. If it does, then it is not improbable that the parties would appeal the arbitration another 30 days thereafter.

At the AAA offices here, J. Noble Braden, executive director of the firm division, asserted that in view of the confusion over the question of cur- rent operations of the AAA, the district court’s decision will stand until the AAA’s right to approve its appeal is decided, but that if it is decided as to whether or not the AAA will continue to operate, it will continue to accept new cases, and would decide if, and when, a new complaint is filed with the board, he added.

The Association, which now has about 33 industry cases before its reg- ional offices and two appeals, will comply with the decree’s order to liquidate, but there is no plan yet for the actual process of liquidation, accordin- g to an official of the associa- tion.

Operations of the AAA have been suspended on an interim basis since last Nov. 30, when its last budget concluded and Braden disclosed several weeks ago that the five company attorneys were parties to the original consent decree have continued to finance the activities of the 31 tribunals on a pro rata basis since.

Many Boston Cases
The Boston board, with its six or seven cases, is the tribunal with the top number of cases still to be cleared, but this does not necessarily mean that it would be the final order to be dissolved, according to a source. He pointed out that the amount of time needed for disposition varies with the case. He added that it was “quite possible” that a tribunal with only one case might be the last to remain in operation. Since the appeal board would have to remain available to ex- tern any subsequent action on awards, he said, the New York board would be the final section to be liquidated.

Complaints are also on file with the tribunals in Cleveland, Des Moines, New Haven, Chicago, New Orleans, New York, St. Louis and Milwaukee. The remaining 29 cases, with no cases before them, presum- ably will be liquidated in short order if it is decided that no additional com- plaints can be considered.
See Admission Tax In Twelve States

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—A race between municipal and state authorities to impose local admission tax laws is reported here by the Motion Picture Association. It is predicted that more state tax proposals will be adopted during 1947 than any year in history.

As 44 state legislatures prepare to meet the governors of an estimated 12 states will recommend theatre taxes on admissions.

In Texas, an association of municipal officials has drafted proposed state legislation which would give cities authority to tax the amusement business. Exhibitors in that state are planning to organize to fight the proposed bill.

It is pointed out at the MPA office here that once a statewide admission tax is enacted, municipalities seldom impose local taxes. In many areas local governments are powerless to overrule state measures in order to beat the state taxes.

Tulsa, Okla., has already passed a local admission tax with other cities in that state reported to be planning to take the same course. Cities in California are also said to be drafting local admission tax ordinances.

The MPA points to the danger of local theater taxation, because such action causes publicity, and when a key city comes in line with a tax other municipalities follow suit.

The MPA refused to disclose the number of states which impose admission taxes on theaters, the reason given being that it would single out certain states which do not impose the tax, and possibly cause more tax laws to be enacted.

Primary reason for the increasing number of state tax proposals is the drastic need for revenue in many states, according to a spokesman of the MPA, who asserted that special state veterans’ benefits, highway repairs neglected during the war, and school improvements must now be met by state budgets.

'Sinbad the Sailor' Trade Showings Set

RKO Radio Pictures will screen its Technicolor "Sinbad the Sailor" at the Normandie Theatre, New York, on Jan. 9, and on the same day at the Ambassador Theatre, Los Angeles.

It will again be shown on Jan. 28 in the following exchange centers: Albany, Atlanta, Boston, Buffalo, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New Haven, New York, Phoenix, Omaha, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle, Sioux Falls, Washington.

The Des Moines screening will be held on Jan. 29.

Greek Orphans

(Continued from page 1)

Executive vice-president of RKO, are convinced of the Motion Picture Industry Appeal for the Orphans of Greece, which will conduct the Greek War Relief drive from Feb. 15 to March 15 in conjunction with the Greek War Relief Association, of which Skouras is a president and one of the founders. No solicitation of theatre audiences will be sought during the drive.

"Our goal is to secure support for at least 15,000 orphans, the innocent and helpless victims of our War II," Fabian said. "The Greek War Relief Association, in cooperation with the Greek government is endeavoring to find lost and orphaned children. When a proper home is found, the Association places the child in the hands of the church and food and generally oversees its care. To do this, the Association must contribute about $80 per orphan, to which the Greek government adds $40 to make up the minimum necessary to provide for the care of one child for one week."

"We have settled on this plan of child support," Fabian said, "for we feel this is the simplest and most direct method by which the industry can help the unfortunate victims of the war. We believe that it will be the best method in the long run to aid more of the orphans to our industry leaders, Spyros Skouras.

He added that he believed the campaign not only would bring valuable publicity to the Greek War Relief Association's 1947 drive for a $1,000,000 goal for all relief purposes, but that it would have an inestimable public relations value for the industry itself.

Sam Shain, director of trade relations for 20th-Century-Fox, is assistant co-chairman of the industry promotion and publicity committee. The organizing and promotion committee is headed by Ben Serkowich, advertising-publicity director of Universal; S. Barrett McCormick, advertising-publicity director of RKO; Leon Bamberger of RKO and Ray Murray of Columbia. National executive and advisory committees are to be named, as are local committees with exhibitor and distributor representation, and a Hollywood committee.

Schanberger Heads Baltimore Variety

BALTIMORE, Jan. 5.—Fred J. Schanberger of Keith’s Theatre here has been named chief banker of the Variety Club, tent No. 19. Others newly elected include Fred Schaff, first assistant banker; Mark Silver second assistant banker; Chauncey Wolfe, secretary; Spaulding Albert as treasurer.

New canvassers are: William Myers, Robert C. Embry, Samuel Taber, Al Vogelstein, Stanley Baker and Leon Back, Rodney Collier was elected national canvasser.

Century Circuit Drive

The second of Century Theatres’ seasonal box-office drives, to be held this weekend. Winning theatre personnel will get a four-day trip to Timberdoodle Lodge, Lake Placid, N. Y., under the direction of Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president of the company.

The current effort, according to J. R. Smirner, general theatre manager, will run for 10 weeks.

Russian Films Hit By Soviet Paper

Whereas Ilya Ehrenburg, Soviet writer, could find nothing but trash coming from Hollywood studios during his recent American visit, the Soviet film industry now is charged by an official Communist newspaper, Culture and Life, with a backwardness which "can no longer be tolerated," according to a Moscow dispatch to the New York Times.

The Communist paper charges the Soviet film industry with guilty of squandering and pilferage of state property," among other things, and lists, at production, direction and acting in Soviet films, asserting that as a result of those practices the pictures "look alike."

The Soviet magazine stated that Russian studios required 11 and one-half months to complete a film in 1940; 17 months in 1945, and "still longer" in 1946.

Mary M. McBride to Para.

Mary Margaret McBride, radio commentator who is heard five days weekly over station WNBC, has been signed to a one-year contract by Paramount to promote all principal Paramount productions in the New York area. Paramount is her first film sponsor. The contract takes effect immediately.

Miss McBride is the fourth commentator whose services are being used locally to promote Paramount products. The others are Arthur Godfrey, Martin Black and Ted Husing.

13 Distributors Sued

ZENITH REPORTS LOSS

ZENITH REPORTS LOSS

Zenith Radio Corp., reports an estimated consolidated net loss for the six months ended Oct. 31, amounting to $490,454 after depreciation, excise taxes, normal reserves and provision for income taxes of subsidiaries and a tax carry-back due to the parent company. Consolidated operating loss for the period amounted to $2,196,953. This loss was partially offset by tax carry-backs, less income taxes of subsidiaries.

13 Distributors Sued

James E. Coston, Warner Theatres executive.

In his complaint Philon charges that his Liberty, which was formerly the Lake Theatre operated by the Manta-Rose circuit, has been unable to obtain a profit. Philon is asking for first and second runs in Michigan City, and asks that he be allowed to bid on all pictures from all companies.

Handling the case for Philon is Seymour Simon of the Schradale and Gould law firm, a former Department of Justice attorney.

Named as defendants in the case are the following distributors: Loew’s, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Brothers, Paramount, Columbia, Universal, United Artists, Republic, Monogram, PRC, Screen Guild and Film Classics, plus the Manta-Rose Circuit, and Coston, the latter is referred to an owner of substantial stock in Manta-Rose. Aaron Stein of the Rosenberg, Stein and Rosenberg law firm has been appointed to handle the case for the M-R circuit.
RKO RADIO PICTURES'
NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING
of

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, Jr.
MAUREEN O'HARA • WALTER SLEZAK
"SINBAD THE SAILOR"

WITH
ANTHONY QUINN • GEORGE TOBIAS
JANE GREER • MIKE MAZURKI
Produced by STEPHEN AMES • Directed by RICHARD WALLACE
Screen Play by JOHN TWIST

TECHNICOLOR

NORMANDIE THEATRE
51 East 53rd Street, at Park Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

MONDAY, JANUARY 13
at 10:30 A.M. SHARP
U.S. to Protest New French Film Barrier

MPA Says Law Violates Blum-Byrnes Agreement

The State Department is currently investigating the new French edict on U.S. Film dubbing, which would seriously impair the position of Hollywood product, with a formal protest to the French Government in view, according to the Motion Picture Association.

The new French regulations, which were promulgated Dec. 26 and made effective Jan. 1, dictate that all American product must be approved by three French Ministries—Information, National Economy and National Finance—before it may be dubbed in.

Company Operators Get New 15% Raise

Home office projectionists of Local No. 306 of the Motion Picture operators union, IATSE, have been granted a second 15 per cent salary increase within a year, the approval of a two-year agreement signed by the local's president, Herman Gelber, and L. E. Thompson of RKO, chair- man of the employers' committee, it was disclosed yesterday by 306 head.

E-K Film Division Promotes Sixteen

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 6—Promo tion of the 16 executives at Kodak Park, Eastman Kodak's film and paper-manufacturing division, have been announced by Charles K. Flint, general manager of the plant. The appointments follow:

Gerold T. Lane, former assistant to the general manager, named assist ant manager; Clarence L. A.

In This Issue

"Ladies' Man" is reviewed on page 10; key city grosses are on pages 9 and 10.

Film Lawyers Convene Here

Counsel for all eight companies which are parties to the New York Federal Court decree exchanged views and interpretations of the various provisions of the decision in a day-long session at the New York office of the Motion Picture Association yesterday. The conference was the first of many planned, including one for every day this week.

Following yesterday's confab, Austin Koons, general counsel for Paramount, and John Caskey, 20th Century-Fox attorney, made it clear that the complete analysis of the court's ruling and conclusions on its possible effects will require considerable time.

To Weigh Decree at M-G-M Sales Meet

Chicago, Jan. 6.—With William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of sales predominating M-G-M will hold a conference of the company's division sales managers at the Drake Hotel on Feb. 3-4. It is understood that the decree handed down by the New York Federal Court last week will occupy the major portion of the meeting.

Wehrenberg Favors M.P. Forum Now

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 6.—With the filing of the decree in the Government's New York anti-trust suit last week, steps will be taken immediately to advance a Motion Picture Forum to handle exhibitor-distributor grievances, Fred Wehrenberg, president of the MPFOA and author of the Forum plan, said today.

"I see no reason for further delaying consideration of the Motion Picture Forum, if it is agreeable to all parties concerned with it," Wehrenberg said.

The need for some such organization has increased by the termination of industry arbitration as a

US Appeal Delayed Until First of March

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—The Government's appeal to the Supreme Court from the New York Federal District Court's decision in the industry anti-trust suit may not be ready for filing until the March 1 deadline, Robert L. Wright, of the Department of Justice said here today.

Preparation and approval of the

(Continued on page 7)

Zukor Cites Paramount Theatre Partnerships

By TOM LOY

Paramount's relationship with its theatre partners, which played an important role in the development of the motion picture, still has a great deal of permanent value for the industry as a whole and should be permitted to continue, in the opinion of Adolph Zukor, chairman of the company's board of directors, who observes his 74th birthday today and his 44th year in the film business. Under last year's final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, Paramount has been given two years to build up its interest to at least 95 per cent in those of its partly-owned theatres of which the further acquisition may be approved by Federal Court, or to reduce such interests to a maximum of five per cent. Regarding the contribution he feels these partnerships have made to the industry, Zukor points out that Paramount, from its inception, determined "to make the type of pictures which required good theatres. 'We resorted to all kinds of plans,' including the partnerships, "so as to enable exhibitors to build and develop good houses," he explains, adding: "Had we not taken that step 10 years ago, we should never have been able to pioneer in the development of the motion picture toward the high standard it has reached."

Zukor sees the anti-trust suit decision, by and large, as a threat to the continued growth of the industry, but

(Continued on page 7)

Truman Calls For Retention Of Ticket Tax

Asks for Legislation on Labor and Trust Laws

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—President Truman in his annual message to Congress today:

1. Disclosed plans to urge the continuance of the wartime 20 per cent admission tax and other excise levies.

2. Urged the enactment of labor legislation to prevent jurisdictional strikes such as the one which has been on in Hollywood for months.

3. Urged the support of a program of vigorous enforcement of anti-trust laws.

In urging the extension of the admission and other excise levies, which

(Continued on page 7)

Allied Board Will Study Tax Action

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—The meeting of the board of directors of Allied States to be held here on Jan. 11, will discuss the possibilities of repeal or reduction of the basic Federal admission tax rate, Abram F. Myers, Allied chairman and general counsel, says in an organization bulletin released today.

Myers points out that whether repeal or reduction of the tax is possible during this session of Congress

(Continued on page 7)

Budget Is Due for Government Films

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—President Truman will submit a national budget to Congress on Wednesday which will embrace Government film activities in every major department. It was learned here today.

While the OFP-controlled Congress is always certain to cut majority of "informational" expenditures of the Government, the Republicans are expected to retain State and Commerce

(Continued on page 8)
U's 'Swell Guy' in 1st Train Premiere

CINCINNATI, Jan. 6—The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad tonight became the nation's first railroad to institute regular nightly on-train showings which will be shown throughout the world premiere of Universal's "Swell Guy," produced by Mark Helpring, aboard a special train that was bound from Washington to this city.


To provide for this first regular "theater on wheels" until specially-built cars, now under construction, are available, the C. O. used a specially-adapted twin-unit dining car, seating 50 persons.

As previously reported, the C. O. has signed a year's contract with Universal to exhibit its releases on the George Washington operating between Newport News and Cincinnati and later on the Chessie, which will carry the specially-built theater cars, each "U" recorded with the name of "Dark Mirror," will be shown for two weeks on the George Washington, operating in both directions. The assigned charge will be made since the C. O. is making these regular nightly showings a part of regular service to passengers. In this connection the C. O. has withdrawn from the American Association of Railroads, which was sued by the Department of Justice with one of the allegations being an attempt to block the showing of first-run pictures on trains.

Besides the newspaper representatives, among those making the initial trip as guests were: R. J. Bowman, president; Arthur S. Genet, vice-president in charge of traffic, and H. L. Porter, general manager, all of the C. O. and Al Horwitz, Charles Simonceli, Ben Katz, Milton Livingston and Robert Wife of "U."

'Duel' Grosses $40,670 For a Coast Record

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 6.—Record-breaking receipts for "Duel in the Sun" continued the Success story of the studio's on-train "Theatre on the Road" office-box office record set by "Go With the Wind," are reported for the sixth day of David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" at the Egyptian and Vogue Theatres here. The preceding-setting total for the six-day engagement is $40,670, $5,000 of which will go to the main office.

The film is being shown on a reserved seat, two performances a day basis, and the box office rate for $5,000 of business a day is being turned away.

Freedgood Leaves Rank

Morton Freedgood has resigned from the J. Arthur Rank Organization to devote his entire time to the management of the DO Film script sale in the current Good Housekeeping under the pseudonym of John Go- 

Personal Mention

LOUIS NIZER, film attorney, has returned to New York from Arizona.

WILLIAM C. GERING, Central sales manager of 20th-Fox, has returned to New York from Buffalo, where he was hospitalized for several weeks. He is now at home to receive further treatment.

HAL WALLIS has returned to his desk at Paramount's Coast studio after recovering from a bout sustained by a horse on a New Year's Day.

RICHARD LIGHTMAN, ex-Presi- dential executive at Memphis, is hospitalized there following an operation. He is a son of M. A. Lightman, Sr., head presi- dent.

RUBE JACKER, columnist's assistant, is now in New York, for a two-week trip to Minneapolis, Des Moines and Kansas City.

NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of T. M. & M. Theaters, will leave here today for Philadelphia and Washing- ton: he will return to New York on Thursday.

REX TAYLOR, Paramount's Eastern promotional director, has returned to New York from the Midwest.

T raube Made Official Of Ferris Company

Leonard Traube, whose resignation as editor-in-chief of the Studio Publicity department of Monogram Pictures by Louis S. B. Freedgood, the company's national advertising- publicity director.

Prior to joining Monogram, Traube was with Universal for two years and was press contact for the Winter Garden Theatre, where he first entered the business with Vita- graph, subsequently joining Warners, for which he did publicity for the Strand and Hollywood Theatres. In 1938 he became associated with the Mazon Motion Corp., which built what is now Lewis' Criterion, and in the ensuing months became its publicity director. He moved to the Rivoli after six years, transferred to United Artists in 1943. and after a year joined Universal.

Phil Lauffer Named Monogram Publicist

Phil Lauffer has been named to the newly-created position of Monogram Pictures by Louis S. B. Freedgood, the company's national advertising- publicity director.

Prior to joining Monogram, Lauffer was with Universal for two years and was press contact for the Winter Gar- den Theatre, where he first entered the business with Vita- graph, subsequently joining Warners, for which he did publicity for the Strand and Hollywood Theatres. In 1938 he became associated with the Mazon Motion Corp., which built what is now Lewis' Criterion, and in the ensuing months became its publicity director. He moved to the Rivoli after six years, transferred to United Artists in 1943. and after a year joined Universal.

SRO Branch Opens In Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 6.—Space has been leased in the Ponce Building to be used as branch headquarters in the Minneapolis film zone for the staff of the recently-formed Selznick Releasing Organization. Plans call for the Minneapolis branch to start actual operations on Feb. 1. Henry Lebow, who was recently selected by Samuel Horwitz, SRO district sales manager. There were plans to make SRO's 11th domes- tic branch.

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Bonuses at Luncheon To Skouras Managers

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 6.—Charles Skouras has plans back to Los An- geles after presenting bonus checks to employees of National Theatres and Fox West Coast. At a large lun- cheon at the St. Francis Hotel, Skouras entertained all Northern California managers and George Bower, gen- eral manager of PWC. Also attend- ing were John Bertoro, general coun- sel; Harry Cox, treasurer for National; and William Trauble, public- ity hooker and buyer for FW. The meeting was arranged by Richard Spier, division manager for West Coast division.

Hammond to Allied

CHICAGO, Jan. 6.—Jack Kirsch, Illinois Allied president, has announced the addition of fair Hammond Theatre in suburban Hammond, Ind., to the Allied organization as well as its buying and booking cir- cuit. Harold Lieber is owner.
BEAUTIFUL, DESIRABLE,
LOVELY—YET READY TO
KILL!...DRIVEN BY
THE EVIL HIDDEN
IN A TRAGIC
TRINKET!

RKO Presents
The Locket
RKO Presents

LARAINkh DAY • BRIAN AHERNE
ROBERT MITCHUM • GENE RAYMOND

The Locket

WITH

SHARYN MOFFET • RICARDO CORTEZ • HENRY STEPHENSON

Produced by BERT GRANET • Directed by JOHN BRAHM

Written by SHERIDAN GIBNEY
NOT LOVE...
NOT MONEY...

BUT A HAUNTING HUNGER
MADE HER LIE, CHEAT,
STEAL. WHY?...

IT'S THE STRANGEST SECRET EVER TOLD!
PENETRATING ALL AMERICA WITH FULL-PAGE BLACK AND WHITE ADS IN ALL THE IMPORTANT WEEKLY AND MONTHLY MAGAZINES, AND WITH FOUR-COLOR ADS IN THE MAGAZINE SECTIONS OR SUPPLEMENTS OF 75 BIG SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS . . . A TOTAL OF

89,745,975 CIRCULATION

LIST INCLUDES:
LIFE, SATURDAY EVENING POST,
LOOK, COLLIER'S, LIBERTY,
WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, LADIES' HOME JOURNAL,
McCALL'S, AMERICAN, PIC, COSMOPOLITAN, TRUE,
TRUE CONFESSIONS, TRUE STORY, REDBOOK, FAN LIST,
AMERICAN WEEKLY, PARADE, THIS WEEK,
INDEPENDENT SECTIONS

RKO IS THE BIGGEST NATIONAL MAGAZINE ADVERTISER IN THE MOTION PICTURE FIELD!!
Truman Calls
(Continued from page 1)
would expire next July 1, the Presi-
dent said while addressing the joint
session of Congress that such a re-
commendation will be made in the
budget message which he will send
to Congress on Wednesday.
Last week the President elimi-
nated a significant provision in the
Army's budget which would have
vested the President with vet-eran's
powers. This action would slash the
admissions rate from one cent on
each dollar in Jan. 1, 1947, to 10c
unless Congress acts otherwise.
The President explained to Con-
gress that the excise increases should be
omitted since the Army has
budget and continue the operations
of the Government.
Republican reaction to the
President's proposal was vague. It is
believed that it may be expedient for
the GOP to continue the wartime
excise rates in order to fulfill the
promise to reduce personal income
tax.
In urging Congress to enact labor
legislation to prevent jurisdictional
disputes, the President placed jurisdic-
tional labor problems as first on the
government's legislative agenda.

Following the pattern of a recent
recommendation made by Eric John-
ston, president of the Motion Picture
Association, the President said that
there is no excuse for internal union
disputes which tie up industry and the
public good.

Hints "Monopoly" Laws
And in urging Congress to support a
program of vigorous enforcement of
the anti-trust laws, the President also
hinted that he believes "monopoly" legal-
ization may be required.

Calling it second his major policy,
the President told the joint session
that despite half a century of
anti-trust law enforcement, one of the
greatest threats to the country's wel-
fare lies in the increasing concentra-
tion of power in the hands of a small
number of "giant" organizations.

In his budget message to be deliv-
ered on Wednesday, the President will
ask for a large appropriation for the
Justice Department to fight the "giant
excesses," headed by Wendell Berge, As-
sistant U. S. Attorney General.

Commenting on a dangerous trend
toward monopoly of the motion picture
industry, the Chief Executive
stated: "During this, the long-
standing tendency toward economic
concentration, it is worth noting that,
consequence, we now find that a
greater threat than ever before, whole
industries are coming under control by
one or a few large organizations.

"We should also give special atten-
tion to the decentralization of industry
and the development of areas that are
now under-industrialized."

Company Operators
(Continued from page 1)
quaters. The contract is retroactive
to Sept. 1, 1946.
Companies included in the new con-
tact are: Ace Film Laboratories, Columbus; News-Louis Loew's, Movietone News, National
Screen Service, Paramount, Pathé,
Universal, Warner Bros., Republic, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists,
Universal and Warners.

Prefabricated Theatre
Hollywood, Jan. 6.—Fox West
Coast will open its first prefabricated
theatre at Long Beach Jan. 22 with
formal preview ceremonies.

Bidding Plan Contrary to
Trust Laws, Says Arnold
(Continued from page 1)

Competitive-bidding provisions of
the final decree in the New York
equity case are "contrary to the pur-
poses of the statute," accord-
ing to Thurman Arnold, counsel for
the American Theatre Association.
Without the U. S. Supreme Court
must be adopted to effect these
provisions, the ATA announced
here yesterday.
Arnold examined the memorandum
of the statutory court and the pro-
visions of its decree, Arnold said.
Then, he said, the court took our
objections to competitive
bidding so seriously that it re-
phrased its decree in an attempt
to meet some of those criticisms. It is
however, my considered judgment
that the modifications which the court
has made leave unaltered the basic
difficulty of the original proposal
contained in the court's opinion of
June 11.

The decree as entered on Dec. 31
still sanctions competitive bidding as
a means of licensing films. The evils
of this system are that it will live
through the defendants in the action
and will deprive independent exhibitors
of their livelihood as a result of legisla-
tive practices of the defendants. In
my opinion the present form of decree
would be a serious threat to exhibitors
as the original decree," Arnold
concluded.
The New York court has denied the
ATA's petition to intervene in the
case, and this denial will be ap-
pealed, Arnold had previously de-
claried.

M.P. Forum
(Continued from page 1)
result of the court's decree, it was
pointed out, and also because consid-
erable time is expected to elapse
before the Supreme Court, if any, will
hear the appeals from the decree which
are now in prospect.

The Forum's proposal for the for-
mation of an industry Forum to hear
and endeavor to resolve exhibitor-
distributor grievances was first made
at the Allied States convention in
Boston last September. Subsequently,
Eric Johnston, Motion Picture As-
sociation president, who was sug-
gested by Wehrenberg as a logical
leader for the Forum, said that he
would serve the organization if invited
to do so.

Allied Board
(Continued from page 1)

will be more apparent after the newly-
organized committees on ways and
means and finance begin to function.

Arnold's argument was that the ally
board, as he called it, becomes a threat
to curb trade and the operatives of the
Alley, warning exhibitors to "be on guard
against hungry monopolies" ca-
using monopolistic transactions to be
engaged in.
He charged that the Federal war
rates by local admission taxes begin-
ning July 1. He points out that in addi-
tion to Congress the legislatures of
44 states will be in session and urge-
regional exhibitor associations to de-
velop public relations programs and
establish contacts with their legisla-
tors in the campaigns to prevent un-
reasonable or discriminatory taxation
of theatres.

US Appeal
(Continued from page 1)

appeal may consume the entire 60
days allowed. If it were post-
based on the court's refusal to
order divestment of affiliated
theatres, may include other
points as well.

Refusal of Ban on
"Outlaw" Criticized
ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Refusal
of the motion picture division of the
New York State Department of
Education to revoke the permit for
the showing of 'The Outlaw,' sequels
which is further evidence of the weakening of public
agencies entrusted with the task of
enforcing civic morality," says an
editorial in the 'Albany Times-
Republican, weekly publication of
the Albany Roman Catholic
Diocese.
"The broadmindedness of the motion
picture division," the editorial
declares, "offers little hope of stem-
ning the spread of irresponsible
films. The most telling protest
is to refrain from attending show
houses that present offensive films."

Exhibition of Film
Paintings Today
The Metropolitan Museum of Art's
collection of motion picture adven-
ture art will be included here today with
the exhibition of several paintings pre-
sented in cooperation with 20th Cen-
tury-Fox, which have loaned their
collection of special paintings to the
art center. Featured in the exhibition
will be four canvases specially created for
the advertising campaign on the com-
paign's "Big Screen" project. Two of
the artists are Dean Cornwall, Douglass Crockett, John Falter
and Robert Heemly.
Several other paintings used in
various 20th Century-Fox campaigns
will be included in the show. The
canvases painted by Norman Rock-
well for "The Song of Bernadette" and
"The Razor's Edge."

16 E-K Promotions
(Continued from page 1)
Wyn, formerly assistant general
superintendent of paper departments
from his previous post of paper mills,
to be succeeded by Kenneth J.
Mackenzie, former assistant super-
intendent of the paper mills, Marion E.
Russell, formerly assistant to the
general superintendent of film depart-
ment and promoted to superin-
tendent of that division.
John H. Wolwell, previously assistant
superintendent of the chemical plant,
paper mills, Harold superintendent.
Carl J. Malm, formerly assistant
superintendent of the chemical plant,
vice president of the cellulose acetate
development, and George A. Richter,
previously assistant superintendent
of the wood cellulose development,
had been promoted to superintendent.

Appointed assistant superintendents
were John L. Elrod, research superin-
tendent; W. E. Sillick, chemical plant;
Georgey Broughton, research superin-
tendent; A. E. Peters, mechanical superin-
tendent; Ralph W. Peters, contin-
tinent; E. G. Anderson, plant superin-
tendent; Harry E. Pad-
dock, firewaste control.

Zukor
(Continued from page 1)
he is confident that, in the long run
"the powers that be in the United
States will recognize the value of
pictures and that, in the last analysis,
nothing will be done to injure the in-
dustry." Pointing to the public ser-
vice which films rendered during the
war, he declares: "we can do twice as
much in the future."

During 1946, Zukor finds from per-
sonal observation both here and abroad,
that there is a growing public and stock
of public reactions and found that more
thoughtful pictures, with more human
interest, and less of the genre are de-
sired. It was also, he finds, a year of
"sobering up" after serious difficulties,
reson to an ill-fated Miami, which indi-
In the microwave pointing to 1947 as a time of
"smoother sailing." He believes there will be no marked business recession in the
industry for at least eight or 10 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Zukor's golden wed-
ing anniversary will be celebrated on
Friday with a dinner at the Savoy-
Plaza Hotel here. On Jan. 24 he will
leave for several months in Hollywood
to relay to Paramount's production ex-
cutives the observations made during
his extensive European survey last
month.

Macks Miss Plane Crash
Irrving Mack, head of Filmack,
Cicago, arrived here from Miami by
Monday morning flight, cancelling
earlier reservations on the charter
transplant plane which crashed at Car-
son yesterday night's storm,
iting three and all but was named.
who was accompanied by Mrs. Mack,
uid they had canceled their accommo-
dation to the ill-fated Miami to New-
ak, N. J., plane upon hearing of bad
weather conditions in the north.
French Production Takes Hard Blows

French production is in a deplorable state. This blue note was sounded here yesterday by Emil Bourcart, president of Associated Western Amusement Films, who has returned to New York from a business trip to France. Bourcart also brought back with him an ominous warning to American distributors: the French public must not be systematically overworked with American productions, for an unreasonable prejudice against U.S. films develops in that country.

French production, Bourcart reports, is lagging seriously as the result of the sudden withdrawal of all financial aid by the country's four great nationalized banks, unreasonably high production costs, and the uncertain electric service that makes studio schedules impossible to maintain. Many producers in Paris, he added, have stopped making pictures altogether because of these handicap.

While the power service and financing problems will be overcome ultimate, according to Bourcart, the American industry must cooperate in aiding the French industry's recovery by making releases of the kind that Yonker's companies have done for the French market with Hollywood product. While recognizing that large American films have started spontaneously to restrict shipments to France, Bourcart deplored the over-shiping policies of "independent producers who are not subject to any regulation whatever."

**Grant N.Y. Incorporation Papers to 12 More Firms**

**Albany, N.Y., Jan. 6—**Twelve additional industry and quasi-industry firms were granted incorporation papers by the Office of the Secretary of State here recently. The incorporations were:
- American Tele-Film, which will operate in New York, is incorporated by Martha B. Kemyt, George I. Swatlow and Lillian Aschinoff, all of New York. Howard Pack was an incorporating attorney for Apollo, a theatrical firm, with Leo Brecher, Walter Brecher and Frank Schiffman, all of New York, listed as incorporators.
- Asior Cinemas will deal in motion pictures in New York, according to Seymour Lushonder, Alexander E. Shankle, and incorporating attorney Harry G. Kusich. W. Susanman and Florence S. Monroe, all of New York, are incorporators.
- H. Maurer, Hawthorne, are incorporators of Billilo, which will conduct motion-picture activities in Boston. Edward Clark and Gagliardi, White Plains, are serving as incorporating attorneys.
- The Kerhow firm will deal in motion pictures in New York and will be incorporated by Herbert Kerhow, Benjamin Robbins and Julia Greenberger, all of New York. Samuel J. Ohringer, New York, was incorporating attorney.

**U.S. Protest**

(Continued from page 1)

The native language. Additionally, the exhibit declares that "not more than three films" are the first presentation of a film to the public in its original version and the date on which the request for the dubbing was made.

Actually the decree is a revival of an old ordinance which had not been enforced since the Millard-Mills era and the national foreign chief for the MPA, said here yesterday that the so-called Byrnes-Blim film accord at last May underscores that ordinance.

He said that the new French action constitutes a new attempt to interfere with U.S. film business in the country. In addition it is certain that the legislation of the May pact which ruled out dubbing against U.S. films. The Byrnes-Blim treaty had only one conditional provision, that being that French films be shown in the country. To avert flooding the French market, the member companies of the MPA agreed with U.S. film business in the country, adding that it is certain that the May pact which ruled out dubbing against U.S. films. The Byrnes-Blim treaty had only one conditional provision, that being that French films be shown in the country.

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**Budget Is Due**

(Continued from page 1)

Department functions which assist the industry. Among the Presidential requests will be "hiring" the Export-Import Bank, and the office of foreign trade functions. The file section presently operated by George C. J. War will remain untouched. The Export-Import Department is not making contributions to the industry, such as technical reports and business censuses which will be made available at the MPA. The film industry profits from the Commerce business surveys abroad and also the section headed by Walter D. Golden, which furnishes the industry with technical data when available.

The President will include in his budget request funds for the continuation of the Office of Government Reports, where the motion picture division is now located. President Truman recently assigned all Federal film activities to that agency.

For submission to Congress will be an appeal for cultural relations activities, including the use of 10mm. films and other foreign cultural programs, for defense of the cultural film program, and is expected to give it another slash.

versions prosper. The French make one exception on the provision: "except when the film is of exceptional export value, or is an artistic or technical point of view."

Mulliken said the now required section will in some italy, getting product processed, in addition to the gutlet of other censorship agencies which the finished product must issue.

March of Time and SAG in Agreement

The Screen Actors Guild and the March of Time have resolved their differences and signed a basic agreement, it was announced here yesterday.

The SAG recognizes that MOT films come within its definition of a new release, and the MOT agrees that, because of certain techniques used in the dramatic reenactment used on MOT, specific agreements exist in the agreement will be limited to MOTs and persons falls within the jurisdiction of the SAG.

The former production of commercial, documentary, or feature films, the MOT has signed the standard SAG forms covering these types of operation.

**Blake Leaves Blaine To Join Erickson**

Walter Blake, for the past eight years account executive handling Warner Brothers Pictures for the McCann-Erickson office in Los Angeles, resigned, effective Jan. 17, to join the Los Angeles office of McCann-Erickson, Inc., as account executive in charge of their motion picture business.

Blake began his advertising and film work with McCann-Erickson in 1929. In 1930 he branched out as a free lance art director and contact man until 1936, when he joined N. W. Ayer and Son on national accounts. Three years later he resumed his association with Warner Bros.-First National as account executive working through Blaine-Thompson.

**S. G. Alexander Joins Brisacher Ad Firm**

Sidney G. Alexander, former advertising manager of Selznick International and Vanguard Films, here, has joined Brisacher, Van Norden and Staff, advertising engineers, as senior account executive, with headquarter for this office. Mr. Alexander will specialize in film accounts for the firm. At present he is supervising Monogram's radio advertising, and the international-based Artists producer Charles Rogers.

Alexander will leave New York next week for a trip to the Coast, and will return here around Feb. 1.

Wood Seeks Cooper; Going to Russia

Hollywood, Jan. 6—Sam Wood is negotiating for the services of Gary Cooper whom he wants for the lead in "The World Has Arms," Rex Beach's last novel, which Wood will make as an Inter-Wood Production for United Artists. Wood hasassigned to Lawrence Stattons to write the screenplay. On completion of his current Inter-Wood production, "Ivy," the producer-director will go to Europe. He will seek a passport for entry into Russia, however, for an actress to portray the lead.

Set 'Nora' Tradeshows

National tradeshows of "Nora Prentiss," Warner production, has been set for Monday, Feb. 3. The picture is scheduled for general release late in February.
**N. Y. 1st-Run Grosses Hold**

The holiday box-office situation continued much in evidence the latter part of last week and particularly over the week-end at the majority of New York houses. While a slight decline is anticipated with the termination of the school vacation, the box-office overall looks very good with not too much of a drop under last week.

In sharp contrast to the business which New York box-offices are handling, there is a drop in "luxury" money spending. Many of the town's expensive night spots are finding it increasingly difficult to lure patrons.

"It's a Wonderful Life" went into its third week at the Globe and box-office activity shows that the film is finally catching on. Saturday and Sunday brought in $5,500, higher than the preceding two week-ends, and this week should catch $4,000, which is quite nicely. At the beginning of the out-week at the, at all times relatively high revenues for the house, was still running under expectations.

"Best Years" Still Good

"The Best Years of Our Lives," at the Astor, still proves itself a consistent money-getter, for a total of $56,000 is in view for the seventh week. "Stairway to Heaven" is doing capacity business at the Park where the second week ended at $15,500 and would wind up with $23,000; this is about $1,000 short of the gross for the first week. "White Angel" and "West Side Story" are the same, that period must be taken into account.

The SRO sign told the story at the Music Hall through the week-end as an average gross of $43,000 is in view for the second week.

At the Roxy, "The Razor's Edge," with Rosario and Antonio topping the stage bill, figures to amass $11,000 in a second week. This is pleasant weather, although representing a drop of about $65,000 under last week's figure.

"Secret Heart" $50,000

"The Secret Heart," with Tommy Dorsey's orchestra, is good for $80,000 in a second week and the Palace sees a very handsome gross of $88,000 ahead for the sixth week with a total of $495,000 in its third week. The first week's $450,000 was a bit over book, butFolder is fair with an estimated $21,000 for the second and final week; "Love on the Wings at Andy Hardy" will follow today.

"My Darling Clementine" at the Rivoli is not too impressive in its fifth week and is now being handled with $45,000 in its third week. "California" will bow in Jan. 14.

"The Beast with Five Fingers" is doing very well at the Victoria with $19,000 in view for the second week.

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**Key City Grotes**

**PHILADELPHIA**

"The Razor's Edge" is out in front during a week of generally healthy business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 7:

- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE (RKO Radio)—** ALDINE (900) (30c-75c-95c-85c) $15,000. (Average: $1,750). 7 days, 2nd week, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,000).
- **JOAN CRAWFORD—** ARCADIA (900) (50c-75c-95c-55c) $10,500. (Average: $1,500). 6 days, Gross: $8,250. (Average: $1,375).
- **UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—** BOYD (1,000) (30c-75c-95c-75c) $7,200. (Average: $1,000). 7 days, Gross: $2,250. (Average: $321).
- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE (2nd—Fox)—** FOX (30c-75c-95c-75c) $7,200. (Average: $1,000). 7 days, Gross: $7,200. (Average: $1,000).
- **CROSS MY HEART (Para)—** GOLDMAN (48) (30c-75c-95c-75c) $5,400. Gross: $5,400. 7 days, 2nd week, (Average: $771).
- **HARRY V (UA)—** PIX (50x) (35c-55c-75c) $5,400. (Average: $771). 7 days, 2nd week, Gross: $5,400. (Average: $771).
- **BLUE SKIES (Para)—** STANLEY (30c-75c-95c-75c) $5,400. (Average: $771). 6 days, 3rd week, Gross: $5,400. (Average: $900).

**Baltimore**

Figures at the box-offices for the first week are as follows:

- **HAPPY NEW YEAR**—KENTUCKY (3,000) $21,000. (Average: $7,000). 7 days, 2nd week, Gross: $21,000. (Average: $3,000).
- **MAGNIFICENT**—LEXINGTON (3,000) $21,000. (Average: $3,000). 7 days, 2nd week, Gross: $21,000. (Average: $3,000).
- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE (2nd—Fox)—** FOX (30c-75c-95c-75c) $21,000. (Average: $3,000). 7 days, 2nd week, Gross: $21,000. (Average: $3,000).
- **THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—** KIRK'S (3,000) (50c-75c-95c-75c) $15,000. 2nd week, Gross: $6,000. (Average: $1,250).
- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE WHATCHAMACALLIT (M-G-M)—** KARLTON (1,000) (30c-75c-95c-75c) $7,500. 2nd week, Gross: $7,500. (Average: $1,250).
- **THE MOON AND SIXPENCE (M-G-M)—** STANTON (1,000) (30c-75c-95c-75c) $7,500. 2nd week, Gross: $7,500. (Average: $1,250).

**MINNEAPOLIS**

"Blue Skies" set an all-time record at Radio City, to lead in a week of otherwise near-average grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 9:

- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE (30c-75c-95c-75c) $5,000. (Average: $750). 7 days, Gross: $5,000. (Average: $714).

**OKLAHOMA CITY SLUMP**

**ATLANTA**

Business has shown a good recovery. The weather has been very cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 9:

- **TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE CAST (Para)—** FOX (4,660) (50c-55c-75c) $15,000. (Average: $4,500). 10 days, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $1,500).
- **MARRIAGE (Para)—** ROXY (2,460) (30c-60c) 2nd week on moveover from Fox, Gross: $5,400. (Average: $900).
- **BAMBOO BLUES (WB)—** GAS HOUSE KIDS (PRC)—CAPITOL (30c-60c) $4,800. (Average: $480). 10 days, Gross: $4,800. (Average: $480).
- **TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M)—** LOEW'S GRAND (30c-50c) 2nd week, Gross: $13,500. (Average: $1,350).

**OMAHA**

Theaters here are starting out the new year with a banner week. An all-time record for the city was expected at one first-run. This is despite temperatures dropping as low as 13 below and snow on the ground. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 9:

- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE (30c-75c-95c-75c) $15,000. (Average: $1,500). 7 days, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,143).
- **MAY THE WIND BLOW (WB)—** ORPHEUM (30c-50c) 7 days, Gross: $7,200. (Average: $1,029).
- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB)—** PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,143).
- **SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—** RKO RADIO (2,900) (30c-60c-75c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,143).
- **TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M)—** LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (30c-60c-75c) $15,000. (Average: $4,800).
- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE (M-G-M)—** LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (30c-60c-75c) $15,000. (Average: $4,800).

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*(Continued on page 19)*
Key Grosse

(Continued from page 9)

TORONTO

First-run theatres in the downtown district got the worst of it when a severe windstorm, making the streets a bit more hazardous to travel, turned streets into a hazard and knocked traffic for three days during the first week of the New Year. As a result of the wind, the theatres managed to get quite good crowds but far from what might have been expected. Short features were equally hard hit, with less than a thousand taking in the pro-

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—Elli-

Glen (18c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $1,083.)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — LOEW'S (Beverly) (Para.)— RKO (18c-60c-

85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $157.)

THE RASOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox) —

LOWELLA (18c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $500.)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—MUSIC

HALL (Beverly Hills) (9c-60c-85c-

1.00) 2 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $750.)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—MUSIC

HALL (Downtown) (9c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average:

$2,143.)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—MUSIC

HALL (Los Angeles) (9c-60c-85c-1.00) 3 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average:

$1,833.)

THE VERDICT (WB) and GENIUS AT

WORMHOLT (20th-Fox) (20c) (9c-

60c-85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $2,857.)

ITS A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio)

—PANTAGES (20c) (9c-60c-85c-

1.00) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average:

$286.)

THE RASOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox) —

CATHY CIRCLE (1.36) (9c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average:

$857.)

THE RASOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox) —

CHINESE (8c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average:

$1,429.)

DUET IN THE SUN (SRO)—EGYPTIAN

(1.36) (9c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average:

$1,643.)

THE RASOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox) —

GENIUS AT WORMHOLT (RKO Radio)—EL REY (8c-60c-

85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $2,857.)

THE RASOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox) —

GENIUS AT WORMHOLT (RKO Radio)—FOUR STAR (9c-

60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000.)

LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M)—LOWELLA (18c-60c-

85c-1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $786.)

Los Angeles

Grosses continued high at all first-run theatres here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 8.

TEMPATION (U) and SLIGHTLY

SCANDALOUS (U) (1.37) (9c-

60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000.)

THE RASOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox) —

LOWELLA (1.36) (9c-60c-85c-

1.00) 6 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,333.)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—VICTOR

THEATER (18c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $1,083.)

$1,500,000 Ad Budget

For 3 Bogeaus Films

Hollywood, Jan. 6.—Benedit E.

Bogeaus, independent producer releasing through United Artists, has estab-

lished a budget of $1,500,000 for na-

tional advertising on three of the pic-


Kalisch Resigns from State Department

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Bertram

Kalisch, film aide of the U. S. State Department, has resigned to join the

William J. Ganz Co. and the Institute of Visual Training, producers and distributors of educational and industrial shorts. Kalisch, who helped organize the AAF training film program at Wright Field, was chief of the adaptation section of the State Department's film division.

Seven More Pictures Approved by Legion

The National Legion of Decency has given its A-1 classification to seven ad-

ditional films. They are: "Blon-

dy's Big Moment," "Columbia," "Gas-


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public.

Reade Acquires 16

Storrs' Theatres

With the acquisition of 16 theatres in Upstate New York and New Jersey, in a deal representing about $400,000, Reade Theatres circuit has given momentum to an expansion project. The deal was consummated with the Frank V. Storrs Estates exchange of public interests in the National Bank. At the same time, it was disclosed that Walter Reade Theatres, a new company, has been organized to handle the new acquisitions and to build and acquire other show places throughout the eastern territory.

Reade, who has operated the newly-

acquired houses for the past 20 years, under a lease from the Storrs estate, obtained $410,000 loan from the First National Bank of Boston for the purchase and modernization of these theatres.

The acquisitions are: Community and Congregational Theatres, Saratoga; Kingston and Broadway, Kingston; Warren and Community, Hudson; Strand, Oxford and Para-

mount, Plainfield; Majestic and Pal, Portland; Freeport; Oldham; Carlton and Strand, Red Bank; Community, Morristown, and Community, Toms River.

Prince Named RKO

Foreign Press Chief

Don Prince has been named RKO

Radio foreign publicity manager, re-

placing Mike Hoffy, resigned.

Prince has been with RKO for 10

years, having risen from the ranks of Jerry Turner's field forces under S. "Spanky" Genberg, associate publicity director. During the past year he has been in the United Kingdom organizing an exploitation depart-

ment for RKO in that territory as part of a world-wide showmanship plan.

Two Theatres Razed

By Sweeping Fires

Two costly theatre fires in widely-

separated parts of the U. S. have been

reported: The Delight, in the town of

Delight, near Albany, N. Y. burned down; it was exhibitor W. J. Naber's only house. In Broadus, Mont., the Broadus Theatre and its connexion, the Naber, were destroyed. Owner Carl Shaffer has estimated the loss to be more than $75,000.

Dutch See U. S. Films

The first United States films im-

ported into The Netherlands under the recent arrangement with the United States Film Export Asso-

ciation, "Mrs. Miniver" and "Gaslight," were shown throughout the country over the weekend. They were received enthusiastically by press and public, according to a dispatch from The Hague to the New York Times.

Leydeneker to Boxoffice

Frank S. Leydeneker, for the past

several years New York staff repre-

sentative for Film Bulletin, has joined the staff of Boxoffice as an assistant to editor James M. Jerald. Leydeneker, who was editor of Film Curb in 1938, had previously been Eastern editor of Boxoffice.
SERVING the world of THE MOTION PICTURE

MOTION PICTURE HERALD, weekly, intensively American but of international circulation, preponderantly circulated to exhibitors but also covering and serving all other ramifications of the industry.

BETTER THEATRES, every fourth week, currently appearing as a section of The Herald, but in effect and fact a special publication in the service of the physical theatre, devoted to its equipment and operation.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, five days a week, Monday through Friday, most holidays out, widely circulated principally in the U.S., also covering all branches of the industry but with the accent on distribution and exhibition interests.

International

MOTION PICTURE ALMANAC, statistical annual, of more than a thousand pages, covering all branches, and containing biographical information on about twelve thousand persons in the art and industry around the world.

FAME, statistical annual of large format and ornate make-up devoted to the talent of the art, around the world, and with a section devoted to Radio and its people.
Answering inquiries concerning the

SELZNICK RELEASING ORGANIZATION

Facilities will be available for only a limited number of pictures other than those produced by the Selznick producing units; and only for product of outstanding quality and great commercial appeal.

This basic policy will make it impossible for us to consider any but a few of those propositions with which we have been deluged since the formation of our organization.

We nevertheless appreciate and shall not soon forget either the enthusiastic confidence in our plans on the part of so many individuals and organizations, nor the attitudes toward us throughout the industry.

We are proud of the “Tradition of Quality” of the Selznick trademark. We believe that its scrupulous and undeviating refusal to “water the milk” is unparalleled in the history of the industry. And we pledge ourselves to adopt and to adhere to the standards of the Selznick producing units.

We believe that this way, and only this way, can a new and independent distributing company make an important contribution to the business.

SELZNICK RELEASING ORGANIZATION

NEIL AGNEW, President

Selling and control offices have already been established in

LOS ANGELES  NEW YORK  LONDON  BUENOS AIRES
CHICAGO     DALLAS    BOSTON    ATLANTA

IN A TRADITION OF QUALITY
Further Court Action Here Is Considered

Companies May Move for Some Decree Changes

The possibility that certain defendant companies might return to the New York Federal Court in attempts to have adjustments made in and readjustments given of some provisions of the industry decree presented itself yesterday as the deadline for any such action drew near.

The move, which is under consideration by a majority of film attorneys, would be in the form of a motion requesting an evidentiary hearing and, accordingly, amended judgments. Such a move would have to be made to the three-judge statutory court by Friday.

In the event that any of the companies (Continued on page 6)

Film Stock Shares Rise 63% in Year

Stock splits effected by several companies during 1946, as well as the conversion of preferred to common stock by several others, resulted in a 63 per cent increase in the number of shares outstanding at the end of the year, a survey of home office financial departments reveals. As of last Dec. 28, the total outstanding, for nine companies represented on the New York Stock Exchange, was approximately 31,735,000, compared with 19,079,000 at year-end 1946.

(Continued on page 4)

Eagle-Lion Becomes CRI Stockholder

Eagle-Lion Films has joined Confidential Reports, Inc., as a stockholder, it was announced here yesterday by A. W. Schlalberg, E. L. vice president and general sales manager.

With its election as a member Eagle-Lion becomes the ninth subscriber - stockholder of CRI, the others being Warners, Republic, United Artists, Columbia, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio and Universal.

Indepependents' Product Held To Be Exempt

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 7. - Independent producers, being non-defendants in the industry anti-trust suit, are exempt from the provisions of the final decree handed down in New York last week, and defendant distributors may properly approach the court for reassurance of exemption so far as the films they handle for independents are concerned, Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has been advised by SMPF counsel in the East. Nelson was scheduled to hold a full-scale meeting of his organization's membership today, presumably to consider their legal opinion and possible steps designed to implement it.

The independents, the opinion holds, along with Monogram, Republic and RKO, are free "to provide or contract for exhibition of their own films on such terms, including provision for the maintenance of minimum admission prices, as they may individually consider proper." (Continued on page 6)

Fielding, Bowen to Regents on 'Outlaw'

New York City license commissioner Benjamin Fielding and Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the motion picture censorship division of the State Education Board, will personally appear before the top State Board of Regents in Albany tomorrow to voice their respective stands on the former's appeal from the censors' rejection of the city's recent attempts to have the license of "The Outlaw." (Continued on page 6)

New Incentive Set For 'Dimes' Drive

A large number of prizes will be offered to theatre managers who participate in the 1947 March of Dimes drive, according to an announcement made here yesterday by Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Details of the contests will be included in a broadside distributed to exhibitors, now being prepared by Charles Reed Jones, national publicist manager of the film division. (Continued on page 6)

Gov't-Film Program Approved by MPTOA

New Haven, Jan. 7. - The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America has approved the establishment of industry machinery to facilitate the handling of Government films, according to Herman M. Levy, general counsel of the organization.

It is understood that Levy will represent the MPTOA on the 12-man industry coordinating committee.

MPTOA Plans M.P. Forum
Start Jan. 20

Will Ask Trade Leaders To Aid in Organizing

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 7. - First moves toward the organization of a Motion Picture Forum to hear and to adjust trade practices and other industrial differences will be undertaken by MPTOA officers here this month, Fred W. e r n - b e r g, author of the forum idea and MPTOA president, said today.

W e r n b e r g said that he would meet with Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, and possibly other MPTOA officers following a meeting on Jan. 20. (Continued on page 6)

Foundation By-laws Have Been Drafted

The certificate of incorporation and the by-laws for the Motion Picture Foundation have been drafted into working form and were received the approval of the MPF sub-committee which was organized to carry on this function at the original meeting of the Foundation in New Orleans last Dec. 3.

Drafts of the articles have been forwarded to the MPF's steering committee. (Continued on page 6)

Television Code Is Urged by TBA Chief

"Immediate action to assume honestly and sincerely the responsibility which television must shoulder by way of a code, or guide, which every broadcaster should pledge to fulfill was proposed at the annual meeting of the Television Broadcasters Association, held here yesterday at the

(Continued on page 4)
**Personal Mention**

**Charles D. Prutzman**, Universal-World's vice-president and general counsel, has cancelled plans to join ... studio tomorrow.

**JAMES GRAINGER**, Republic executive vice-president and general sales manager, has returned to New York from Mexico City and Hollywood.

**INGRID BERGMAN** has been awarded Sweden's highest order for artists and scientists, a gold medal for outstanding services to art and science, by King Gustaf.

**SUE BROOT** (Mrs. Bertram F. Broot) assistant to Russell Hoffman, Paramount's Eastern production head, will leave the company Friday to take up domestic life.

**MAX FELLMAN** of Paramount's theatre department, and his wife will leave New York tomorrow for a vacation on the Coast.

**EARLE SWEIGERT**, Paramount's Midwest eastern division sales manager, has returned to Philadelphia from North Wales, Pa.

**HAL JORDAN**, formerly Tennis star, now Monogram's representative in Salt Lake City, has been visiting Denver.

**JOE C. GOLZ**, special foreign representative for United Artists, has returned to New York from the East.

**LOREN RYDER**, head of the Paramount domestic sales department, is due in New York Jan. 22 from the Coast.


**HOYARD DE WIESS**, Republic sales representative at Salt Lake City, has been visiting Denver.

**CARL LIND**, Montana exhibitor, is visiting Salt Lake City exchange managers and bookers.

**TOM PHILLIPS** of Republic, Salt Lake City, has returned there from Youngstown.

**DAVID A. LIPTON**, Universal coordinator of advertising, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

**DUDLEY NICHOLS**, RKO Radio producer-director, is in New York from the Coast.

**SOL SCHWARTZ**, vice-president of RKO Theatres, has returned to New York from Miami.

**PAT CASEY**, producers' labor representative, is scheduled to leave for the Coast in a week.

**CARY GRANT** is in New York for Hollywood talks with SAVEL GOLDWIN.

**George Rattery** is expected to return to New York from Kentucky today or tomorrow.

**EUGENE ZUKOR**, Paramount talent executive, is in New York from Hollywood with Mrs. Zukor.

**Fred Messinger**, Monogram casting director, has left Hollywood for Shreveport, La.

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**Newsreel Parade**

**Congress** opening and the New Year's Day football bowl games—Rose, Sugar, Orange and Outback virtually all the footage in current newscasts; complete syn-opses follow:

**MOVIE TIMES NEWS, No. 35—Penthouse Parade.** Three storms in East cause air layoffs. NFL bowl highlights.

**NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 236—Truman addresses the GOP Congress. Grid bowl theories.

**PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 39—30th Congress tackles first problems: Hillo and the no-clip campaigns.

**RKO PATHES NEWS, No. 41—Congress opens. Truman talks. 1947 bowl games.

**UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 2—30th Congress convenes. Bowl games.**

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**73 At Testimonial For Alec Sayles**

**ALBANY, N.Y., Jan. 7—**Some 73 of the film industry this territory attended the 73rd birthday of Alec Sayles, Palace manager, for his 25 years in show business, at a dinner at the Towne House, under Variety Club auspices.

**SEGREGATION IN DC**

**WASHINGTON, Jan. 7—**Rep. William L. Dawson (R-Ill.) today introduced legislation in the House that would force theatres in the District of Columbia to open their doors to all colors and creeds. Dawson, a Negro, wrote into his measure fines of from $10 to $100 and jail sentences from one to 30 days for those who violate the laws. The bill also provides that the violator would be liable to personal damage suits. The fines range from $100 to $500 to the person injured.

**Jackson Quits Post At Anglo-American**

**LONDON, Jan. 7—**Louis H. Jackson has resigned as chairman and governing director of Anglo-American Co., thereby implementing an agreement whereby Associated British Pictures Corp. will run Anglo-American pending development of the government's intentions with regard to possible quota revision.

**Curtis Bernard Due**

**HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 7—**Warner director Curtis Bernard will leave that company this month. Entering tomorrow for New York, he will announce plans for the company there late in the week. Bernard had been set to direct "The Life of Sarah..."
YOU'D LIKE TO BE IN THESE SHOES!

Gregory Peck, Jane Wyman, Claude Jarman, Jr.
Now the industry knows what we have long predicted! M-G-M's Prize Picture is shattering all records in its Road-show World Premiere at the Carthay Circle, Los Angeles. The critics are ecstatic! For instance. Says Louella Parsons: "One of the finest screen dramas to come into our lives, one of Hollywood's all-time great!" And the L. A. Herald Express predicts "Everyone connected with it becomes a prime contender for Hollywood's top honors, the Academy Awards." And columnist Dorothy Kilgallen says: "Our own Academy Award—Best Motion Picture of the Year. 'The Yearling'."

Claudette Colbert, Walter Pidgeon, June Allyson
EXTRA! BREAKS ALL-TIME CAPITOL RECORD!
Listen! "The Secret Heart" has broken the 27-year Capitol, N. Y. record for a week's business! The Los Angeles opening broke all-time records. And in its first 30 engagements it takes its place with M-G-M's top money-getters! It's a "heart" of gold!

Mickey Rooney, Lewis Stone
Mickey's back! Get ready to continue the Hardy Hit Habit with the newest and best of them all!

March of Dimes — Jan. 24-30

EXTRA! BREAKS MUSIC HALL RECORDS!
Have you heard the news! "Till The Clouds Roll By" in its first 4 weeks at Radio City Music Hall has not only set an all-time record for that famed house but has rolled up the biggest week's gross ever reached by any theatre at any time anywhere on earth! In first 40 dates it's one of the Biggest M-G-M Grossers!

Red Skelton, Marilyn Maxwell
"Show-off" is off to a flying start! It's showing off to fine business in its first 45 dates. A rolling audience hit for your folks!

Robert Montgomery, Audrey Totter, Lloyd Nolan
The most unusual offering since talkies began. A new technique to tell a thrilling mystery drama! Collier's calls it revolutionary! Sensational advance publicity everywhere! Watch the magazines!

"Come on in gents!"
Television Code
(Continued from page 1)

Waldorf-Astoria Hotel by J. R. Poppele, who was recalled president of the organization.

The proposal, as Poppele set forth in his annual report, would be to avoid missing "an opportunity to supply fresh and accurate information and entertain-"en-entertainment."

Scroll to de Forest

At a luncheon session, an inscribed scroll commemorating the 40th anniversary of the invention of the "Audion" three-element vacuum tube was presented to its inventor, Dr. Lee de Forest. In accepting the honor from TBA, Dr. de Forest said: This year, 1947, is certain to convince every skeptic, every scoff, that television has arrived from around that fabled corner, and is here to command, to entertain, instruct and enthral.

Other officers elected at the meeting are: G. Emerson Markham, general manager of WRGB, Schenectady, vice-president; Will Balth, recalled secretary-treasure; Paul Rabeneck, vice-president of Paramount, recalled assistant secretary-treasurer and director. Other directors named were John E. Royal, vice-president in charge of television for National Broadcasting, to succeed O. V. Hansen; Frank Schreiber, general manager of WGN, Chicago, replacing E. A. Hayes of the Hughes Tool Co.

Appeal Dismissal of Scophony Television

The Department of Justice yesterday appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court against the Federal District Court's dismissal of Scophony, Ltd., British defendant, in the Scophony anti-trust suit.

In a petition filed by Joseph B. Markel, chief of the New York office of the U. S. Department of Justice, the government contends that Federal Judge Edward A. Coper entered on Nov. 8 when he held that the British company does not come under section No. 12 of the Clayton Act, which provides that a firm may be sued only in an area where it does business. The appeal claims that Scophony, Ltd. does business in New York through Scophony Corp. of America, which has been retained as a defendant in the suit. Judge Coper had ruled that the last business done here by Scophony, Ltd., was in 1942.

Meanwhile, Scophony's motion for dismissal of cross-charges brought against it by Scophony Corp. of America and Arthur H. Levy, SCA president, has been granted. The case will be set for a hearing until Jan. 14, after having been scheduled to come up yesterday.

Monogram-Managers' Meet, Jan. 11-12

St. Louis, Jan. 7—Steve Brody, president of Monogram Pictures, is scheduled to head a home office delegation to the meeting of all Monogram franchise holders and branch managers, to be held at the Coronado Hotel, here, on Jan. 11-12.

One of the features of the conclave will be the showing of Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue." There will also be discussions of the 1946-47 sales plans. Others expected include vice-president M. Edward Morey, general sales manager Maurice Goldstein, and director of sales Jack Schlaifer.

Va. MPTA

(Continued from page 1)


Also, publicity: Brock Whitlock, Loew's Washington Theatres; gift committee: Sen. Ben T. Pitts, Pitt T. Avenue, Frederick A. Kadish, Wabash, and Jack H. West, New York. The chairmen of the committee stated that an adequate budget had been set up and that no effort would be spared to make the VMPTA's 1947 Winter Convention an outstanding business and social occasion.

Foundation By-laws

(Continued from page 1)

committee, which consists of Barnsdale Co., Johnson & White, Harry Scheinberg, R. K. Ho, Poole, St Fabian, Leonard Goldenson, Tom Conners, Ted Van Dusen, Sam Pinanski, Ed Zorn, Karl Hoblitzelle, E. V. Richards, Jr. As soon as approval is received from the group, the articles of incorporation will be filed for incorporation in the State of Ohio. The initial purpose of the Foundation shall be to foster the production and needs in all branches of the industry.

Death Claims Mother of Chester Friedman

MRS. LOTTIE FRIEDMAN, 69, mother of Chester Friedman, editor of the Managers' Round Table of the Motion Picture Herald, died suddenly last night, according to her husband. Services will be held tomorrow at 1 p.m. in Park West Chapel.

Eddie Morrison, 40

Funeral services will be conducted Friday morning at 11 a.m. at Talmudic Gardens, Parlor, Union City, N. J., for Eddie Morrison, 40, veteran newsreel cameraman despite his age. He worked for Coronet News, was a member of the early International Newsreel, and later covered Movietone and later served Paramount News. He was born in 1896 for several years.

Alan Crockett, 30

CHICAGO, Jan. 7—Alan Crockett, 30, Western film actor and radio singer, died at his suburban Maywood home today. Crockett had broadcast over station WLS, here, and KNX, Hollywood, for many years.

‘Man's Hope’ Openings

André Malraux's "Man's Hope," which has been increased in the U. S. and Lopert Films, will have its American premiere simultaneously at the 55th Street Theater and Warner Bros. Avon Playhouse, I. E. Lopert, president, announced. The film will follow the films currently showing at each house, he said.

Film Stocks

(Continued from page 1)

pared with 19,230,790 at the end of 1945.

Total valuation of the stocks, based on the closing market prices and the closing market quotations on Dec. 28, reached an all-time high of approximately $7,602,000 at the end of 1946, of some $95,227,000 over a total of around $1,214,350 at the end of 1945.

Globally, a survey made by Delmar, Inc., which, after a three-for-one stock split, ended this year with approximately $7,602,000 in outstanding, for a total valuation of $132,600,000, a rise of $74,587,000.

Pursuing, after the three-for-one split, had some 7,504,000 shares, valued in the neighborhood of $246,702,424, an increase of about $38,467,000.

The Warner Bros. stock, also split two-for-one, aggregated approximately 7,462,000 shares at the end of 1946, when the valuation stood near the $32,111,000 mark, up some $7,881,000 from the year before.

RKO, with its outstanding stock increased by about a million shares during the year, had a total valuation of approximately $50,156,000 on Dec. 28, an increase of $1,306,250.

The common stock of 20th Century-Fox, which had no outstanding, through the conversion of preferred, totaled about $103,646,000 in value as of the year end at $1.00 per share. While the total value of 20th-Fox common increased some $18,280,000 during the year, the preferred stock was decreased by $19,800, and of the prior preferred by $650,000, making a net drop of around $2,348,000 for the three classes of the company's securities.

Universal's stock had a net drop of $1,650,000 during the year. Total valuation of approximately $83,000 shares of common outstanding at the end of 1946 was $21,410,000, a decrease of $14,385,000, which was offset in part by the issuance of 60,000 shares of preferred, valued at $5,150,000 as of Dec. 28.

Columbia's net decrease was in the neighborhood of $565,500 in 570,000 shares of outstanding at the end of 1946 had a total value of about $7,770,000, a drop of $5,970,000, with 75,000 shares of preferred held at some $6,000,000, an increase of $2,025,000.

General Precision Equipment Corp. ended 1946 with 590,000 outstanding shares, with a valuation of approximately $14,012,000, a decrease of some $525,000 with the added stock.

Eastman Kodak's 2,500,000 shares of common outstanding on Dec. 28 were valued at $5,700,000, a decrease of $8,750,000. The company's 62,000 shares of preferred had a valuation of $13,842,000, a decrease of $530,000.

Mason, Korda Sign 2-Picture Contract

James Mason, British film star, now in this country vacationing in Connect-icut, has signed a two-picture contract with Alexander Korda. The deal specifies that Mason's two films are to be made in the country most convenient to both the star and producer. The first film will be made, Film Products, London, Conn-ec-ticut, or possibly in France. A re-
Managers of small theatres find that Simplified High Intensity Projection actually attracts more customers to their shows. The reason?

Because this inexpensive form of high intensity projection gives the movie-goer more for his money. It provides a brighter screen, a sharper image. It makes available to the small theatre the same perfection of modeling and detail...the same fidelity of color reproduction...found in the larger theatres. This means more audience relaxation and enjoyment...which means bigger box office.

In spite of the obvious improvement that Simplified High Intensity Projection can make on your screen, it is actually low in cost. In fact, just a few extra admissions per show will more than pay for it.

Take the first step today toward attracting more and more customers...Consult your supply house on the availability of High Intensity Lamps.

The word "National" is a registered trade-mark of
NATIONAL CARBON COMPANY, INC.
Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation

30 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.
Division Sales Offices: Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City,
New York, Pittsburgh, San Francisco
M.P. Forum

(Continued from page 1)

of MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois in this case, to fall as a result of the formation of distribution companies, and to Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president.

Last Friday, Johnston indicated his willingness to serve with the Forum, if invited to do so. His expression was made at the devotion of the Forum at the open session of the Conference of Independent Exhibitors Associations in Boston, had suggested that it should be headed by Johnston. The suggestion itself apparently stemmed from the formation of an organization made at an Allied States dinner in Chicago earlier in which he urged formation of the organization. Johnston would be president.

Wehrenberg added that since the idea of a Forum had originated with MPTOA, it is the responsibility of that organization to endeavor to get it started. Whatever happens later, he indicated, will depend upon the amount and sincerity of the cooperation that is given to the plan which is, in effect, the creation of a greater unity, to the industry than at first imagined, due to the termination of industry arbitration under the recent New York court decision.

Wehrenberg is expected to submit his resignation as president of the MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois at a meeting of the organization in the Hotel Jefferson November 20, and wants to devote all of his time to the national organization.

Depinet Hits Talk

(Continued from page 1)

plays the major role. It wasn’t just the generally good conditions that built up last year’s record. Good conditions helped just as poor conditions would hinder. But good or bad, the determining factor rests with us.”

The saturation point in distribution has not been reached, Depinet holds. “Many new customers will be added, countless new theatres are already under construction and many more will be built with the easing of government restrictions,” he predicted. Distribution problems as slight as those of RKO and RKO Radio during 1946 in production, advertising, 16mm, distribution, and in foreign markets.

Film Advertising Bows as Art at 20th-Fox Exhibit

BY CHARLES L. FRANKE

The industry revealed itself as an “art patron” yesterday, as the facilities of the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art here were used for the first time to present Century-Fox for a display of nine original canvases. Some 200 dealers and industry representatives were on hand to examine the paintings which had been specifically commissioned, at the request of Edward F. Hurrle, advertising director, for placement in advertising campaigns. It marked the first time in the history of the Museum, 20th-Fox reports, that that institution has held such a display.

The paintings included four executed for “The Late George Apley” by John Faiher, Dan Cornell, Robert Bemey and Douglas Crowkwell; two portraits, one of Jennifer Jones in “The Song of Bernadette” and one of Joseph Cotten in “The Razor’s Edge,” painted by Norman Rockwell; one painting of Nipper-Fox in the “Keys of the Kingdom,” by Ben Stuhl; a portrait of Jeanne Crain by Roy Portrait, who also appears in “My Wild Indiana,” and Marcel Vertes painting of Tallulah Bankhead and William Eythe in a “A Royal Scandal.” All the actors and actresses had posed for long hours while the paintings were being executed and several of them have already shown a wish to purchase one or more of the paintings.

As Mrs. Wendell Willkie, 20th-Fox vice-president Tom Connor, advertising director Charles Schlaifer and others filed before the paintings during yesterday’s exhibit, the cameras of Fox Movietone News recorded the event for one of its forthcoming reels, and transcriptions were being cut for announcements to stations WCBS, WLIB and WINS.

Two of the artists, Cornell and Benney, were present. Others attending included William Kupper, Jules Fields, George Generals and others from 20th-Fox; art patrons Mrs. R. C. Wilson, Mrs. Roger Hall, Mrs. Wylie Brown and Mrs. Eustice Seligman; John Phillips, director of the American Wing of the Museum, representatives of the trade press, and Camera Club members.

The exhibit was arranged by H. V. Jayne, vice-director of the Museum, who has already written “Art In Motion Picture Advertising,” and was designed to focus attention on the high standards of art currently used in motion picture advertising.

Independent Product

(Continued from page 1)

establish. This includes the freedom to exhibit their own films in any theatre which they may lease or terms agreeable to themselves. It includes the freedom to license their own films for exhibition in theatres owned by any of the defendants, and, like the independents may, if they so choose, reverse the license agreements and insist upon minimum admission prices, clearance, etc., not necessarily in conformance with the rules laid down for the defendants as licensees.”

SIMPP’s Request

SIMPP, appearing as amicus curiae in the anti-trust suit, asked to have assurances of these freedoms written into the agreement that the group are not at all perturbed by the court’s failure to do so. They take the position that the only way to end such terms is by an open invitation for the judges to use language including independent product along with that of the defendant companies, and to include the opinion, satisfactory evidence that the judges did not wish to restrict the freedoms as they hereby.

Regarding contracts made by the defendant distributors on behalf of independents, the opinion holds that the independents will not be able to act as agents and follow their instructions.

Distribution attorneys in New York yesterday uniformly expressed the opinion that defendant distribution companies would be disfranchised to risk victory of the much discussed law, and that they would not contemplate proceedings by assuming conditions as stated in accordance with the SIMPP interpretation, that the role of "agents" for an independent producer exempted from the court’s order, insular...
British Rejoice at Films Labor Accord

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The current agreement reached between the Cine-
matograph Exhibitors Association and the National Union of Theatrical
and Kind Employees, affecting $50,000 workers in the British indus-
try, "not only improving working con-
ditions but also adds proper dignity to—people earning a living in the di-
cine industry," according to Mr. H. M. Warren, retiring general man-
ger, who will move to Tucson, Ariz., to-
ward the end of the year, said in awarding of prizes for the recent nine-
week "Warren Drive" among film employees.

At the same time, A. H. Blank, head of Central States and Tri-States, announced that Myron N. Blank, his son, would assume personal direction of Central States and that E. L. Wegenegene would become general man-
ger. Jerry Greenbaum, it was fur-
ther announced, will succeed Wegenegene as district manager for the Burling-

town, Iowa, group of theatres.

St. Louis Exhibitors Face Additional Tax

St. Louis, Jan. 7.—Mayor Aloysius P. Isaacs, with other St. Louis
leaders, declare the city must assess new taxes in order to meet increased
costs of operating the city, and taxes among these taxes is an amusement
tax. At present a bill for a three,
percent amusement tax is pending with the Board of Aldermen but observers
seem to be agreed that, in view of the current attack on the validity of the
city's new municipal income tax, that the amusement tax is almost certain
to be approved. Theatre men have
defeated one attempt for such a tax.

Ticket Tax Proposed For Columbus Runs

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 7.—An admission tax of from eight to 10 per cent
for this city is envisioned as a possible way of assisting in balancing the 1947
municipal budget by Charles Egger,
Columbus Citizen, political writer, fol-
lowing the usual low expense for sweeping tax changes made by a committee
of nine Columbus and Franklin County Republican officemen.

The committee recommended the re-
peal of the present state three per cent admission tax and authorization to
cities to enter this tax field.

License Boost Threatens

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Jan. 7.—Increases ranging from $300 to $700 in
annual license fees are in store for
local theatre operators, unless they can muster sufficient support at public
hearings to be held soon. The general
license fee boost was recommended by
a special license-investigating commit-
tee named by Mayor Daniel D. Bru-
mun and when means are devised to
increase municipal income without resorting to a $10 tax rate jump, which is threatening.

Philadelphia Taxes Up

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 7.—Some $1,-
20,208 more in amusement taxes has been collected to date this year than
in the first 11 months of 1945, accord-
ing to receiver of taxes W. Frank
Marmalel. Important contributing fac-
tor the 1947 was the rate in range from four
to 10 per cent, last July.

Wilson To Kay Exchange

MEMPHIS, Jan. 7.—Cliff Wilson,
Monogram booker here, has joined Kay Film Exchange as salesman.

300 at Farewell Fete For Central's Warren

DES MOINES, Jan. 7.—Some 300
film company executives, booking
agents, district managers and Central
States Theatre Corp. managers, gather-
ed at a banquet here this evening to
pay tribute to Harry M. Warren, retiring general manager, who will move to Tucson, Ariz., to-
ward the end of the year, said in awarding of prizes for the recent nine-
week "Warren Drive" among film employees.

All figures mentioned in the
Government's report are for gross
income and do not include Federal and state taxes paid, which considerably
lessened the U. S. totals when figured on a net basis.

Abbott and Costello together earned $469,120; Cohn grossed $278,000, of
which $15,900 was listed as "compensa-
tion other than salary," while the gross take for Miss Durbin was $319,-
97, including sources other than Uni-
versal.

Other top industry grossers in the current report were:

From Columbia: Samuel Bischoff,
$75,250; Charles Boyer, $100,000; Irving
Briskin, $75,291; Charles Co-
burn, $86,933; Irene Dunne, $124,291; Al
Hannen, $110,708; Rita Hayworth,
$77,500; Zoltan Korda, $78,000; A. Montague, $127,083. Also: Rosalind
Russell, $120,000; Abraham Schen-
dier, $88,400; Virginia Van Upp, $118,-
83; Charles Vidor, $107,500; Jack
Cohn, $140,690; Irene Dunne, $245,000.

Reporting from United Artists was
Gradwell L. Sears with a total salary and dividend of $1,49,837.

Universal reported the following

U. S. Reports Film Pay But Not Taxes

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Lou Cos-
tello and Bud Abbott, the Universal
team, Harry Cohn, Columbia, and
Denna Durbin, also Universal, re-
ceived the three highest gross-sale
checks, according to a U. S. Treasury
1945 income report, issued here today,
covering Columbia, United Artists
and Universal.

To Show 'Clouds Roll' In Memory of Kern

Hollywood, Jan. 7.—M-G-M's
"Till the Clouds Roll By" will have a
"Jere Kern Memorial Tribute"
premiere at the Egyptian Theatre, on
Jan. 16, with the regular run starting
the next day. The Bratke Institute is
sponsoring the affair and all funds
raised will go to the Jerome Kern
Memorial Hall there. Mayor Fletch-
er Bowron has indicated he will de-
clare the week of Jan. 12-18 "Jerome
Kern Week." Following the premiere,
M-G-M will give a dinner with Mrs.
Kern as guest of honor.

"Till the Clouds Roll By" is based on the life and music of Jerome Kern and has an all-star cast including June
Allysan, Lucille Bremer, Judy Gar-
land, Kathryn Grayson, Van Heflin,
Lena Horne, Van Johnson, Tony
Dinah Shore, Frank Sinatra and
Robert Walker.

Theatre Smoking Ban

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Jan. 7.—The
city council here has passed an ordi-
nance banning smoking in theatres.
The penalties are maximum fines of
$100 and 90 days in jail or both.

high grossers: N. J. Blumberg, $234,-
624; J. C. Cordin, $234,624; Brian
donlevy, $173,275; Jack Leeder, $114,875; Charles Laughton, $116,666;
Jack Oakie, $150,000; Merle Oberon, $170,000; Lena Horne, $210,000; George
Sanders, $82,666; Franchon
Tone, $180,000; Walter Wanger, $271,724; Jack Warner, $163,342; William A. Scully, $92,750.

Another report including additional
industry personnel is expected before March.
Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated pic-
ture grosses for current engage-
ments in key cities as reported by
Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

CHICAGO

Wednesday, January 8, 1947

Below freezing weather hurt busi-
ness early in the week, but it recov-
ered nicely. "The Razor's Edge" was a
standout. Estimated receipts for the
week ending Jan. 8:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,000) 2nd week, Gross: $24,000. (Average: $8,000.)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) 9th week, Gross: $11,200. (Average: $1,244.)

THE MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U) and LARCENY IN HER HEART (PRC)—ESQUIRE (1,020) 2nd week, Gross: $4,300. (Average: $860.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (Para.-Fox) UNITED-ARTISTS (1,675) 2nd week, Gross: $5,500. (Average: $3,310.)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-90c) 2nd week, Gross: $3,000. (Average: $300.)

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Rad. & Talk)—PALLACE (2,500) (80c-95c) 2nd week, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $450.)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—FALCON (2,500) (65c-95c) 3rd week, Gross: $25,000. (Average: $833.)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M)—DARLING CLEMENTINE (Fox) and PERSONALITY KID (Col.)—METRO (2,500) (65c-95c) 2nd week, Gross: $25,000. (Average: $250.)

DECEPTION (WB) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—FEWAY (1,200) (70c) 2nd week, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $1,250.)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—SOUTH (500) (65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $571.)

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB) and STANLEY (RKO Radio)—PLAYHOUSE (2,000) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000.)

THE MAN I LOVE (WB)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. 2nd week, on one program. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $785.)

CLEVELAND

New Year's Day ushered in a big
backlash. "The Razor's Edge" con-
tinued to break records. Estimated
receipts for the week ending Jan. 7:

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (1,900) (50c-85c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $928.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (Para.-Fox) and THREE LITTLE PIGS (UA)—Fox (2,000) (80c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $786.)

TOWN WHERE TROUBLES MEET (M-G-M)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (50c-75c-74c) 5 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,800.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (35c-74c)—WARFIELD (2,672) (40c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,143.)

BOSTON

Business picked up nicely in spite
of bad weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 8:

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (Para.-Fox) and TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (2,340) (40c-90c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $3,000.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (25c-74c)—RKO (2,300) (80c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $857.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (50c-95c)—PALLAS (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $21,400. (Average: $3,057.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20c-55c-75c)—PARAMOUNT (1,600) (85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $2,493.)

TOWN WHERE TROUBLES MEET (M-G-M)—STATE (2,500) (35c-80c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $1,400.)

KANSAS CITY

After suffering on Saturday from
temperature that reached 10 below
zero, business sprang upward with
milder weather Sunday. Estimated
receipts for the week ending Jan. 7:

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (45c-50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—J. P. S. (1,800) (70c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $3,857.)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—SOUTH (500) (65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $571.)

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB) and STANLEY (RKO Radio)—PLAYHOUSE (2,000) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000.)

PITTSBURGH

"Blues" came very near to a house
record. Estimated receipts for the week
during Jan. 9:

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (45c-50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—J. P. S. (1,800) (70c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $3,857.)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—SOUTH (500) (65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $571.)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,000) (45c-50c-70c) 7 days. 2nd week, on move-
er. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $500.)

GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA (Mon.a) and PATSY KEE (Fox)—PITTSBURGH (2,000) (50c-60c) 7 days, Gross: $1,000. (Average: $143.)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—UP-TOWN (2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000.)

SAN FRANCISCO

The new year has brought up grosses,
especially for "It's a Wonderful Life." Estimated receipts for the week end-
ing Jan. 8:

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,400) (55c-85c) 7 days. 2nd week, Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,143.)

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB) and STANLEY (RKO Radio)—GOOD TIMES (2,500) (85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $2,429.)

SAN FRANCISCO (TVE) and GOLDEN GATE (2,520) (65c-81,000. With vaudeville. 7 days. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $6,429.)

Strike Settlement Rumors Discounted

Hollywood, Jan. 7.—The strike in
the Coast studios is continuing on a
routine basis, with IATSE's Brewer
discounting rumors of settlement in
a statement which concluded: "The
strike is no nearer settlement than the
day before.

Cues against CSU President Sor-
rell and 13 other strike leaders, in-
flicted by the County Grand jury on
criminal conspiracy charges, based on
witnesses who were called was con-
tinued today until Jan. 29 by Superior
Court Judge Thomas Ambrose. At
that time the court will hear argu-
ments to dismiss the charges.

"Duel" Opening in 3rd in Hollywood

Hollywood, Jan. 7.—"Duel in the
Sun," already playing the Egyptian
Theatre in Hollywood Boulevard, will open Friday in the Fair-
fax, near Beverly Hills, additionally, it was announced that the fim has
said the film's $44,000 first week gross in Hollywood exceeds the record of
"Gone With the Wind."

Charter Coast Firm

SACRAMENTO, CAL, Jan. 7.—In-
forming legal papers have been issued
to the Sacramento Liberty Theatre, Inc. of San Francisco, by incorpora-
 tors, L. R. Ham, B. E. Kragen and L. P. Rutledge.

Doctor, Raye, Others Planning Fla. Studio

MIAMI, Jan. 7.— Eugene Doctor, new York electric sign company executive and a thought to be at
that he, St. Petersburg, Fl. real estate operator and actress Martha Raye and George Raye are meeting
here to discuss the construction of a Florida studio.

Bureau on "Lookout"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Field agents of the U. S. Bureau of Internal Reven-
ue have been asked to be on the "lookout" for violations of the Treasury ruling against personal cor-
poration deductions. It was learned here today.
Record Slump
Hit Grosses
In December

But Business for Month
Was Ahead of Year Ago

The film-going public's preoccupation with the recent holidays, combined with inclement weather in many sections of the country, established a record 1946 gross slump for December at approximately 170 key cities first-run theaters, according to reports from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents. Estimated weekly average per house for December was $15,985, compared with $16,963 in November.

The last two weeks each hit new lows for the year, whereas the first week of December established itself as one of the best of the year and served to spark the month sufficiently so that (Continued on page 10)

1 Yearly from Story Prod.

Story Productions, recently formed independent production company headed by Hal Horne, has its sights on one elaborate production annually which would allow for maximum time to be given to preparation work and extensive efforts to establish a pre-sold audience.

The company's output in all cases (Continued on page 6)

Applegate in South
For J. Arthur Rank

Salem Applegate, for the past three years district manager for Universal in Philadelphia and Washington, has been named special Southern field representative for the J. Arthur Rank Division of Universal, in an area covering Atlanta, Dallas, New Orleans, Charlotte, Memphis and Oklahoma City. His headquarters will be at Atlanta; he will assume his new post immediately.

Prior to joining Universal, in 1943, Applegate was Philadelphia branch manager for M-G-M.

President's Message
Hints Tax Cut Veto

Washington, Jan. 8—President Truman, in his first annual economic report, which he made to Congress today, declared it would be unwise to enact fiscal policy to cut wartime taxes, as has been advocated by Republican Congressional leaders.

Capital observers interpret the President's statement as an indication of a possible veto threat against a cut in taxes at this time.

Film Stocks Near
12 Months' Low

In a generally downward movement, said to have been brought about largely under pressure of some investments that shifted at 23%, compared with a low point of 20% during the past year. General Precision dropped one-quarter, to 23%; compared with 21%; Loew's dropped one-quarter, to 23%, the same as the 1946 bottom figure; Paramount, five-eighths to 25%, compared with 27%; RKO, one-quarter to 15%, equal to the low for last year; 20th.

(Continued on page 6)

Langer Says
Bill 'Soon'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8—Senator William Langer of North Dakota, as President William Langer of North Dakota, as said today that he plans to introduce his theatre divestment measure to the Senate "very soon." Recently the North Dakota lawmaker asserted that he would introduce his bill when the new Congress met.

He pointed out today that time has not permitted him to complete the drafting of the bill because of his participation in the Senate Civil Service Committee, which is now in organizational stage.

Langer added that he still will seek the support of the Congress of Motion Picture Organizations, and will urge that they be permitted to testify when hearings are held on the bill.

Special Master for
Schoenstadt Case

CHICAGO, Jan. 8—Judge Philip L. Sullivan in U. S. District Court here today appointed Charles A. McDonald as special master in chance to hear evidence on the Schoenstadt Circuit's $675,000 triple damage anti-trust suit on behalf of its Picadilly Theatre. Defendants are eight major distributors, and B & K and Warner Bros. theatre circuits.

McDonald, a former judge of the Circuit Court, is expected to start hearing evidence within two weeks. The case was originally set to be heard by Judge Sullivan on Jan. 27.

Theatre Expansion Plans
Sound Optimistic Note

That exhibition is presently looking ahead to continued prosperity in 1947 is established by the abundance of plans for new building and re-modeling, as variously announced by theatre men around the country during recent weeks, according to observations expressed here by visiting theatremen and by New York distribution officials whose job it is to keep close contact with exhibition in the field.

However, one complaint heard most in exhibition circles, it is said, is that of the inability to improve operating conditions because of the continued lack of materials and labor difficulties. But the urge to expand could hardly (Continued on page 10)

Technicolor Back to
60% of Capacity

Recovering largely from the first effects of the long drawn out studio strike, Technicolor now has 177 film technicians on duty in its Hollywood studio, in comparison with a normal of 200, and has boosted its output to more than 60 per cent of capacity, according to the company's New York office.

Moreover, the output is increasing daily as 405 new employees, furnished by the IATSE, become more experienced. Of the 900 on the payroll when the strike began on Oct. 14, all (Continued on page 6)

Hold Decree
Goes Beyond
8 Defendants

Judgment Seen Hitting
Republic, Mono., PRC

While the industry yesterday continued its scrutiny of the New York Federal Court decision, the scope of the court's decree came to the fore with many lawyers uniformly agreeing that the decree, if sustained, would govern all exhibitor-distributor business conduct, not excluding films from independent producers nor such companies as Republic, Monogram and Producers Releasing, which were not parties to the suit.

It was said that the New York court has established the rules for all of the industry, in that the court has interpreted the anti-trust laws as applicable to the film business. It follows, it was said, that violations of the (Continued on page 6)

Bidding Hardships
Sustained: Williams

Hollywood, Jan. 8—Paul Williams, general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, told a meeting of the organization's board of directors here today that the final decree in the New York equity suit "does not alleviate or change to any practical degree hardships which competitive bidding will bring to exhibitors." Meanwhile, the SCTOA board has postponed for the immediate present the making of a decision as to whether an appeal (Continued on page 6)

Wheeler Sales Head
For Film Classics

Sam Wheeler, Film Classics' franchise holder in Washington, has been appointed sales manager of Classics, with headquarters at the New York office, according to Frank Langer, secretary-treasurer of the company. Wheeler succeeds "Nicky" Goldhammer, who resigned some time ago.

Wheeler has already taken over his new duties and announces the appointment of Jules Chapman as his executive assistant.

Film Classics distributes Goldwyn and Selznick re-issues and recently acquired 24 Alexander Korda productions.
Personal Mention

Dan Michalove, National Theaters vice-president, has returned to New York from a Florida vacation.

Paul McNamara, national director of advertising and publicity for Selznick Enterprises, has arrived in New York from the Coast to confer on a new Selznick Releasing Corporation.

Robert Selig, assistant to the president of Fox Intercontinental Theatres, has been elected to the Denver Post "Gallery of Fame" because of his work in the final USO drive.

New香格里拉, public relations director for the American Theaters Association, will leave here by plane tomorrow for Dallas.

Frank Rosenberg, director of Columbia studio publicity, will return to Hollywood Saturday after a home office of 10 days.

Ma. and Mrs. David Mestlen, exhibitors of London, England, have been visiting their son. A. Mestlen, RKO booker at Memphis.

Marie Breskin, Warner southern district manager at Oklahoma City, has been visiting J. H. McCarthy, Warner Theatre manager at Memphis.

Sam Lefkowitz, Warner's Eastern district manager, is in Buffalo and will return here at the end of the week.

A. J. O'Keefe, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, will leave here today for Los Angeles.

Arthur Sheekman, Paramount writer, and his wife, actress Gloria Stuart, have left Hollywood for New York.

Harry H. Thomas, PRC president and general sales manager, is visiting contacts in San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

Sam Demlow, president of Golden Productions, left New York last night for the Coast.

RoSS Hastings is here from the Coast RKO Radio studios to hold home office conferences.

William Loss, Cinemacolor vice-president, will leave Hollywood Saturday by plane for New York.

Frank Capra, Liberty Films producer-director, will arrive here next Monday from Hollywood.

Dana Andrews, actor, has been spending a wedding vacation with his wife and three children at Stowe, Vt.

Marion Carr, RKO Radio starlet, has arrived here from the Coast.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

The June 11 decision in the Government's case halted the majors in their tracks. It was not that anyone realized there were that the findings were to be supported, revised or kicked out when the statutory court got its hands on the case. Clearly an interim step in the direction of the eventual outcome, the feeling was widespread that the June 11 decision will not have force of law. There is no evidence, insofar as this column knows, to indicate any of the defendants entertained other ideas or, if they had, that their legal advisors would have allowed such thinking to govern.

While it is correct, of course, that some compañes moved the precints of the Government litigation, nevertheless, the June development also gave them pause, so that the attitude in their presidents created uncertainty over policy which thereafter was never conclusively defined.

Unless the channels of investigation and information available to us are all wet, there continues to exist in the minds of the non-sued companies serious question over how restrictions ordered against the sued companies will affect those who never were involved in either. Whether or not there is not in the making a series of legal proclamations ultimately designed to be binding upon the whole industry. Correct or not, as time will establish, there seems to be no doubt about the practicalities: How altered conditions affecting operations of other companies are certain to effect changes in operating methods of those outside litigation's pale.

There are those opposed to state now that this is inevitable in a business as closely integrated as this.

But it seems there are those who take a different view. The SIMPP, made up of independent producers, is placing great reliance on the fact that, and, therefore, never having been defendants, are immunized against the prohibitions in the decree; that, contrary to the SIMPP's claim, there may enjoy all the free-wheeling they can stand, including insinuance upon fixing minimum admissions, ignoring competitive bidding that should be curbed, and other steps taken to establish the legality of clearance in the event of exhibitor challenge.

The SIMPP's position and according to the legal interpretation upon which SIMPP is prepared to rest, the independent producer [Disney, Goldwyn and Liberty, among others] are RKO distributor [RKO, in this case] to ignore decree mandates in these respects.

To a legally unintrained eye, this ends upon the side of the improbable. It seems readily conceived that if the circumstances would risk the court contempt which unqualifiedly would follow such flagrant transgression without the greenest sort of advance signal from the bench itself.

The producer, per se, would not face punishment, but the distributor, the defendant, could not escape it.

In the same position as its independent producers are Monogram, Republic and PRC in respect to the lawsuits. It is true they have not been brought to the suits, probably it is technically correct they do not have to conform to its consequences. But if the statutes vesting the right to sue in the district courts, there is no such right, the lawsuits, Disney, Goldwyn, and Liberty, et al., could release through these companies, or any newly-created distributor, and indeed the regulations now effective following upon other distributors.

But it is not at all likely that such oversimplification would go here. If the President to date by without consideration is the attitude of the Department of Justice, evidently set upon creating rules of business conduct for the entire industry, and now fortified in some measure by a decree which outlines what these rules are to be. It seems remote for the Government to find by without seeking redress while restraints wrapped around a majority are bypassed by a minority.

Moving from the abstract to the realities in this final paragraph is the highly interesting and, as it seems, unanswerably and unavoidably faced by the newly-formed Selznick Releasing Organization. Here is a distributing company not party to the suit, therefore, not bound by its findings.

Will it insist upon minimum admissions, traditionally a part of the roadshow, "The Devil in the Sun" and will it ignore competitive bidding where the exhibitor says he wants it? Will SRO, in effect, be the policy? Will the independent producer, and I'm thinking to prove or disprove the soundness of the legal platform on which SIMPP stands, and with it the question of the Best Picture of the year, sufficiently sold perfect.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

All of the hubbub over potential revolutionary changes in motion pictures is not being maintained in the foreseeable future, not too distant future, and growing out of the New York anti-trust litigation. It is, at least at this time, some nine years ago, might well be anticipatory.

The Department of Justice is now, with the Anti-Trust Corp. of America, which was finally brought to a close some 18 months ago, followed 40 years of litigation!

Asked for his opinion of last week's consent decree in the New York anti-trust suit, the Sheen Circuit's E. C. Barnes, formerly a remodeled independent exhibitor San Riazor's crack: "One more victory like this and the independents will be out of business."

Motion Picture Herald editor Terry Ramsaye offers the most lucid exhibitor reaction to date on the New York litigation, reserving judgment upon the first press proofs of the current Herald, as follows:

"American Theatres Association vice-president Howard McEwen favors an appeal to the Supreme Court and takes a smacking wallop at the competitive bidding provision in this forthright language:

"EATON SHIRLIE ERS cdshm."

Newscast cameraman Col. Bertram Kalch, who resigned this work from the film division of the State Department, is the timid chap who, during the last year, stole into No Man's Land and, as the local German army commander to loan him a squad of German soldiers to drill for Kalch's still and motion picture cameras. He also persuaded German Major-General Erich Elster to parade his 20,000 troops for the filming of Elster's formal surrender at the embassy, France.

What this country needs is a good five-cent nickel.

M-G-M was pretty close the other day to being forced to make a sudden and dramatic decision concerning the production of Peter Smith's short subjects, when Pete and Max Weinberg, also of M-G-M's Culver City short-subject department, were caught in a gale in a punctured rubber raft while fishing off Malibu Beach, Cal. The underground reports that Pete lost all sense of humor in the two full hours during which he and Weinberg were marooned on the briny.

Reconversion Note for Theatre Owners, sent by the Wometo Pub., to "Mitchell Woodson and Sidney Meyer:"

"1941—The patron was always right. 1942—The patron was always left. 1947—The patron is right, you won't have a patron left."

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Theatres Involved In AGVA Demands

Several hundred performers regularly playing the 200-old film theatres using the AGVA have become involved in a program to obtain "cost-of-living" salary increases and improvements in working conditions and elsewhere. These and other entertainers, which will be launched by the American Guild of Variety Artists immediately after the theatre holds its first convention in Chicago in early spring, Matt Shelvey, national director, announced.

Also for the first time the AGVA assemblage will be confirmation of the guild's autonomy, recently re-established by its parent affiliate, the Associated Actors and Artists of America, as well as adoption of a constitution and by-laws and nomination of national officers.

Shelvey said that Chicago has been elected as the convention locale because it contains a high percentage of AGVA members.

Officers to Be Named

A board of directors comprising 15 members will be elected at the convention and a nominating committee to propose candidates for president, three vice-presidents, director of publications and treasurer will be named, Shelvey said. The present position of national director, or the presidency, of the national organization of the "Four A's", will be eliminated. Shelvey indicated yesterday that he would probably not accept nomination to another position.

The "Four A's" restored autonomy to AGVA last November after the talent union, which had been administered by parent National Screen Actors Guild, CIO, at a two-day session at the Hotel Empire, here. Preliminary groundwork in this wage-related work will be passed at a general executive board meeting scheduled to be held at the hotel today and tomorrow.

Three units of UOPWA: the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local No. 114, and Radio Guild, all of which will participate in the wage-related discussions, have contracts with motion picture and radio companies.

A spokesman for the national office of the UOPWA said here yesterday that while a general policy for all "white collar" workers would be formulated, there was some doubt as to whether a major application of a projected wage pattern in the film industry, because of recently-concluded contracts. However, any formulas might hold for the motion picture industry as well, it was asserted.

Wage clauses in contracts between 10 companies and the SPG will be discussed this week for renegotiation until next September, while some SPG contracts with the Columbia, M-G-M, 20th-Century-Fox and United Artists exchanges, in which wage stipulations were renegotiated about two months ago, expire this summer.

Minimum Same

Except for chorus leaders, who are usually classified as principals, Shelvey declared the present minimum of $125 for principals in class A traveling shows will remain untouched, but he indicated that an investigation is now being conducted by AGVA to weigh the "need and possibilities" of a cost-of-living increase for principals in class B and C.

Other demands include improvement in dressing-room and other facilities. Among conditions in existing contracts shadowed in the proposed constitution is the dissolution of the remaining AGVA locals in Chicago, Philadelphia and six other cities, the dissolution of these branches of the national office, patterned after the set-up in Action Equity, regarded as more efficient in terms of the national rather than sectional scope of the branches, was begun in 1943.

In the period between conventions, day-to-day operation of the union would be in the hands of a national board, with a committee of five, to be responsible to the director, under the proposed constitution, which also provides at least one semi-annual meeting of directors.

State Dept's Seen Sustaining Policies

Washington, Jan. 8.—The State Department's motion picture program and the Government's policy on co-operation with the Motion Picture Association's efforts toward reducing film trade barriers abroad, are expected to remain entirely unchanged with the appointment of Gen. George C. Marshall, Secretary of State to succeed James F. Byrnes who has resigned, effective Friday.

"White Collarites" to Seek Pay Increases

Charting of a new wage program will keynote a policy conference of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, at a two-day session at the Hotel Empire, here. Preliminary groundwork in this wage-related work will be passed at a general executive board meeting scheduled to be held at the hotel today and tomorrow.

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Deny Move to Drop Case Against Brodie

Justice Matthew J. Troy, in Special Sessions here yesterday, declined the motion of assistant district attorney Henry D. McAvience for his personal charges against Benjamin Brodie, president of Benimmer Amusement Co., operators of the Mid-Unity Theatre on Sixth Ave., which last summer was fined $500 for showing allegedly indecent films.

The case has been put over to Jan. 29 following McAvience's withdrawal of the dismissal motion.

SOPEG Calls for Veterans Program

A tentative program setting forth several suggestions for a veterans employment program, including on-the-job training, are proposed in a request from the veterans committee of the (AGVA) Employment, Professional and Technical Employees Guild, Local No. 109, for an early meeting with film executives and are jointly designated by M-G-M, 20th-Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO Radio and United Artists, to handle problems of ex-service men employment, the committee said.

Executives named by the company, for veterans problems are: Jack H. Lang, 20th-Fox; Charles F. O'Brien, Monogram and Van Wagner, RKO; Louis J. Barbano, Columbia; Harry D. Buckley, and, UA Arthur Israel, Paramount and TIOPEG committee is headed by Norman Hasson, executive vice-president of the union and a veterans committee chairman in each company.

Adjustment Proposed

In addition to industry-sponsored on-the-job training, the SOPEG committee proposes an adjustment of "incomes which have resulted from the employees' absence in the Armed Forces," plus retroactive payment of bonuses "which had been given to some employees, but not all veterans still considered "on active duty" employees of the company." The letter, which was sent to the companies yesterday, said, in part: "The best of our knowledge, Columbia is the only company which gave its employees in the Armed Forces the same bonus as that given its employees on the home-front."

Emphasizing that the three-point suggestion "is a mere outline and in no sense should be construed as a complete program," the committee observed that it considers the proposals "a worthy foundation for negotiation." Also added that formulation of a veterans policy would be "in accordance with the terms of the union's existing contracts with the companies, signed last October."


dom Monogram Exchange Signs Pact, Grants Wage Rise

Wage rises of $6 to $8 for front-of-the-camera Monogram employees in New York exchange have been granted in a contract concluded between Monogram and SOPEG, Local No. 109. It was announced here yesterday by the union; retroactive to Dec. 30, 1946, the contract will expire Dec. 27, 1947.

All other clauses in the pact are similar to those contained in the agreements with other New York exchanges under SOPEG jurisdiction. Negotiators were Peter Friedhof, who is in charge of Monogram exchange operations, here, and Otto Langer, SOPEG representative.

Truman Urges More Anti-Trust Funds

Washington, Jan. 8.—The anti-trust division of the Department of Commerce, after adequate investigations, has recommended approval, President Truman told Congress today in an economic report, a preliminary to a recommendation for increased funds for the Department which the President is expected to make in his budget message January 19th.

"The trust activities of the Government should be better supplied with adequate resources so that its activities can be more closely integrated," the President said.

The chief Executive cautioned Congress that international trade is a matter of "give and take."

U-I Will Build New Exchange in Chicago

Chicago, Jan. 8.—Universal—International will break ground for a new exchange building on Michigan Ave. another week, the company said today, and its expected opening is on the moving of exchanges from the present Film-Roy to the Michigan Ave. area is foreseen by distribution observers here.

Grant, Tierney, Leigh Ampa Lunch Guests

Cary Grant and Lawrence Tierney are expected to be among the film stars now in New York who will join the Associated Motion Picture Enterprises (A-MPE) for Satur- day's lunch at the Town Hall Club here to- day, and at which Douglas Leigh, chairman of the Broadway department, program creator, will be guest speaker. AMPA president Rutgers Neilson will preside, with Harry Blair, RKO Radio publicist, serving as master of ceremonies.

Benjamin Leaves WB, Is En Route to N. Y.

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 8, Ed Benjamin, has resigned as former Warner field operator, here, and has left for New York.

Benjamin was one of about 12 such field representatives who recently were released by Warners in a move to reduce the size of the company's field exploitation staff. The move reportedly cut the field staff from 25 to some 15 to 13. Under SOPEG jurisdiction, negotiators were Peter Friedhof, who is in charge of Monogram exchange operations, here, and Otto Langer, SOPEG representative.
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Mr. District Attorney

starring

DENNIS O'KEEFE • ADOLPHE MENJOU

MARGUERITE CHAPMAN • MICHAEL O'SHEA

George Jeff Steven Ralph John

with COLOURIS • DONNELL • GERAY • MORGAN • KELLOGG

Screenplay by Ian McLellan Hunter • Based on the radio program "MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY" created by PHILLIPS H. LORD

Directed by ROBERT B. SINCLAIR • Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF
There's a law against women like her...
Decree

(Continued from page 1)

decree, if upheld by the U. S. Supreme Court, would constitute violations of the anti-trust laws. Violators, the attorneys say, would therefore be subject to prosecution, with a precedent already established in the New York decree.

This is in direct contrast to the conclusion reached by counsel here for the Society of Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors, who, as reported in yesterday's Motion Picture Daily, held that independent product as well as the schedules of the majors would be exempt from the provisions of the decree.

Among those who share the opinion that the non-defendants are in effect subject to the provisions of the decree is an attorney for one of the non-defendants, according to the Chicago Daily News.

Bidding Hardships

(Continued from page 1)

from the final decree is advisable. According, that the findings of fact of the final decree adopt in substantially verbatim language the decision of last June, Williams said that the decree would appear to label a method of competitive bidding from the practical viewpoint of exhibitors interests. Obviously, he said, competitive bidding can only obtain in areas where there is actual or potential competition. From a realistic point of view, he added, competitive bidding could only have an effect on exhibitors who are in substantial competition with each other.

The SCOTA board set no date for arriving at a decision on the advisability of an appeal.

Technicolor

(Continued from page 1)

but 35 walked out. Since then, 340 of the strikers have returned. The largest part of Technicolor's Coast plant is now on a schedule of three shifts, working around the clock, it was said here.

With between 30 and 40 Technicolor pictures scheduled to be made on the Coast this year, the costs to the process to the producers will rise sharply, according to the New York office.

SIMPP to Discuss Agenda Tomorrow

Hollywood, Jan. 8.—SIMPP's membership meets tomorrow to pass on the proposed activities for the coming year. It is expected that the effect of the Government decree on independent producers will be among the major matters. Donald Nelson will preside.

'There's Only One Lend- Lease Miami Beach

Ocean Front 400 to 415 air reservations Limited Walter Jacobs

'Give - Aways' Vogue On Way Up: Filmack

Chicago, Jan. 8.—A general slump in theatre business in this area, especially during the Christmas period, is claimed by Filmack Trailer Co., here, on the basis of an upsurge of trailer orders from theatres to advertise give-aways. An analysis of special trailers ordered from Filmack during the first week of this month shows that free dishes, aluminum-ware and other items offered on midweek nights, are being offered to theatre patrons in an effort to stimulate business, it was said.

Film Stocks

(Continued from page 1)

Fox, seven-eighths to 35%, compared with 36; Universal, five-eighths, to 24%; 16%, to 1937; Warners, three-eighths to 16%, compared with 10 3/4% last year. Republic common stood firm, at 11 4/5%. In the Curb Exchange, 6 7/8%, an eight-minute short subject, 'Before the Camera,' was on the block.

Reception Opens '411 Recording Studios

Enlarged and modernized, RCA's "411" film recording studios were formally opened here this week with a reception presided over by Frank M. Folsom, executive vice-president of RCA in charge of the RCA Victor division. Equipped with a multi-language dubbing as well as English recording, narrative, sound effects, music and re-recording equipment, the studios will handle 35mm, and 16mm, films.

Moon, Others Take Film Board Posts

Ray Moon, president, and other new officers of the New York Film Board of Trade were installed at the dinner and meeting at the home of Louis Nizer, attorney and executive secretary for the group, here, last night.

Other officers are Ralph Pielow, first vice-president; nor-Johnston, second vice-president; David A. Levy, treasurer; Robert J. Fannon, secretary, and William Murphy, sergeant-at-arms.

Academy Lists 409

Hollywood, Jan. 8.—The Academy today listed 409 pictures as eligible for the 1946 award. Each picture's list goes to Academy members Jan. 15 and is returnable Jan. 28. Nominations will be revealed Feb. 27.

Two New Brandon Shorts

Film Alliance of America is releasing through Brandon Films, here, a public-service short subject, "The Man of Man." Brandon has additionally acquired another 10-minute subject, "A Year of Freedom."

Story Prod.

(Continued from page 1)

will be adaptations of published story material on "Best Sellers," and Filmack will concentrate first on pushing the sales and publicity of each book which the company will handle. At present, for example, the company is working closely with the Literary Guild, in promotion of the Taylor Caldwell novel, "This Is the Day," with which Story plans to have before the cameras next spring as its first production.

In all probability, distribution will be through United Artists, which already has a proposed agreement with another awaiting Story's approval. Horne, who is board and executive chairman, said here that the deal might be expected to be closed at any time, although he added he had not seen the terms of the pact.

Norton Ritchey Sees An Outstanding '47

The 1947 foreign distribution horizon is virtually limitless, according to National's President Norton V. Ritchey, who holds at the start of the year. Ritchey, who recently launched Monogram a 100 per cent foreign subsidiary, has no plans for foreign sales in 1947 over 1946, cites, the company's new policy of producing affiliate, Allied Artists, which aims to turn out films with mini-budgets of $1,000,000 as one of the reasons for this outlook.

But Allied Artists' appearance shares with a number of other features responsible for Ritchey's outlook. He named them: Monogram International's determination to steer its reorganized policy to reinvigorated sales offices throughout the world, particularly in South America; the upsurge of foreign businessness to film exteriors at locations abroad for purposes of authenticity (a Monogram project); a recent return from Switzerland of the fact that world markets that have been reopened since the war's end are offering business virtually better than was to be had before the war.

Personal Increase

Monogram International personnel abroad will be increased substantially in 1947, particularly in terms of sales representatives. Ritchey said. This year the company stationed a considerable number of new managers at key points, namely: Floyd Crowder, China; Lais Lec, Panama; James Messer, Cuba; J. J. Lawlor, India and William Osborne, Far East supervisor, who recently returned from the U. S. and others. Meanwhile, Ritchey said, the company has added a "Central Europe" office to its British sales, and will be ready to move in there when conditions warrant.

Ritchey disclosed that the company has reclaimed a number of its "lost" pictures, including "Dillinger," "Forever Yours" and several "Charlie Chan" features, for release in France during 1947.

More for Holland

This year will see a substantial number of Monogram productions added to the 20 thus far distributed in Holland, he said, adding that five of these are already dubbed and ready for release in Italy during 1947; 12 more are being grooved for the Czechoslovakian market, and 30 are slated for Denmark, Norway and Sweden, and 22 have been put into production by the Czech East Indies.

Either Monogram or Allied Artists will produce at least one picture in England in 1947, Ritchey said. Studio Miami Beach is expected to be made available to the company soon.

Fete Rogers, Corwin

A reception for writers Bernard Rogers and Norman Corwin will be given by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, tomorrow, at the Lotos Club, here.
Short Subjects

**"Tumble Weed Tempos"**
(Uniform)
A hashish picnic provides the setting for the music of the Spade Cooley orchestra, the songs of Ella Mae Morse and the antics of Smoky Rogers. Audience numbers include: "The Campbells Are Coming," "The Life of the Party," "Turn My Picture Down," "Crazy Lassie, Love You," and "Don't Move." Running time, 15 minutes.

**"Bandits and Ballads"**
(RKO Radio)
Ray Whitley and his Six-Bar Cowboys are deputy sheriffs who are out to arrest the notorious Kid Carson. Since the Kid is fond of music, the boys set a musical trap for him. Several good Western tunes are offered. Running time, 17 minutes.

**"Fair Weather Fiends"**
(Uniform)
Woody Woodpecker and his pal take a cruise on their yacht in the Lantern for Cartune. Since both are hearty eaters, special emphasis is placed on provisioning the yacht with food. But a tornado wrecks the yacht and casts the paws up on a desert island where they sit and contemplate eating each other. Running time, 7 minutes.

**"Melody of Youth"**
(Warner Brothers)

**"Minstrel Days"**
(Warner Brothers)
With Bud Jamison, Willie Best, Al Hirt, Betty Elliott, the Songfellow Quartet and the Three Hi Hatters, the subject brings back the old minstrel days. Of course the Entertainers like Al Jolson and Eddie Cantor make it a tuneful treat. Running time, 20 minutes.

**"Best in Show (Dogs)"**
(Columbia)
Man's next friend, a dog, is the star of this "Sports Reel" in which canines are shown, being trained for their big moment when they vie with other champion-caliber dogs for the Blue Ribbon. The camera follows the training of a three-month-old puppy for the dog show. Running time, nine minutes.

**"The Wacky Weed"**
(Uniform)
Andy Panda gets involved with a rather superhuman week when he attempts to fix up his garden. Every time he puts a weed into a ground around this peculiar weed grass the plant and chokes it to death. Andy chases the weed with lawnmowers, tractors and weed-killer. A Lantz color cartoon. Running time, seven minutes.

60 to Mexico for Variety Induction

R. J. O'Donnell, national chief banker of the Variety Club Interna-
tional, in New York for business con-
ditions discloses here that over 60 of the 80 units of Variety in Mexico City for the Jan. 16 inauguration of the new Mexico City tent of Variety. Heading the delegation will be O'Donnell, accompanied by the fol-
lowing national officers: John H. Harris, founder and "Big Boss" of the organization; William McGary, executive director; Chick Lewis, Di-
rector of Public Relations, and James Blamer, chief ceremonial banker, who will conduct the ritual of induction of the Mexico City Tent.

Others from the industry who will —— accompany the Variety- induced, are: Sam Dembo, Jr., William O'Donnell, Lew Bray, Mr. and Mrs. —— And Greene, Durley Dick, Dick Owen, Dick Foy, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Lutzer, Ned Shugrue, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Fashawn, and two daughters; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Jossey, Dave Lutzer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dar-
den, Bob Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schepps, Mr. and Mrs. Tex Fieldman, and Mr. and Mrs. Doc Booth.

Regents Sets Jan. 16 For "Outlaw" Appeal

The New York State Board of Regents has set Jan. 16, the date for hearing an appeal by New —— York City license commissioner Benjamin Adelman to the trip to Mexico. Fielding in his attempt to have Howard Hughes' production "The How-

dow" barred from exhibition in the state. Unprecedented in New York history, the state's highest body in film reviewing will be held in Albany next Thursday, as previously expected by Fielding. Fielding's plea, calling upon the Regents Board to reconsider argu-
ments advanced by a counsel have the film banned because of advertising and exploitation which they claim was "obscene" and "immoral." came last month after the motion pic-
cature (censorship) division of the state Education Department rejected the application by Fielding and the city corporation counsel for revocation of the film's license.

Adelman, in the hearing next week, to the city license com-
missoner, were the Hughes Tool Co.,

company of the Hughes Tool Co.,

agents.◌

At the same time, it was learned here that the action, filed by Hughes Tool, in New York Supreme Court, for a declaratory judgment and to prohibit Fielding and New York Artistic Exhibitors from interfering with exhibition of the film, here, will probably be enjoined by the end of this month, in early February. Sought in the de-
claratory judgment, according to a spokesman for ex-Governor Charles E. Dewey, who is handling the case for Hughes, is an interpretation of the law which made the creation of picture a violation thereof of city police powers.

Monogram Executive
To St. Louis Today

Monogram president Steve Brody, national advertising-director —— Leroy Lilton and other company executives will leave the Coast today, Wrinkle from the executive board of the Monogram carriage in New York will leave here today, for St. Louis where, on Saturday and Sunday, by a Monogram franchise holders and branch man-

ners will meet at the Century Hotel.

The group leaving New York will include vice-president Edward Morey, general sales manager Morey Gold-

Bronchom-International president Clancy Ditchey, director of sales Jack Schlaifer, Eastern sales manager, Edward Greenblatt, Eastern district manager Nat Furst, and con-
tract manager St. Louis.

146 More Theatres
Sign With Monogram

Hollywood, Jan. 8.—Four circuits, operating 146 theatres, have signed contracts for Monogram's entire out-
put beginning today. According to an announce,

ment by Mr. Brody, the Frida Amusement Co., with 46 theatres in Colorado and Missouri; Interstate Theatres Corp., with 39 the-

etates, New Hampshire and Vermont; Everett Enterprises, Inc., and South Carolina; Associated Theatres, with 24 in Ohio.

The after New Year pickup was in evidence here in the generally fair weather that marked the receipts for the week ending Jan. 11:

MONSTER (M-G-M)—Buffalo, N.Y. (60c) $1,300; average, $1,300.

THE MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U) and MYSTERY INTRUDER (Col.—La.)—Buffalo, N.Y. (90c) $1,300-1,400; average, $1,300.

THE MUSICAL (A) and RAGING RIVER (RKO Radio)—Youngstown, O. (50c-60c-70c) $1,000; 2nd week on moveover. Gross, $800; average, $800.

INDIANAPOLIS

Business has been good in spots de-
spite bad weather. Estimated receipts for the week-ending Jan. 11:

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—Cir--(20¢) $400; average, $400.

THE SKIES (Par.)—Indianapolis, Ind. (40c-60c) $7 days. Gross: $770; average, $110.

THE MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—KEVIN'S (1,00c) $7 days. 2nd week. Gross, $1,000; average, $142.

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL By (M-G-M) and THE BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS (U)—Loew's (40c-50c-60c) $1,000; 5th week. Gross $1,000; average, $200.

Gruenberg Schedules More 'Definite' Meets

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 8.—Len S. Gruenberg, captain of the 1947 "Definite Drive," will arrive here next Tuesday for meetings with the local exchange force in connection with the drive, which began on Dec. 20. Gruenberg, who is assisted by Frank Drumm, assistant to Nat Levy, RKO Radio Eastern division sales manager, and also by Bob Doolittle of the Cleveland, Pitts-

burgh, Washington and Philadelphia offi-
cines, arriving in New York next Saturday.

Variety Testimonial
For Anderson Jan. 20

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 8.—Northwest Variety Club will be host to its out-
going chief Barker, Art Anderson, at a testimonial dinner on Jan. 20, in recognition for his campaign to erect the Variety Heart Hospital on the campus of Minnesota campus.

Heading the list of speakers at the dinner will be William Mc-
Grew, national Variety executive; Bishop John C. McGough and Dr. Harold D. Siehl, of the university, and O. J. Arnold, Minneapolis indus-
try representative, who had an active part in the fund campaign.
Why was "STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN" selected as the first motion picture to have a Command Performance? A distinction no other film can claim!

There is a good reason for this—"STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN" is not only an extraordinarily good motion picture, but it is also "advanced" in every phase of production. It is evocative of all the fine things that can be achieved by the magic of creative elements. It contains poetic dialogue which takes it up to heaven yet down to earth in its universal appeal. It presents something entirely new in chromatic technicolor.

It has acting which has not been surpassed—a story that may be rightly acclaimed as different...yet something that is appealing to everyone. To sum it up, "STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN" signifies the motion picture of tomorrow with the appeal of today!
THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1946.

THE SCREEN IN REVIEW

"Stairway to Heaven," a British Production at Park Avenue, Proves a Holiday Delight—

BY BOSLEY CROWTHER

Had you harked you would have heard the herald angels singing an appropriate paean of joy over a wonderful new British picture, "Stairway to Heaven," which came to the Park Avenue Theatre yesterday. And if you will listen now to this reviewer you will hear that the delicate charm, the adult humor and visual virtuosity of this Michael Powell—Emeric Pressburger film render it indisputably the best of a batch of Christmas shows.

If you wished to be literal about it you might call it romantic fantasy with psychological tie-ins. But literally is not the way to take this deliciously sophisticated frolic in imagination's realm. For this is a fluid contemplation of a man's odd experiences in two worlds, one the world of the living and the other the world of his fantasies—which, in this particular instance, happens to be the great beyond. And the fact that the foreword advises, "any resemblance to any other worlds, known or unknown, is purely coincidental," is a clue to the nature and the mood.

We've no time for lengthy explanations—other than to remark that, by all the laws of probabilities, Squadron Leader Peter Carter should have been killed when he leaped from a burning bomber without a parachute over the Channel on May 2, 1945. And that is the natural assumption which revolves in the back of his injured mind. But, still alive after a freakish salvation and in love with a thoroughly mortal American wife, he resists the hallucinatory "messenger" who keeps summoning him to the beyond. Indeed, he resists so strongly—in his disordered mind, that is—that he conceives an illusory "trial" in heaven in which his appeal to remain on earth is heard before a highly heterogeneous tribunal. And through this court (and by a brain operation), he is spared.

That gives you a slight indication of the substance and flavor of this film—and we haven't space at this writing to give you any more, except to say that the wit and agility of the producers, who also wrote and directed the job, is given range through the picture in countless delightful ways: in the use, for instance, of Technicolor to photograph the earthy scenes and sepia in which to vision the hygienic regions of the Beyond (so that the heavenly "messenger," descending, is prompted to remark, "Ah, how one is starved for Technicolor up there!").

We haven't space to credit the literate wit of the heavenly "trial" in which the right of an English flier to marry an American girl is discussed, with all the subtle reminiscences of a cultivated English mind that it connotes, or the fine cinematic inventiveness and visual "touches" that sparkle throughout, notably in the exciting production designs of Alfred Junge.

Nor have we the space to say more than that David Niven is sensitive and real as the flier chap; that Roger Livesey is magnificent as his physician (and later advocate in the Beyond); that Kim Hunter is most appealing as his American sweetheart and that many more do extremely well, including Raymond Massey, who plays the lawyer for the Court of Records at the heavenly "trial." (Mr. Massey represents the spirit of the first Boston patriot killed in the Revolutionary War.)

But we'll have much more to say later, when we've got Christmas out of our hair. Till then, take this recommendation: see "Stairway to Heaven." It's a delight!

"'Stairway To Heaven' deserves the highest recommendation of any film of the year!"

from the N.Y. Times "Ten Best of the Year"
New Theatres

SANFRANCISCO, Jan. 8.—The openings of New Theatre at Stockton last week heralded another lavish addition to the Blumenfeld circuit. Featuring fluorescent murals over the expanse of each wall of the theatre proper and double sets of full-length glass doors at the entrance, the house, which accommodates 1,150, represents the fourth first-run theatre in Stockton.

Blumenfeld, who built the theatre in partnership with Joe Huff of Stockton, and Dennis McNerney of this city, expended more than $350,000 to acquire the property. The cost of construction was reportedly $200,000.

First-Run Pix Theatre Opens in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 8.—Samuel Cohen’s new Pix Theatre opened here last week with a reading of the “Shoeing of ‘Henry V’ to initiate its reserved-seat, first-run de luxe policy. With a seating capacity of 500, the house is located in the heart of the business district, at 19th and Market Streets.

4 Drive-ins Among 7 New Theatres Set for South

ATLANTA, Jan. 7—Seven new drive-in and minitheatre-drive-ins in Alabama, are slated to go into construction shortly in the South. R. J. Barnes, president of R.B. Amuse-

ment Co., of Montgomery, Ala., has announced projected automobile thea-
tres in Auburn, Gadsden, Deatsville, Pell City and Anniston.

The other new houses planned are:

one in Florence, Branch, Ga., by W. O. Massey; the fourth drive-in in Alabama, in Callahan, Fla., and a new $4,000 theatre in Macon, N. C., to be built by the Miller Realty Co. of Lincoln, N. C.

New House in Kansas Is Third by W. D. Fulto

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 8.—The Avenue

Theatre opened here last week.

In the area within the business dis-

trict, the new house is a block from the State. W. D. Fulton, owner-

of the new house, as well as the

Vogue in Kansas City, Mo., declared that the State will continue in opera-
tion at “at least 500 seats.”

Also among recent openings in Kansas is the Overland, of that city, a new 500-seater of the Dickinson, Inc., circuit. Millard Lomateur is manager.

Plan Newsreel Theatre in Oakland, Calif.

OAKLAND, Jan. 8.—D. B. Levin and L. Karpoff filed a building permit on behalf of the Lux Theatre Co. to remodel their property here for a newsreel theatre.

Open Three New Houses in Upper New England

BOSTON, Jan. 7—Three new theatres were opened recently in upper New England. They are the:

Record Sling Hit Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

of a Woman,” “I’ve Always Loved You,” “Claudia and David,” “My Darling Clementine,” and “The Time, the Place and the Girl.”

Other films turning in better than-
average results in a week of competi-
tion were: “They Were Sisters,” “The Falcon’s Adventure,” “Home Sweet Home,” “Carrie,” “The Show-Off,” “The Strange Woman” and “Under-
current.”

The Best Years of Our Lives, which had to reach the key cities toward the end of the month, demonstrated powerful grossing pro-
spective and “The Razor’s Edge,” which made its appearance somewhat earlier, also showed considerable strength. Also crowding competition were “Undercurrent,” “Clad and Daggers,” “Magnificent Doll,” “The Johnson Story,” “The Killers,” “Shadow of a Woman,” “I’ve Always Loved You,” “Claudia and David,” “My Darling Clementine,” and “The Time, the Place and the Girl.”

Theatre Expansion

(Continued from page 1)

spell anything but optimism, is the conclusion drawn generally.

David Flexer, of Memphis, is the most recent to make known plans for expanding and modernizing his con-

struction of 15 houses to add his present 127-unit circuit in Tennessee and Mississippi.

Excepting sporadic instances, of course, actual building has yet to pro-
tend to a second stage. Re-decorating has been costly and time-consuming, as in one case, Cen-

tury Theatre at Chillicothe, Ohio, which remained dark for two weeks after its scheduled re-

opening because of difficulties encoun-
tered in the course of the job.

Walker Theatre Co. is in the process of opening the Park Avenue Theatre, which Universal recently acquired, provides an example of innovation and con-

struction handicaps. In order to open the house on schedule various pieces of equipment, including seats, had to be flown to New York from various points. Government clearance addi-
tion, was not devoid of red-tape hindrances.

Malcolm Kingsberg, president of KKo Theatres, here, reasons that theatres in the downtown area are held to the belief that the public is more fixed in habits and motion pictures have come to be the basic entertainment.

Business Peak Reached

However, the business peak is said to have been reached, and while profitable operation is looked for, the “levelling off” period is seen not far ahead by some.

One of Loew’s Theatres exec-

utive, states that while business during recent months has been “very good,” it is expected that in the near future a business recession is anticipated, there is a likelihood of some return to normalcy in box-office returns.

Kingsberg and Doob, among others, point out that product must figure prominently in any analysis of busi-

ness prospects for the new year and that films on the market today and those expected to show con-

tinuing improvement.

While theatre expansion by affiliated companies is precluded by the anti-

trust laws, there are many making efforts to re-decorate their houses. Doob said that Loew’s program includes new roofs, seats and carpeting for a number of theatres.

To Film “Hamlet”

LONDON, Jan. 8.—Filippo Del Giudice, engineering manager for Two Cities Films, today told that he and Laurence Olivier, British star, will jointly produce William Shakespeare’s “Hamlet,” which will star and direct the film, with preliminary work slated to start in March.

Preview for “Fantasy”

“Fantasy in Fashion,” a Sam Fried-

lander production, filmed in color, will be previewed at the Cheltenham-Audio-

visual Theatre here, the film will be shown in conjunction with a press reception.

Frederg Jongs Coe

Nicholas Frederick, former assistant to the publisher of Newsweek, and recently of the promotion department of Time, Inc., has joined Donahue and Coe, advertising agency, here, service which handles film and theatre accounta.
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*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.*
WATCH THIS PAGE TOMORROW
(January 10th)
for announcement
of the
WINNERS
of the
PHOTOPLAY GOLD MEDAL AWARDS
for 1946
as chosen by the American Movie Public through the Poll for Photoplay conducted by Dr. George Gallup's Audience Research, Inc.
Projectionists’ Pay Boosted
By 12-21%

New IATSE Contracts Meet Living Cost Rise

Salary increases ranging as high as 21 per cent have been negotiated by IATSE projectionists’ locals throughout the country in a series of new contracts signed during the period beginning last September, according to Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president.

The average contract, Walsh explained, is for two years, but several three-year pacts also have been signed. Basis for members of a few of the union’s local remain to be negotiated, with talks now under way.

(Continued on page 6)

NY-Jersey Owners Join on Tax Stand

Cooperation with the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey in “mutual legislative problems” pending before the legislatures of New York and New Jersey was voted unanimously yesterday by the Independent Theatre Owners of New Jersey at their regular meeting here. The New Jersey group, which has members operating about 40 theatres in the neighboring state, agreed to “full cooperation” and “joint action” in matters of taxation and censorship.

Harry Brandt, president of the New York organization, was chairman of the meeting, which was addressed by Ed Lachman, president of Jersey Allied, E. Thornton Kelly, business manager of the New Jersey group, accompanied Lachman.

Hit Jurisdictional Disputes in Bill

Washington, Jan. 9—Labor legislation introduced in the House today by Representative Case would outlaw jurisdictional disputes, such as the one which led to the present studio strike in Hollywood.

The bill will be given “priority” and the sweeping labor measure is expected, according to capital observers.

Selznick Considers National Screen Tie

The Selznick Releasing Organization is considering the facilities of National Screen Service, along with those of several other companies, in plans for a physical distribution set-up for SRO product, Paul MacNamara, SRO advertising-publicity director said yesterday.

Ted Jones Heading His Own Company

DALLAS, Jan. 9—Ted Jones has resigned as division manager of Griffith Theatres to head his own company. Associated with late R. E. Griffith for approximately 25 years, Jones has managed and operated theatres throughout the Southwest, including Oklahoma, Texas and Mexico. He has now organized Jones Enterprises, Inc., which recently purchased the New Owners of

Story Offices Here

Swimming through a flood of books, plays, short stories and original material written for the screen, the Eastern story departments of the major companies handled “an incoming total of approximately 27,000 manuscripts” last year, outdistancing the 1945 total by from 70 to 100 per cent, according to a

British Films Scarcely But Potent in Theatres There

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Jan. 9—British product outstripped Hollywood offerings at this country’s box-offices during the past year, according to a nationwide theatre survey made following the Board of Trade’s announcement that 1946 saw 339 “foreign” pictures, 51 British “long” films and 120 reissues offered to the public.

Included in the “foreign” category were 20 subjects emanating from France, Russia, Sweden, Denmark, Thailand, Italy, Spain, Argentina, 419 American-made films and 13 British, the respective figures for 1945 being 395 and 121.

The total number of full length British features ran around 60, with 40 only rating top billing. The bulk of the offerings were those “featurettes” exhibits barely exceeding 3,000 feet.

Although British product ranked first in the box-office race, KRO Radio’s “The Bells of St. Mary’s” came near the top. Easy winner was the slightly dubious “Wicked Lady,” with that picture’s outstanding success due to the joint presence of James Mason and Margaret Lockwood.

Close on the heels of “St. Mary’s” came Herbert Wilcox’ “Piccadilly Incident,” followed in order by “The Captive Heart” (British), “Road to Utopia,” “Caravan” (British),

Day to Push Bidding Plan

The “meat” of the Joseph P. Day plan for controlling competitive film bids, which was presented in an emissary brief last October, has been incorporated by the New York Federal District Court in its final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, and a workable system of handling bids can be devised under the terms of the decree, according to spokesmen for the Day auctioneering company.

The Day interests, it is understood, now are going ahead with preparations to again suggest that the industry adopt a uniform system of handling competitive bids, with a central clearing house set up in each exchange city to advertise for and receive bids.

Schine Appeal Move

Cites Equity Case

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9—In a 23-page petition for rehearing of its appeal filed with the U. S. Supreme Court today by attorney Willard S. McKay, Schine Chain Theatres points to the New York Federal Court’s refusal to order divestiture in the Paramount, et al., equity case as a basis for one of many “substantial questions” said to be involved in the monopoly decision rendered against the other defendants by the court in the Paramount case.

The latter court has ordered a realignment of the Schine Circuit with divestiture of many of its theatre properties.

Arbitration To Continue

Till March 1

The industry’s 31 local arbitration tribunals will continue to accept new cases up to March 1 under a decision made yesterday by the American Arbitration Association after consultation with attorneys and representatives of the five major distribution companies which bear the costs of maintaining the tribunals.

The decision means that the industry arbitration system will continue to function without change at least until March 1. It has not been decided yet whether normal operation of the tribunals will be extended for another 30 days beyond March 1 in the event of an appeal to the Supreme Court from the New York District Court.

Forum May Wait on High Court Appeals

NEW HAVEN, Jan. 9—Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, said today that while he is in favor of immediate work toward establishment of a Motion Picture Board and endeavor to adjust internal industry disputes, he is of the opinion that the Forum should not begin its activities until the Supreme Court has decided whatever appeals may be filed by parties affected.

Companies May Ask Clarification Today

The five theatre-owning defendants in the New York anti-trust case will petition the Federal Court here for clarification of certain of the provisions of the court’s decree, it was reported yesterday. It is expected the motion will be made today, the deadline for such action.

A motion by any of the parties requesting amended findings is held unlikely by film attorneys to be entertained by the court, if petitioned. The court has discouraged such petitions in advance by citing extreme delays which they entail.
Zukors' Golden Wedding Today

Half a century of married life will be observed today by Adolph Zukor, Paramount's board chairman, and Mrs. Zukor.

Marking the event will be a dinner at the Savoy-Plaza Hotel, here, where the Zukors make their home. Members of the family, a group of intimate friends and old associates, will help the couple celebrate the occasion.

Diplomatic and film attaches attending the dinner will be Barney Bala-

ch, Paramount president; Charles M. Rea-

gan, vice-president at large; Austin C. Keough, vice-

president, who heads the legal depart-

ment; Leonard Goldenson, vice-presi-

dent in charge of theatre operations; Ed Weil, a member of the company's board; Louis Phillips of the home of-

fice legal staff; George Weitner, presi-

dent of Paramount International, and the following: Jesse Lasky, Joseph and Nicholas Schenck, Jack Goots, Ben Mossi and William Gaxton. Lasky and Joseph Schenck have come East from the Coast expressly for the oc-

cassion.

Others who will be on hand will be Eugene Zukor, Paramount studio tak-

ing chief; Mrs. Mildred Z. Loew of New York, their daughter, and Adolph Zukor II, Eugene's son.

Adolph Zukor was married to Lottie Kaufman in Chicago on January 10, 1897, eight years after his arrival in this country from Hungary, where he was born on Jan. 7, 1873.

Disney Net Down to $199,602 for 1945

Hollywood, Jan. 9.—Net income of Walt Disney Productions was $199,602, after all charges, for the fiscal year ended Sept. 28, 1945, compared with $350,532 in 1944, president Roy O. Disney announced today.

Net income in 1946 was equal, af-

ter provision for preferred dividend

accumulated during year but not paid,

to 26 cents a share on 652,840 com-

mon shares, outstanding at end of Sept.

28. For the 1945 fiscal year, net in-

come after such a provision for pre-

ferred dividend and 26 cents a share on 652,840 common shares.

As of Sept. 28, there were 18,890 shares of six per cent ($25 par value) preferred stock outstanding, against 155,000 shares the year before.

Grant Off to Coast Court for Pickford

Arnold Grant, attorney for Mary Pickford, will leave here tomorrow to answer a suit filed by the late Grant against United Artists similarly is pending in the Los Angeles Federal District Court.

Arthur M. Loew, president of

Loew's International, will leave tomo-

torrow by plane for Culver City.

W. C. Rea, manager of the Drive-

in, Savanna, Ill., in Havana.

Jack Ewell, general manager of the Drive-In circuit, is making a trip through the circuit, and L. A. Dean, executive of the company, returned to Atlanta from San Francisco.

Nelson Toynbee, PRC Atlanta branch manager, and Eddie Anderson, publicity representative for Eagle-

line, have returned to Atlanta from Birmingham. Anderson left for Austin, Texas, thereafter.

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-

president and general sales manager, has returned to Florida to resume a vacation interregnum by the New York decree.

Jean Dalrymple, executive assis-

tant in the East to Lester Cowan, has left here for the Coast to confer with Cowan and Mary Pickford.

Hal Roach, Briebe Daniels and "Doc" Martin will celebrate Jan. 18 birthdays at a party at Roach's Holly-

wood home.

Ben Adler, New York industry ad-

vertising consultant, has returned to his office after a month of sick leave.

P. J. A. McCarthy, Universal Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave Charleston today for Atlanta.

Calvin C. Leeder has been trans-

ferred by Warner Bros. from Cincin-

nati to Atlanta as office manager.

Ryn Tin Tin, III, and his owner-

ner, Lee Duncan, are expected here shortly from California.

Gabriel Pascal, British producer, now in Hollywood, is expected to re-

turn to New York next week.

William Sharten, Cleveland dis-

trict manager for Eagle-Lion, was in

Albany, N. Y., this week.

Ralph McCoy, Eagle-Lion special sales representative in Atlanta, is in Charlotte.

H. Spears, general manager of Bailey's theatre, Atlanta, is in Miami.

Moe Kerman of Favorite Films is here today for Hollywood.

Couple Sues 20th-Fox

On 'Anna' Charges

Boston, Jan. 9. — Charging that portions of the film "Anna and the King of Siam" damaged their "good name and fame and credit in Massa-

chusetts and other parts of the world," Richard Monahan and his wife, Anna Harriet Leonovens Monahan, tem-

porarily residing in Tippery, Eire, have entered damage suits totaling $200,000 against 20th-Fox.

George Hyder to Head

Warner Siam Office

George Hyder has been appointed manager of the Warner Bros. office in Siam, taking over the post that had been filled temporarily by John Husk. He was appointed here yesterday by Wolfe Cohen, vice-presi-

dent of Warner International. Wedes-

day he will return to the sales staff in New York.

Before joining Warner, Hyder was manager for M-G-M in Singa-

pore, and was also in charge of the M-G-M division. He is now 40.

William A. Scully, Mat-

thew Fox, Joseph H. Schell-

man and Madrich A. Bergman, Uni-

ders Songs, executive, have left here for the Coast.

Jack Sawyer, Malco office man-

ager at Memphis, and Mrs. Sawyer are the parents of a son, John Ken-

nall Sawyer.

Jack Calloway, formerly with Warner Bros. in Atlanta, will now handle Florida and Southern Georgia territory for PRC.

Arthur C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, Atlanta, has returned there from Charlotte.

Bob Tatum, formerly with Chicago and Southern Airlines, has been named a Universal broker at Memphis.

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, is expected in Hollywood Monday from Washington.

James S. Burtkerk, Monogram pro-

ducer, and Alfred Notes, author, will leave here for England in February.

Charles Kessick, with M-G-M in Atlanta, has been visiting friends on Memphis film row.

Al M. Hill, RKO home office re-

presentative, is visiting the Memphis exchange.

Richard Lightman, Malco execu-

tive, has returned to his office after an operation.

Paul M. Glisson, 20th-Fox office

manager at Memphis, is in New Orleans.

Herbert J. Yates, Republic presi-

dent, has left Hollywood for New York.

Grower Parsons, PRC sales head in

Atlanta, has returned there from Char-

lotte.

George Stevens, producer-director, has left Hollywood for New York.

Jimmy Gillespie, 20th-Fox expl-

oder, is in Memphis from Dallas.

Fred Schwartz, Century circuit vice-president, is at Lake Placid.

Bill Williams, 20th-Fox salesman at Dallas, is visiting Memphis.

George C. Marshall, the new Secretary of State, when the latter was U. S. Army Chief of Staff in Washington.
The shot that started the film editor on his way...

CRUDE as this shot seems to us now, it opened a young industry's eyes to a new way of making motion pictures—and started the film editor on his way to his present important position.

Today, working closely with director or producer, the film editor is responsible for much of a picture's continuity, its smooth flow and rhythm. On his creative understanding of theme and mood...his feeling for pace and its effect on drama...rests a large part of a picture's ultimate success.

And top-flight photographic quality, contributed by the family of Eastman motion picture films, gives the film editor the help he needs if he is to carry out his responsibility to the full.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
Photoplay-Gallup Poll Picks 'Bells'

Ingrid Bergman, Bing Crosby and "The Bells of St. Mary's" are the nation's top musical-actor motion picture for 1946, according to the Gallup Poll's annual "Rhapsody in Sixteen," the magazine's Gold Medal Awards, which was voted 1946's favorite musical picture.

"State Fair" Runner-up


State Building Code Draft Due Feb. 15

Proposals for a New York State building code, the result of a joint legislative committee headed by Senator William Condon, will probably be completed by the end of the month, although it is not due until Feb. 15, according to a spokesman for the committee. Drafting of a new code will not be finished until 1948, he added.

At the same time, it was learned that hearings of separate proposals for a code to be drawn up by the State Labor Department and other agencies have not yet been scheduled. The department began outlining its suggestions more than two years ago, and it is believed that its program would also have to be handed to the state legislature by Feb. 15.

A major difference between the two proposals, reported in Motion Picture Daily on Dec. 27, is that the state-wide code would apply either on a mandatory or recommendation basis to all New York cities, including those which have code enforcement agencies, while the Labor Department's code would be inoperative in such cities. A section of the legislative committee's plan includes specification of building materials, whereas the other plan does not.

Heppner Heads Press Photographers' Fete

For the 18th consecutive year, Joseph Heppner, superintendent of the Photographic Association of New York, will be chairman of the talent committee for the 18th annual entertainment and dance of the Photographic Association of New York, which will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Feb. 7. Heppner will stage the entire show, and the music again will be furnished by Eli Dantzig for both the show and dancing.

' Devils Hand' Screening

"The Devil's Hand," French film directed by Maurice Tourneur, will be screened today at the Astor Theatre. Distinguished Films is distributing the film in the U. S. The picture will have a twin premiere at the Loew's State, New York, and Branson's Atlantic Playhouse, Brooklyn, following the current engagement of "Les Misérables," also a Distinguished release.

National Industry-UN Group Expected Soon

Denver, Jan. 9.—The Colorado legislature is now in session and theaters are not expected to be closed for any adverse action. With the state treasury in good shape the only new taxes proposed include an additional $25,000 tax for roads and a severance tax on oil.

Appointment of a national industry committee to cooperate with the United Nations motion picture program is expected to be worked out in the future. Following discussions between Jean Benoit-Levy, director of the film and visual information division of the U. N. Department of public information, who has just returned from Europe, and company executives including, possibly, Eric Johnston, MPA president.

With committees already named by the industry in a number of other countries, the U. S. effort is anxious to see the set-up completed in the U. S., the home of the organization. As for the U. S. film companies, their readiness to cooperate remains assured, but Johnston is understood to be aware that complications in this sector may be expected.

The UN general assembly has granted an appropriation of $450,000 for "motion picture supplies and services" during 1947, and its film division of the "motion picture service" is calling the story of the organization's progress to date and of the prospects for permanent peace, and to be shown throughout the world. Distribution of the product is one of the problems which the projected industry committee may be asked to help work out.

Delay WB Overseas Building Program

Due to uncertainties in the foreign situation, plans of Warner Brothers for the addition of theater holdings in other countries may have to be put on a standstill except for projects which have been under way for some time.

New houses for Warners are under construction in Havana and Mexico City, and the company owns a location in Sydney, where it is planned that a deluxe run when conditions permit.

Only other foreign holdings at present are the Central Theatre, Lima, Peru, and the San Jorge Theatre, Bogota, Colombia, both leased, and the Warner Theater, London, which is owned outright. In addition, Warner Brothers have a 37½ per cent stock interest in the ABC circuit in Great Britain.

Goldwyn, Donovan in Bellevue Center Drive

Samuel Goldwyn, Harold Russell of the cast of Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," will give the industry a look at the "шло" film in Bellevue Center Drive.

The film is in connection with the Center's $25,000 drive for a "Rehabilitation Institute," which is being launched by a committee under the chairmanship of Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan.

To Discuss Decree At Mono. Meeting

Taking cognizance of authoritative legal opinion that companies which were not parties to the New York equity suit—such as Monogram, Producers and Distributors—will have to govern themselves by the provisions of the Federal court's decree, if sustained, Monogram executives, who are not expected to be placed in a position harmful to the company's operations, vice-president Edward Morey said here yesterday before departing for St. Louis. The meeting will be attended by some 50 franchise holders and sales representatives, who will get underway at the Coronado Hotel tomorrow and continue through Sunday.

Morey acknowledged that his company and others which were not parties to the suit “are bound to be governed” by a sustained decree. Motion Picture Daily reported yesterday that many of the lawyers connected with the industry suit are in agreement on this point.

The Monogram meeting, specifically called for a review and discussion of sales policies—particularly in connection with the forthcoming release of "It's a Wonderful Life," will be attended by the following company executives, in addition to Morey: president Steve Brodell, general sales manager, Morey, Goldstein, Monogram International president Norton V. Ritchie, director of sales Jack Schlesinger, sales manager Arthur Greenblatt, eastern district manager Nat Furst, and contract manager Si Borus.

ATA and US Stand Pat on Intervention

Washington, Jan. 9.—The American Theatre Association will continue its policy against taking any position on theatre divestiture in its efforts to save its anti-trust suit. Thurman Arnold, ATA counsel, said here today, Arnold added that "we are doing the lower court's denial of its 'direct intervention' petition.

At the Department of Justice, Robert Wright, assistant to the Attorney General, contends that the Government will continue to oppose any effort of direct intervention, but will agree to briefs submitted as amicus curiae.

Arnold pointed out that it would not be feasible for ATA to deal in any aspect of the case other than competitive bidding because no other phase of the case has been disposed of in its original brief to the lower court.

Assaults Checker, Fined

Minneapolis, Jan. 9.—Following a change in plea from innocent to guilty in municipal court at Red Wing, Minnesota, a途路ing a checker, Judge Francis H. Watson placed a fine of $25 and $43 costs. Warner Brothers, St. Paul, Ely, Cameron Falls, it was revealed this week.

Silvers was charged with assaulting Robert Thy, Minneapolis, checker for the Western Realty, handling the account of M-G-M.

Greek Aid Meet Today

Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and advertising-publicity and sales executives of the various companies will meet today at the Hotel Astor to map out a national campaign for funds to assist the orphaned children of Greece.
Theatremen Await Building Go-ahead

While exhibitors indicate their "short-term pessimism" and "long-term optimism" for theatre construction and expansion, and favor additional measures toward easing construction bars, reports from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents attest that plans abound and might well burst into a go-ahead expansion throughout the could be once materials and manpower become available.

An indication of the difficulties besetting theatremen was carried yesterday by Motion Picture Daily. Entangled in a web of barriers, ranging from federal restrictions to a dearth of labor and sectional shortages, are the operators and New York distribution executives expressed their helpfulness about the situation in the future. They also asserted that the abundance of projects is an index to the faith of the industry in continued prosperity during 1947.

Reporting on the progress of plans and actual accomplishments, field correspondents noted that, while still sporadic, an upsurge in construction is in the making throughout the nation. Among the projects under way are those from California, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Kansas, Massachusetts and Maryland, which appeared yesterday, are the following:

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio, Jan. 9. — The Garden Theatre, dark since it was damaged by fire four years ago, will be razed and the site used for a new theatre and store, to cost $350,000, it has been announced by Mrs. Mary Gordon, owner of the property. In revealing her plan to construct a 750-seat theatre equipped to handle plays and vaudeville, as well as motion pictures, Mrs. Gordon said it would be a memorial to her late husband, William Gordon, founder of the house. The house will be operated under a long-term lease by William F. Bein, head of National Theatre Supply's branch at Cincinnati.

$1,000,000 Amusement Center Projected in Santa Clara

SANTA CLARA, Cal., Jan. 9. — As soon as sufficient materials are available, construction will begin on a $1,000,000 multiple amusement enterprise planned by M. Neffy of T. and D., Jr. Enterprises, on a 72-acre site adjacent to this city. A drive-in theatre, restaurant, market, bowling alleys and several other sports and recreation buildings are contemplated.

Mann to Expand Modesto Theatre with Seats

MOSIER, Ore., Jan. 9. — George Mann of Redwood Theatres, announces that he will spend more than $225,000 on improvements including his State Theatre, here. The house, one of the largest in Mann's circuit, will institute the multiple amusement plan of the Redwood Theatres. Included in the expansion process will be the construction of four retail stores.

Orange Cove Theatre Gives Town Its First House

ORANGE COVE, Cal., Jan. 9—Debut of the theatre owned and operated by John L. Terrill, recently presented this town with its first motion picture house. The theatre, which was constructed at an estimated cost of $60,000, seats 508. Terrill also owns the Orosi Theatre in Orosi, which he opened 18 months ago.

Plans $80,000 Drive-In Theatre in Visalia, Calif.

VISALIA, Cal., Jan. 9.—With plans completed for his new $80,000 drive-in theatre, here, Robert L. Lippert announces that he will get construction under way immediately, in order to be able to meet an April opening date. The theatre will have a capacity of 400 cars.

Television Sponsor Favors "Pick-ups"

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 9.— Sears, Roebuck & Co. has plans to sponsor a series of remote pickups of local events, beginning with the Mummers' Parade on Wednesday. The Philco television station WPTZ, M. Z. Kissell, representing the sponsor, said: "We consider remote pickup telecasts, direct from the scene, to be one of the most interesting forms of sight-and-sound programming."

Contract Set by WOR For Video Station

A contract for construction of a four-station video station WOR's television station in Washington has been let to Davis, Wick and Robinson, Inc. It was announced yesterday by J. R. Poppe, vice-president in charge of engineering of Eamberger Broadcasting Service. Call letters of the video station will be WMWB, he said.

Nine Join Mutual

Nine additional stations have joined Mutual Broadcasting System as members of the network's total to 37, according to Carl Haverlin, vice-president in charge of station relations. The new affiliates are: WATZ, Alpena, Mich.; KCIL, Hoquiam, La.; WICY, Malone, N. Y.; WQUA, Rome, Ill.; WMBN, Petoskey, Mich.; WGN, Muncie, Tenn.; KSFT, Davenport, La., and WQBQ, Vicksburg, Miss.

See Video Expansion

CHICAGO, Jan. 9. — Expansion of television set production and the establishment of finer video programs are forecast for 1947 by G. E. Markham, manager of stations WGN, WGY and WGM, here, and B. J. Rowan, director of broadcasting and television for General Electric. The two likewise predicted that more FM radio will be forthcoming.

Central City Radio Show

Central City has completed negotiations with station WNEW here for a half-hour radio show, called "Central City," which will be heard every Sunday evening, Edward Schreiber, advertising director of Century announces. The show will trace the lives of top entertainers of the present and past.

B'klyn Building Will House Federal Studio

Acquisition of the former home of the Brooklyn Elks, in downtown Brooklyn, for conversion into a motion picture studio for Federal Studios has been announced by Jack Goldberg, president of Herald Pictures, parent organization of Federal. Contracts for the construction have been awarded and work is expected to be completed by the end of June, he added.

The new plant will have three sound stages, Plans include use of an entire floor for television. In addition to an up-to-date communications and office space, the building will have a preview theatre.

Joseph Moran Named

Joseph A. Moran, associate director of the radio department of Young and Rubicam, has been appointed a vice-president of the agency, S. S. Larmory, president, announces. Moran joined Young and Rubicam in 1934 as a writer in the radio commercial department. He later became manager of the department. He was named associate radio director in 1944.

Manta-Rose Extends Group Insurance

CHICAGO, Jan. 9. — The Manta and Rose Circuit, operating 29 theatres in Indiana and Illinois, has inaugurated a group insurance plan covering some 500 employees, total cost of which is to be borne by the circuit.

Under the plan, theatre employees are now covered for accidental and sickness weekly benefits and life insurance; employees' hospital expenses, and the entire cost of dependents' hospitalization.

For dependents of employees, the circuit will pay $4.00 daily hospital charges, $20 special hospital charges, and $150 surgical fees.

Three Are Chartered At Albany, N.Y.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 9. — Arrow Pictures Corp. has been incorporated to conduct a motion picture business in New York; incorporators are: Herbert Labovitch, Regina Kast and Harold D. Safir, 39 Cortlandt St. Arkin, Labovitch & Kottler, were incorporating attorneys.

American Screen Test and Film Corp., has been incorporated to conduct a film business in New York; incorporators are: Irving Bruss, Samuel Adelberg and Max Spivak, New York. Jacob W. Friedman was incorporating attorney.
SIMPP Committee
Will Study Decree

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 9.—SIMPP President Donald Nelson said tonight the organization will set up a committee to study the effect of the government's decision after which decision will be made whether or not again to seek entry as ancillary curios when the case goes before the Supreme Court.

Nelson's statement, which followed an SIMPP membership meeting, said in part: "Because our members distribute through some of the big distributors, restrictions imposed on the market by the court will seriously hamper the operations of the independent producers who were not defendants in the case and who had no part in the decision. The court's decision has rendered the marketing practices of distributors...

Restrains Undetermined

"We are not yet able to determine the full extent to which the independent producer will be damaged by these restraints. To study all the changes produced by the decree, we are planning to set up a special committee to determine.

This organization also will watch application of the decree, so that we can be sure that the independent producers are not jeopardized. Most members of the Society believe the government would have a negative effect on the correction of monopolistic practices within the industry. The independent feel, however, that non-commercial first-run and local theatres in local areas prevent our pictures from being shown to the public.

Nelson said the special organization mentioned will follow all independent pictures as they play, with respect to prices obtained, playing time, clearance, and to make the information steadiy available to all members.

Collective Handling

SIMPP members today also approved Nelson's proposals for collective handling of several matters now dealt with individually by production companies or by the independent producers. This was the upshot of the Pettrillo contract with majors which placed independent as disadvantages.

Among the additional matters, SIMPP will handle, collectively, with an enlarged staff, will be permanent sets, props, publicity, purchasing, raw materials, radio spot announcements and advertising, and the handling of a new film for which customers are bought from the independent producers who are to have exclusive distribution rights.

Schine Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

The statement reads: "While the (New York) court found these defendants (the eight film companies) to have violated the Sherman Act, and while it agreed with the plaintiffs in other respects, it held that the appeal by them is insufficiently, in that the provision in the decree of the Supreme Court rejected as being not in compliance with the court's rules.

Schine further questions the provisions of requiring the sale of theatres which were not shown by the evidence to have any relation to, or to have any effect on, the distribution or commerce or monopolization or, or attempt to monopolize trade of commerce. The Buffalo court's decree, Schine goes on, is "absolutely arbitrary" so far as it concerns divestiture, and concludes that the provision that Schine relinquish on in its two theatres in Cumberland, Maryland, if such a provision is to be used, can be applied to the Schine himself that town was approved by the court.

"Action Unjustified"

Schine asserts that "there is nothing in the record in the case" to justify filing the suit and that the provisions of the order itself show the Court "acted upon an incorrect and improper theory of relief in deciding upon this type of decree rather than upon any basis of fact appearing in the record.

The objections as a "clear abuse of discretion" the court's ordering the appointment of a trustee to sell the property, and that the decision was "unaffiliated" and that the Schine was "insignificant," which Schine argues is not to be followed.

The meeting will also have before it for immediate consideration a decision as to the formation of the national exhibitor-distributor forum, which Eric Johnson has agreed to head. Herman Schine, another counsel, will be present at the meeting and will go from there to attend a luncheon meeting of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Owners Association on Jan. 22.

Projectionist' Pay

(Continued from page 1)

way for that purpose, the 'IA' chief added.

Throughout areas where the pay of projectionists hereafter has been relatively high, the increases have been passed on in part to the independents. The Federal Courts to find that specific corporations have been guilty of the violations in the specific federal statutes, it does not follow that the Federal Courts to define an exact method of doing business for any industry.

Replacement takes issue with the Federal Court's accepting as evidence communications between employers of the independent companies and holds that such admissions as evidence prejudiced the appellants considerably.

Southern Owners
Object to Decree

ATLANTA, Jan. 9—Exhibitors in this area are in agreement that the New York decree in the industry anti-trust suit is impossible of obedience, and that the industry could not possibly live under its terms.

They agree also that, while it is well in the interests of the companies and holds that such admissions as evidence prejudiced the appellants considerably.

McCayes Signs Louis

Hollywood, Jan. 9.—Leo McCay has contracted Sinclair Lewis to come to Hollywood to write the original and screenplay for his next Rainbow production, "Adam and Eve," based on a McCay idea, with two principals the only human actors in the cast.

M.P. Forum

(Continued from page 1)

ties to the New York anti-trust suit. Levy, who is scheduled to discuss organization of the Forum with Fred Scherer, MPTOA president, in St. Louis, has said he would endeavor to obtain the advance views of distribution company executives to have a vantage position.

The St. Louis meeting and that the results of that effort might determine how far it was practical to proceed at this time with the organizing work.

It was pointed out that a large amount of work going on would be involved in establishing the New organization and that, even if a start was made immediately, the Forum might not be in readiness for full operation by the time the Supreme Court appeals had been disposed of.

Whethere, originator of the idea for the Forum, said earlier this week that he favored an immediate start without regard for the Forum's decisions and that he regarded the organizing work as MPTOA's "responsibility," since it had proposed the plan.

Special MPTOA Meeting

In St. Louis Jan. 21

Petitioning that PA. Jan. 9.—Lewon Pizor, chairman of the board of directors of MPTOA, today announced that a special meeting of unaffiliated members of the board and of state and regional unit heads will be held in St. Louis, Jan. 21 for a complete hearing and analysis of the decree and for the formulation of MPTOA's plans with regard to it. The latter, including policy with regard to appearing for the independent unaffiliated members in the Supreme Court as ancillary in curiae in event that an appeal is taken by the Government or any or all defendants.

The meeting will also have before it for immediate consideration a decision as to the formation of the national exhibitor-distributor forum, which Eric Johnson has agreed to head. Herman Schine, another counsel, will be present at the meeting and will go from there to attend a luncheon meeting of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Owners Association on Jan. 22.

New Station in Georgia

ROME, Ga., Jan. 9—Dean Coving- ton, state representative of Floyd County, and J. W. Troummerauer, have started operation of their new radio station, WROM.

Schine Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

Video Talk for SMPE

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—William Eddy, sales manager for Nabisco Brands at Balaban and Katz station, WKBK, discussed "Recent Advances in Television," at the monthly meeting of the Midwest Motion Picture Engineers here today.

Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

court's decree in the industry anti-trust suit. The decree permits a further stay of 30 days from March 1 on all phases of the decree on which there have been taken. The advantage will be taken of the additional stay only in the event an appeal is taken to the Supreme Court on that phase of the decree which terminates the industry arbitration system.

The decree directed that the arbitration system be terminated on the tribunals liquidated except for complaints pending before the local tribunals. The appeal hearing resulted. It arose this great to the question whether the boards continued to accept new complaints during the 60-day stay of execution of the decree granted by the court. The consultation subsequently held in the decree that the boards may continue to accept new cases and remain in full operation at least until March 1.

No New Cases

No new cases have been filed with any of the 31 boards since Dec. 31, when the decree was handed down.

As reported earlier, there are 33 boards active in the country. Four local tribunals and 2 appeals are pending before the appeal board. Had a decision been made that new cases could not be accepted by the boards during the 60-day stay of the decree, immediate liquidation of the system would result without avoidance cases before them would have been in order. The nine remaining boards and the appeal board would then have continued to operate, rapidly as the arbitrations were completed.

In terminating arbitration, the court continued the world as a body and "strongly recommended" that the same or a similar system be continued in the industry "to avoid cumbersome and dilatory court litigation." Obstacles to continuation of the system are regarded by many distribution and legal authorities as number enormous, however, for that to be very likely.
Day Plan (Continued from page 1)
ceive bids. This arrangement, as the Day plan envisions it, would largely eliminate the danger of charges of collusion and would, moreover, render unnecessary the operation of the Department of Justice and the distributors of much inconvenience during the government's policing of the decree.

The court's provisions whereby the distributors would notify exhibitors, 30 days in advance of when bids would be received, with availability and clearance stated; also, whereby bids would be posted in the office of the court on the day they are made and filed immediately after notice is given, are said to be among the decree features generally in line with the practices of the Motion Picture Association, thus carrying out the court's plea that work done by the arbitration tribunals set up under the terms of the Motion Picture Association, continued on a voluntary basis.

Bid Reconciliation

Some advocates of the Day plan, while feeling that the New York Federal Central Control Board has the task of revising the competitive-bidding decree provisions in certain minor respects, are understood to hold that no great bar to the success of the plan in the latitude the judges have allowed with regard to the form in which the bids may be made. They stress that a percentage bid and a flat bid can be satisfactorily reconciled by considering the estimates of the distributors and the theatres making an offer in percentage terms. As further clarification, they suggest, the court might agree that when a percentage bid is accepted, a minimum equal to the highest flat bid obtained be written into the contract.

Under the original Day plan, however, the distributors would have been at liberty to eliminate, or give no credit for, bids on theatres for which they are not willing to pay the flat rate. The court's provision whereby bids on unfinished work are generally accepted would have significantly reduced the creditability and freedom of the Day plan. Theatres thus excluded would have been forced to bid flat rates, with no further chance for arbitration. Proponents of the Day plan are understood to be hopeful, still, that this problem can be persuad

Interfaith Council Drops Olive Branch

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 9.—The Los Angeles Interfaith Council today announced that it was dropping its effort to secure an olive branch, declaring in part: "We find that the contesting parties are in conflict over the questions of the final settlement is in the hands of national and international leaders of the unions involved."

Story Offices (Continued from page 1)

a survey which will appear today in Motion Picture Herald. Although publishers issued about 7,000 books in 1946 and 1947 and the New York legitimate stage offers about 100 plays annually, only 25 books and eight plays were purchased for adaptation to the screen, the magazine said.

All the eastern story heads agreed 1946 was a good publishing year, but a poor one for literary quality and a few seemed to be at a loss to account for the number of mediocre novels which came to their desks.

The end of the year saw the stream of war books ebbing and recognized war-problem novels brought into focus. At the same time, the realization of the problems and peace and the responsibility that many of the authors have felt, they have written much of worth. The public's taste, however, is generally agreed to have trended toward the serious, toward films with significant themes and motives.

To encourage budding young writers to continue with their efforts and to promise, many companies now are subsidizing authors. While this had been done before, 20th Century-Fox disclosed last night that it was placing a price on unfinished work. Usually the author is paid so much a week until the book is finished. Then he is either paid a certain agreed sum for the screen rights and the option is picked up or other arrangements are made according to contract.


Decision Reserved in Martina Case

BUFFALO, Jan. 9.—Federal Judge John Knight today reserved decision on a defense motion for a bill of particulars in several murder cases against the American Federation of cinematic Workers. The judge will hear the motion at 2 o'clock Wednesday. The plaintiffs in the suits are represented by Attorney James O. Moore, Sr., representing the Martina group, and William Oppen and William W. Moore, attorneys for the American Federation of Cinematic Workers. The defendants are the players in the New York State motion picture industry.

Shea's Brother Dies

NEWPORT, R. I., Jan. 9.—Funeral services will be held at St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church Saturday for Joseph Shea, 38, brother of Frank Shea, office manager of the March of Time in New York. Shea died here yesterday.

British Films

(Continued from page 1)

an interest in Arizona Theatres, formerly owned by Partnership, Inc., Griffin Theatres, as formerly affilia
ted with William H. Dickey, P. L. Lune, in ownership of these theatres. Jones and Long will now own and operate the Arizona venture. The Arizona Theatres are affiliated with the movie circuit formed in 1944. This concern owns 21 theatres located in California, Oregon and Colorado.

U. S. Film Impacts

Fearless Says Benton

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—William Benton, Assistant Secretary of State, in an address here today, said cultural and political leaders of foreign nations fear the great world-wide impact of Hollywood motion pictures. Benton, addressing the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations and political leaders in the area, said movies are being urged as a great force of democracy throughout the world but that many nations fear Hollywood's influence.

Benton explained: "The very technical genius of Hollywood which is envied and admired by the masses of the peoples of the world terrifies the scholars and political leaders of the Soviet and the western democracies, countries where they hear their children speaking English with an American accent, using American slang and discussing love, divorce and murder in Hollywood epigrams."

Benton added that U. S. delegates to the first fingers conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at Paris last month discovered a fear of American cultural imperialism. Benton said, "It was not a fear of American books, art, music, radio or press that they feared, but largely the fear of Hollywood."

Benton concluded that UNESCO must succeed because on it may hang the balance of peace.

Oscaldo Urrutia, Dies

Word that Oscaldo Urrutia, Paramount International's branch manager for Peru, died Wednesday in Lima was received yesterday at the company's home office by A. V. Friedman, Latin American division manager.

Bromfield's Mother Dies

MANSFIELD, O., Jan. 9.—Mrs. Albert Congdon, 84, mother of Louis Bromfield, author of many novels, including a number which have been adapted for the screen, died Sunday at her Malabar home near here.

Rites for Mrs. Friedman

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 1947
Announcing

Photoplay Gold Medal Awards* for 1946 to

Ingrid Bergman—the nation's most popular actress
Bing Crosby—the nation's most popular actor
"The Bells of St. Mary's"—the nation's most popular picture
(with miniature medals to all those receiving screen credits)
Leo McCarey—Producer-Director of the nation's most
popular picture
Dudley Nichols—Writer of the nation's most popular picture

Photoplay Gold Plaque to

"State Fair" the nation's most popular Musical Movie
And Photoplay Citations to the Top Ten Pictures
and Top Ten Stars

*Chosen by the American Movie Public through the Poll for Photoplay
conducted by Dr. George Gallup's Audience Research, Inc.
$147,000,000 Loss from Cut In Excise Levy

Wartime Tariff Seen Cut By New GOP Congress

By JIM H. BRADY
WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—In his annual message to Congress on the budget, at the weekend, President Truman estimated that admission tax revenue in 1947-48 will drop to $215,000,000, from an estimated $362,000,000 for the year ending next June 30.

The President's anticipated admission tax returns for next year are described as being conservative because he has (Continued on page 4)

Allied Going Ahead With Plans for Producing Features

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Allied States plans to go ahead with plans to contract for the independent production of 12-film features for exhibition by its membership.

Plans being worked out by Irving Dollinger of New Jersey, Allied production committee chairman, will be submitted to the board of directors at a meeting here on Jan. 31.

Abram E. Myers, board chairman, disclosed that Dollinger has asked for two hours of the board's time in which to discuss production plans. A contract will be negotiated with a new producer for 12 films, guaranteeing their exhibition. Several have been (Continued on page 7)

Television Solving Its Many Problems

Television is solving many of its industrial problems and the film industry may expect some "aust competition" in a few years, the Commerce Department predicted here today in a report on industrial trends and prospects for the year ahead.

"Television is not expected to become a threat to motion pictures in 1947, but many major television problems have been solved and competition (Continued on page 7)

MPA Official Hits State Dep't Film

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Taking sharp issue with Assistant Secretary of State William Benton's exposition of a government film program before the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations last Thursday, Joyce O'Hara, assistant to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, said there could be no meeting of industry and government minds on the subject.

O'Hara's statements were interpreted here as heralding a break between the organized industry and the (Continued on page 7)

Longer Playing Films Popular

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—There is a trend toward longer playing films in Hollywood, according to a Commerce Department analysis today of industrial trends. The industry is due for another great year, according to Government experts.

Theatre receipts will hold pretty well to the levels of 1946, the Department said.

Commenting on 16mm. films, the Department predicted that 16mm. theatres will be built in communities where no regular theatres exist.

Predicting an increase in the number of theatres, the Department said that thousands of small communities exist which are expected to support 16mm. theatres.

Visual education will get a boost in 1947, the Government said, pointing out that many firms actively engaged in the commercial film fields are entering the business of producing educational pictures.

COURT ASKED FOR DELAY ON BIDDING

Two Years Sought for Termination of Pools; Arguments on Jan. 22

By TOM LOY and GENE ARNEEL

Postponement of competitive bidding until 90 days after a final judgment is entered in the industry anti-trust suit upon mandate of the U. S. Supreme Court, provided the case is appealed to the high tribunal, was sought by the defendants through motions filed Friday in New York Federal District Court. Judges H. N. Hand, Henry W. Goldard and John Bright have agreed to hold a Jan. 22 hearing on this request and several others made along with it.

Columbia, going a step beyond the other defendants, with which it joined in seeking the bidding postponement, asks a stay, for the same length of time, of the prohibition against single sales (Continued on page 4)

Calls Decree Hypodermic

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 10.—While the final decree in the New York equity suit has "several points beneficial to independent exhibitors," according to Benjamin Berger, president of Nork Central Allied, the decree as a whole, he holds, is "only a temporary hypodermic without complete divestiture."

"Peace in this industry," Berger opines, "can be established only when the producer-distributors, who now control an overwhelming majority of key theatres in the U. S., will be com-

French Have Still to Declare a New Decree

Although official notice on the extent to which the French will press their newly-promulgated restrictions against U. S. films in that country has yet to be given, actually the edict, which was to be made effective Jan. 1, has not been applied. According to foreign market officials here who are in close contact with Paris, this gives rise to the expectation that the decree will not be too serious in effect.

On Dec. 26 the French circularized notice that an old ordinance would be revived dictating that U. S. films of more than two years in age may not be exhibited and that new pictures would have to pass through three government departments before dubbing visas could be obtained. This was viewed somewhat alarmingly by the industry here which immediately termed it a direct violation of the Blum-Byrnes film accord which, it was said, superseded the old law.

Meanwhile the U. S. State Department is said to be continuing its investigation of the overall situation.

Plans Advance for Skouras Appeal

Further plans for the industry's forthcoming appeal to adopt starving Greek war orphans through the Greek War Relief Association, in honor of Spyros P. Skouras, were forwarded a luncheon-meeting held here Friday in the Hotel Astor. Present were the heads of the advertising-publicity departments of distributors, all of whom pledged their (Continued on page 4)
Personal Mention

ERIC A. JOHNSTON, Motion Picture Association president, will arrive here from San Francisco on Wednesday.

Ed Hinchey, head of Warner's publicity department, who spent the latter part of last week in Philadelphia and Washington, will leave here tomorrow for Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

Ben Mayer of Rathraff and Ryan, advertising agency, has been elected treasurer of the Medias Men’s Association of New York.

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will attend the M.P.T.O. of St. Louis meeting in that city Jan. 20.

Frank McGuire, Paramount home office manager, has left for the advertising department, in Rockville Center, Long Island, for an operation.


John P. Byrne, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, is on a junket in Buffalo, Albany, Boston and New Haven.

Edward Schellhorn, Paramount studio foreign department executive, has returned to Hollywood from here.

Stanley Shuford, Paramount advertising manager, has left here for a two-week vacation in the West Indies.

Armand Deutsch, president of Story Productions, left here for the Coast at the weekend.

Harry Koster, Eastern representative for Edward Small, is in Hollywood from New York.

Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer for Loew’s, will return here today from St. Louis.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. Robinson are expected here today from Hollywood.

Smith Effects New Para. Field Policy

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 12.—Paramount’s new policy of conducting operations from the field has been put into effect by George A. Smith, western division sales manager, who is to supervise field operations for his territory from Los Angeles. Hereford fore Smith, who arrived here last week to set up his headquarters, had his office in New York.

Smith has installed Hugh Braly, former Denver district manager, as his assistant district manager, and will have supervision over Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Denver and also will represent the company in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho and Montana.

Tradeaw... By SHERWIN KANE

Without results of that paper that went into the New York Federal court clerk’s file last old year went out have been 10 days of dissatisfaction and indecision—a dissipation and indecision over what to be done about it.

In the 10 days practically nothing else has been discussed around home offices and, to all appearances, the endless discussions are traversing a circular route and getting nowhere. At least, there’s no urgency about the thing at question, conclusions and decisions. March 1 is quite a spell away and an appeal then will provide another breath.

Besides the first man under the wire with his appeal is a sucker. It will be up to him to pay for the printed record of the case, and any other case to put to the Supreme Court. The cost of that record will not be insignificant.

There isn’t much to report as of the first five days of the decree are clogging every home office waste basket. Even the shoe-shine man in the Godfrey Building who figures his daily ministrations to executive footgear has heard nothing but decree talk since December 31, to an analysis of his own to show it. It begins: “It won’t work, so why should you?”

We do not subscribe to any such defeatist attitude. Our own recommendation is to turn the industry over to the Attorney General’s office and the Federal jurists at once and let them try to handle it under their own rules.

And let them be tried, and sentenced by motion picture people willing to change places with them.

From his high position among moral leaders of the world, Pope Pius XI, in an address last week made remarkable freedom of the screen, linking it with freedom of the press. While interpreting the concept of individual freedom, he expressed his opinion that freedom could be harmful to a community if it lacked moral restraint.

“Freedom genuine freedom would not be served,” he said, “while licentiousness would become legal, if the press and motion pictures were permitted to go into the infant stages of the life of a people.”

This is in accord with the views held by responsible persons everywhere, in and out of the industry. It is implicit in the industry’s Production Code, which recognizes freedom of expression in motion pictures within those limits which stop short of violation of public morality.

Fully aware of how unpopular with motion picture exhibitors and industry leaders for whatever cause it is a source of satisfaction to many in the industry that so much theatrical activity is involved to aid the 1947 March of Dimes campaign solely out of a keen and proper sense of public responsibility.

To those, as we have known, no exhibitor organization is spurning or even encouraging its members to take part in this campaign, no national organization like the motion picture industry is doing anything in spite of the fact that the March of Dimes campaign has been supported financially by hundreds of theaters.

But thousands of theaters will be in here pitching, as always, when the Dimes drive opens tomorrow.

In the humble estimation of this department they are the salt of the industry, and the cream, too.

Many New York exhibitors have been heard to say that they would participate in the drive and make collections except that the by-laws of the Motion Picture Traffic Organization prohibit members from doing so. To those within that group who are sincere: Take another look at your organizing by-laws. You will find that if enough you send written requests to your executive director, Gen. Rodney Smith, an exception can be made.

Get busy and write!}

Newsreel Parade

GEN. MARSHALL, ex-Secretary of War, Gen. Eisenhowen and Private First Class Puckshick, King Figure in current newscasts. Also spotlighted are fire in Wexhannen, N. J., New York Botanical Gardens, Stamford, Conn; skiing, golf and other sports; news from Palestine and sundry other items; complete editions follow.


NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 27—General Eisenhowen in Florida. A Palestine bright spot, $6,000,000 fire awakens interest in Hadassah. “Gil” fire in Tokyo. Ski-jumping tournament.


Altec Meeting in Detroit, Jan. 15-17

Altec’s annual meeting of district and branch managers will be held at the Book-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit, Wednesday through Friday. G. L. Carrington, president, who is now en route from Hollywood, will preside. Also en route from Hollywood are A. A. Ward, vice-president of Altec Lansing and Ed Grigibly, Western sales representative for both Altec Service and Altec Lansing.

Going from Altec headquarters in New York, Alston H. Morin, vice-president, E. Z. Walters, comptroller; P. F. Thomas, treasurer; E. O. Wilchuck, operation supervisor; E. S. Seelye, chief engineer; M. Berend, commercial engineer; Bert Sanford, theatrical sales manager; H. S. Morris, eastern representative for Altec Lansing.

Altec district offices will be represented by H. B. Moog, district manager, and N. L. Mower, branch manager, from Atlanta; L. H. Hackin, district manager, and K. D. Fairbanks, branch manager, from New York; R. C. Gray and O. E. Maxwell, branch managers, Chicago; W. Conner, district manager, and J. B. Hiltunen, branch manager, from Cincinnati; F. C. Dickley, district manager, J. I. Mather, branch manager, from Detroit; C. J. Zern, district manager, and G. E. Wiltse, branch manager, New York.
THIS MAIN TITLE IS WINNING TOP MOTION PICTURE HONORS FOR 1946!

N. Y. Times' "Ten Best Pictures of the Year" hails 'STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN,' 'HENRY V' and 'BRIEF ENCOUNTER' among the 1946 winners with Bosley Crowther awarding 'STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN,' "the highest recommendation of any film of the year!"

The National Board of Review of Motion Pictures announces its choice of 'HENRY V' as the best film of 1946—and rates 'BRIEF ENCOUNTER' high on its list of the year's ten best films!

The N. Y. Critics Circle honors Laurence Olivier as "the year's best male performer" for his role in 'HENRY V'; and Celia Johnson as the "best female performer" for 'BRIEF ENCOUNTER'!

Film Daily poll of motion picture critics selects 'HENRY V' as one of the ten best pictures of the year!

Time Magazine lauds 'HENRY V' and 'BRIEF ENCOUNTER' in its choice of 1946's top motion pictures! The N. Y. Newspaper Guild awards Laurence Olivier the crown for the best motion picture performance of 1946 in 'HENRY V'!

Rose Pelswick, N. Y. Journal-American, picks 'HENRY V' and 'BRIEF ENCOUNTER' in her list of the year's ten top films! Archer Winsten, N. Y. Post, hails 'STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN,' 'BRIEF ENCOUNTER,' 'HENRY V' and 'DEAD OF NIGHT,' four out of ten in his choice of 1946's best ten!

...and still more to come!

NO OTHER PRODUCING ORGANIZATION IN THE INDUSTRY CAN CLAIM SUCH UNANIMOUS RECOGNITION!
Court Asked

(Continued on page 4)

contained in the final decree handed down by the court on Dec. 31. At present, both provisions are scheduled to become effective on July 1.

The motion filed on Friday by the theatre-owning defendants—Paramount, Loew's, RKO, Warners and 20th Century-Fox—also asks an allowance of two years in which to dissolve pooling agreements made by any of themselves "with others not parties to this action," and a similar period for terminating theatre leases existing between any of themselves and independent exhibitors.

Likewise asked by the theatre owners is an amendment to the court's judgment so that a defendant might be permitted to expand his films in order "to protect its investments, or in order to enter a competitive field, to such defendant shall avail to the satisfaction of the court . . . that such acquisition will not unduly restrain competition." Reasonable notice of the intention to make any such acquisition would be served upon the government, which would have an opportunity to be heard in the matter, the motion proposes.

Universal Joins Plea

Universal, which joins in the request for a stay of competitive bidding, also asks modification of the ban on franchise deals, allowing such deals to be made with independent exhibitors, whom it argues, would thus be provided with sufficient product to compete with other showmen.

One conclusion of the law reached by the court should be modified, the theatre-owning defendants contend, asking that, as exhibitors, they be found in violation of the Sherman Act by "conspiring with the distributor defendants to receive discriminatory license privileges," rather than, in the court's present language, by "conspiring with the distributor defendants to discriminate against independent competitors in fixing minimum admission price, run, clearance and other license terms." This change is sought because of an alleged conflict between two of the court's final conclusions and because the opinion handed down by the bench on June 11 held that "nothing therein contained should be construed as indicating that the distributor defendants" were "conspiring with respect to price, run, clearances and minimum admission prices.

Supporting their motion for the competitive-bidding stay, the defendants point out that this method for "is very different from that now in operation" and "is strongly opposed by organizations of independent exhibitors who do not wish to intervene." If the ruling should go into effect on July 1 and then be modified or subjected to the same changes that were made to the motion for further changes in the method of licensing features would be necessary with further disruption to the normal business of the exhibitors, petitioners add.

Suggestion Supported

The defendants' suggested modification of the ban on theatre expansion is supported by a suggestion from the court's June 11 opinion, which, they point out, held that the motion for modification provision applies to partial interests (between five per cent and 95 per cent) "shall not prevent a defendant from acquiring theatres or operating therein in excess of the existing arrangements, or in order to enter a competitive field. . . ."

The two-year stay in terminating pooling agreements and theatre leases between defendants and independents is suggested in light of the court's failure to set a special time for compliance with that provision of its final decree. "While the defendants will act diligently to comply," their brief sets forth, "the task of dissolving pools with independents, involving, as they do, many hundreds and troublesome part􏰂ties to this action, is an involved and complicated one in some instances, and must necessarily be prolonged in dissolving them. Moreover, many of the pooled theatres have been operated for a long time by a defendant, and the termination of the pools will require the owners to make other arrangements for the operation of their theatres, which cannot be done in the time allowed by the decree," the argument concludes. The decree, in general, runs for three years to September 1, 1947, and the New York court has ruled.

Motions made by all defendants except United Artists were in the hands of the court clerk on Friday, U.S., which dispatched its motion directly to the judges, is understood to join with the other defendants in their request.

Excise Levy

(Continued from page 1)

been advised that the Repub􏰂lican Congress does not intend to follow his recommendation to retain the wartime excise levies, including the 20 per cent tax on admissions as well as a $14,000,000 is expected in ad􏰂mission tax revenue alone.

If the Republican Congress should decide to carry the tax into the next qu􏰂rter and keep the wartime levies, an entirely different picture would be expected in income from admissions. However, in his budget speech President Truman "assumed" that the Congress would not carry out his recommendations. An increase of the present higher excise levies.

Only a limited sum was requested for film and advertising publica􏰂tions, with most appropriation requests for film and other information services being classified under general expenditures. A breakdown of these fund requests will be made in appropriations committee hearings.

 Provision Made

Provision for a proposed business center for many industries was included in the budget. The cen􏰂sus will cost an estimated $10,150,000. State Department funds were raised by levying the states and business firms. The Commercial Policy Division is now being continued, and its work is expected to continue untouched. Cultural relations with Latin American and the United States Office of Education.

The Office of Government Reports, where the motion picture division is located, will be able to raise $109,000. The Congress has to continue it. Funds for the OGR during this fiscal year were $22,450. The increase to the backlog of unregistered patents at the Com􏰂merce Department, President Truman asked, will allow the states to provide more money for the U. S. Patent Office.

An increase in the Agriculture Department is requested. If the President's recommenda􏰂tion is accepted, Agriculture would receive $1,962,057, which is $22,100 more than the amount estimated by the U.S. Agricultural Committee, at which the new details of the budget message for the year will be $80, to be contributed by the industry, plus $40 which the Greek Government will contribute.

At the conclusion of Friday's meeting, Fabian announced that there would be another meeting to-morrow, at which director and exhibitor representatives will be present and additional committees will be appointed. According to Fabian, a nationwide organization will be established to bring the appeal directly to everyone. The next meeting of the advisory committee will be held on Friday, at which time a definite program will be discussed.

Although the dates of the drive are from Feb. 15 through March 15, present plans call for immediate action in order to get the drive underway as soon as possible.

Present at Friday's meeting were: Ved H. N. Appel, Robert J. Fabian, R. C. McCormick, Harry Buckley, Charles Schlaifer, Leon Bamberger, Sam Mason, Kinzirer, Ed Solomon, H. Van Reek, Max Youngstein, Hank Linet, Sam Rosen, Al Fabian, Jr., Don Gillett, Phil Laufer, Ray Sayer, George Plunkett, Joseph Stahl and Stirling Shillpant.

Skouras Drive

(Continued from page 1)

complete cooperation and the aid of their entire departments to Benjamin H. Serkowich, Columbia, and S. Barrett Murch, RKO Radio, co-chairman of the publicity committee for the drive.

The purpose of the meeting, outside of discussing the drive, was to make plans for the campaign whereby the drive would be directed most effectively to the entire industry, all members of which are being asked to participate.

Both Fabian and Depinet stressed the fact that this is to be entirely an industry matter, and that the public will not be asked to participate. "Purpose of the drive is to raise, within the industry, $1,200,000 for the support for one year, of at least 15,000 Greek orphans."

Arrangements have already been made with the Greek government, through Greek War Relief, for further funds which will be used exclusively for life-saving aid, and rehabilitation of the Greek children who have been orphaned. The money will be raised by the Greek War Relief, in cooperation with the welfare department of the Greekl.
Current orders for the new Motion Picture Almanac from every state in the Union and from England, Egypt, Sweden, Argentina, South Africa, Italy, China, Mexico reflect the worldwide acceptance of the big book of the motion picture industry.

Price $3.25 in United States
Elsewhere $5.00
Zukors Are Hailed On Golden Wedding

The Adolph Zukors on Friday night celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a dinner in the Savoy Plaza Hotel, here, in company with family members and intimate friends. The 350 guests, wires, cables and letters of congratulation received has been growing well into the thousands. Among the guests were Rudolph and Mrs. Zukor, Zukor's secretary and members of the family literally had their hands full reading the messages.

Practically every important figure in the film business here and abroad has sent congratulatory messages. Many wires are from industry organizations, from exhibitors all over the world, and from foreign as well as American civic officials.


Rank Apologizes to Barred Film Critic

Paul Holt, columnist of The London Daily Express, has received a personal apology from Arthur Rank, who had earlier became the owner of one of Rank's companies banned Holt from a preview last Monday, according to press dispatches received here.

The film section of the critics circle had written to Otto Bolle, London representative of 20th-Fox, that first time.” Bolle did not appear to criticize the “Radio Edge.” While Bolle did not appear to the production of the American film, he apologized because of his ownership of the theatre concerned.

Campbell to Resign Chase Bank Post

H. Donald Campbell, one-time member of 20th-Century-Fox’s board of directors, will resign from his post as chairman of the Chase National Bank after the annual meeting of shareholders on Jan. 28, according to a statement from the company. Campbell was very active in the Chase Bank's original participation in the purchase of the bank, and was named as director of the bank, member of the executive committee and chairman of the board's trust committee.

'Madeleine' Into Roxy

The Louis de Rochemont production, "13 Rue Madeleine," on which H. Donald Campbell has been president of the Board of Directors since 1927, will complete an eight-week run at the Roxy.

RKO Now Owns 31 Exchange Outlets

Hollywood, Jan. 12.—Producers RKO Radio Pictures have acquired the San Francisco franchise from Sam Sobel, Harry H. Thomas, PRC president, announced here at the week. The purchase, the company now only two exchanges of 100 per cent exchange ownership, with Lloyd V. Anderson as manager of Seattles PRC franchise. PRC's only remaining franchise.

Under the San Francisco acquisition, PRC will have a district manager for the Far West territory, and Ralph Clark, formerly of United Artists, will become branch manager of the San Francisco exchange.

On Friday, a testimonial luncheon was given Sobel and Clark by the company at San Francisco's Fairmont Hotel. The affair was attended by theatre and circuit exhibitors of the area.

20th-Fox Art Exhibit Will Last Two Weeks

The nine original paintings, em- bedded in the film "Motion Picture Advertising" and arranged by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, here, in cooperation with 20th Century-Fox, will be open to public examination during the next two weeks, 20th-Fox reports.

The exhibit is attracting widespread interest, according to H. V. Weltner, director of the Museum. Following a private preview of the exhibit last Tuesday the show was opened to the public and art students and others have been streaming into the American Wing to inspect the paintings by Norman Rockwell, Thomas Hart Benton, Robert Cooper, Benney, Douglas Crockett, Ben Stahl, Roy Speyer and Marcel Vertes. Charles Sliafer, 20th-Fox producing director, and Jayne collaborated in arranging the display.

Agnew in Hollywood For Selznick Talks

Neil F. Agnew, president of the Selznick Releasing Organization, is due in Hollywood today for confer- ence with David O. Selznick. Among the subjects to be discussed are a sales policy for "Duel in the Sun," first release of the new organization, which is being exhibited on the Coast at three theatres on a two-day basis.

The scarcity of Technicolor prints, due to a heavy schedule at the laboratories as a result of the jurisdictional dispute, and the recent lack of Studio Union, are holding up exhibition of the production in other cities.

Donald A. Henderson Named G P U Director

Donald A. Henderson, treasurer of the Public Utilities Congress, has been elected a director of the General Public Utilities Corp., it has been announced by GPU president A. F. Ten Eyck.

Henderson is also a director of 20th-Fox and the P. Lorillard Co.
Production in Good Start; 7 New Films
Hollywood, Jan. 13.—Production is off to a good start, with seven new films facing tomorrow and right going on in the studios. The shooting index falls at 42; the production scene follows:

Columbia

M-G-M

Monogram
Started: "Land of the Lawless," with Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Christina McIntyre, June Harrison; "Panic," with Leo Gorcey and the Bowery Boys.

Farnam

PRC
Finished: "All in the Game," "Phil Vance's Peril" (formerly "Phil Vance No. 3").

RKO Radio

Republic
Finished: "Shoot to Kill." 20th Century-Fox

United Artists
Started: "Body and Soul" (Enterprice), with John Garfield, Lilli Palmer, Hannel Brooks, Canada Lee, William Conrad. Shooting: "Heaven Only Knows" (Ripol), "Saratoga" (Deacon), "Vendetta" (California), "The Other Love" (Enterprise).

Universal-International
Finished: "The Egg and I." Says Box Offices Maintaining Pace
The expected post-holiday slump in the amusement business has failed to materialize, according to Robert Mochrie. RKO Radio vice-president and general sales manager, is of box-office records of some of his company's current releases as the basis of his conclusion.

Mersey Leaving to Join UNO Group
WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 10.—Arch Mersey, chief of the picture division of the Office of Government Reports, will leave Government service to accept a position as information officer in the United Nations Economic Organization of the United Nations Organization, it was learned here today.

A longtime Government film man, Mersey will be with the UNO for only six months, after which he plans to settle in Washington and enter private business. His new position as information officer for the health organization is "strictly temporary," it was learned.

Mersey will be replaced by Dallas Halwes, who has been serving as his assistant. Halwes was a major in the infantry during the war, and served as a film consultant to the bureau of public relations of the War Department.

End 4-Day Parley on Alexander Policies
COLORADO SPRINGS, Jan. 12—Field officials of Alexander Film Co. have concluded a four-day meeting at the home office in Colorado Springs to discuss plans and business promotion for 1947. The post-war expansion program of the foremost of the motion picture companies, cooperative sales, production prices and availability, new color lines and other pertinent matters, which was involved during 1946, will be carried forward in 1947. A luncheon for visiting wires was held and the conference closed with a banquet at the Acacia Hotel.

Woods Heads WB Dallas Office
Don Woods, formerly branch manager for Warner Brothers in Milwaukee, has been promoted by Ben Kalmenon, president and general sales manager, to manage the Dallas office, which is now part of the territory under the supervision of Norman Ayers, Southern division sales manager. Woods will take over his new post immediately, succeeding J. W. Loewe, who resigned.

A successor in the Milwaukee branch management will be named by Kalmenon in a few days.

MPA Official
(Continued from page 1)
State Department's communications division and, perhaps, as influencing later action by the Republican Congress on appropriations for Benton's cultural films program, a program which has won strong Republican support in any event. The American people fear the type of culture which Benton proposes to spread abroad," O'Hara said.

"It has been a universal experience that synthetic culture propaganda, such as he favors, has always ended in failure or something worse. The American tradition of free expression is based on the postulate that no government bureaucracy, even one as wise as Mr. Benton, is wise enough to impose his own notions of what constitutes American culture on the great media of free expression," he said.

O'Hara remarked that Benton would do far better if he followed the traditional policy of his own State Department in opening up world channels of news and information instead of trying to remake patterns of American culture. O'Hara was referring to the constructive work of the Department's George Canty.

O'Hara's comments were held to be the first industry rebuttal to what has amounted to apparent efforts on the part of State Department theorists to "remake the industry and dictate production policies." Benton has not been alone in his criticism of films and the industry. Several of his associates in the Department are equally critical.

Allied to Produce
(Continued from page 1)
considered by Allied to handle the production job, Myers asserted. He added that no decision has been reached as to who will be given the contract.

At the coming board meeting, Myers plans to include recommendations on admission tax problems, decree proposals, and a summary of the year's activities.

Myers expressed the belief that production of films by Allied will be "a great assistance to its membership, and will be able to help the industry and distribute their product. The company's policy is to develop a market for films that can be readied by Allied," Myers stated.

Pointing to the serious product shortage, Myers said that exhibitors are forced to take "everything and anything" that comes along. Allied's production plans will place exhibitors in a position to do "some real trading," Myers concluded.

Calls Decree a 'Hypo'
(Continued from page 1)
plately divorced from owning these theaters.
NCA will continue its "unceasing fight for divestiture," Berger said. Ownership of key theatres, he maintained, gives the producer-distributors "a strangle-hold on this industry, and, above all, an iron grip on the exhibition end of the business." This circumstance, he said, "destroys free enterprise, which is inconsistent with our form of Government.
NCA, Berger warned, will make every effort to secure divestiture through legislation "if relief will not be accomplished through the courts."

Television
(Continued from page 1)
can be expected in a few years," the department said.
There will be about 250,000 television sets on the market at the end of this year, depending on correct production factors, the department said.

Viewing television equipment prospects, the department said: "Distribution of the sets will be limited by the areas having television coverage—presently, only six cities.

The Government added, however, that 38 additional stations have been authorized by the FCC and will be in operation soon.

Wash of 'IA' Backs 'Dimes' Theatre Drive
Richard F. Walsh, president of IATSE, has sent a telegram to motion picture circuit executives expressing support of the motion picture projectionists for the "March of Dimes" drive and calling for the cooperation of every theatre owner with the motion picture division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in scheduling telethon collections at every performance from Jan. 24-30.

"Portrait" Talent Hunt
Monogram and the Austin Portrait Studios have launched "Portrait to Fame" talent search, with first prize a contract for a minimum of one picture, plus transportation to Hollywood. Second prize is a $250 victory bond, and 30 additional bond prizes are offered. Contest, which covers California and Utah, ends April 30.

$1.06¼ Columbia Div.
Columbia Pictures' board of directors has declared a quarterly dividend of $1.06¼ per share on $4.25 cumulative preferred stock, payable on Feb. 15, to stockholders of record on Feb. 1.
Q. What advertising media provides greatest point-of-contact EYE-CUE for patrons?

A. Talking TRAILERS, on the SCREEN... providing a Sample of the picture they will see; through the use of live scenes and showman-like selling...AND...colorful ACCESSORIES, in LOBBY and FRONT, to arrest attention with eye-appealing art and picture-selling display!

Q. How can patrons be reached and sold, through "away-from-theatre" advertising?

A. Through the use of colorful 1 sheet, 3 sheet, 6 sheet and 24 sheet Lithographs for posting...Window Cards...and Heralds.

Q. What firm offers ALL of these services, through a single source, and backs them up with a reputation for proven dependability?

A. NATIONAL SCREEN SERVICE provides ALL of these services from 31 exchanges, located in every important exchange center in the United States. Over a quarter-of-a-century of SERVICE to satisfied exhibitors attests to The PRIZE BABY's craftsmanship and knowledge of exhibitors' requirements.

The PRIZE BABY is YOUR answer to Box Office EYE-CUE!
Admissions in Canada to Be De-Controlled

Ceilings to Go on War Emergency Measure

OTTAWA, Jan. 13.—The Canadian Government momentarily will formally announce immediate abolishment of wartime ceilings on admissions for all theatres in the Dominion, it is officially stated in Ottawa.

The long-awaited step actually comes upon a proposal because no immediate action was contemplated.

There is as yet no word regarding any move toward any change in the excise tax of 20 per cent on theatre grosses. This subject would have to be introduced at the next session of Parliament, which opens Jan. 30. Falling food prices in the United States (Continued on page 3)

Majors File Appeal
In Goldsmith Suit

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 13.—An appeal has been filed in U. S. District Court here by Stanley-Warner and distributors against the recent decree in which William Goldman won $375,000 damages, plus $60,000 fee for his trial suit involving the Erlanger Theatre.


May Face Selznick
Issues at UA Meet

United Artists’ board of directors is scheduled to meet here today with problems growing out of the company’s controversy with David O. Selznick expected to come up for discussion and possible action.

Prominent among matters remaining to be settled, it is understood, is whether or not UA will go ahead with its original plans for instituting legal action against Selznick for alleged breach of his distribution contract or shall present its charges as cross-claims in the suit Selznick filed (Continued on page 6)

J.R. Grainger Names
Walton, Titus and O’Gara Sales Heads

Edward L. Walton, Walter L. Titus, Jr., and James V. O’Gara yesterday were named new division managers of Republic Pictures, in a realignment of domestic sales and distribution into three divisions, Western, Eastern and Eastern, announced by executive vice-president and general sales manager James R. Grainger. The executives will continue to make their headquarters at the home office.

The move was prompted, Grainger stated, by the increased scope of Republic sales and distribution, highlighted by its added concentration on top-bracket product, reflected in current schedules and future production plans.

In addition to his present duties, Walton, vice-president assumes personal supervision of sales and distribution in the Western division, consisting of the Midwestern, Prairie, and Pacific Coast districts. His territory includes the Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis branches, headed by district sales manager Will Bakker, the St. Louis, Des Moines, Kansas City, St. Paul and Detroit offices.

French Lift Decree
On American Films

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Disagreement over the dubbing of American films has been settled, George Carty, State Department film consultant, announced here tonight.

The French agreed, as a result of conferences in Paris, to eliminate the new regulation requiring that U. S. pictures must be approved by three different government departments before dubbing. Hereafter, the only government unit which must approve the dubbing is the film commission. Under the new, but discontinued regulation, or in the circuit’s operating policy, Leonard Goldenson, vice-president (Continued on page 6)

Broidy on Decree:
‘Await Application’

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 13.—The industry should await practical application of the decree handed down in the New York equity suit before passing judgment on its merits, Steve Broidy (Continued on page 6)

Connors is Leader
For Greek Relief

Distributor participation in the current industry appeal to adopt Greek relief plans in honor of Spyros Sounias, got under way yesterday with the election of Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president, in charge of sales, to the chairmanship (Continued on page 3)

End of Building Controls Shortly

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Of considerable interest to film exhibition, President Truman in his budget message to Congress, at the weekend, asserted that the Office of Temporary controls will be “eliminated as soon as possible.” The OTC now handles requests for theatre and other construction.

French Is Successor
To John J. Friedl

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 13.—John J. Friedl today resigned as president of Minnesota Amusement Co.’s 97 theatres in Minnesota, the Dakotas and Wisconsin, and has been succeeded by Harry B. French, assistant to Friedl since 1942.

The realignment becomes effective at once, and French stated today that there will be no change in personnel among executives, department heads, or in the circuit’s operating policy, Leonard Goldenson, vice-president (Continued on page 3)

Cheyfitz, Ex-CIO Aide, in MPA Post

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Working quietly behind the scenes at the Motion Picture Association office here for the past year has been Eric Johnstone, executive assistant, Edward Cheyfitz, who served for five years as national chairman of the Interna-

Defense Seen Hesitating to Bring Appeal

But Cross-Claims to US Move Would Be Filed

A growing doubt that the defense will initiate any appeal of the industry anti-trust suit was being expressed in motion picture legal circles here yesterday, based on information sifting out of closed sessions held last week after a drop in five theatre-owning distribution companies.

Efforts to obtain comment from counsel for the companies brought forth statements ranging from that of Louis Phillips of Paramount, who said no decision had been reached as yet, to that of Robert Perkins of (Continued on page 6)

20th Field Meet on Decree in February

Tom J. Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, is planning to call together his key sales personnel throughout the country early in February for a meeting on marketing problems arising out of the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, a spokesman for the company said here yesterday. The conference will be held in a centrally-located city (Continued on page 3)

Goldwyn Denies
A Selznick Deal

CHICAGO, Jan. 13.—Samuel Goldwyn at a press conference here today, denied reports that he might join forces with David O. Selznick in setting up their own distribution organization. He told Motion Picture Daily that there is no possibility of his making any deal with Selznick.

Asked whether he would re-sign (Continued on page 5)

In This Issue

“Sinned, the Sailor,” is reviewed on page 8; key city grosses are given on the same page.
**Coming Events**

**Today**—Testimonial for C. Elmer McCormick, President, B.P.O.E., at the Astor, 8 P.M.

**Today Through Thursday**—Construction Materials Exposition, Public Auditorium, Cleveland.


Jan. 24—Meeting of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Atlantic Coast Section, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, 8 P.M.

Jan. 25—Meeting of the Nat. Assn. of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois Motion Picture Theatre Owners in St. Louis.

Jan. 26—Western Pennsylvania Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners annual convention, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh.

Jan. 26—Meeting of Society of Motion Picture Engineers Board of governors meeting, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Jan. 26-28—Meeting of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, Charlotte.

Jan. 27—Mid-winter meeting of the TATSE executive board begins in Savannah, Ga.

Jan. 31—Annual Allied board meeting, Statler Hotel, Washington.


**Johnston Extends Arizona Visit**

Cancelling earlier plans, Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, will remain in Phoenix, Arizona, until Friday, before going to Hollywood for his visit. He is scheduled to leave Hollywood next Sunday for New York.

Oscar Johnston, who had planned to be in Hollywood yesterday and in San Francisco today, leaving tomorrow for New York.

**Century Personnel Switch**

Irving Wigean, assistant general manager of Century Circuit’s Avalon Theatre, here, has been transferred to the Marine, in the same capacity, in a post switch with Samuel Tifford, the Avalon’s assistant manager, who now goes to the Marine as his capacity. It is announced by J. R. Springer, Century’s general theatre manager.

**Rename Memphis Censors**

MEMPHIS, Jan. 13.—The local board of censors was re-elected by the city commission today, for another one year. Members are: Lloyd T. Binford, retired insurance man, chairman; Hodges Hornell, attorney, and Mrs. Sid Law, housewife.

**Personal Mention**

HAL HORNE, chairman of the board of Story Productions, has left here for the Coast.

JAMES CAGNEY has arrived in the East from Hollywood and is a house guest of William Saroyan at Millneck, L. I.

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warners, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, have left here for Boston.

ROBERT DISNEY, president of Walt Disney Productions, is here from the Coast.

SAMUEL GODWYN has returned to Hollywood from New York and London.

HARRY SHERMAN, Cincinnati M-G-M salesman, has returned to that city from New York.

HARRY PAUL, branch manager of Wil-Kin Theatre Supply at Atlanta, has returned there from Jacksonville.

ARTHUR ZEULICH, Minneapolis M-G-M office manager, has returned there from New York and Detroit.

LOU LEVY, president of Leeds Music Co., has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK, who produced Fitzpatrick Travel Talks for M-G-M, is here from the Coast.

**MacNamara to Coast After Eastern Talks**

Paul MacNamara, national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for the Selznick Releasing Organization, has left New York for Hollywood after interviewing a number of candidates for the post of Eastern advertising-publicity director, which was filled by the resignation of Sidney G. Alexander last month. No successor has yet been named as a replacement.

Meanwhile, Milton Kusell, general sales manager, has left here for Chicago, where he will confer with A. Leon, Southeastern division manager, and Sam Horowitz, Midwest division manager, on plans for the new company’s establishment in those areas.

**Allied Board Will Meet Here Tomorrow**

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold its annual board of directors meeting at the Hotel Astor, tomorrow, at one P.M.

Jan. 28, a state-wide legislative meeting will be held at the Statler Hotel, Trenton, where the organization will be host to many of the New Jersey state officials, state senators and assemblymen as well.

Edward Lachman, president of this organization, will preside over both meetings.

**Producers Seek Dismissal of Suit**

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—The Association of Motion Picture Producers has filed a motion in U. S. District Court for dismissal of the suit brought a month ago against producers, the CSU, the ACU, and 50 of the carpenters charging conspiracy to prevent them from working in studios. The AMPP motion contends the matter properly should go first to the XLRB, with an appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals if petitioners are dissatisfied with a ruling.

**New Pathé Laboratory**

A reception will be held here Friday afternoon, to observe the opening of Pathé’s new laboratory building.

GEORGE HAAG, manager of Century’s Franklin Theatre, and his wife are the parents of a son.

BETTY HUTTON, Paramount star, will be presented with a sentimental memento tomorrow evening by the Beverly Hills Post, American Legion, for her work as an entertainer during the war.

PERRY SPENCER, Southern publicity director for Universal, has left Atlanta for Memphis, New Orleans and Miami.

FRANK CAPRA, producer-director, is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow from Hollywood.

HAROLD RAIVES, Schine Ohio zone manager, is attending a meeting in Gloversville, N. Y.

GEORGE SHAFER of the M-G-M legal department, has returned to New York from Louisville.

A. A. SCHURHET, manager of exchange operations for RKO-Radio, left here yesterday for Pittsburgh.

SAM SHERTZER, vice-president of Shertzer International, will leave here Jan. 15 for France.

GLADD’S ZUCKER, and ROSE LASHER of M-G-M’s home office, are leaving here Friday for Miami.

DONALD NELSON has left the Coast for Washington.

**Stephens Is Named To W. B. Field Post**

RICHARD STEPHENS, formerly field public relations representative for Warners in Upstate and Western New York, has been appointed Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, to handle the West Coast territory, with headquarters in San Francisco. He succeeds Tom Gorman, who resigned recently due to his health.

With his new appointment, the departure for the coast this week, his former territory will be added to that of Art Moger, New England field representative, working out of Boston.

**Tender...brimming with human warmth**—WALTER WICHEL

**The BEST Years of Our Lives**

Continues ARISTAR 45th St.

Darryl Zanuck’s

W. SORROW MAUGHAM’S

The Razor’s Edge

20th Century-Fox

and GREAT SING-ALONG

ROXY

7th Ave. 5th St.

**“CALIFORNIA” IN TECHNOCOLOR**

A Paramount Picture Starring

RAY BARRY DARRIL MILLAND STANWYCK FITZGERALD

RIVALY THEATRE

Doors Open 9:30 A.M.

**MURDER IN REVERSE**

(All Our Children Reunion)

“Ingenious... Stirring”

Attn Cook, N. Y. World Telegram

RIALTO THEATER

32nd Street and Broadway

**“PARIS” IN TECHNIRAMA**

A Universal International Picture

RADIATION CENTER

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY

With 13 BIG STARS

In Technicolor - An M-G-M Picture

SPETACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ANOTHER BIG TREASURE

**MOTION PICTURE DAILY**

Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherelyn Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor, Publisher, Daily edition, except Saturdays. Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1370 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-1100. Cable address, “Quigpubco., New York.” Copyright, 1947, by Martin Quigley. Reprinted with permission. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10¢.
NSS to Distribute Trailer for ‘Dimes’

National Screen Service will again this year handle distribution of the March of Dimes trailer that is to be shown in theatres throughout the country Jan. 24-31. The 1942 trailer, approximately 330 feet in length, is entitled "A Step Forward." Greer Garson, Claire Trevor, and other accessories for the March of Dimes drive of the motion picture division will be serviced directly to theatres through the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. These include two styles of one sheets, window cards, other display material, mats, collection boxes and baskets.

Meanwhile it was announced yesterday that collections will be made in two additional circuits, Comerford, Public Theatre Corp. and Kallet Theatres. McCallum Theatre Circuit, Hoopston, Ill., and the Community Circuit Theatres, Cleveland, recently made it known that it also would collect for the drive.

Several new prizes were added yesterday for the March of Dimes exhibitors' contests.

American Broadcasting Sets March 1 for Initial


Starting at six A.M., and continuing until midnight, "Hollywood's Ribbon of Dimes" will move along the Boulevard and Vine Street to Hollywood Boulevard and Vine and back and forth between these two points until a full mile has been covered.

French Lift Decree

(Continued from page 1)

tion, all U. S. dubbed films had to pass through the finance and national industry departments. The French did not completely agree with the industry representatives on the new requirement that a film more than two years old must not be dubbed. However, it was agreed that that regulation would still be the present back-log of American product in that country has been exhausted. Conferences resulting in the elimination of the new French film barriers were held on Jan. 10, Caity disclosed. The situation arose because the French placed two new, restrictive rulings on dubbed films, causing the U. S. Motion Picture Association grave concern.

Doris Blumberg to Be Married Today

Hollywood, Jan. 13.—Doris J. Blumberg, daughter of Nate Blumberg, (Continued from page 1) will be married to Stanley Meyers, son of Fred Meyers, labor relations executive for the 20th Century-Fox studio, at the Bemberg hotel in Van Nuys tomorrow. Immediately after the ceremony the couple will leave for New York to begin their honeymoon on the Queen Elizabeth on Jan. 18. The wedding will be attended by numerous industry executives from New York and here.

Decree Meet

(Continued from page 1)

with a check-up now being made to select a spot where hotel accommodation can be obtained.

Proceeding with caution in making sales-policy changes in light of competition, distributors and exhibitors ordered by the decree, Connors has been sounding out his home-office staff to determine what they would like to see. Connors also desires to consult his field men, especially on what they have heard with regard to exhibitor reactions and expectations in their territories.

Meanwhile, although some companies are said to be instituting competitive bidding even in advance of the July 1 date set for it by the New York Federal District Court, Connors is following, tentatively, the plan of awaiting possible final determination of that issue in the New York Supreme Court, but is carrying on informal negotiations with every exhibitor in every territory who seeks to show the company's product.

Among problems expected to be tackled at the field meeting is that already created by section 10 of the decree, which prohibits a distributor from "arbitrarily refusing the demand of an exhibitor to permit at a feature to him for exhibition on a run selected by the exhibitor," while the preceding section, page two, bidding leaves the distributor a certain latitude in selecting theatres suitable for its films and it's stated that two competing bids is the higher.

Cheyfitz in MPA Post

(Continued from page 1)

tional Minc, Mill and Smelter Workers of the CIO, is recognized as an expert in labor-management relations, having been in that field for 10 years. Before becoming associated with the CIO, he was connected with the Doehler-Jarvis Corp. of Toledo.

Cheyfitz is a friend of Conners. Cheyfitz is a book of author by currently on the presses at McGraw-Hill, entitled "Constructive Collective Bargaining." His previous work on labor-management relations, Cheyfitz is primarily concerned in the MPA organization with the job of providing a genuine liaison between the United States Steel Corp., New York and Washington offices. He is the general manager of the office here, and the title of executive assistant to Johnston.

Cheyfitz has been mentioned as a possible Johnston choice for the Coast Job of labor relations man.

Connors Heads Relief

(Continued from page 1)

of an industry-wide distributors committee. The appeal will operate with the Greek War Relief Association, an independent body.

The committee elected to function under Connors' leadership consists of A. Mongeau, Columbus; Ed Schutz, Ed Hung, United Artists; Henderson M. Richen, M-G-M; E. T. Gonsoulin, Consolidated; J. R. Montague, Universal; Edward Walton, Republic; Lloyd Lind, PRC; Peter Levathes, 20th Century-Fox. The committee met yesterday's meeting were Ned Depinet, co-chairman with Si Fabian and Jack Cohn of the industry's executive committee, financial co-chairman with S. Barret McCormick; Robert E. Coyle, of the American Theatres Association; and Sam Shain and Leo Blumberg.

Goldwyn

(Continued from page 1)

with RKO following the expiration of the present releasing pact on June 1, Goldwyn said he did not know now. Goldwyn, accompanied by his wife, was en route to Hollywood after a trip to the East. He was host to Chicago newspaper critics and trade paper men at a luncheon at the Ambassador Hotel. Fon and guest were Edward Silverman and Emil Steiger heads of the local Essences Circuit.

Goldwyn said he thought subsequent run exhibitors should charge at the price as initial first-run houses. "The production cost is the same whether a picture is exhibited at a first run or a second run. There will be no reduction in price simply because a film is played a little later," Goldwyn said. Goldwyn also told the newsmen that he thought within five years 95 per cent of all films made would be in color. He said that instead of three or four by color films, a process would be devised whereby only one print would be necessary.

Goldwyn also said that twodimensional films would be making their appearance within five years. He said that the twodimensional process was invented several years back and he was highly impressed with its possibilities.

French Succeeds

(Continued from page 1)

of Paramount, with which Minnesota Amusement is affiliated, arrived in Minneapolis from New York yesterday to accept the Friedel resignation and install French in the post, which he held several months while Friedel was inactive on his doctor's orders following an operation.

French, who came to Minneapolis in 1932 when the circuit was in reorganization, will retire from show business and move to his citrus grove in Texas. French who recently retired from the Government for his work while Northwest chairman of the War Activities Committee and for his efforts with the local and WAC committees on bond drives.

French started in show business in Virginia, Minn., in 1912, when he combined his theatres with the old Finkelstein and Ruben circuit in 1923 and became Southern Minnesota district manager, being elevated to Southern district manager in 1929 when Public came into control of the circuit.

Canada Ceilings

(Continued from page 1)

States are believed to have been a factor in the decontrol action.

Famous Players to Hold To Present Admissions

TORONTO, Jan. 13.—Famous Players Canadian plans to continue present admission scales following the lifting of ceilings by the government, J. Fitzgibbon, president, said here today. The movement to increase the price was not this the proper time to raise prices, he said.

Famous Players also said that any increases found to be necessary in the future would be minor. "The majority of people depend upon motion pictures for their amusement and we shall continue to give it to them at minimum cost," he declared. He said that theatre prices in Canada are the lowest in the world.

Names... in Today's News

WALTON C. AMENT, vice-president and editor of RKO Pathe News, has been named vice-president and general manager, by Frederic Ullman, president of RKO Pathe Inc. Ulman at the same time promoted Allyn Butterfield from his post as assistant editor to Ament's former chief editorship. Butterfield also has been in charge of publicity and advertising and will retain general supervision with Stichter.

Phil Reisman, Jr., writer of Pathe's "This I America" series, was named to the new post of editorial manager of the company, in charge of "America series," short subject, documentaries, and short subjects, including commercials. Ulman will devote more time to broadening the management duties with Ament supervising all news, documentary and commercial film operations.

Skouras Is Film Chairman Of 'Brotherhood Week'

Syracuse, Jan. 13.—Russ Skouras, president of 20th-Century-Fox, has been named chairman of the motion picture division of the annual "American Brotherhood Week" program which is to be fostered by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The week will begin on Feb. 16. Skouras has asked industry executives to join him at a meeting at the St. Moritz Hotel here tomorrow to discuss plans for the campaign.

Mesher Becomes Hanrick Circuit General Manager

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 13.—M. M. Mesher has been advanced from assistant manager to general manager of the Hanrick Evergreen Oregon and south Washington theatres, succeeding the late Albert J. Flinker. A graduate of the University of Washington, Mesher formerly had been 20th Century-Fox, Seattle. Recently he was elected to the Portland board of censors.

Fadiman Leaves Metro's Culver City Studio

Hollywood, Jan. 13.—William J. Fadiman, former director of the public relations department, is now assistant director of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's studio.

Formerly Eastern story editor for M-G-M, he was elevated to Coast story head in June, 1942, and prior to his Metro association he was Eastern story chief for Samuel Goldwyn.

Speaking for the Odem circuits, Manager C. J. Appel said slight increases would be made in 10 of the circuit's 106 theatres because they had been operated for some time at a loss.
Top Money for 'Edge' In 6 Weeks At Roxy

New York—The Darryl F. Zanuck production of "The Razor's Edge" wound up its sixth week at the Roxy Theatre with a total gross figure never previously equalled in any theatre.

It Plays 20th Century-Fox!

It Plays "RUE MADELEINE" • "THE LATE GEORGE APLEY" • "CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA" In Technicolor
Motion Picture Daily

Tuesday, January 14, 1947

Grainger Names 3

(Continued from page 1)

Grainger, and Omaha branches, headed
by district sales manager Nat E. Steinberg; and the Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver, Portland, Salt Lake City and Seattle offices, headed by district sales manager Earl Collins. Thus, vice-president formerly in charge of branch operations, joins the sales organization, assuming sales super-

vision of the Southern division, covering the Southern and South-
western sales districts. His territory includes Atlanta, Charlotte, New Or-
leans, and Tampa, headed by district sales manager Merritt Davis, and Dallas, Memphis, and Oklahoma City in the Southwestern district, headed by Norman J. Colquhoun.

O'Gara, formerly executive assist-
ent to Grainger, has been appointed Eastern division manager, his terri-
tory including the Eastern, New En-
 gland, and Central districts. He will cover New York, Philadelphia, and
Washington branches, headed by dis-

tric sales manager Maxwell Gilis; the Boston, Albany, Buffalo and New
Haven branches, headed by district sales manager Frank Dervin, and the
Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, and
Pittsburgh branches, headed by dis-

tric sales manager Sam Seplovich.

Gallup Will Be Host

Hollywood, Jan. 13.—The executive
board of the Screen Publicists
Guild will be the guests of George
Gallup, president of Audience Re-
search Institute at a dinner-meeting
on Wednesday evening to hear a first-
hand exposition of ARI views on the
importance of publicity men in con-

nection with promotion of pictures.

Take Stand Against
Dividend Taxation

Washington, Jan. 13.—The Small Business Advisory Com-
mittee of the Commerce De-
partment declared in a report
here today that income from stock dividends should not be tax-

ed. The group pointed out
double taxation exists in that
corporate earnings and per-

sonal income on dividends are

 taxed.

Selznick Issues

(Continued from page 1)

against the company in Federal Dis-

trict Court in Los Angeles, Dec. 20, Selznick, asking $7,500,000 damages,
charged UA with the “mishandling of his productions, including the sale of weaker product of other producers on the strength of Selznick’s picture.”

Although the law firm of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Sunderland and
Kendall was retained by UA prior to the Selznick suit to determine the
course of possible action against the producer and was later asked to
handle the defense of the suit brought against the company, a spokesman for the Davis office said such a defense
will be up to UA counsel on the

point. It is, presumably, would in-
clude the handling of cross-claims, al-
though they might be prepared here.

New Chicago Contract

CHICAGO, Jan. 13.—The Film
Chauvriers Union today signed a con-
tract with Film Truck Service at an
hourly wage scale of $1.72.

Broidy on Decree

(Continued from page 1)

president of Monogram, said here yester-
day following the final session of a day-day meeting of Monogram fran-

chise holders and franchise holders

on the sales saloon at the Coronado Hotel, here. Broidy, Edray Morey, Norton Rayfield, and Jack Schlaifer, Arthur Greenblatt and other company executives who attend-

ed the meeting have left here for Los

Angeles where they are due to arrive
tomorrow.

Broidy also said he regarded the so-
call industry-fair proposal, presented
by Fred Wrenchberg as a “fine idea,” but said such a project requires sacrifice on the part of many. Arbitration of problems within the industry is ex-

cellent, he added, but warned that par-

ticipants must be prepared to make
certificates when demanded for peace-

ful settlement of problems. “Everyone

wants to retain profits,” he said sig-
nificantly.

Sales Policy Discussed

The principal feature of the Monog-

gram meeting was discussion of sales

policy to be applied to "It Happened Here." Edrey Wrenchberg, head of the meeting from the field included Nat Dickman, branch manager, Albany; Field Cohen, manager, and

Harry O'Gara, executive manager, New York; Ben Abrams, manager, Boston; Har-

ry Berkson, franchise holder, Buffalo; Ben Eisenberg, manager, and

managing circuit, Chicago; William Ovitz, franchise holder, Cin-

cinet; Nat Forst, manager, and

franchise holder, Cleveland; Lloyd Rust, franchise holder, and Ed Blumenthal, manager, and The Chicago Express, Chicago; Harold Wardwell, manager, and

Mandel, franchise holder, Chicago;

William Ovitz, franchise holder, Cin-

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CSU Appeals for World-wide Aid

Hollywood, Jan. 13.—In appeals to world-wide government principals for "international action" in their support, the Conference of Studio Unions and Film Technicians Local No. 683 (IATSE), charge that because Hollywood is in the spotlight of world attention the most reactionary interests in America are trying to ship Hollywood labor struggles into a precedent and pattern for a general union-smashing campaign, and this is why employers refuse to sign contracts or negotiate with Hollywood film workers.

Cables to all countries also asked that the appeal be put on a mass basis, that is, urging that people of France, England, Scandinavia, India, Australia, Mexico and South America boycott films made here under conditions described as "anti-labor, terrorism" and "unfair to long-established American unions."

A statement by the CSU asserted that the "labor situation in the American film capital is the spearhead of a drive by monopoly interests to crush legitimate trade unions and replace them with company unions or open shops."

Music Publication Polls on Film Scores

Musical Courier is sponsoring a poll to award annual citations for the "best film music" coming under the following categories: best original score, best arranged score, best conducted score, best orchestration, best original song, best instrumental solo, best choreography, and best musical short subject. The magazine's subscribers will vote. The poll will close on April 15.

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PCCITO Trustees To Consider Decree

Hollywood, Jan. 13. — PCCITO trustees will meet Jan. 22-23 in the Bonita Hotel, Portland, to consider the Government decree, executive secretary Robert Poole said. Other topics on the agenda include state and city admission taxes, existing distributor sales policies, checking system government films and clearance and run on the Pacific Coast. Also attending the meeting for the first time will be representatives from Utah, Southern Idaho and Montana. A statement on their attitude toward the decree will follow the meeting.

Allied's Don Swartz Enters Poster Field

Minneapolis, Jan. 13.—Don Swartz, who recently resigned as executive secretary of North Central Allied, has purchased the Independent Poster Exchange, here, from M. J. Lipp of Chicago and has signed a contract to discharge Truck trailers in the Minneapolis zone.

Swartz will retain Kelly Evidon as manager of the concern and Marty Braverman as sales manager.

White Collar Tax To Ask $15, or 30%

The United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, parent union of the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local No. 109, and the Screen Publicists Guild, Local No. 114, has pledged a fight for wage increases of 30 per cent, or $15 a week, whichever is greater, to restore "white collar" living standards to 1939 levels, as a result of a general executive board and "extraordinary policy" conference held here.

Other phases of the collective bargaining policy drafted are: a $35 minimum for a 35-hour week for beginning clerical jobs of the lowest skill; special occupational and professional minimums and "appropriate" salary scales and job classification systems for all salaried employees.

The meetings also drew up a legislative program and, in addition, mapped a resolution on stepping up the tempo of unionization, including a provision for "stimulation and coordination of organization nationally."

Tulsa Withholds Tax

Tulsa, Okla., Jan. 13.—Despite the preparation of a bill to tax local theather, action has been held in abeyance because of the united front of exhibitors and their submission of an alternative plan for raising money by the city. The city admittedly is sorely in need of funds, but exhibitor spokesmen hope that an admission tax has been dropped permanently.

Warner and Yates In Stock Deals

Philadelphia, Jan. 13.—The Securities and Exchange Commission's latest report reveals that Albert Warner, vice-president of Warner Brothers has presented 2,900 shares of Warner common to Jewish charities with 2,000 shares going to the United Jewish Appeal and 900 to the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York. According to current market prices the 2,900 shares are worth about $47,000. Warner now holds 426,100 shares.

The SEC report also discloses that Herbert J. Yates, Republican president, acquired 6,100 shares of Republic Pictures, bringing his total to 33,000 shares. Omsrad, Inc., a holding company, reported possession 86,950 shares, the Autosan Realty Corp. reported 14,685 shares.

Stephen Callahan, New York acquired 200 shares of Paramount company, Henry Ginsberg sold 500 shares, and William H. and John D. Ginsberg reported holding 200 shares. Abraham Schneider disposed of 260 shares of Columbia Pictures, holding 12,974 and A. Montague reported holding 188 shares of Columbia to charity.

Albert Warner Buys a Film House

Albert Warner, vice-president and treasurer of Warner Bros. Pictures, has purchased an additional 11,900 common shares of the company, the New York Stock Exchange reported.

Here It Comes! As exciting as the great state it glories! In Technicolor
Key City Grosses

**Pittsburgh**

Three holdovers are doing good business here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 16:

- **MY DARLING CLEMENTINE** (20th-Fox) — FULTON (2,446) (45c-50c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $13,000. (Average: $1,857).

- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE** (20th-Fox) — HARRIS (2,150) (45c-50c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $13,000. (Average: $1,857).

- **BLUE SKIES** (Para.) — PENN (4,400) (45c-50c-75c-85c) 7 days, Gross: $23,000. (Average: $3,286).

- **THE MAN I LOVE** (WB) — RITZ (1,400) (35c-45c-55c-65c) 3rd week, Gross: $21,000. (Average: $7,000).

- **SUSPICION** (RKO Radio) — GREENE (3,000) (45c-50c-75c-85c) 7 days, Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,571).

- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL** (RKO) — GRAND (7,800) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,429).

- **SINBAD, THE SAILOR** (RKO) — RKO (1,000) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000).

- **THE SISTER'S SECRET** (PRC) — WARNER (2,000) (45c-50c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $8,500. (Average: $1,214).

**Kansas City**

- **TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY** (M-G-M) — LOWE'S (35c-45c-55c-65c) 7 days, Gross: $13,000. (Average: $1,857).

- **SEVEN DAYS IN MAY** (20th-Fox) — RKO GRAND (2,000) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, night show, Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714).

- **THE WICKED LADY** (U-K) — KENT (1,500) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000).

- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL** (RKO) — LYRIC (1,600) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 3rd week, Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,571).

- **THE BALEFUL EYE** (RKO) — EDGEWATER (3,000) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,429).

- **THE JOLSON STORY** (Col.) — HIPPODROME (1,000) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, weekend, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,143).

- **THE PLAINS MAN AND THE LADY** (Rep.) — MAYFAIR (1,000) (35c-55c-65c) 7 days, Gross: $5,000. (Average: $714).

**Cincinnati**

- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL** (RKO) — KALAMAZOO (1,500) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,143).

**Chicago**

- **ER CHINATOWN** (PRC) — RKO FAMILY (1,000) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,571).

- **THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM** (20th-Fox) — RKO GRAND (1,500) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, night show, Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714).

- **THE WICKED LADY** (U-K) — KENT (1,500) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000).

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**Atlanta**

- **BUSINESS** Business has been good only in spots. The week's business has been light. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 16:

- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL** (Fox) — FOX (4,800) (55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,429).

- **THE PLAINS MAN AND THE LADY** (RKO) — KALAMAZOO (1,500) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,143).

- **TARGET HOUSE** (PRC) and **WILD GIRL** (RKO FAMILY) (1,000) (35c-45c-55c-65c-75c) 4 days, Gross: $1,000. (Average: $250).

- **LET IT CRIME** (PRC) and I COV...
Names ... in Today's News

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, has been named national chairman of the motion picture division in the nationwide $17,000,000 campaign of the 1947 United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine, by Henry Morganthau, J., general chairman of the UJA. Balaban said that key leaders on all coasts are being invited to serve with him on a national committee to mobilize the industry for the relief, resettlement and reconstruction of Europe's 1,500,000 destitute Jewish survivors.

Marcus Is Promoted to Manager in Milwaukee

Nat Marcus, formerly a salesman, has been named manager of Warner Bros. branch manager at the Milwaukee exchange succeeding Don Woods, who was promoted to manager in Dallas. Kenneth Barringer, WB distribution vice-president, announced here yesterday. Marcus joined Warners five years ago as a salesman in the Pittsburgh office. He was transferred to the Milwaukee sales staff in Sept., 1944.

Kenneth MacKenna in New Post at M-G-M's Studio

Hollywood, Jan. 14. — Kenneth MacKenna, veteran actor, director and writer, was named today as associate head of Voldemar Vethun, story head at M-G-M's Culver City studio.

NYC Admission Tax is 'Out' for 1947

A motion picture theatre admissions tax will not be levied by the City of New York in 1947, notwithstanding city comptroller Lazarus Joseph's recent statement indicating that the city must provide $40,000,000 this year over current budgetary expenses, and that there will be an increase in the city's real estate tax rate unless additional state aid is forthcoming, the comptroller's office discloses.

Propose End of Quota for Distributors

By Petergorithms

London, Jan. 14. — Complete abolition of the British quota as it applies to distributors is recommended by the British Film Producers' Association, which today made known a complete recommended program for a new quota law to take the place of the existing one, which expires in 1948.

The BFPA, thereby, becomes the first trade association in the country to issue a memorandum for a new quota and submit it to the British Board of Trade.

The second principal BFPA recommendation would have the exhibitors' (Continued on page 7)

Marx on UA Board

Succeeding Agnew

Henry M. Marx, New York attorney, yesterday was elected to the board of United Artists to fill the vacancy created by the recent resignation of Neil F. Agnew.

Marx is associated with the law office of Milton Kramer, attorney for David O. Selznick. The election took (Continued on page 6)

Color, High-Budget Films for Monogram

Expansion of product, in the face of higher production costs and the limitations of facilities, is the keynote of Monogram's "most ambitious" production schedule charted for the fiscal year ending June 30, according to Steve Brody, president, who outlined yesterday a program which would continue the output of low-budget pictures and also take Monogram into the high-budget field.

With Roy Del Ruth's $1,300,000 (Continued on page 6)

Quigley Addresses Boston Institute

Boston, Jan. 14. — Martin Quigley today addressed the Boston Institute of Religious and Social Studies at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences on the subject "The Movies as Entertainment." The address was in a series under the general title, "Communication of Ideas." Talcott (Continued on page 7)

Solon Would Abolish Top-Salary Notices

Washington, Jan. 14. — Income payments to persons in the above $75,000 per year salary bracket should not be made public by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Congresswoman Norris Poolon of Los Angeles said here. The California lawmaker asserted that if income reports of one segment of the population are made public, then all reports should be published.

Poolon said she plans to see a revision in the law which requires the Treasury to publish income reports above $75,000.

CSA Meeting On Appeal

Executive committee of the Confederation of Southern Associations will meet in St. Augustine, Fla., early next month to decide on a possible appeal to the Supreme Court from the New York Federal District Court's denial of the CSA's intervention petition in the industry anti-trust suit, according to George B. Brooks of the law firm of Jackson, Nash, Brophy, Barringer and Brooks, local counsel for the exhibitor organization.

CSA sought to intervene in the New York suit for the purpose of opposing competitive film bidding, as did the (Continued on page 7)

GOP Decides To Retain Excise Levies

Admission, Other Levies To Run Another Year

By Jim H. Brady

Washington, Jan. 14. — In a complete reversal of its original intention, the Republican majority in Congress has agreed to keep the wartime 20 per cent theatre admission tax and the other wartime excise levies, in effect for one year beyond their July 1 expiration date. The so-called peacetime admission tax was 10 per cent.

President Truman has recommended that the excise levies resulting from the war be continued beyond July 1, but he did not specify for how long. Congressional legislation will be required to continue the taxes.

After looking over tax prospects for the coming fiscal year, GOP leaders now contend that the first (Continued on page 6)

Wehrenberg Canvasses Film Heads Here on M.P. Forum

The views of distribution company executives and other on the proposed Motion Picture Forum were solicited here yesterday by Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, and Herman Levy, general counsel, preparatory to the meeting of the MPTOA board of directors in St. Louis next Tuesday at which plans for the Forum will be discussed.

Wehrenberg reported that in addition to ascertaining the attitude of key distribution executives toward the Forum, he also had requested their opinions on whether the proposed organization should be established immediately or should be held in abeyance pending possible appeals to the U. S. Supreme Court, and their de- (Continued on page 6)
Personal Mention

STANTON GRIFFIS, chairman of the Paramount executive committee, has been nominated by Gov. Dewey of New York to fill a five-year term as a trustee of Cornell University.

ARTHUR KIM, Eagle-Lion president, who has been attending meetings of Pathé Industries, E-L parent company, here, will return to Los Angeles tonight.

RICHARD F. WALSH, IATSE international representative, will be in New York for Detroit; he will return on Friday.

LESTER COLEMAN, assistant to George E. Smith, Paramount Western division sales manager, will leave here for Los Angeles tomorrow.

RAY MUSRAY, Columbia trade press representative, here, is on the sick list.

GERALD MAYER, director of the Motion Picture Association's international division, will return to New York from Hollywood at the end of the week.

GEORGE D. BURROWS, Monogram executive vice-president and treasurer, has left New York for Hollywood.

ARTHUR LOWE will leave Hollywood today for New York.

WILLIAM F. ROGERS, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, will return here next week from Miami.

Miss Tillman Moved Up at Film Classics

Jeanette Tillman, executive secretary to Eugene Aronstam, secretary, and George F. C. Hassler, Classics, has been promoted to head the purchasing department, where she will also be in charge of the transportation and accounts receivable department for Film Classics' branches. She will take over her duties this week.

Coffey C. Covington's Miss Moskowitz, formerly with Loew's, was elevated to Miss Tillman's former position.

Dismiss Copyright Suit

Supreme Court Justice Kenneth O'Brien in New York has granted the motion of Louis D. Prohlich, counsel for ASCAP, to dismiss the action of Perry Bradford against the Society. Bradford, president of the Union of Southern Music and ASCAP for $6,000,000,000, charging copyright infringement of 39 songs.

Levy Lobbies for MPTO

HARTFORD, Jan. 14—Herren M. Levy of New Haven, MPTO general counsel, has returned from a trip paid for by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut, at the 1947 session of the Connecticut General Assembly, at the State Capitol here.

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‘Dimes’ Campaign Will Begin Today

The March of Dimes, America's annual contribution to the elimination of infantile paralysis, starts today throughout the nation. Because of the March of 1946 production goals, the March of Dimes will be presented on a pilot basis in any year since the inception of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. President O'Connor, president of the Foundation, has set a high goal of $24,000,000, which will continue through Jan. 30.

The motion picture division will be carried on the air on Jan. 24, when thousands of theaters throughout the country will hold audience collections at every performance. The drive in theaters will also be broadcast.

Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division, announced yesterday the following goals: New York and more than 300 independent theaters joined the drive yesterday, among them being Prisms Theatre, Chicago; R. D. Goldberg Theatres, Omaha; Hunts Theatres, Inc., New Jersey; Ralph E. Snider Theatre Enterprises, University, Iowa. Sunbeam, Sunny-Maple Theatres, California.

Truman and Screen Stars on 'Dimes' Broadcast

President Harry S. Truman will deliver a special address from Wash. when stars of some 500 radio stations will make personal appearances during a special broadcast to be presented in cooperation with the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, on Thursday, Jan. 30, over the Yankee-Multistations.

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Bateman to Conduct SGP Sales Parleys

F. A. Bateman, general sales manager of the Screen Guild Productions, will preside over a series of company sales conferences in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Philadelphia. Bateman will travel to these conferences.

Bateman is due to arrive here Jan. 20, where he will attend sales conferences with Robert L. Lippert, distributor of Screen Guild; William Pizor, foreign department head, and Nat Beler, general representative, as well as representatives of the Chicago meeting, which is due to get underway Jan. 20, and the others shortly thereafter.

Cohn Flies Today to Two S.A. Conventions

Jack Cohn, Columbia's executive vice-president, will leave New York by plane today to attend two conferences in Buenos Aires and Montevideo. Cohn will visit Buenos Aires and Montevideo, where he is due back in New York about Feb. 1.

Butterfield Promotion

Alfred C. Butterfield has been named sales manager for Pathe News by Fred Yeakle, president, of Butterfield News, as mentioned yesterday.

Al Wilkie Resigns From Paramount

Al Wilkie, Paramount publicity manager here for the past 17 years, has resigned, effective on Friday, and will announce a new affiliation upon his return from a vacation in Florida. Wilkie's resignation as Paramount's manager is expected to be named next week, according to Curtis Mitchell, Paramount's national director of advertising.

Before coming to New York to take his present duties, Wilkie had been associated in Hollywood with old Famous Players-Lasky studio and the original Goldwyn studio in Culver City. He also served as publicity director for Samuel Goldwyn Productions on the Coast.

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Story Production's 1st Through U. A.

Negotiations between Story Productions and United Artists have concluded with a contract now being prepared by release of "This Side of Innocence," signed by Armand S. Deutsch and Hal Horne for Story Productions and United Artists, by Hal Harty, president, for United Artists.

Horne will produce the picture from a script now being prepared by Leonardo Bericovitz, based on the Taylor Caldwell novel. With Horne and Deutsch currently negotiating for talent, present plans call for production to start in early spring.

Maas Due Tomorrow

On Cunard Liner

Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association, returning from a 3-week tour of the European countries and territories in Europe, is due in New York tomorrow when the Queen Elizabeth docks.

Also on board are Frank Felley, Paramount executive; John Gieduld, actor and Katina Paxinou, actress, of United Artists; and Anthony Quinn, of CBS. The entire staff of Justice executive is also understood to be among the passengers.

Doris Blumberg's Weds

Hollywood, Jan. 14—Doris Jean Blumberg, daughter Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Blumberg, and Stanley Meyer, son Mr. and Mrs. Fred Meyer, were married today at Blum-berg estate, with 400 guests in attendance. Rabbi Sidney Goldstein officiated at a double ring ceremony.

ATS Meets Today

The next meeting of the American Television Society will be held at the Hotel Barbizon-Plaza here tonight at 8 when Robert Belanger, who received the Television Broadcast Association award for the "Quiz and Critics" program, "Dance in Television."

Research Program Launched by AMPM

Hollywood, Jan. 14—Directors of the Association of Motion Picture Producers have appropriated $150,000 to launch an all-industry research program, first announced when Byron Price joined the MPA. The board also elected Leo Spitz a member. The Universal-International representative is Cliff Work, resigned.

PRC 6 Months Ahead

Hollywood, Jan. 14—With 20 pictures completed or editing, PRC is six months ahead of 1947 production. President Harry H. Thomas announced.

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Motion Picture Daily Weekly, January 15, 1947
NEW MUSIC HALL RECORD

M-G-M's "TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"
TECHNICOLOR


Takes the edge off all past box-office marks by doing the biggest week's business of any theatre, anywhere at any time! Also rolled up biggest 4-week total in Music Hall history!

NEW CAPITOL, N.Y. RECORD

M-G-M's "THE SECRET HEART"

Claudette Colbert, Walter Pidgeon, June Allyson

It has set a new all-time high, the biggest week's business in the 27-year history of the Capitol Theatre.

THE BIG ONES COME FROM M-G-M
(TBOCFMGM)

March of Dimes—Jan. 24-30
**B. & K. Great States Hold 2-Day Meeting**

**By HAL TATE**

CHICAGO, Jan. 14.—With John Balaban, who is both secretary and treasurer of B. and K., as well as of Great States Theatre, and Henry C. Stickleman, recently raised to division manager of Northern Illinois and Toledo, for Great States, alternating as chairmen, the Great States circuit today concluded a two-day meeting at the Palmer House with 46 city managers from Illinois, Indiana and Toledo present.

Another top executive here for the meeting was David C. Wallenstein, recently promoted to division manager of the circuit's Houses in Central and Southern Illinois, as well as continuing his post as supervisor over Indiana theatres.

Other speakers included Maurice M. Rubens, who discussed advertising, exploitation, accident and fire prevention, legislation and theatre care; A. L. Trelow, purchasing agent; R. P. Burns, in charge of sound; Claude B. Rubens, in charge of maintenance for Great States; Elmer C. Upton, assistant secretary and treasurer for both circuits, who discussed insurance; C. L. Brundahl, controller, whose topic was payrolls and budget reports; Morris G. Leonard, who spoke on labor and legislation; Arthur Golding, who discussed the national Government decree; Ray Carsky, in charge of merchandising, who discussed confection lobby sales; John Dromey, in charge of booking and buying for Great States.

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**Goldwyn Gives $50,000**

A gift of $50,000 by Samuel Goldwyn from the proceeds of his "The Best Years of Our Lives" was announced here yesterday at campaign headquarters of the New York University-Bellevue Medical Center Fund.

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**Distributors Shape Minneapolis Case**

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 14. — Although answers have not yet been filed by defendants in the $3,000,000 anti-trust suit brought by Ben Berger's Duluth Theatre Corp. and the Lyceum Building Corp., filed recently in District Court, Minneapolis, talk of distributor agents indicates the film company defense will be based heavily on the contention that Berger was sold the run which he asked for the Lyceum.

"Berger never asked for any other run than the one he bought for the Lyceum," is the substance of the replies to inquiries. They also point out the house was closed for some time after the Minnesota Amusement Co. dropped the stand when its lease ran out, and again, later, when Berger could not get together immediately with the projectionists union on a scale and working conditions for the Lyceum.

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**Bellamy to Red Cross**

Ralph Bellamy has accepted the chairmanship of the theatre division of the American Red Cross 1947 Fund. Bellamy headed the drive last year when the theatre division established a record for Red Cross contributions.

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**Miracle of Bells**

**Heads Lasky Slate**

Jesse L. Lasky, independent producer, has given top priority on his schedule to production of Russell Janes, "The Beautiful Bells," in order to put it before the cameras by April 15. The picture, one of three by Lasky for RKO Radio distribution, is expected to cost about $2,000,000 and will be released at Christmas time.

Explaining that he has stepped up his schedule in order to cash in on public interest, Lasky declared here that producers have always bought out on properties which have captured public interest because top-selling novels often remain too long on the shelves while letting public interest lag. Therefore, he added, he postponed further operations on "Intermission" until July.

Lasky, who is scheduled to leave here tomorrow for Hollywood, also revealed that a nationwide talent search for an "unknown" to play the top female role of the novel will be held soon. Fred MacMurray has been engaged for the press agent characterization, he continued, and he said that Lasky and other RKO producers are now at work on the scenario.

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**5 Mexican Houses Shut Over City Tax**

**MEXICO CITY, Jan. 14.** — A shutdown of five theatres in Torreon in protest against a special tax of 10 per cent imposed by the municipal government, has received expressions of support from the entire Mexican industry. Exhibitors closed as soon as they were officially informed that the tax would stand.

The striking theatremen, who insist they will remain closed until the tax is lifted, are continuing to pay their employees full wages. Not only theatres, but also distributors, including some of American companies operating here, are feeling the effect of the shut-down.

Threats by the exhibitors' national association to close Mexico's 1,248 theatres in sympathy have not materialized, and it is understood that there will be no national strike. However, the industry has indicated that it intends to do all it can to coax the Torreon government to rescind the tax, in order to discourage other municipalities from instituting similar theatre taxes. Torreon, a wealthy northern city and center of Mexico's largest cotton zone, is one of this country's best theatre towns.

The affected exhibitors estimate the 10 per cent levy, added to other taxes, takes 25 per cent of their grosses.

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**'Best Years' Heads For $55,000 Week**

**By Lasky**

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" grossed $10,000 last Saturday, $8,064 last Sunday, and is heading for close to $55,000 for its eighth week ending tomorrow, at the theatre. The Goldwyn circuit's York reports. The film plays six shows a day and these figures, the company states, surpass previously any previous picture at the theatre, most other pictures having played nine shows daily.

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**2 AAA Tribunals In Award Rulings**

Two awards have been filed by American Arbitration Association tribunals, one in a complaint naming Paramount in which Morris Nuger, operator of the Grand Theatre in Charlotte, who sought to obtain a first-run license for that company's product, and the other a clearance case in Boston, naming M-G-M, 20th-Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO and Warners.

Decision of the arbitrator in the Charlotte complaint held that the complainant was not entitled to the relief sought because the Lincoln Theatre, operated by the Bijou Amusement circuit, "can, has, and will pay a considerably larger price" for first-run Paramount product.

Emphasizing that the consent decree had as its purpose "definite protection to the independent theatre in its bargaining powers, as opposed to the circuit theatre," the arbitrator said, in ruling against the complainant, an independent operator, that he could not conclude, on the other hand, that "the decree lies on the producers and distributors the burden of having to sell their product to an independent theatre at a far less rental than they can get from a circuit theatre." In the Boston case, Latchis Theatres of Keene, N. H., asked for reduction or elimination of the 30 days clearance to which it is subject in favor of the State Operating Co., Manchester, and Colonial Theatres Co., Nashua, on first-run product of five distributing companies. The arbitrator's decision held that contracts between the producers and distributors could provide, henceforth, for maximum clearance of 30 days, "but, in any event, no more than 30 days after territorial release date." He also ruled that no clearance in the form of priority of run should be granted in licenses of those five companies.
Minnesota Family Reunited; All 9 Children Beat Polio

Randall, Minn., Dec. 24 (AP)—The Christmas cup of joy was overflowing today in the Frank Anders household.

Three months ago the nine Anders children were stricken, one by one, by infantile paralysis.

Today all nine were able to gather around the Christmas tree in their small farm home near here—all recovered or nearly recovered from the dread disease.

Eldest Home One Day.

Ronald, 18, the eldest, returned home only yesterday from Gillette State Hospital for Crippled Children in St. Paul. He had been there since shortly after he was stricken Sept. 19.

After he became ill all his brothers and sisters—Jim, 15; Cecilia, 14; Richard, 12; Margaret, 10; Christine, 9; Walter, 7; Robert, 4; and Charles, a year old—were struck down in turn.

All but two spent varying periods in hospitals. Christine, who became expert in the hot pack method of treatment, helped care for her brothers and sisters after her partial recovery.

After the onset of the disease, Anders insisted on paying the bill as long as he was able. But the $400 to which his hospital insurance entitled him was quickly exhausted.

March of Dimes Paid.

At that point the March of Dimes fund for infantile paralysis stepped in and is paying costs of treatment, expected to run to several thousand dollars.

Records of the foundation show that the Anders case is the only one on record in which so many members of a single family have suffered from the disease.
M. P. Forum

(Continued from page 1)
termination, from the New York Fed-
cral court decree.

The M.P. Forum president, who origi-
nated the Forum plan, declined to re-
veal the results of his talks with
company executives in advance of his
report to the MPTOA board next
week but indicated that the reactions
he had obtained were fundamentally
favorable. However, it is believed that
some companies which are par-
ties to the government anti-trust suit
would order not to take an active
part in the proposed organization until
such time as the Supreme Court has
disposed of any appeals which may be
filed in the New York case.

Wehrenberg had stated earlier that
he preferred an immediate start on
the Forum providing other interested
parties were willing. He indicated
yesterday that a final decision on this,
insor as MPTOA was concerned, would
be left to the latter's board at
its St. Louis meeting next week.

Wehrenberg and Levy were in New
York at the St. Louis and New
Haven, respectively, to attend a
lunchon meeting for exhibitor rep-
resentatives of the industry campaign
to "adopt" Greek orphans for one
year, in conjunction with a Greek War
Relief. Wehrenberg said he heartily
approved of the campaign and would
recommend its adoption and support
by the MPTOA board next week.

Washington, Jan. 14—Eric John-
ton, Motion Picture Association
president, who was suggested by Fred
Wehrenberg for moderator of the pro-
posed Motion Picture Forum to hear
and endeavor to solve internal indus-
try problems and grievances, would
be disclaimed to participate in ad-
vance of possible Supreme Court ac-
tion on the New York decree, a
spokesman in Johnston’s office here
told today.

Roth New S.P.G. Head; In-
stallation Tonight

Leon Roth has been elected presi-
dent of the Screen Publishers Guild,
replacing Roger Lewis, and will be
installed, along with other new of-
ficers, at a meeting in the Piccadilly
Hotel here tomorrow afternoon.

Philip Gerard has been named first
vice-president; Ben Wertheim, second
vice-president; Helen Ovyna, secre-
tary, and Herman Silver, treasurer.

Rites for Phil Caplan

Detroit, Jan. 14—Funeral ser-
vice were held here today for Phil Cap-
lan, head of Theatrical Advertising
Co., for 37 years, who died of a heart attack
on Saturday.

Coast Prefabricated House a "Forerunner"

Hollywood, Jan. 14. — De-
scribed by National Theatres
president Charles Skouras as
"the forerunner of hundreds of
such showhouses that will
soon be going up throughout
the world," Long Beach’s
Crest Theatre, the first
pre-fabricated house there
will be opened by the circuit on
Jan. 23 with typical Hollywood
premiere trappings, screen
stars, floodlights, grandstand
seats for the public, etc.

With Henry Kaiser, "we
have taken a great step in
advancement, which will es-
tially gain for this section of
the nation another outstan-
ding recognition in the march
of progress that is Motion
picture construction of the
theatre.

Greek Orphans

(Continued from page 1)

MPTOA: Herman Levy, general
counsel, MPTOA; Robert Coyne,
Associated Theatres Association, and
Harry Brandt, Independent Theatre
Owners Association of New York.

A message from Robert H. Pool
of the Pacific Coast Conference of
Independent theatres, announcing his
tention to co-operate, was read by
Commissioner Lynn C. Gray, of Los
Angeles.

Also attending the luncheon were:
George H. Xanthakos of the National
Theatre Owners Association, Louis
Levy, Ben Sorko-
wich, William Plumett, Philip Har-
ing and Harry Kalmine.

Plans for selection of key-city
committees to make localized contacts
were adopted. In a few days, the in-
dustry's network for complete cover-
age of the nation by personal contact
through salesmen and theatre owners
will be ready. Contributions will be
solicited exclusively from employers
and owners within the industry.

Monogram

(Continued from page 1)

production, "It Happened on Fifth
Avenue," as its first release, the new-
ly-formed Allied Artists Productions
will embark on its designated object
of bringing higher budget pictures
exclusively, he added.

In the 26 weeks ending last Dec-
31, Brody declared, Monogram's for-
eral earnings outstandingly its do-
nestic "take," with the foreign market
accounting for a boost of 130 per cent,
representing a rise of 60 per cent.

As an index to the broadening of
the company’s 1946–1947 schedule,
Brody pointed to the projected 200
per cent increase set for advertising
and promotion, to reach a sum ex-
pected to top $2,000,000. Another in-
dication is that Monogram will ven-
ture into color production, using
cinecolor, he added.

"In no way will we minimize the
number and quality of our B pictures,"
Brody insisted. "In fact," he said,
"if we had ample studio space
we would have more of them than
is now scheduled.

MGM Gets Shanghai’s Roxy as First-Run

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has pur-
chased the Roxy Theatre in Shang-
hai, China, it was announced here
yesterday by Morton A. Spring, vice-
president of Loew’s International
Corp, and in charge of all M-G-M
sales and theatre operations abroad.

Under the direction of Tommy Far-
rell, M-G-M manager for China, it
will be used as a first-run.

GOP to Keep Taxes

(Continued from page 1)
priority of reduction should be given
to income tax rates. After making a
statement to that effect, he said that
the House would try to reduce the tax
rates to the point where it would not
make a 20 per cent income tax cut
and at the same time slash excess
revenue.

It is learned that a resolution will
be introduced, having the support
of the majority party, which would
"freeze" the wartime excise rates un-
til July 1, 1948.

The GOP action is looked upon as
a victory for the President, who
assured last Friday that Congress
would ignore his plea for continuation
of the war rates.

U. A. Board

(Continued from page 1)

place at a meeting of United Artists
directors at the home office at which
the expected discussion of the com-
pany’s growth with Columbia and
Selznick failed to materialize.

The board heard a report by
George E. Bagnall, U. A. presi-
dent, who left for Holl-
wood, on the 22 feature productions
which U. A. has completed or planned
for the current year.

The company’s legal committee
made an interim report on de-
velopments in consequence of the Selz-
nick controversy but the report was de-
scribed as "purely routine.

Mann in Steffes Deal

Minneapolis, Jan. 14—Ted Mann,
operating head of the Kuttman-
Mann circuit in the Twin Cities and
Durand, Wisconsin, has acquired the
interests of George Granstrom, who
last week purchased the World and Alvin
theatres in Minneapolis from the late
W. A. Steffes estate for a price re-
ported in excess of $200,000.

Hurst in Rank Contract

London, Jan. 14—Brian Hurst has
announced here that he is bound by
a contract with J. Arthur Rank for
three terms andCannot be assigned to
the Murrow-Pictaure Daily
last Friday.

Don’t sign ANY trailer contracts until you get full
details of Fimack’s NEW prevue trailer service.
Write Fimack, 1327 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

20th-Fox Has 23 on Tentative Schedule

Twentieth Century-Fox has 23 fea-
tures, four of them reissues, in a new
release schedule for the calendar year.

The title is "One Rue Madeleine,"
"Scene Miss Pilgrim," and two re-
issues, "Les Miserables" and "Stanley
and Livingston;" February, "Boo-
ghetto;" March, "Carmen Jones" and
a reissue of "Alexander's Ragtime
Band;" March, "Carnival in Costa
Rica;" April, "The Ghost and Mrs.
Orlo;" "How Green Was My Valley" (re-
issue); and "The Homestretch"; May,
"The Ghost and Mrs. Mair" and "I
Wander Who's Kissing Her Now;"
June, "Miss Rose" and "It's Only
Hustler;" July, "Bob, Son of Battle;" "Kiss
of Death" and "Nightmare Alley;" Sep-
tember, "Mother Love" and "The Deadly
Perc
October, "Forever Amber;" November,
"Scudia Hol," "Scudia Val," December, "Captain from
Castle.

Wade Nichols Resigns

Resignation of Wade E. Nichols is
announced by Triangle Publications,
Inc. A Triangle editor for over 10
years, Nichols had turned out Screen
Guide and other publications, and for
the last nine months has been preparing
material for projected new magazines,
now deferred indefinitely. The com-
pany suspended Screen Guide, effective
with the March issue.

Meet on RKO Pension

The RKO board of directors held
an adjourned meeting here yesterday
for a discussion of costs, to date, of
making the payment on the pension
plan, according to J. Miller Walker,
secretary.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 14. — The van-
guard of some 60 Variety Club dele-
gates have started arriving here from
various U. S. cities to attend a four-
day meeting during which the first
Variety Club of Mexico will be in-
augurated, at the Hotel Reforma.
Robert J. O’Donnell, general man-
ger of Interstate Theatres, Dallas, and
head of National Variety, leads this
U. S. delegation.

Variety Delegates

(Continued from page 1)
Quota

(Continued from page 1)

quota apply separately to top features and supporting productions. Also, it would have the quota apply not in terms of films but, rather, in number of films released each half-year; it would apply equally to 35mm films and to 16 and eight-millimetre.

The BFTA said that the BFTA’s appeal to the court was presented by the Solicitor General, the BFTA, and the BFTA representatives to the British Cinematograph Council—screen annually six British films in addition to their respective quota totals. The BFTA also asks that under a new law its representation on the BFTA’s Film Council be increased.

Number, Not Footage

Under the proposed quota, the BFTA says there would be a maximum and a minimum number of films to be screened, giving the BFTA authority to determine the actual number to be shown. The half-year—this phase involving its suggestion that the quota apply in no terms other than as a present, but in a total number.

Regarding the organization’s No. 1 recommendation, the BFTA maintained that a distributor’s quota is no longer necessary in view of the improved production and quality of British films. Also, the document is plentifully stated with references to the "large proportion of money paid at British box-offices which has to be converted into dollars to send to America for Hollywood productions, as our people are kept short of food and other necessary goods due to a lack of dollars." Because of their quality. Nevertheless, the legislation is necessary to provide a reasonable protection against excessive imports from America. It is recommended that the new legislation be operative for 10 years, during which it is anticipated British production will increase enormously.

British exhibitors are expected to oppose bitterly the BFTA recommendation that the quota be abolished for distributors, fearing that would place independents entirely at the mercy of the combines.

Mishkin to Assist Pincus at 20th

Meyer Mishkin, who has been associated with the 20th Century-Fox home office talent department for 10 years, yesterday was promoted to executive assistant to Joseph Pincus, head of the Eastern talent division.

Nichols Warns US

On British Films

Hollywood still leads the world in producing the "best" pictures, but the light of Britain’s recent outstanding cinematic accomplishments Hollywood is quick to acknowledge. In the opinion of RKO-Radio producer-writer-director Dudley Nichols, who left New York for the Coast yesterday with a script of "Raining Electra" which received an offer to produce it by George O’Neill’s "Electra" who is currently working on "The Bell of St. Mary’s." Along with praise for Britain’s growing film industry, Nichols had some good words for French production and deplored the language barrier. Hollywood’s big handicap, he said, is sky-high production costs; but, he added, intramural "quarreling over petty matters" and increasing technical problems "also makes things pretty tough." Nichols’ "Electra," which will go before the camera on March 3, will be his 1947 contribution to RKO Radio under his one-picture-a-year contract. Nichols and the Theatrical Guild will co-produce the film, Nichols will direct. Raymond Massey, Katina Paxinou, Rosalind Russell, and others have already been signed for top parts, Nichols disclosed. The picture will be completed by next December, he said.

CSA Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

American Theatres Association, Thurman Arnold, counsel for ATA, already has signified his intention of appealing from denial of the petition.

While awaiting a decision from the CSA executive committee, Brooks is going ahead with preliminary preparations for the appeal, which, if it is to be made, must be filed by March 1.

In conjunction with Col. Robert T. Barton Jr., of Richmond, counsel for the CSA in the South, Brooks has completed a study of the final decree handed down by the New York court; on Dec. 31. They find that the judges' intentions with regard to competitive bidding are made "reasonably clear," but they are "somewhat doubtful of the meaning of paragraph 8-9 of section II, which states: "A license to exhibit each feature released for exhibition in any competitive area shall be offered to the operator of each theatre in such area where desires to exhibit it on some run (other than that upon which such feature is to be exhibited in the theatre of the licensor) shall be tendered by such operator, and upon uniform terms."

Guarantee of some run, originally suggested in court by distributor counsel, is not a possible solution to competitive bidding, is regarded by CSA attorneys as a reasonable inclusion in the decree, but they believe it is impractical to provide that the operator of each theatre shall have the power to select his run, inasmuch as prints are limited and clearance has been ruled by the court to be necessary.

Truman Asks Funds

For FCC Operations

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14. — President Truman today asked Congress to appropriate $9,000,000 for operation of the Federal Communications Commission during the coming fiscal year, which is the same fund allotted for the current year.
Goldwyn: Maker of Trends

- *THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY,* taking stock of itself one of these days, will find, rather unexpectedly, that it owes Sam Goldwyn a curious debt. Sam has talked a great deal, sometimes wisely and well and sometimes not. Sometimes agreement with him has been easy; sometimes, anything but violent disagreement has been impossible. But with it he has made good pictures. He has stuck by his guns and he has refused to compromise and he has refused second bests. That isn’t the point, though.

- **SOMEONE MAY MAKE** a tabulation one of these days and determine the trends that his pictures have started—dating way back from the Ronald Colman-Vilma Banky (remember?) days, and those spectacular Eddie Cantor musicals, led by the wonderful "Kid from Spain," by "Dead End" in the vanguard of its type, by "Hurricane" and its amazing drama and by a dozen others in which Sam rejected formulas and flew in the face of the accepted beliefs of what was box office... Sam’s argument has always been that good pictures are good box office.

- **IN THE CURRENT** "The Best Years of Our Lives," Sam listened to the witch-doctors and the soothsayers who said that you can’t make a war picture or a picture about veterans... Sam probably agreed, but with the exception: only if it’s a great picture... His grosses at the Astor in New York, at the Woods in Chicago, and in Boston and Los Angeles are already becoming an industry sensation, which is again beside the point.

- **THE POINT IS THAT,** in the gratitude of the motion picture industry, Sam has made it possible to make war pictures, and pictures about veterans—if they are GOOD pictures.

- **SAM HAS DONE ANOTHER THING...** His continuous enthusiasm, which few can resist, produces results... Sam believes in his picture... He has attracted to "The Best Years of Our Lives" the support of powerful influences that can’t help but do the picture good. Such rare—and, very importantly—the whole industry good. Sam’s beliefs are tributes as editors to the New York Times and Collier's, a whole series of articles in the Reader’s Digest, a national radio sermon over the NBC network by Dr. Suckman and the New Year’s Eve broadcast over CBS by the popular "Vox Pop" can’t help but attract to the Goldwyn picture by the popular "Vox Pop" can’t help but attract to the Goldwyn picture. And many other pictures to follow—the attention and interest of those infrequent and hard-to-get picture-goers whose patronage may some day be very important to the motion picture theater operators. For those people, Sam has made "The Best Years of Our Lives" an event that people can’t help but paragraph may some day be very important to the motion picture theater operators. For those people, Sam has made "The Best Years of Our Lives" an event that people can’t help but paragraph may some day be very important to the motion picture theater operators. For those people, Sam has made "The Best Years of Our Lives" an event that people can’t help but paragraph may some day be very important to the motion picture theater operators. For those people, Sam has made "The Best Years of Our Lives" an event that people can’t help but...
U.S. to Push Cross-License Ban in Appeal

To Seek an Injunction From Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The Department of Justice will pursue its attempt to obtain a ban on the cross-licensing of affiliated theatres by the so-called "in Picture" distributors when it goes before the U. S. Supreme Court with its contemplated appeal from the New York decree, a Justice Department spokesman said today.

The Department's arguments for a cross-licensing ban were ignored by the New York Federal statutory court in the industry anti-trust suit decree handed down on Dec. 31. At the hearings on the court's opinion (Continued on page 11)

Decree Called New Industry Charter

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The final judgment rendered by the New York District Court in the anti-trust suit, was called a "new charter for the film industry" by A. J. Brylawski, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Washington, today in a (Continued on page 11)

House Leader Hits Benton Film Policy

Washington, Jan. 15.—High Government officials, such as Assistant Secretary of State William Benton, should refrain from efforts to dictate policies to private industry, Speaker of the House Joseph W. Martin said.

Martin asserted that American motion pictures, recently criticized by Benton, are among the best media of information and culture in the world today, and praised the "excellent and constructive" job being done by the film industry. "We are going to eliminate Government propaganda agencies as rapidly as possible," he added.

See Upsurging Industries
Back of Film Stock Lag

Although film stocks have sustained some of the largest losses in the recent downward fluctuation on the New York Stock Exchange, home office financial experts view the situation without any sign of alarm, generally scouting the theory that the final consent decree in the industry anti-trust suit is largely responsible. Instead, several of them hold that the high earnings reported by motion picture companies during the past year are, strangely enough, the key to the falling film security prices.

This apparent paradox, the experts explain, is brought about by the fact that numerous other industries represented on the New York Stock Exchange reported losses during 1946, with the result that the investor reasons that these businesses are bound to improve, in response to the postwar demand for goods of all (Continued on page 11)

Churchmen Object To 'Duel in Sun'

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 15.—Evidences of Catholic and Protestant concern over David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" developed here today.

Catholic priests in the Los Angeles archdiocese will read the following directive from Archbishop John J. Canwell from their pulpit at all masses next Sunday: "The Most Reverend Archbishop desires the priests of the archdiocese to warn the Catholic people that pending classification by the Legion of Decency, they may not with free conscience, attend the motion picture "Duel in the Sun." (Continued on page 11)

NY Regents Hearing On 'Outlaw' Today

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 15.—Convoked in an extraordinary session, the 12-member New York State Board of Regents will hold a hearing here today on New York City license commissioner Benjamin Fielding's appeal in the efforts of city officials to get "The Outlaw" barred from exhibition throughout the state. The appeal was filed after the motion picture (renamed "The Savage"

Einfeld Coming East To Sign M-G-M Pact

Hollywood, Jan. 15.—Charles Einfeld, president of Emanuel Productions, will leave here by train tomorrow night for New York where he is expected to sign final papers covering M-G-M's distribution of the company's product abroad. Details of the deal, which was reported in this Picture Daily on Nov. 11, are now being worked out here in discussions between Einfeld, Arthur (Continued on page 11)

See 2 Years Before Admission Tax Cut

Washington, Jan. 15.—Republican leaders in Congress today expressed the belief that it may be two years before any budget and national debt will permit the reduction of admission and other wartime excise taxes.

Representative Harry Knutson, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, said that the wartime excise increase "will definitely have to remain at the wartime rate for another year," as disclosed yesterday.

MPA Has New Int'l Division

Hollywood, Jan. 15.—An international information center will be established at the Hollywood office of the Motion Picture Association by Adolph Durand, who returned to work with Production Code Administrator Joseph 1. Breen this week, after two years with the International Information and Cultural Affairs office of the Department of State.

Conferences between Breen and Gerald M. Mayer, managing director of the international division of the Motion Picture Association, has resulted in Durand's appointment.

Breen points out that during the entire war period not a single protest against any Hollywood picture was registered by any Latin-American country. Some indication of the international analysis that made this record possible may be had from the (Continued on page 13)

Program Is Set for Carolina Meeting

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 15.—Principal speakers at the 35th annual convention of the Theater Owners of North and South Carolina, to be held on Jan. 26-28, at the Hotel Charlotte will be Robert T. Barton, Jr., attorney of Richmond, and E. V. Richards, Jr., of New Orleans. Barton will discuss the recent New York court decree affecting the industry and Richards will speak on the Motion Picture Foundation.

A directors' meeting will be held (Continued on page 13)

Virginia Statesmen To MPTA Banquet

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Virginia's governor and Congressional representatives, industry leaders and others have been invited to attend the dinner-dance which will climax the Virginia Motion Picture Theaters Association's mid-winter convention, which will be held here at the Shoreham Hotel on Feb. 1-3.

Meanwhile, various local and field committees for the convention have been meeting regularly, and the support of the Variety Club, the Film (Continued on page 11)
Personal Mention

Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew’s, is in Hollywood from New York.

Sam S. Kestenbaum, manager of the De Luxe Theatre, Bronx, is celebrating the birth of his son by the motion picture business. He started with the old Fox Film Corp. back in 1923.

Cecil B. DeMille, Paramount producer, will be in New York on Feb. 18.

Enrique Baez, United Artists general manager in Brazil, arrived here yesterday for home office conferences.

Cliff Almy, Warner supervisor for the Philippines and Japan, has arrived in New York for home office conferences. He was accompanied by Mrs. Almy. The plan to leave the weekend trip to Manila.

Roy Disney, president of Walt Disney Productions, is here from the Coast with Mrs. Disney.

George Archibald, managing director of J. Arthur Rank’s Independent Producers, Ltd., will arrive here tomorrow to attend the Queen Elizabeth with his wife.

Vivica Lindfors, Warner player, leaves the Coast Saturday by plane for New York; on the following Thursday she will fly to Stockholm.

Herbert Lazarus of the Paramount home office legal staff has been elevated to subcommittee of the Paramount Pictures Club, to succeed Simon S. Stiegel, resigned because of illness.

Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO Theatre president, has arrived in Hollywood and will return here early in February.

Joseph H. Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Productions, will leave New York tomorrow for the Coast where he will remain two weeks.

Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-Fox International, will sail from New York for Europe on a tour of the Paramount Pictures Club, to succeed Marc Pannal.

Phil Kuch, Paramount publicist, working with Cecil B. DeMille productions, will arrive here tomorrow from Hollywood.

Elizabeth Delayed

The S. S. Queen Elizabeth, which has among its 2,272 passengers several motion picture executives, has been delayed at sea because of weather conditions and is expected to dock in New York early tomorrow.

Insider’s Outlook

By RED KANN

Down-trend of a number of film securities in trading on the New York stock exchanges earlier this week is perplexing comment and a share of mystery. There are not many who profess to understand why, aware as they are that some Wall Street circles ascribe this waning in the shrinking grosses.

It is rather clearly indicated by now that extended runs are no longer as extended as once presumed, flourishing for 90 days and two boom days of the war. But national circuit operators generally are in accord that business continues to fit in with the industry’s pet expression, which says to “tendrify,” even if a given attraction may not hold up for the length of first run to which everyone has become accustomed.

What goes on today is this: Grosses, overall, are maintaining their heavy draw. The differences simply are in the fact of not sustaining themselves as thoroughly in many key runs, which makes it required for distributors to turn to subcircuit for the dollar differential. However, there is no discernible concern over the forlornness of receipts of important attractions in local houses if you’ll circulate yourself to the shortened span of playing time these attractions are able to eke out these days. Picture “A” may no longer get six weeks. It may only get four, but the grosses rolled up in those four are compensating notably with the money accumulated in comparatively short odds. Week by week, the drought is there. Only generally there is no longer the same number of attractions a week, down from 15 to 10 a week per picture first run.

In private conversation with the operating executive of one of the national circuits yesterday, he said his circuit is running ahead of last year in all situations with the solitary exception of one city which hit unprecedented peaks during the war. Its military establishment has been wound down here, watering down theatre attendance, to no one’s surprise. Recent reports in the securities market perhaps may be the more accurately traced to uncertainties and misapprehensions over theatre devourment. One high executive’s nervousness over how the major companies will emerge as an explanation. All doubts cannot be discounted, of course, but our informant has a way of divining the future.

Where we have a minority interest in two theatres in a situation where we must divest under the decree—and always provided the decree of the District Court—it is the document under which we shall have to function finally—we anticipate matters will adjust themselves.

If we can succeed in buying up thatoutside interest, we are in a position then to retain 100 per cent of the net after operations. Therefore, if we can assume full ownership of only that business where we now only have a half, we figure we have more than a reasonable chance of being as well off as we are today with a 50 per cent interest in the number of theatres. Duplicate this sort of yardstick around the country for a quick size-up of how we believe we can meet the demands of the final, final decree without undue suffering on our part.

This line of reasoning, obviously is predicated on the assumption that partnerships held to their major circuit partner and, of prime importance, that the court will approve proposals such as these when the defending company submits them.

Two columns ago we drew a tentative conclusion which now eliminates itself on further investigation. Drawing upon the decree analysis by Herman M. Levy, MPTOA general counsel, when analyzing the decreed situations, the assumption was distributors might be empowered to couple sales of regular features by Westerns, reissues and imports as well as so-called bestsellers, which, the court will approve proposals such as these for the distributing company. The fact is, the distributors may not.

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Asides and Interludes

By James Cunningham

The United States Postal Department will place on sale on Feb. 11 a special postage stamp commemorating the 100th birthday of Thomas A. Edison, among a few other miscellaneous items, which included the Kinetoscope, forerunner of the modern projection picture. The stamp will be issued from the Post Office at Edison’s birthplace, in Milan, Ohio. Issuance of the stamp stems from a suggestion made by RKO Radio’s Leon (Of Stamp Collector) Emanuel, who also suggested the issuance of the United Nations stamp, in 1943, and the stamp commemorating 32nd-anniversary of motion pictures, in 1944.

RKO’s Ned Depinet will send a souvenir gift copy of the Edison stamp to each of company’s exhibitor customers.

Radio “disc-jockey” Fred Robbins calls a record a “Laquer Cracker,” a “Brisque Disc” and a “Fething Eteching.”

When Steve Brody’s Monogram studios in Hollywood found it prac—

Thirsty thieves who broke into the Symphony Liquor Store on Broadway, here, the other morning, made off with $200 worth. Next door is the Thalia Theatre; current attraction: “The Lost Weekend.”

Staff writer Jeanne Contini of the Daily American, Rome, Italy, touring the Riviera, visited the little fishing town of Camogli, piloted skelter-kelter to the steep shore, where she attended the local cinema. Olivia de Havilland was trying to marry herself to a pilot when she went in, and for about 10 minutes she watched the picture, when, suddenly, “Bas- tet” shouted a voice in the rear. The picture stopped, the house lights came up, and the public filed out, to a man. Miss Contini looked blankly at her local guide for an explanation.

“Oh, that was the manager,” he answered. He frequently gets fed up with a picture and dies everybody’s had enough.”

Lee Leff operates a political battle as a battle in which everyone shoots from the lip.
The successor to 'Mildred Pierce' is out-grossing 'Mildred Pierce' everywhere!

HUMORESQUE

JOAN CRAWFORD • JOHN GARFIELD • OSCAR LEVANT • J. CARROL NAISH
 Directed by JEAN NEGULESCO • Screen Play by Clifford Odets and Zachary Gold • Based on a Story by Fannie Hurst • Music Conducted by Franz Waxman • Produced by JERRY WALD

WARNER PICTURE--WARNER POWER!!
Tax on Amusements

**Chicago Proposal**

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—The bill to tax the amusement industry in Chicago, which had previously been shelved by Mayor Kelly, was introduced here today to begin the battle today when the city council's finance committee passed an order directing corporation counsel Hans G. Bates to prepare an ordinance to tax amusements.

Reason given for the necessity of taxing amusements was increased city government expenditures, especially the cost of paying 200 firemen added to fire department today.

Under the proposals, all admissions over $30 cents would be taxed. The previous tax measure, shelved by Mayor Kelly, was one per cent on tickets from 30 to 50 cents, two per cent on tickets from 50 cents to $1, and three per cent on admissions over $1.

Alderman George D. Kelts, one of Mayor Kelly's council leaders, said he would oppose tax if passed on to public and asked if you would oppose a movie tax a luxury tax when it taxes poor people?

**Paramount Wins 'Odd Jobs' Picture Case**

Suit of Walter Futter against Paramount, alleging that the short-subject series, "Unusual Occupations," plagiarizes the "Odd Jobs" which has been dismissed in New York Supreme Court.

Attorney Louis Nizer, representing Paramount at the 10-day trial, contended that there was no property in an idea as common as the photographing of odd jobs and pointed out that other companies had made films dealing with such subjects before. Futter submitted a sample reel to the late Louis Diamond of Paramount. The court ruled that "literary property does not exist in idea, but only in the particular means of expression thereof."

**Screen Directors to Convene Saturday**

Annual convention of the Screen Directors Guild of New York will be held Saturday at the Lotos Club here, with a business meeting in the afternoon and a dinner in the evening.

Speakers will include: George Stevens, president of the Hollywood Directors Guild; John Shaw, vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co.; Floyd Brooks, director of visual education of the U. S. Office of Education, and Paul Alley, director of films for NBC Television.

**Mich. Owners to Meet Today on the Decree**

DETROIT, Jan. 15.—The effects of the decree handed down in the New York equity suit will be weighed here tomorrow by the Independent Theatre Owners of Michigan at a special meeting to be held Tuesday night at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, last Friday, Sam Carver, the organization's president, voiced dissatisfaction with the decree that "we would have been better off if the Government had never started the proceedings."

**Six Additional Films Rated by the Legion**

The National Legion of Decency has released the following "A" Class ratings:

"The Magic Bow," GFD-Universal; "Schrumrench," (German), 20th-Fox; "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim," 20th-Fox, and "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," Monogram, Paramount, and RKO Radio's "The Locket" were classified A-II.

**Furst's District Wins Mono. Race**

Monogram's Northeastern district has won the first prize in the company's "March of Progress" sales drive, which was held between last Oct. 12 and Dec. 28. The company disclosed here today that Furst supervises the district, which includes Boston, New Haven, New York, Buffalo and Albany.

The Midwest district, under Sol Francis, consisting of Des Moines, Oklahoma City, Chicago, and Dallas, ran second with a $750 award, and the Central district, headed by Ben Eisenberg, took third prize, $350. Hodes's territory includes Milwaukue, St. Louis, Detroit, Indianapolis and Chicago.

Other districts of the corporation are: Eastern district, under Bill Orie, fourth; Southwestern district, Lon Fider, fifth; Southern district, Arthur Bromberg, sixth, and the Western district, Mel Hulling, seventh.

**Para. Club Launches Series of Meetings**

The Paramount Pictures Club will tomorrow launch the first of a series of "get-togethers" for the company's home-office male personnel. Highlight of the evening will include a new one-reeler by Burton B. Turkus, former Brooklyn assistant district attorney, who will be introduced by Paramount vice-president Austin C. Keough, honorary chairman of the club's arrangements committee. Company secretary Robert Minien will be master-of-ceremonies.

The series was initiated by Agnes Mengel Grew, club president.

**Gross for 'Razor' at Roxy Near Million**

Grossing a fraction less than $1,000,000 in its eight-week run, which closed Tuesday at the Roxy Theatre, here, 20th-Century-Fox's "The Razor's Edge" broke the weekly house record three times during the engagement, according to A. J. Bala- bhan and his roxy's manager.

The film grossed $164,701 in its first week, topping the record held by "Ruggles of Red River" last week, and then went on to amass $165,205 in the second week and $175,634 in the sixth, Balaban said.

**Paramount Leaders Slate Coast Parley**

Paramount home office executives and foreign department heads will meet with studio vice-president Henry Ginsberg and other company Coast managers here today for a conference on production. In this connection, board chairman Adolph Zukor will leave New York for the Coast on Jan. 24. President Barney Balaban will leave here for Miami today with Mr. Zukor, and on Jan. 26 he will proceed to Hollywood.

Next week Paramount International president George Weingart, managing director for Great Britain J. E. Perkins will leave here for the conference.

The meeting in New York which are expected to be on hand for the Hollywood meeting are Charles M. Reagan, president, and one of ad, distribution, and Curtis Mitchell, national director of advertising-publicity.

**Marshall Grant Co. To Film 3 Annually**

CHICAGO, Jan. 15. Two former Universal producers and a Chicago lawyer have incorporated in California to form Marshall Grant Co., for $2,000,000 and today announced plans of producing three picture annual, with each film expected to gross $800,000 and $2,000,000. One of the first two films will be "The Loop," with a Chicago background. Advertising publicity is being handled by Ruthrauff & Ryan.

Principals of Marshall Grant Pro- ductions are, and William D. Salt, Chicago lawyer, who has been secretary and general counsel for the Chicago Opera Association the past 15 years, chairman of the board; Marshall Grant, former Universal producer, and another former Universal producer, vice-president. Saltid said negotiations are under way with three major distributors. SOPEG Certified at MGM International

The Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local No. 109, has been certified by the National Labor Relations Board as collective bargaining agent for "white collar" workers of M-G-M International here.

Negotiation of a contract with the M-G-M unit will begin shortly, according to a union spokesman. Sidney Young, president of the union, head of the M-G-M unit, is expected to be the first to return to the bank's offices when the members are employed at M-G-M International.

**Miss de Havilland, 'Killers' Get Votes**


Two of the critics cited "Sister Kenny," Olivia de Havilland was their choice for the Academy Award.

**Alec Conference Status in Detroit**

DETROIT, Jan. 15.—Alec's annual conference opened here today at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, with Detroit manager F. C. Dickley serving as host.

Today's session dealt with the company's overall operations and included a discussion of improvements in exhibitor service and the contemplation of new developments in the motion picture industry. The meeting will continue through Friday.

**20th Will Preview Pilgrim Tonight**

BOStON, Jan. 15.—At a special preview of 20th-Century-Fox's Technicolor musical, "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim," to be held here tomorrow night a jury of prominent Back Bay society and Beacon Hill Junior Leaguers will pass on the picture's lampus of Boston. As a part of the Preview will be the first Boston screening of "The Phantom," which will be "piped" into the Somerset Hotel, where the screening will be held.

Charles Schlaifer, 20th-Century-Fox director of advertising-publicity, Rodney Bush, exploitation manager and Sid Blumenstoll, assistant exploitation manager, will be here for the screening.

Edward Callahan, 20th-Fox district manager, and James M. Conners, branch manager, will be hosts at the screening. Schlaifer plans to remain in Boston through Friday for advertising conferences with New England exhibitors.

**M. S. Katz, Pioneer Independent, 72**

ATLANTA, Jan. 15.—Marcus S. Katz, founder of Kay Film Exchanges, died suddenly at his home here last Tuesday, aged 72 years old, and is survived by three sons, Ike, David and Harry, all active in the business starting with his father.

The Kay offices in Washington, Atlanta, Charlotte, Memphis and New Orleans remained closed all day today in mourning for the founder, who was a pioneer in independent distribution in the Southeastern States.

Burial will be at Montgomery, Ala.

**Stanley Kane Gets North Central Post**

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 15.—Stanley Kane, trial lawyer with the Labor Department, will take over the North Central secretary of the old Northwest Allied during 1935-37, has been named executive director of the new Allied. He will take office on Monday, Kane succeeds Don Swartz, who resigned Jan. 1 and assumes additional executive duties.

The NCA board has set its annual convention in Minneapolis for April 21-22.

**NSS Personnel Shifts**

CLEVELAND, Jan. 15.—Irving Marcus succeeds Milton Linder as National Sales Manager here, and Linder has been transferred to the Washington office where he succeeds Howard Savitt, now an exhibitor.
“Oh, the sun keeps rollin’ to the west
’Cause it’s home in California;
And the waves don’t rest until
They roll through the Golden Gate!
Oh, that redwood tree up in the clouds
Gets its roots in the golden state—
Sure the master hand went
to town on

"CALIFORNIA"

Adapted from the Music Score of “California,” Copyright 1946, Famous Music Corp.
HERE IS
SURPASSING
GREATNESS!

CALIFORNIA

Starring
RAY MILLAND
BARBARA STANWYCK
BARRY FITZGERALD

with
GEORGE COULOURIS
ALBERT DEKKER
ANTHONY QUINN
FRANK FAYLEN
Yes, it took a master hand to make an outdoor action picture so brilliant, so unusual as "California." But Paramount has done just that in this first epic rendering of the whole big, brawling story behind the birth of America’s most glamorous state!

"California" is a new kind of western drama, a spectacular canvas of frontier days employing a basically different production conception and adding an imaginatively fresh music technique to Technicolor and a cast of 5,500 in twenty-seven panoramic settings.

"California" out-statures the biggest pictures of its type that you ever played. Robust with slashing action yet warm with poetic overtones—explosive with adventure yet rich in human values—it is the saga of America turning her dreams westward to a fabulous destiny.

Because it is the ultimately-great picture of the West that you knew some day would be made, Paramount is giving it the kind of campaign accorded only to the very great. Under this page is a sample of the sensational ads which will shout to 60,000,000 ticket-buyers:

"California
Here It Comes!"
HERE IS SURPASSING GREATNESS!

CALIFORNIA
in Technicolor

Starring
RAY MILLAND
BARBARA STANWYCK
BARRY FITZGERALD

George Coulouris
Albert Dekker
Anthony Quinn
Frank Faylen

Produced by John Farrow
Screenplay by Frank Butler
and Theoren Street
A Paramount Picture

Your eyes, your ears, your heart
never had a greater thrill...

FULL-COLOR 2-PAGE SPREADS LIKE THIS

THE RACE TO PHARAOH CITY FOR GOLD!

THE GAUDY BOOM TOWN GOVERNED
BY SMOKING GUNS!

THE LUXURY BALL IN HONOR OF CALIFORNIA'S
MOST NOTORIOUS WOMAN!

THE CORRUPT DICTATORSHIP THAT RULED
A RAW, RICH COUNTRY!

THE FURY-CHARGED BATTLE OF THE
HACIENDA: CITADEL OF TYRANNY!

THREE HEADLINE STARS—TWO OF THEM
ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS!

TWENTY-SEVEN PANORAMIC SETTINGS
SURROUNDING A CAST OF THOUSANDS!

THE GLORY OF SUNKISSED TECHNICOLOR IN
AMERICA'S MOST GLORIOUS LOCALE!

THE STIRRING LIFT OF AN ENTIRELY NEW
TREATMENT OF 6 SONG NUMBERS!

PRODUCTION AND DIRECTION OF JOHN FARROW,
WHOSE "TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST" IS THE
BOXOFFICE SENSATION OF THE HOUR!
No Town would have her...
No Man could tame her!
This Glamorous Gambler Who Won
Men's Money And Scorned Their Love!

GREAT AS AN EPIC SPECTACLE...
BUT EVEN GREATER AS A TEMPESTUOUS
MAN-WOMAN PICTURE!

"All these weeks you were trying to shame me, that was your way of making love to me!"

"You can't hate a man like you hate me—unless you love him!"

"The mining man he digs for gold,
But it winds up here in my bill fold.
The lumberjack he cuts the pine,
The lumber's his—but the jack is mine!

Paramount
confidently predicts that the tremendous grosses of "Two Years Before the Mast" and "Blue Skies" will be matched—or exceeded—by

CALIFORNIA
In Technicolor
JUST OPENED
SENSATIONALLY AT N. Y. RIVOLI
**Must Open Records**

(Continued from page 1)

For an injunction to restrain the distributors from demanding audits of theatre records of their returns on percentage pictures, from threatening the exhibitors with suits for damages on such returns, and from proceeding with such suits as were already filed, involving theatres operated by two of the plaintiffs.

The distributors, in their defenses, claimed that the plaintiffs went into court with an unwarranted and allegedly defrauded distributors on percentage returns. Over 140 counter-claims were interposed by the distributors against the various plaintiffs for damages.

**Records Ordered Opened**

On April 2, 1945, Judge McVicar handed down an order, on motion of the defendants, allowing the plaintiffs to open their theatre records on box-office receipts derived on some 7,200 pictures between 1937 and the end of 1943. The order called for the production, among other records, of daily books from amusement books and day books, daily journals, ledgers, bank deposits, slips, bank books, records of tickets sold, records of rentals and rentals controls, booking books and copies of income tax and admission tax returns.

An additional affidavit from Judge McVicar’s order was dismissed by the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in June of that year.

In his motion, argued here on Dec. 31, the distributors claimed that in the course of the inspection, the plaintiffs had not furnished to permit inspection and copying of entries purporting to be the box-office receipts from flat-rental playdates; also that inasmuch as percentage receipts could have been diverted in the books to appear as if derived from flat rentals, the distributors were entitled under the order to inspect the records for flat-rental playdates. Distributors claimed that certain of the plaintiffs had not produced for inspection certain income tax and admission tax returns directed in the former order, as well as copies of bank books and bank statements.

**Affidavits Filed**

In support of the supplemental motion, the distributors filed affidavits by the auditor and special counsel engaged in making the inspection under Judge McVicar’s first order, in which it was stated that over $700,000 in straight unreported, per centage receipts, had been already verified by the inspection to the extent that it was permitted, and alleged over 20 different methods of manipulating tickets, admissions and theatre records identified this fiscal year alone by which percentage receipts could have been diverted or concealed.

Judge McVicar granted the supplemental motion under advisement and his order just handed down called upon the exhibitors also to open up all flat-rental records for inspection.

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**Cross-Licensing**

(Continued from page 1)

last October in New York, Robert L. Wright, Assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, admitted under questioning that one result of a cross-licensing of affiliated theatres by their owners, presumably for lack of sufficient product with which to operate them.

The court, which in its opinion had held that theatre divestiture was not an adequate remedy and had declared it a drastic a remedy for it to order, commented at the October hearings that the plaintiffs were attempting to attempt divestiture by inclination.

The Department spokesman said today that when the Government appeals to the Supreme Court from the refusal of the New York court in order theatre divestiture, it will also ask for an injunction against cross-licensing of affiliated theatres during whatever period may be allowed by the court. The government antitrust companies to divest themselves of their theatres, should such divestiture be ordered.

Department attorneys also contend that competitive bidding for pictures, as ordered in the New York decree, would be enforced during any divestiture period in order to assure competitive disposition of runs among independent exhibitors, and it would be left to the high court for such an order. This would indicate that the Department is prepared to oppose the picture company defendants for a stay of the competitive bidding order until 90 days after the Supreme Court has issued its order against the New York court. The latter petition by the companies is tentatively set for hearing on Jan. 22 before the New York court.

**CIEA to Support Cross-Licensing Ban**

Washington, Dec. 15.—A permanent ban on the cross-licensing of affiliated theatres will be urged by the Council of Independent Theatres Associations in a brief to be submitted to the U. S. Supreme Court if they win their anti-trust case up for appeal.

Also, the brief, which will be submitted as “friend of the court” by the CIEA, will argue against the system of competitive bidding fostered by the lower court. The brief will be prepared by Abraham F. Myers, it is said. Before the petition was drafted, the CIEA is expected to hold another meeting to discuss the final New York court judgment.

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**Decree Called**

(Continued from page 1)

talks on the decision before the Motion Picture Committee of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Regarding the impact of the final decree in the Supreme Court of the New York judgment, Brylawski asserted that industry people “cannot firmly see how it would work out.”

Brylawski traced the history of the trust, and explained the recent New-Jersey court award to the decree committee. In his analysis he explained the practices ordered by the courts.

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**Churchmen Object**

(Continued from page 1)

This motion picture, of which the Legion of Decency was not afforded an advance viewing, appears to be morally offensive and spiritually degrading.

In an unusual procedure, Archbisho'pgilbert A. Wise, instructions will be transmitted through publication Friday in “The Tidings,” official Catholic publication, which will also be a summary of objections to the film.

Similar action by Protestant churches is expected in Indianapolis. Los Angeles Federation of Protestant Churches awaited response by Selznick of Warner Bros., if changes in “Duel,” understood to include elimination of the character played by Walter Huston which, the letter contended, uses the figure of a ministerial type as the film’s single comedy content.

A Federation executive told MOTION PICTURE DAILY a decision on the future course would be made when the Sunday edition comes out Wednesday night, and it would depend on the nature of whatever assurances Selznick may have made by that time, in considering the suit of the clergymen, adequate or inadequate. The Federation executive said the council’s next step will be to read the prompters of its views regarding the picture and suggest they inform their congregations.

**Selznick Comments On ‘Duel’**

Hollywood, Jan. 15.—When notified of the Catholic church action, Selznick said tonight: “The picture is unabashed. We were surprised at the Archbishop’s statement in view of the fact that at all times we worked closely with the Production Code Administration. All suggestions made by the PCA were followed to the letter. The result was that we received the PCA seal of approval without question.”

Selznick explained that the reason the Legion of Decency did not have a chance to see the production was because the Technicolor strike, which made it impossible to deliver completed prints on the day before the Los Angeles premiere. He added that he would be happy to meet with the Archbishop’s representatives at any time for a full discussion.

**‘Outlaw’ Hearing**

(Continued from page 1)

license on the Howard Hughes production because of allegedly “obscene and indecent” advertising.

Included in the city contingent which will leave tomorrow morning is the state capital contingent. Charlotte Preusse and Daniel Rosen, both of the city corporation counsel’s staff, and Stanley Rosen, aide to the license commissioner. Executives and attorneys for United Artists, distributors of the film, and Hughes Tool Company, owners of the film, also indicated their intention to participate in the hearing.

**Braunschweiger Named**

Hollywood, Jan. 15.—Warner Braunschweiger has been elected executive vice-president of the Bank of New York, succeeding the late Frank Petersen. Braunschweiger, with the bank 24 years, is vice-president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

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**Film Stocks**

(Continued from page 1)

sorts, while film stocks may possibly be thought to have passed their peak, hot.

Back up this view, according to W. Stewart McDonald, Warner assistant treasurer, is the observation that the demand for film stocks to those of other companies have apparently been mainly lated by scat tered smaller users, and that a large number of the industry, while executives within the industry are retaining their holdings, are not actively buying. Such executives, McDonald suggests, are in a better position than the smaller unknown film dealers, who, McDonald feels, will strike the motion picture business within this period and that any recessions will be slight and short-lived. Moreover, the film companies have largely liquidated the debts they piled up during the 1930’s and are now proceeding with caution that they place in a good position to face any ups-and-downs of the business cycle, McDonald says.

His views, in general, are seconded by Robert H. O’Brien, Paramount vice-president in charge of sales, where there has been “no change in the internal operation of the company which would account for the stock slump,” so far as Paramount is concerned.

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**Carolina Meeting**

(Continued from page 1)

Sunday night. The convention, which is expected to attract more than 500 exhibitors, will be held at the Raleigh Hotel. Paramount will be host at a party on Monday night, and a closed exhibitors meeting will be held Tuesday afternoon, with the annual banquet held Tuesday night with Harry E. Buchanan of Hendersonville, N. C., and Claude Lee of Paramount in New York, as toastmasters.

Convention sessions will be presided over by Ben Strohbeck, chairman, and W. M. Nash, Jr., president of the organization.

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**Virginia Statesmen**

(Continued from page 1)

Salesman’s Club of Washington and other organizations has been rallied behind the effort.

Ronald W. Scott, convention general chairman, and Wade Pearson is co-chairman. Others serving as chairman of various committees include: Charles Grimes, A. Julian Brylawski, Carter T. Barron, Brock Whitlock, Frances Fash, Brinton Ben Pitts and Tom Baldridge. Morris Fraben and John Bossman are acting as special assistants to Rochester.

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**Rena de Doob, Cohen**

Salesman of the Loew’s, and Max A. Cohen of Cinemac Circuit, have formed the National Organization of the Broadway Association, here. Robert K. Christenberry, Hotel Astor president, has been re-named president.

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**WANTED**

Competent cameraman with motion picture experience, experienced in handling exterior, direction, lighting, and general office work in the studio. Must be familiar with the latest camera equipment and be familiar with all aspects of photography. Must be able to work under adverse conditions, pleasant personality and ability to get along with all types. Must be well dressed. Address Signal and apply by name. Position open immediately.

**Box 388**

MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 Sixth Avenue, New York 20, N. Y.
Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key motion picture centers.

LOS ANGELES

"Duel in the Sun" was top grosser in a week which found holders at nearly all first-run theatres here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 15:

LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M)—LOUIS J. RAMELLO (C)-WASHINGTON (368) (50c-65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $5,200).

DUEL IN THE SUN (S-R)—VOUGE (360) (50c-65c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714).

PHILADELPHIA

The personal appearance of the King Cole Trio, with "The Falcon's Adventure" on the screen, is packing the house. Business at other houses continues generally good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 15:

THE LADY'S DOLL BY (M-G-M)—THE KEITH (2,260) (40c-85c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $2,643).

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (RKO)—THE ORPHEUM (2,420) (50c-65c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $857).

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—BOYD (1,380) (50c-75c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $1,857).

THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO)—EARLE (2,000) (50c-65c-85c-94c) 7 days, with vaudeville starring the King of the Keens. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $1,500).

ST. LOUIS

The weather remained good, and "Till the Clouds Roll By" paced the box office list this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 15:

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB)—ABRAHAMS (1,240) (40c-65c-75c) 7 days, week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,429).

CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films)—THE PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY (Rep.) and HOME IN OKLAHOMA (Rep.)—FOX (4,000) (40c-65c-75c). 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $2,571).

THE WICKED CLOUDS BY (M-G-M)—LOEVE'S (2,150) (40c-65c-75c) 7 days, week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $1,857).

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M)—THE RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (40c-65c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714).

STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—KEITH'S (2,260) (50c-65c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714).


SAN FRANCISCO

A record cold spell here has been reflected in plunging box-office returns. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 15:

SWELL GUY (U)—ORPHEUM (2,420) (40c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $2,786).

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) and SONG OF THE SOUTH (WHO)—THE KEITH (2,260) (40c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $500).

THE ROYAL FAMILY (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT—HARVARD (4,000) (40c-65c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $1,071).

THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—UNITED NATIONS (1,290) (40c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $571).

THE CAPTAIN'S LAMENT (U)—STAGE AND THE ATTRACTIONS (M-G-M) and LARKEN IN HER HEART (PRC)—THE GRAND CANYON (2,800) (40c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $429).


INDIANAPOLIS

Business has dropped from the high level of previous weeks and continues at generally satisfactory levels. Mild weather has been helpful. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 15:

THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio) and CIRCLE CLE GEMINI (P) and UNITED ARTISTS (1,300) (36c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $500).

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.) and THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (RKO) and LARKEN IN HER HEART (PRC)—THE KEITH (2,260) (40c-65c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $430).

KANSAS CITY

All theatres are doing better than average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 15:

THE ROYAL FAMILY (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT—HARVARD (4,000) (40c-65c-75c) 7 days, week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $1,500).

THE ROYAL FAMILY (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—THE WARM FIELD (2,670) (40c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $500).

THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—THE WARM FIELD (2,670) (40c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $429).

SALT LAKE CITY

"The Razor's Edge" and "The Jolson Story," in third weeks, are adding to the records they have already established. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 15:

THE JOLSON STORY (C)—CAPITOL (1,200) (40c-85c-94c) 7 days, week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,286).

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB)—THE KEITH (1,900) (30c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,143).

MR. HEX (Mono) and THE MYSTERIES (Lippert) and THE LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—MEMORIAL (2,400) (40c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $2,571).

THE ROYAL FAMILY (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.) and THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (RKO) and LARKEN IN HER HEART (PRC)—THE KEITH (2,260) (40c-65c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $430).

THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—THE WARM FIELD (2,670) (40c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $429).

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THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN (M-G-M) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—THE WARM FIELD (2,670) (40c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $429).
**Outlets Needed by Austrian Industry**

**BY HUBERTUS ZU LOWENSTEIN**

Vienna, Jan. 10 (By airmail).—The film problems of Austria are clearly demonstrated by the difficulties facing its post-war motion picture industry. The inner market of the country, divided into four zones of occupation, is too weak to support a worthwhile VODuction volume. Of course Germany would be the natural outlet for Austrian films, but after the end of the war, the German-Austrian frontier has remained heretically sealed. Before the war, Austrian pictures found their way into Czech and Hungarian theatres, where they were very popular. Also, the $3,000,000 Austrian Germans living in Bohemia and the large German minorities in Hungary provided important additional chances for Austrian pictures. However, these German-speaking people have now been transferred to Germany and strong governmental pressure is preventing German-language pictures from reaching Czech and Hungarian audiences.

**Dubs or Duals**

Thus, in order to reopen those Danubian markets, the Austrian industry will be forced either to dub foreign languages or to shoot parallel versions in non-German tongues. Also, it is hoped in Vienna that new markets may be found, perhaps in Latin America, or in the Soviet Union.

The first post-war Austrian picture has been released in Vienna. It is "The Way Is Long," dealing with the return home of prisoners from British, American and Russian prisoner-of-war camps. It was produced by Donau Film, which is now shooting a musical, "Viennese Melodies." Additionally, there are three other producing companies in Austria. Production has been helped along by the Soviet film director, Lev Borisovich Lumin, who controls the large Roisnheglus studios. With his assistance, Austrian producers have been able to purchase raw stock from Russia.

**Chinese Fact Film**

First Chinese fact film to be shown here "The Bridge of Yimina," portraying conditions in post-war China, will be traded down here today at Universal’s projection room.

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**Key City Grooses**

**Cleveland**

(Continued from page 12)

**DENVER**

"Undertaken," combined with "Great Day" is the gross leader here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 15:

**HARO (29th-Fox) and DECOY (Moffa)**

(20th-Fox)—ADAM (2,000) (3rd-Fox) 7 days, 4th week, gross: $5,000. (Average: $360)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M)

(20th-Fox)—HOLD ON TO THE THATCH (2,400) 2 days, 2nd week, gross: $1,500. (Average: $50)

A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—LOEWE’S STILLMAN (1,900) (3rd-Fox) 7 days, gross: $5,000. (Average: $1,100)

HENRY-V (UA)—LOWER MALL (U)—GROSS: $1,225.00 7 days, 3rd week, gross: $9,000.

**RAZOR’S EDGE (29th-Fox) and ESQUIRE (Dubs)**

(20th-Fox)—DEER (2,500) (M-G-M) 7 days, 3rd week, gross: $7,850. (Average: $1,000)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)

(RKO PALACE) (5,000) (3rd-Fox) 7 days, gross: $7,450. (Average: $1,064)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)

(RKO) (3,500) (74c) 7 days, gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000)

THE TIME, THE PLACE, THE GIRL (WB)—GROSS: $7,000 7 days, 3rd week, gross: $3,850. (Average: $550)

**MPA Int’l Division**

(Continued from page 1)

**High Rents Held A Peril to Coast**

**INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 15.**—"The making of pictures as now practiced in Hollywood must either be reformed or Hollywood will cease to be the production center of the industry," Trueman T. Rembusch, Indiana exhibitor, has written in reply to a letter he received from Harry H. Thomas, president of Producers Releasing. The latter laid pointed out the necessity of higher film rentals due to increased production costs.

Rembusch said the East poses a threat to Hollywood, "Eastern production of pictures is one way out of the Hollywood waste-pots." He declared, adding: "I do not cry depression but I do say be prepared for business to return to its normal level. That means that film rentals also must return to normal levels."

**Monogram Weighs 16mm. for Export**

Monogram is exploring the possibilities of using 16mm. film for a portion of its foreign distribution, it is announced by president Steve Ford. "The 16mm. 16mm. near future will bring an expansion in its use. Preliminary investigation of the possibilities is now going on," Mr. Norton V. Richer, president of Monogram International, subsidiary handling the foreign market.

**Condemn Theatres**

**COLUMBUS, Ga., Jan. 15.—George D. Aibel, city building inspector, has listed the Springer and Rialto theatres, here, owned by Georgia Theatres Inc., as unfit for use after fire hazard inspection resulting from the recent Winnebago hotel blaze in Atlanta. Two other houses the Royal and Dixie (colored), were criticized for unsafe conditions.

**Einfeld Coming**

(Continued from page 1)

**Navy Claims 3-Dimension**

**WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.**—The Navy hopes to have a three-dimensional photographic process ready next summer which works without the use of a viewing aid. The new process, dubbed "trivision," the Navy Department is a licensee of the inventor, Douglas F. Winnecke of Mount Vernon, N. Y. Form their own conclusions, he main-..."
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>MONO.</th>
<th>PARA.</th>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>REPUBLIC</th>
<th>RKO RADIO</th>
<th>20TH-FOX</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td>ALIAS MR. TWILIGHT</td>
<td>Michael Duane</td>
<td>(Dec. Releases)</td>
<td>LADY IN THE LAKE</td>
<td>Robert Montgomery</td>
<td>Andrey Teter</td>
<td>D—165 min.</td>
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<td>(Dec. 18, Release)</td>
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<td>SINGIN' IN THE CORN</td>
<td>Judy Canova</td>
<td>C—64 min.</td>
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<td>Dec. 28</td>
<td>SECRET HEART</td>
<td>Audie Murphy</td>
<td>M—71 min.</td>
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<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>THE SHOW-OFF</td>
<td>Marilyn Maxwell</td>
<td>C—83 min.</td>
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<td>Jan. 11</td>
<td>BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT</td>
<td>Penny Singleton</td>
<td>B—65 min.</td>
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<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>THE JOLSON STORY</td>
<td>George Tobias</td>
<td>M—122 min.</td>
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<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>RECKONING</td>
<td>Wallace Beery</td>
<td>D—86 min.</td>
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<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>SOUTH OF CRYSTAL</td>
<td>Robert Montgomery</td>
<td>D—104 min.</td>
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<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>BLIND SPOT</td>
<td>Chester Morris</td>
<td>H—73 min.</td>
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<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>CIGARETTE GIRL</td>
<td>Malcolm McLean</td>
<td>M—82 min.</td>
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<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>THE LONG Hand Texan</td>
<td>Charles Starrett</td>
<td>D—87 min.</td>
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<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>THE GUILTY</td>
<td>Bonita Granville</td>
<td>D—91 min.</td>
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*Dates Are Based On National Release Schedules and Are Subject To Change.*

Wirthwein to Coast
For Para.; Others
Advanced by Reagan

Harold Wirthwein has been ad-
vanced from Milwaukee branch
manager for Paramount to assistant
West Coast manager under Hugh
Brady in a number of sales
personnel advances announced by
Yesterday by Charles M. Ray, Para-
mount vice-president in charge of
distribution.

This is a newly-created position, made
necessary by the expansion of Bray's
territory to include Los Angeles, San
(Continued on page 6)

Bill Introduced to
Keep Excise Tax

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—A bill to
continue wartime excise tax, de-
definitely, including the 20 per cent
film admission tax, was introduced in
the House today by Representative
Grant, a member of the Ways and
Means Committee.

Intended, at least in part, to make
(Continued on page 6)

Independent Not Bound by
Decree (But They Can't Violate Trust Laws)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Independent
producers and distributors, not
parties to the industry anti-trust suit,
are not bound by the New York court
decree, Robert L. Wright, Special As-
stant to the U. S. Attorney General,
said here today.

However, Wright added, they are
not free to engage in prac-
tices which the court has found
to be in violation of the Federal
anti-trust laws, and if they were
to do so they would be subject
to law suits and the decree in
the present industry case could
be used as a precedent against
them.

The independents' immunity from
the new law of the industry derives
from their abstention from practices
(Continued on page 6)

Deadline for
Appeals of
Suit Delayed

Have 60 Days or More
After Jan. 22 Hearing

TEN CENTS

WARNS EXHIBITORS
On Film Production

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Exhibitor
participation in production is "unlaw-
ful," Abram F. Myers, chairman of
the board of Allied States, said here
today.

Mr. Myers contended that "the buyer
should never become the seller." He
said that integration of that kind was
responsible for the industry anti-trust
suit. He said Allied has no plans to
enter production, but will simply
guarantee the exhibition of a block of
pictures to be produced by an in-
dependent producer.

"In the first place, exhibitors do
not have the 'know-how' to engage in
(Continued on page 6)

U. S. Still "Master"
In Films—Goldwyn

Hollywood, Jan. 16.—Back from
England, Samuel Goldwyn told a press
conference his observations abroad
convinced him: "we are still the mas-
ter," adding, "all I care about is that
American production maintains its
leadership.

He said Britain's quota law would
"insure bad pictures" in Britain by
forcing producers to make too many
and went on to point out that all Ameri-
can production companies are cutting
down on number and going in for
quality instead of quantity. "The quota
(Continued on page 6)

Wirthwein

Hollywood, Jan. 16.—From London, Samuel Goldwyn told a press conference his observations abroad convinced him: "we are still the master," adding, "all I care about is that American production maintains its leadership.

He said Britain's quota law would "insure bad pictures" in Britain by forcing producers to make too many and went on to point out that all American production companies are cutting down on number and going in for quality instead of quantity. "The quota
(Continued on page 6)

ATA, CSA Move to
Safeguard Appeals

Thurman Arnold, counsel for
the American Film Theatres
Association, and John J. Jack-
son, Sr., representing the
Confederation of Southern
Associations, will appear before
the administrative court here in the
industry anti-trust suit next Wednesday to ask the judge to give their denials of
the ATA and CSA inter-
vention petitions the status of a
(formal order, according
to word received here yester-
day from Washington by de-
fense attorneys in the case.

Such an order was sought
by the defense a month ago as
a basis for appealing the in-
tervention denial to the Su-
preme Court. The denial at
present stands only as a
hand-written notation on the
original briefs filed by the ex-
hibitor groups.

(Continued on page 6)

War Gave US Films
Realism—Capra

If the war has served Hollywood
in any positive way, it is in the pro-
voction of a healthy trend toward real-
ism, a realism which in some respects
might redound to the financial as well
as creative benefit of American films.

Frank Capra, Academy Award pro-
ducer-director, observed yesterday,
Capra arrived here yesterday from
(Continued on page 6)

Michigan Exhibitors
Criticize Decree

DETROIT, Jan. 16.—Michigan In-
dependent Theatre Owners discussed
four major issues at its Statler Hotel
meeting here today.

Sam Carver, president, announced
that the New York court decision
was unanimously criticized as being
harmful to arbitration for independent
exhibitors. A buying organization was
proposed for members' protection, and
a fight was planned against a state
tax on seats and receipts.

Delegates heard an initial report on
its committee's visit with Ed Stucker,
Paramount branch manager, and it
disclosed no satisfaction in its effort
to secure lower film rentals.

Arbitration Should
Stay, Says ITOA

The New York Independent Thea-
tre Owners Association yesterday
went on record for the continuance of
some form of arbitration on the court
issue, said Brandt, ITOA president, declaring
that, "Without arbitration, we will
lose the use of some of our West Indi-
aseats to the court house and no responsible
group in the industry will be able to
keep up with the litigation that will
inevitably ensue as a result of the
final decree. It will be a lawyers' 'paradise'.'

The Independent Theatre Owners
(Continued on page 6)
'Dimes' Refusal Said Without Precedent

Hollywood, Jan. 16.—Following refusal recently to contribute $30,000 that the Foundation for Paralytic disease has been asked to help raise, the Motion Picture industry's central organization for the March of Dimes, a special show will be presented over Mutual's network, originating here, Jan. 23 at 10:30 P.M. EST, with Olivia de Havilland, Jose Iturbi, Andy Russell, Dinah Shore and Red Skelton participating. Ken Carpenter will act as master of ceremonies.

Two Broadway theatres, the Astor and Victoria, will make collection for the March of Dimes, a special show will be presented over Mutual's network, originating here, Jan. 23 at 10:30 P.M. EST, with Olivia de Havilland, Jose Iturbi, Andy Russell, Dinah Shore and Red Skelton participating. Ken Carpenter will act as master of ceremonies.

Six more theatre circuits have indicated that they will participate in the "Dimes" drive through audience solicitation during the week of Jan. 24-30. They are: Chalmers, Springfield, O. G. Lazett, Mission, Kan.; Everett, Charlotte; McCook, Neb.; Tackabury, Minn.; Apache, Rapid City, S. D.; Star, San Antonio, Texas.

Personal Mention

ERIC JOHNSTON, Motion Picture Association president, is due to arrive here from the Coast on Wednesday. His traveling agenda includes a Chicago stopover.

O. B. HANSON, vice-president of National Broadcasting, has been appointed to the board of the New York chapter of the Army Signal Association.

V. SHANTARAM, India producer, and his Indian screen star wife, Sullany Payette, have left for Bombay for the Queen Elizabeth over the weekend.

W. HABLEY RUDKIN, film critic of the Springfield, Mass., Daily News, and Mrs. RUDKIN, are parents of a baby girl.

GARRETT VAN WAGNER, RKO comptroller, is at home nursing a sprained ankle. He expects to return to his office here on Monday.

ARTHUR C. BROMBORG, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, At- lanta, has returned here from St. Louis.

LIND J. BANDERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will leave here Sunday for St. Louis.

Smalley's, Cooperstown, N. Y., and the Graphic, Boston.

Mrs. Truman and Daughter Honored by D. C. Showmen

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Mrs. Harry Truman, the First Lady, and her daughter Margaret, today met theatre- men of Washington who had been assembled by John Russell Young, president of the D. C. Board of Commis- sioners, to pay tribute to them for the great work done on behalf of the "March of Dimes." She said the money would be raised in the largest per capita percentage of funds by the work done by the theatremen.

Attending the meeting in the Wil- lard Hotel were more than 85 of the city's showmen.

Censorship Threat Arises in Colorado

Denver, Jan. 16.—A bill to create a board of censors and also requiring all theatres to supply immediate seating accommodations for all patrons paying admission has been introduced in the Colorado state legislature. The bill would require all films to be screened and approved before being shown publicly.

The effect of the seating provisions in the bill would be to forbid a theatre operator to sell tickets of admission after seats have been occupied.

New York film legislative experts believe there is a very slim chance of the Colorado bill becoming law.

Altec Development Discussed at Meet

DETROIT, Jan. 16.—Altec Service Corp.'s conference concluded its second day of meetings today at which engi- neering matters and future developments were on the program.

Closer cooperation between the various Altec companies and suppliers dealers in the further promotion of Altec equipment was also discussed, together with additional publicity and sales help for dealers.

Herman Robbins, president of National Screen Service from Miami.

Leo F. Samuels, assistant to William L. Lovy, Walt Disney Productions international sales supervisor, left New York yesterday for England and S. E. Asia. Accompanying him was Barry Greenberg, special Far East sales representative, whose ultimate destination is Singapore.

Thomas D. Goldberg, president of the Hilton Theatre Co., Baltimore, and Goldwyn, are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary with a 10-day trip to Bermuda.

Hunt Stromberg, Jr., producer-son of the producer, will wed Marilyn K. Elwell at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on Sunday.

Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity at Metro, flew to Hollywood from New York yesterday.

Jerry Walsh, Warner producer, was in New Haven yesterday. He will return to New York today.

Michael Redgrave, British actor, is en route to Hollywood from New York.
THE NEW SENSATION OF THE INDUSTRY IS "13 RUE MADELEINE"

WHICH MADE BOXOFFICE HISTORY AT THE ROXY OPENING DAY BY BLASTING THE RECORD GROSSES OF "THE HOUSE ON 92nd STREET" SKY-HIGH!

No Company Has Such Sensational Boxoffice Hits Now Playing And On The Way As

"THE RAZOR'S EDGE" • "MARGIE" In Technicolor • "THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM" In Technicolor • "BOOMERANG!" • "THE LATE GEORGE APLEY" • "CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA" In Technicolor

MARCH OF DINES • JANUARY 24th-30th
Ohio Looks for Cut in State Taxation

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 16.—A reduction in the Ohio three per cent retail sales tax, generally construed as including the three per cent excise tax on gross theatre admissions, made a part of the pre-election campaign issue by Gov. Thomas J. Herbert, moves a step nearer to realization, when the Governor, after being administered the oath of office, referred specifically to a contemplated downward revision of the state Imposts.

Privately, he told newsmen that, while he could speak only in generalities on the occasion, he will outline his plan in detail when he addresses the legislature on Jan. 20, declaring meanwhile that the present treasury surplus is "not desirable."

Ohio State Tax Is At All-Time High

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 16.—The three per cent sales-and-use Ohio tax revenue for 1946 skyrocketed to an all-time high of $108,018,576, compared with $75,780,571 in 1945, according to figures released by Don H. Ehrlich, state treasurer.

Increased patronage and higher admission prices were reflected in collections of the three per cent excise tax admission tax for the year, which totaled $3,050,842, against $2,512,050 in 1945. Also, a greater number of films were reviewed by the state censor board, as evidenced by collection of $259,111 for censor fees, compared with $281,417 in 1945, the report shows.

Lippert to Be Host

Robert Lippert, president of Screen Guild Productions, visiting here from Hollywood, will meet the trade press today at a reception at the Sherry-Netherlands Hotel.

Variety Trip Awards For SGP Salesmen

DALLAS, Jan. 16.—A trip to the Motion Picture Exposition in Los Angeles in May will be given to each Screen Guild Productions salesman in the South who exceeds quota for the next four months, John L. Francouzi, SGP franchise holder here announces. This week, Screen Guild’s John W. Murray, western zone manager, and Luis Montez, prominent Mexican exhibitor and the new tent’s chief bookstore, who are currently in Santa Fe for five days, is assistant chief booker, Guests numbered many American exhibitors.

Today’s function started a series of festivities which will be climaxed tomorrow with a housewarming by the tent.

Nine American Films Banned in Singapore

Singapore film censors have banned in the last 16 months 12 films, most of which are American features, according to press dispatches received here yesterday. No reasons were given for the bans.


Mexican City Variety Club Is Inaugurated

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 16—International Tent No. 1, Mexican Variety Club, was officially established here today with a banquet at Ciro’s in honor of President Miguel Aleman of the republic, who was unable to attend because of business pressure, but who was represented by Héctor Pérez Martínez, Secretary of the Interior. The affair was attended by high cabinet officials, diplomats, bankers and businessmen.

Others present included Bob O'Donnell, president of U. S. Variety Clubs; several American and Mexican radio personalities; and Luis Montez, prominent Mexican exhibitor and the new tent’s chief bookstore, who are currently in Santa Fe for five days, is assistant chief booker, Guests numbered many American exhibitors.

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Chicago Arbitration Complaint Settled

CHICAGO, Jan. 16—A complaint on file with the Chicago tribunal of the American Arbitration Association, instituted by James Javan, operator of the Monroe Theatre here, has been settled, with the theatre, which had previously played second “B” block, now dated to play first “B.” The McVicker Theatre, which was involved in the suit, shows films in both second and first “B” classifications.

The Monroe, which has also established a new Monday opening policy, will now be playing two days after the conclusion of the McVicker run for the past two weeks.

The settlement was negotiated by Albert Goldberg, President; G. J. Katz; Aaron Stein on Jones, Linick and Schaefer, and Seymour Simon, for the Monroe; Balaban and Katz and Jones, Linick and Schaefer operate the McVickers on a partnership arrangement.

Silverberg Named Chicago UJA Chief

CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—Harry Silverberg, head of National Service Screen in Chicago, has been appointed chairman of the amusement division of the United Jewish Appeal campaign.

The amusement division quota has been set at $350,000. At a recent meeting, leaders discussed raising the Chicago total over $300,000, raising $228,000 of this amount was raised.

Silverberg says a fund-raising dinner will be held on Feb. 6 at the Standard Club to which representatives of all branches of the amusement industry here will be invited.

Atlantic Coast SMPE Views Sound Device

Description and demonstration of magnetic sound for motion pictures was presented to a meeting of the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, here, last evening. Marvin Camras of the Armour Research Foundation, used the method, which involves the use of magnetic coating on films instead of the conventional magnetic strip. A film, “Magnetic Sound for Motion Pictures,” was screened. The SMPE’s next meeting will be held March 7, and will be addressed by Camras and in March, the SMPE, the Society of Radio Engineers will also hear from him on magnetic sound.

James Franklin Fox, who attended last night’s meeting, the first to be held following his election as successor to Frank E. Cahill, Jr., in the Atlantic Coast chairmanship.

FCC Asks A. T. & T. To Show Video Color

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—The Federal Communications Commission has asked the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. to be prepared to transmit color television over its co-axial cable from New York to Washington by March 16.

This is the date on which FCC hearings on Columbia Broadcasting Co.’s color television process will reopen in Washington. The commission is considering the process, for which CBS is asking that engineering standards be adopted, was granted an extension of hearings here last December. After the testimony was presented, the Commission decided to see how the "Columbia" color process operates. It set January 27 and 28 for demonstrations in New York.

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Seek to Block Ohio Drive-In Theatre

CINCINNATI, Jan. 16.—A mandamus suit has been filed in Common Pleas Court here by Mrs. Mary J. Burchenal, a suburban resident, against Theatre Enterprises, Inc., seeking an injunction against the construction of a proposed drive-in on the grounds that municipal authorities have not approved the construction of the theatre, which is located on the grounds of Glenlake, a suburb of Glendale, seeking an injunction to restrain the building of the $30,000 project on the grounds that it would constitute a neighborhood nuisance.

"Swell Guy" Benefit

The Mark Helliger-Universal production, "Swell Guy," will be screened for a special benefit performance for the Danon Runyon Memorial Cancer Fund at the Winter Garden Theatre, New York, Friday evening, Jan. 24.

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Coast Owners Seek Building Changes

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 16.—A request that there be no relaxation in the safety regulations now in force in San Francisco, the city being made by the California Theatre Association to the board of supervisors.

Particular stress was laid on that section of the code which relates to theatre construction, on the part of George Nasser, president of the association, who will probably cite several proposed amendments to the prevailing code and urge that the board eliminate some of them.

The present code provides that buildings seating 300 or more be required to be not only of class "A" construction, but in addition are required to comply with certain miscellaneous restrictions, dealing with exits and other matters, all of which are designed for the safety of the public. Under one of the proposed amendments, class "A" construction will not be required except in a theatre having a seating capacity of 1,000 or more. Local theatre men maintain this will not be a step in subjecting the public to hazards which must be obvious by sanctioning less than class "A" construction in buildings seating more than 300. Nasser is stressing his efforts in making such a change in the seating capacity in relation to class "A" construction in theatre buildings, seating from 300 to 400 seats be eliminated from mention in the proposed code.

M-G-M Slides Three For Feb.; 7 to Date

MGM will release three features in February, one of which will be a reprise, the second for the company under its new releasing plan, it was announced today.

Heading the list will be "Love Laughs at Andy Hardy," the sequel to "My Brother's Three Horses," with "Butch" Jenkins, Peter Lawford and Beverly Tyler. The re-print will be "Tennessee's Partner," the pictures having been trashed in all areas. With these three the total set for release so far this year is seven.

Iowa Gets New Bill Taxing Theatres

DES MOINES, Jan. 16.—A bill to permit cities and towns to place an additional tax on theatre admission tickets has been introduced in the Iowa legislature. A second bill, to rewrite the present fire laws as they apply to both old and new theatres is also expected to be introduced at an early date.

The municipal tax bill will be opposed by the combined efforts of the entire Iowa film business, headed by the state Allied exhibitor unit.

Daylight Time Vote Assured in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 16.—Petitions calling for the repeal of daylight savings time, containing 24,310 names, were presented today to the board of the election commissioners here by Fred Wehrenberg and James H. Arthur, of Fanchon and Camille, Mexico. This was 5,310 more names than necessary to assure that the question of daylight savings time would be placed on the April 7 ballot. Mr. Wehrenberg says most of signatures were obtained in 80 theatres, with several hundred coming from unions.

E-K Launches New Industrial Sales

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 16.—A new industrial sales program, designed to bring wider distribution of photographic products among the increased numbers of industrial and scientific users of photography, has been launched by Eastern Kodak, the company has announced.

Spearheading the program will be the company's new "key" industrial sales division, Industrial Photographic Sales, which will focus its attention on the promotion of new-type technical photography among industrial firms.

This new division had its inception during the war when the company's technicians worked with scientists and industry in making wide use of photography to quicken to break engineering and production bottlenecks. Other moves planned in connection with the program include addition of industrial photographic specialists to Kodak's regular staff of technical representatives in the field and organization of a distribution system for industrial photographic materials.

Mexican Film Men See 'Boon Year'

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 16.—Assured of at least 10,000,000 feet of rawstock, local film producers anticipate a boom year, with some circles predicting that the 1947 output will total about 130 features, Mexican cautious elements in the industry, however, are inclined to accept 96 as the probable output, a figure announced after a recent survey by the producers' association.

Rules Station Sole Operating Judge

DENVER, Jan. 16.—In a decision handed down by the 10th U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, written by Judge Orie L. Phillips, a radio station is the sole judge of how it is to operate. He also placed the interests of radio listeners over contracts with individuals and institutions.

The case had to do with the sale of station KOB, Albuquerque, to private parties by the New Mexico A. and M. College. The regents, in making the sale, reserved the right of the college to an hour of time daily, with times and programs to be designated by it in advance. Nine years after the sale, in June, 1945, the regents demanded a half-hour and 15-minute program, to be broadcast in late afternoon and Sunday mornings, but failed to furnish a description of programs.

With this demand the broadcasting company took the matter to the U. S. courts for settlement. The district court held for the radio station, and now the circuit court has upheld the lower tribunal.

Sioux Falls Continues 'Depinet Drive' Lead

RKO Radio's Stone Falls exchange, S. W. Fitch, manager, takes first place in the current Ned Depinet Drive for the third week. Indianapolis, R. L. Brentlinger, manager, moved into second place with Charlotte and Minneapolis third and fourth, respectively, in the capital prize class.

RKO Radio's Midwestern district, H. H. Greenblatt, manager, leads the 11 regional districts, Toronto, Jack Bernstein, manager, is first in the Canadian division with Calgary in second place.

Mrs. Schenck on Drive

Mrs. Harold E. Talbott is chairman of the steering committee, Mrs. Nicholas M. Schenck is treasurer, and Harry Beaudry is chairman of the entertainment committee for the benefit performance, "Stars Shine Bright for Women in White," to be held at Madison Square Garden in May to support the New York Infirmary Building Fund Campaign.

Donohoe to Parade

Herbert J. Donohoe, formerly advertising director of the Dell Modern Group, Los Angeles, is Arthur H. Motley's "Parade," syndicate of Hearst-Argus, magazine, as motion picture advertising specialist, a field in which he has been prominent for many years. He also was advertising manager of PhotoPlay Magazine for six years.

Fla. State Managers Hold District Meet

JACKSONVILLE, Jan. 16.—Florida State Theatre's district managers met in Jacksonville, with the following in attendance: Bob Thomas, West Palm Beach; Robert Daugherty, Tampa; George Hoover, Miami; Bolivar Hyde, St. Petersburg; Jesse Clark, in charge of theatre operations, who made the opening address. The following exchanges were represented also: William Zoeller and Ollie William; M-G-M; Jack Kirby, Warner Brothers; Dave Prince, RKO Radio; Harry Paul, Wil-kin Theatre Supply.

Chicago Variety Sets Jan. 20 Charity Ball

CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—The Variety Club of Illinois, Tent No. 26, will hold its first annual ball at the Aragon Ballroom on Monday, Jan. 20 in order to raise funds both for building new quarters in the Continental Hotel and for its chief charity project, the Lakrida Sanitarium.

Plans are being made to bring top talent here from Hollywood and New York City to attend the ball, and stars of screen, stage and radio who will be in Chicago at that time, will attend the affair.

Dortic PRC Manager At Albany Exchange

ABRANT, N. Y.—Jan. 16.—Charles Dortic, veteran salesman, has been named Albany manager for PRC to succeed Jack Arnn, resigned. Dortic has been with Columbia here two years and was with Warner Bros. in Pittsburgh many years previously. Before that he was with United Artists.
War Helped Films
(Continued from page 1)

Hollywood to confer with Howard Lindsay and Sharon Lawrence, the creators of "Arsenic and Old Lace," over problems relating to transportation of their stage vehicle, "State of the Union," to the screen. The two stars have yet been selected for the Lindsay-Crouse play, when it is filmed, and no shooting schedule has been made, Capra said that he hopes to have the picture completed by the fall in time for the country's political conventions.

"The Four Way partnership, which includes Capra, William Wyler and George Stevens, calls for one production annually from each of the producer-directors. Two other stories tentatively on Capra's schedule are: "No Other Man," by Alfred Noyes, and "The Frilly Persuasion," by Jessamyn West.

Says Costs Double
Capra, whose initial postwar production, "It's a Wonderful Life," opened its New York run last month, estimated generally that costs have at least doubled in the past year, and noted that he was in a sensitive position to judge the rise because his production of "Arsenic and Old Lace," had been delayed, and he and the producer-director advisor to the government, the boom and that he won to service shortly thereafter. Judging from expectation, he admitted, the film will be compared with "It's a Wonderful Life." Capra said, all phases of production, from celluloid and sets to release, have production budgets have risen about 100 per cent. However, rentals and box-office revenue have kept pace with inflation, he asserted.

With Hollywood desiring considerable energy toward thining the margin of increase, Capra noted that he had emphasized discussion about using location shooting as a source of cutting costs. Its principal virtue lies in the realization, he said, that not having to reconstruct "cities,"

Not Always Economy
However, he continued, this does not always mean that cities or the cities like New York, the union problem raised in having to double the number of production and technical workers, or risking the alternative of employing local personnel who are under-experienced, would actually double the costs again. The problem of fully-trained personnel has probably hindered the development of production in New York, he declared, adding if there were more production here the question of union difficulties would solve itself.

The 17 major studios remain here for about 10 days before returning to the Coast. In addition to a appearance on "Information Please" on Wednesday, along with James Stewart, Capra expects to attend the premiere of his picture at the New Theatre on Tuesday.

Wirthwein to Coast
(Continued from page 1)

20-1 Balance
(Continued from page 1)

Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Denver and Salt Lake City.

Gleste T. McBride has been elevated from Omaha branch manager to suc-ceeding McBride in Milwaukee; suc-ceeding McBride in Omaha is Don Hicks, formerly salesman there.

Arthur Poten has been transferred from the Cincinnati branch manager to a similar post in Memphis, Tenn.; he is also resigned. The new Cincinnati branch manager is Walter Weins, who had been a salesman in Dallas. All changes are effective immediately.

In his announcement, Reagan stated: "It is significant that all of the personnel changes will be made to membership in the Paramount sales department's "One Hundred Per Cent Club" at least one in three instances as many as four times.

Sweigert to Philadelphia
To Supervise from Field
Transfer of the headquarters of Paramount's Mideastern division from New York to Philadelphia will be effective immediately. The action is being taken in accordance with the company's new experiment of concentrating the operations of the four sales divisions, the Mideastern and the Western, from the field in a single office. It will form a closer contact with Paramount accounts.

From Philadelphia, Earle Sweigert, sales manager of the Mideastern division, will supervise activities of the Paramount branches in that city, Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Washington.

Independents, Decree
(Continued from page 1)

which the New York court has held to be illegal. They will continue to be immune from prosecution for as long as the original motion picture is shown to an audience of less than 500, or an exhibition approved by the Department of Commerce for a shorter period to an audience of less than 1,000.

To Arbitration
(Continued from page 1)

The chief threat to Hollywood, he said, is the influx of people from other fields "who have been doing something but money. Production is creative art," he said, "and newcomers equipped only with dollars will not stay long.

Wants Exhibitors
(Continued from page 1)

production. The exhibitor wants to stick to his own field," Myers said.

The Department of Justice plan to take the case to Supreme Court for an injunc-

don against cross-licensing has 'merit,' Myers said.

The "daily" cross-licensing is a "very neces-sary measure" for the period during which divestiture would be under way, if the irish court orders it, he said.
Motion Picture Daily

Short Subjects

“Germany—Handle With Care!”
(March of Time-20th-Fox)

Timely and engaging, this latest March of Time serves up a comprehensively reported look at the former Nazi zone since the Allies took it over, with graphic story lines of how various cities, towns and villages are being rebuilt. The film points out, countless other Germans have felt the full weight of defeat. Visually, it is a monuments in the making, through the ominous intonations of crack narrative, the picture leads the audience toward wonder what will come of this condition and the economic and political stagnation that has gripped that nation. The Allies’ efforts to bring Germany back to productivity are reviewed, and the need for intra-allied cooperation is emphasized. Running time, 19 minutes.

“Playing by Ear”
(M-G-M)

An essay on the ingenuity of Bob Anderson, famous blind athlete, in devising modifications of popular sports and games that enable him to participate, this Pete Smith short reveals how golf, basketball, baseball, bowling and horseback riding are tailored to the needs of the sightless without losing the demands of skill and coordination. The narrator, Al Schmid, ex-Marine hero, who lost his sight in Guadalcanal, is shown learning how to play golf by ear, relying on instructions about the description of situations, any traps or blocks and the distance. Running time, 10 minutes.

“Pretending”
(Columbia)

Leading off with “Pretending,” the Song Spinners, with Don Baker at the organ, in this “Community Sing” short, present “My Sugar Is So Re Fine,” “Chickeny Chick,” “My Gal Gal,” “Apple Blossom Time,” and “Linger in My Arms a Little Longer, Baby.” Running time, 10 minutes.

“One Meat Brawl”
(Warner Brothers)

Porky Pig, an animal collector, is set on adding a groundhog to his collection. On Groundhog Day, when that animal comes out of his hole in the ground to look at his shadow, Porky sets his dog out. But the groundhog, a clever talker if there ever was one, falls the dog out of attacking him, and then tells such a sad tale that Porky is moved to tears and relents. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

“So You Want to Save Your Hair”
(Warner Brothers)

All the comic possibilities by which a bald-headed man may try to grow a head of hair are explored in this short about Joe Oakes, who, one morning, finds some loose hairs on his brush. All the lotions, potions and mechanical contrivances fail, and Joe finally has to resort to a toupee. Running time, 10 minutes.

Intemountain Staff Shifts Are Made

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 16.—Staff shifts in Fox Intemountain Theatres in Montana, including appointment of new general manager, have been communicated to the Tower Theatre in Great Falls, and the transfer of his predecessor, Vic Walker, to the Ogden Theatre in Ogden, Utah, have been announced by Hall Baetz, district manager, on the eve of his departure for a tour of the theatres in Montana. The Ogden man, who was formerly assistant to Bill Powers in Butte.

Goodstein, Pickard In Theatre Deals

DENVER, Jan. 16.—In one of three theatre sales current in the Denver territory J. J. Goodstein returns to the city after an absence of several years. He bought the Rialto, Haxton, Colo., from R. O. Beck.

In the other two deals, W. B. Pickard bought the Arcade, the from Mack Niccum, and K. M. Krause obtained the Main, Walsenburg, Colo., from Joe Giordano.

‘Ent'fants’ to Ambassador

Sir Alexander Korda’s “Children of Paradise” (“Les Enfants Du Paradis”) has been booked into the Ambassador Theatre for its New York premiere opening following the run at the Cameo.”

Costing $1,250,000, “Children of Paradise” is the first French film to be completed since the liberation to be shown in the United States.

The film was produced by Pathé Films, with direction by Marcel Carne. Korda’s Tricolore Films is distributing in the United States.

U-Mindako in Deal

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 16.—Roy Miller, Minneapolis Universal branch manager, has closed a deal with Mindako Theaters for the first three pictures of the current season for all out-state situations. He was assisted in the negotiations by Charles M. Feldman, Western division sales manager, and Manny Gottlieb, Midwest division manager from companies involved are “The Dark Mirror,” “Magnificent Doll” and “Notorious Gentleman.”

Delay Scophony Hearing

Hearing of a motion by Scophony, Ltd., for dismissal of cross-claims made against it by Scophony Corp. of America and Arthur Levy, SCA president, in connection with the company’s Scophony anti-trust suit, has been postponed until Jan. 28 in Federal District Court here.

Goldstein to Florida

BOSTON, Jan. 16.—Sam Goldstein, president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, has gone to Clearwater, Fla., for a two months vacation with his family. During his absence, Harry Smith, assistant manager, will be in charge of the circuit.

D. & E. Name Hilton

Peter Hilton, former vice-president of Maxon, Inc., has joined Donahue and Cee, Inc., as a vice-president and account executive. During the past year Hilton was president of Mustard Recording Corp.

Arnold Named E-L Press-book Editor

Jonas Arnold has been named press-book editor for Eagle-Lion Films by Max E. Youngstein, E-L Director of advertising, publicity and exploitation. Arnold has resigned as promotion manager of the March of Dimes campaign to accept the new post.

In addition to handling press-books, Arnold, who entered the industry from the newspaper field in 1929 as a staff member of Paramount-Publix, will also handle exhibitor relations and sales promotion for E-L.

Bixler, Spiegel Join Warner Sales Force

Bob Bixler and Phil Spiegel, formerly of Warner Brothers, field public relations staff, have been added to the sales force by Enn Kalmonson, vice-president and general sales manager.

Bixler, who has been working out of the Oklahoma City branch, will now go to Cleveland, Spiegel, assistant to Art Moger in New England, with headquarters in Boston, will go to the Buffalo branch as salesman.

Film Case Guilty Plea

Mortimer Van Brink, named in a criminal information for fraud, as one of 14 defendants, has pleaded guilty and has been committed to the United States.

PREMIERE-IT’S

STATEWIDE WORLD PREMIERE—“IT’S A JOKE, SON!”

Austin, Paramount, Jan. 21; San Antonio, Aztec, Jan. 22; Houston, Metropolitan, Jan. 23; Dallas, Majestic, Jan. 24; Fort Worth, Hollywood, Jan. 25.

Century Circuit to Do Own Researching

Century Theatres has concluded the staffing of its new research and survey department, and is making preparations to conduct its first survey, according to Martin H. Newman, Century comptroller.

Joining Harriet Linen, who heads the department, are Herbert D. Berger, Mrs. Adele Elendt, and a group of part-time graduate students from New York colleges and universities.

Livingston Is duPont Photo Ad Manager

Alden H. Livingston has succeeded J. S. Hulick as advertising manager of the photo products division of F. I. duPont de Nemours & Co., having at the same time become a division manager in charge of the department’s motion picture service and exhibits and designs, DuPont manufactures and distributes raw stock for the motion picture industry, and others.

Mans O’Reilly Sell Two

MANSFIELD, Jan. 16.—Paul Mars and Don O’Reilly, operating an independent circuit located principally in the Twin Cities, have sold the Harbor and State at Two Harbors, Minn., to William Holisky, with the new owner assuming immediate operation. Holisky has been on the staff of National Screen for the past year, working out of the Minneapolis branch and covering northern Minnesota. Previous to that he was in the service during the war.

"He’s DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS...DEEP THAT IS, SON!"

Senator Claghorn

"IT’S A JOKE, SON!"

E-LORDIE-100

E-LORDIE-100
Portuguese Stand Pat or Quota Law

By JOAO DE MORAES PALMEIRO

LISBON, Jan. 11 (By airmail).—Following a long period of silence and expectation, the new Portuguese film quota law was officially published December 31 and submitted to the Portuguese National Assembly and for official discussion. Contrary to hopes generally held by exhibitors and distributors alike, and contrary even to public opinion, only very few and unimportant amendments were added to the quota law.

These changes involve a reduction in exhibition licenses for short features. The country's two largest film companies, all short features imported into the country prior to Dec. 31, 1946, from the new dubbing regulations.

A representative of the American Motion Picture Association recently visited Lisbon, and it was made known that he and M. Dickerson of the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon discussed the trouble with the Portuguese Cinematographic Federation, which has been issued. Only two Portuguese films have been completed so far and two more are being made. Thus, in the first months of 1947, foreign product undoubtedly will hold its own. However, all business will be affected by the uncertainty of future developments.

Lisbon's Christmas enjoyed adopted children attend the Hall of Bells at St. Mary's," which was received with stormy approval by critics and the public alike. The picture is now in release and evening performances completely sold out. Other local American successes at present include: "Mildred Pierce," "Conflict," and a reissue of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

Says S. A. ‘Untapped’ Projector Market

South America is virtually an untapped market for sound projector equipment, according to Robert Schaeffer of Belvue-Schaeffer and Co., New York export firm, who has completed a five-weeks' survey of Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina. In the countries to be visited by an appointee distributors, Schaeffer said a broad market for 16mm. projectors remains to be developed.

Danish Tax Mission

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—A delegation of Tax Department officials is expected to visit Washington at an early date to conduct negotiations looking to the conclusion of treaties between Denmark and the U.S. S. for the avoidance of double taxation, the State Department disclosed today.

Belgium, Poland, Hungary
In Film Facts With Italy

By ARCEO SANTUCCI

ROZEN, Jan. 11 (By airmail).—Three international agreements, concerning the export and import of pictures to and from Italy, have been signed. Under the treaties, a new connection between Italy and Poland, Italian equipment and films can be exported in exchange for the permission of Italian authorities.

An agreement between Belgium and Italy was signed for the delivery of $200,000 worth of Italian 35mm. and 16mm. projectors to Belgium. In turn Belgium promises to export to Italy about $2,000,000 worth of native pictures destined for the use of the industry.

The Italian-Hungarian pact calls for the exchange of pictures between the two countries with details to be worked out in a supplementary agreement. The necessary balance will be delivered by a contractor to Hungary film stock in the value of about $20,000.

Columbia Pictures, represented in Italy by the CEIAD concern, is planning to produce four pictures in Italy within the next six months, it is reported. Mr. Gregor Steiner is in charge of the project. He has sent William Seleky to Italy and negotiations for these four productions have been completed. Two of the pictures will be Italian, the rest will be Ilalo-American. The last picture of the Lux Film Co. has decided on the need of increasing capital from $44,440 to $444,440 and that this increase would have to be realized by Nov. 1947.

It was pointed out that present costs of production are very high and that the company has been obliged to borrow large sums from banks.

The Ente Nazionale Industrie Cinematografiche, largest Italian theatre circuit, has reached an agreement with a company in the west which is connected with the Italian producing company, Sculera Films and the World Films. The agreement follows a period of rumors which said ENIC had signed to show 20th Century-Fox or Rank pictures exclusively.

Under the new arrangement ENIC will show native or foreign productions. No box office data will follow immediately with "When the Bough Breaks," to be directed by Lawrence Huntington.

Vog Pictures, company for 1947 is not finalized as yet, but he has already outlined several subjects, among them the production of "Christopher Columbus" on which Dallas Bowen will act as associate producer, directed by David MacDonald. Other subjects at present outlined include an original by H. B. Warren, called "Marry-go-Round," to star Patricia Roc; "Forgotten Story," to be adapted from a book by Winston Graham; "Four Poster," to be directed by Compton Bennett in the spring; two subjects written with starring roles for Basil Radford and Nafton Wayne; a film to be directed by Bernard Knowles, "Family Portrait;" an adaptation of Winston Graham's "Merciless Ladies" or "Doc's Story;" and a Technicolor production, "Melba" based on the life of the Australian prima donna.

New Color Supply
Is in the Making

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Samples of German color-motion pictures have already been made available and a sample short subject has been produced of the special film, Nathan D. Golden, Commerce Department film consultant, disclosed today.

Golden said that the most outstanding feature of the same as Technicolor. Greatest stride in the development of Afga color has been made by adding, Golden and industry representatives portrayed the color process di- rectly from Germany after the war ended.

Anso is the only U. S. company holding patent rights to the development by the Alien Prop- erty Custodian.

Golden concluded that there may be some of Afga color flowing to producers within a year.

Stromberg Sees End Of Lush Grosses'

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 16.—Declaring his plans for a distorting producer, Hunt Stromberg declares, "This current return to normalcy, sometimes termed a "bubble," will act as an impetus and will come approximately the same as Technicolor. Greatest stride in the development of Afga color has been made by adding, Golden and industry representatives portrayed the color process di- rectly from Germany after the war ended.

Anso is the only U. S. company holding patent rights to the development by the Alien Prop- erty Custodian.

Golden concluded that there may be some of Afga color flowing to producers within a year.

2nd Indian Film

Following release of "Shaktalata," scheduled for next month as the first film said to have been made in India to be shown here, Mayer and Burston, Inc., will release "The Journey of Dr. Kottin," topical drama, first film produced in India with English dialogue. Producer-director-eastern, is" starring, with his wife, Jayashree, as the feminine lead.

Frances I’ Premiere

The American premiere of "Frances I’ First," French film starring Fernandel, will be held at the Hippo- drome Theatre, Washington, D.C., it was announced here by Noel Meadow and B. L. Garmer, who are distributing it in this country for Voj Film Co.

Arch’ Music Recorded

Enterprise will create a souvenir album before recording "Arch of Triumph," to reach the public the next week and prior to national release of the Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer starrer.

Heavy Schedule for Two Rank Studios

J. Arthur Rank's Sheffield's Bush and Islington Studios in England are working over capacity, they have been working over capacity, they were over before a spokesman for the Rank Organization discloses here. Production director for the Gainsborough films, plans to econo- mize in space and to plan production schedule as the film num- ber of films may be made during the year at both studios, it was said.

Already in production at Shep- ford are "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," starring Kermit Weeks and Mae West, has been released. The rest of the project will be released in the United States by Rank, in mid-February. David MacDonald is slated to take his unit into production at the end of January with "Good-Time Girl" starring Jean Kent.

"Irvington—where Betty Box is in charge of production, now box with "Dear Murderer," St. John Leigh-Cowle's play, which is being directed by John Box, will follow immediately with "When the Bough Breaks," to be directed by Lawrence Huntington.

"Pare's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," was announced here by Noel Meadow and B. L. Garmer, who are distributing it in this country for Voj Film Co.

variety Renames Rose; He Sets Committees

CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—Jack Rose, re- ceived the chief barcler of the Variety Club of Illinois, tent No. 26, has announced the following committee head appointments:

George Topper, budget and finance; Sam Levinson, membership; Lou Goldberg, delinquents; Al Rayner, house committee; Harry Blumenthal, decoration; Robert Goldstein, auditor; Martin Goldberg, entertainment; Ben Lourie, reception and fellowship; Bill Hunt, publicity; George Topper, tickets; Les Siminsky, sports; Aaron Stein, law; "Chick" Even, celebrities; Walter Simansky, The Heart; Edi- son, welfare agency; Will Baker, welfare; Erwin Fensin, photog- raphy.

China Film Office Here

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 16.—China Film Enterprises of America, Inc., incorporated in Delaware, has New York office here, according to a certificate recorded here. H. C. Wang is president of the company, Spencer, Hitchcock, Parker and Dur- ning, its incorporators.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY
Friday, January 17, 1947

Foothold in Most Europe Places: Maas

Hollywood Films Gain In All But 3 Countries

By IRVING KAPLAN

While the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia remain the only three European countries in which the Motion Picture Export Association has yet to establish a foothold, American product has begun to flow into Poland and Holland, and newly-acquired outlets among the 13 nations originally chartered for MPEA activities, and the organization's own one-reel newspapers, "International News" is being exhibited in Holland, Hungary and Romania. This indication of MPEA's success (Continued on page 6)

E-L Has Spent $12,000,000

Hollywood, Jan. 19.—An expenditure of $12,000,000 to date has been made by Eagle-Lion on its first eight productions already completed or well along in production, it was disclosed here by Arthur B. Krim, president of the company, on the eve of the actual start of the company in distribution, with the opening of E-L's "It's a Wonderful Life." (Continued on page 6)

SPG Expanding to 24 Films in 1947

Producers releasing through Screen Guild Productions will deliver 24 pictures to the company during 1947, compared with nine delivered in 1946, the first year of operation, Robert Lippert, SPG president, announced at a (Continued on page 6)

Benton Holds All Common Stock of Factual Film Firm

By JIM H. BRADY

Washington, Jan. 19.—Common stock of Encyclopaedia Britannica Films, Inc., Chicago, is 100 per cent owned by Assistant Secretary of State William Benton who supervises the international cultural relations program of the Government, according to the corporation's records.

The company specializes in educational and documentary films for distribution in this country and abroad. Among the附件 such major clients for educational reels, Benton procured the stock from the University of Chicago when Gen. Robert T. Wood of Sears-Roebuck offered to give the Encyclopaedia (Continued on page 4)

Vote to Hold To 20% Tax

Washington, Jan. 19.—Continuation of the admission and all other wartime excise rates for a year beyond July 1 was approved by unanimous vote of the House Ways and Means Committee, Chairman Harold Knutson of Minnesota reports. Treasury officials were consulted before the vote was taken. In order to expedite passage of the (Continued on page 4)

Paramount’s Telecasts Cost $500,000 Yearly

Chicago, Jan. 19.—Paramount Pictures is spending $500,000 a year on its television station here, WBKB, it is revealed by Cap. William C. Eddy, director of the B. and K. television station. Eddy said that the station is permitted to lose up to $8,000 per week.

The B. and K. television head said he expected that within a year the station would begin to show a profit, despite the tremendous cost involved in its operation, basing his contention on the rapid growth of television listeners in the Chicago area. He reported that the television audience already is near the 10,000 mark in Chicago alone. He stated that 72 per cent of television sets are in private homes and the rest are located in commercial institutions.

Touching on the question of whether television will affect grosses in the motion picture industry, Eddy said that exhibitors have nothing to fear from the new medium. He predicted that very few theatres will interrupt their regular theatre performances to put on a special television "flash." Eddy did say that the future would find small theatres set up for the specific purpose of presenting television pictures. These small theatres, he said, will have sell-outs any time they present special events such as a "Petticoat Jamboree," a "Gibson Girl" or other current event with widespread appeal.

Decrease Would Force ‘U’ to Buy Theatres

Claim ‘Show Case’ Right Hit by Franchise Ban

The final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, as written at present, would compel Universal to buy theatres in order to acquire "show windows," counsel for the company will tell the three-judge statutory court here on Wednesday in connection with a motion for modifying the court's ban of franchise deals.

"It is not wise for a state to tax goods and services already taxed by the Federal Government," the court's recommendation to the Government. Pointing out that during the war, states had to give up various sources of taxation because of the emergency effort, Smith said that the Federal and State Governments should now have some working agreement on taxation.

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Jackson Park Verdict Hit

Chicago, Jan. 19.—The defendants in the Jackson Park Theatre case, in which Judge Michael L. Igoe of the U. S. District Court issued an injunction decree Oct. 16, have filed a statement claiming that the judge had no right to hand down such a sweeping injunction based on evidence presented to a jury on the Jackson Park's previous triple-damage anti-trust suit won by the theatre. Judge Igoe's in (Continued on page 4)

MPTOA Asks Court To Clarify Decree

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America asked the New York Federal court on Friday for clarification of four questions raised by apparent omissions from the decree. The request was made in a letter ad (Continued on page 4)

In This Issue

"I'll Be Yours," "Ginger" and "Song of the Sierras" are reviewed on page 8.
Tradewise... 

by Sherwin KANE

For whatever it may be worth to anyone interested in figuring the "odds" on the chances of winning a Supreme Court appeal on controversial sections of the New York decree, here is how the high court justices lined up on a recent decision involving licensing rights under patents, a question not too remote from licensing rights under copyrights:

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson joined with the so-called "liberal" block in the form of William O. Douglas, Frank Murphy and Wiley Rutledge in a five to four opinion against the so-called "conservative" justices, Felix Frankfurter, Robert H. Jackson and Harold H. Burton, who were in joined in their dissent by Justice Stanley F. Reed.

Justice Black wrote the majority opinion and Justice Frankfurter the dissenting opinion. The latter justice in his opinion, namely, that a licensee cannot challenge the validity of a patent though everyone else may.

"Apart from the "liberal" "conservative" lineup with the Chief Justice supporting the former, the case holds some interest for both groups, however, because of its relation to licensing rights.

Quite a few attorneys for defendant companies in the industry with multi-truck fleets convinced that some phases of the New York court decree, particularly the competitive bidding plan and the prohibition of franchises, are invasions of the rights of copyright owners.

Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, has declared himself in favor of immediate organization of a motion picture forum comprising exhibitor-distributor organizations or by bringing the two industry divisions into closer accord through discussion and possible adjustment of their publicity policies in their own way and shun consultation with their fellow organizations.

Steged Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, as moderator of the forum, Johnston, who has repeatedly urged greater harmony within the industry, said immediately that he would be glad to serve if invited to do so. Last week, spokesmen at Johnston's Washington office indicated that Supreme Court justices joined New York court decree would have to be disposed of before Johnston could take an active part in the forum.

That appears to be the view of most company and exhibitor representatives whose participation in the forum would be essential to its functioning and functioning. Accordingly, it is to be expected that when the MPTOA board of directors considers the subject of the proposed forum at its meeting tomorrow in Sk Beach it will recommend that action on the forum be discussed by the board.

Between now and the final disposition of possible appeals in the industry anti-trust suit, there is an opportunity to do a great deal of necessary missionary and spade-work on behalf of the ultimate success of the forum. As the sponsor of the plan, the MPTOA would do well to begin that work now.

With the key Congressional committees on finance and taxation leaning now in the direction of an extension of the wartime admission tax, among others, for a year beyond next June 30, and urged in that direction by Republican majority leaders, it would be a sad omen if this exhibition is not to lose the contest by default it had better "get to dusting."

A first step which, if not a requisite to a proper campaign on behalf of exhibition, then a good one, in any event, would be for the national and regional exhibition organizations to combine forces and develop a coordinated campaign against extension of the admission tax and for its immediate repeal.

Obviously, the chances of success are not too good. They will not be improved by exhibitions of animosity within exhibitions or by conflicting testimony before Congressional committees, both of which are made possible by exhibitor organization rivalry. What is needed, then, is a course of public relations which pursue their own way and shun consultation with their fellow organizations.

**Wehrenberg in Last Local MPTO Meet**

St. Louis, Jan. 19.—Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, is expected to submit his resignation as head of the MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois at a meeting of the Midwest affiliate of the national organization this afternoon. Negroes and Wehrenberg will devote his full time to the national organization, it is understood.

On the agenda for tomorrow's session are a discussion of the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, filed by Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel; launching of the Motion Picture Foundation in this territory, and the forming of cooperation with the industry's effort to finance the adoption of orphans under the Greek War Relief program.

Unaffiliated members of the MPTOA board will meet at the Jefferson on Tuesday to outline further plans to be taken by the organization in the event of an appeal of the decree suit to the U. S. Supreme Court. Admission tax problems will be discussed, although nothing concrete will be accomplished. The forum, as proposed by Wehrenberg, will be handled by representatives of distributors expected to present the views of the companies regarding the forum plan.
The longest and greatest engagement in the history of the 6000 seat Roxy, N. Y. C.!
Jackson Park Case

(Continued from page 1)

juncition called for a radical change in the Chicago clearance system, with
provisions that a new look be started.

The defendants are all major distrib-
utors, B. & H., and Warner Theatre
circuits.

One of the points on which the de-
fendants will establish their appeal of the
case, based on the statement they
have filed, is that "a general verdict
for damages does not expressly decide
anything except that the plaintiffs were
found guilty on one or more of the
theories of recovery embraced by
them."

The evidence introduced before the
plaintiffs on the issue of estoppel by
verdict showing the jury's verdict
obviated the need of evidence on the
question of whether any one of those
theories necessarily was the basis of
the jury's verdict." The de-

fendants also held Judge Igoe had
no right to ban double features. They
claim Igoe's decree in effect "pro-
hibits the defendant exhibitors, re-
strains the use of double-feature
programs or plurality combination, from
the use of double-feature programs in
theatres although the use of double-
feature programs is not unlaw-
ful and such prohibition would place
the defendant exhibitors at a
disadvantage with plaintiffs' and other
non-defendant theaters."

Point of Criticism

Another point in Judge Igoe's de-
creed that was criticized was the
jury's verdict that "failure to operate
successfully operate a theatre without
reasonable access to the product of
the distributor defendants." The de-
fendants, if so many exhibitors
and

successively operate a theatre without
reasonable access to the product of
the distributor defendants in their
filed statement con-
tend that the injunctive decree went
beyond the evidence when the court
could not be justified in using their
power. They also claim the
decree is "punitive rather than re-
medial in purpose and remedial; it
does not attempt to restore or protect
the competition allegedly restrained
by the defendants."

The jury trial was held in the
U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals which
reversed Judge Igoe's guilty verdict
on the Jackson Park's triple damage
anti-trust suit. The Supreme Court
subsequently upheld Judge Igoe's
decree and awarded the Jackson Park
$300,000 damages.

AMPA Board Meeting

The board of directors of the Asso-
ciated Motion Picture Advertisers
will hold a luncheon-meeting at the
Hotel Edison here tomorrow. AMPA
president Rutgers Nelson will offi-
ciate.

Benton Holdings

(Continued from page 1)

Britannica to the university, which re-
fused to accept the financial obliga-
tion. Then vice-president of the uni-
versity, Benton offered to invest his
own money in the company and run
the business, which then was on a bankruptcy court. The university's board
accepted his proposal, and an agree-
ment was made on stock disposition.

The university was given 80% re-
ferred and 20% common stock. Bent-
on had two-thirds of the common, with an agreement to sell to the university after 18 months.

When the 18-month period was up in
1944, the university board met and
decided to continue the agreement.
But instead of Benton returning the
stock, the board presented him the
other one-third common. This made
him the holder of all common stock
of the company.

Benton now sold the film section of
the company. He resigned as chair-
man of the board of Encyclopedia Brita-
nica before leaving the Govern-
ment service in September, 1945.
However, he still maintains a private
office. The Encyclopedia Brita-
nica in New York, and has dealings
there.

The State Department Office of
In-

ternational Information is reported to have procured several documentary pic-
tures from Encyclopedia Britannica for exhibition abroad. The depart-
ment office here refuses to make pub-
lic a list of contracts let, however.

The company's reports that Benton
does not get special favors for his company.

The New York office of Encyclo-
pedia Britannica confirms here that the
State Department had during the course of 1946 acquired six educa-
tional films from the company, each
in five different languages, Dutch,
Norwegian, Czechoslovakian, French
and Greek. Details of the deals were
denied to be known here.

Hold 20% Tax

(Continued from page 1)

bill continuing wartime rates, the
ceiling of 10 cents on the House
floor, by-passing the Rules Commit-
tee. The wartime admissions rate
of 20 cents will continue in force in place of the
10 per cent pre-war figure, which it
was hoped would be restored.

Wartime rates are being continued
because of the budget and national
debt, it was said. President Truman
recommended in his message to Con-
gress that the action be taken.

Personal income rates will be re-
duced approximately five to eight per
cent on the eight highest brackets. Corpora-
tions and excess profits taxes will
come second in priority, with a small
reduction for the next fiscal year
seen.

Mr. Exhibitor: Investigate Filmmak's NEw Prvne Tran,
or Service before signing any

bility.

trailers contracts. Write, or

Write or phone Filmmak 1327 S.

phone number.

Wabash, Chicago, S. Ill., and
receive full details.
Century's Newman Warns on Economics

More careful operation and closer scrutiny of expenses are indicated for exhibitors at this point in the economic cycle, as well as lower film rentals and stabilization of admission prices, according to Martin H. Newman, comptroller for Century Theatres, operating in Greater New York. "In the economic cycle," Newman said, "caution report" to Century personnel, "is a watchword where the consumer calls a halt and decides not to purchase. This has not happened to the motion picture industry as yet, but it is a warning."

Newman pointed out that this led him to believe that careful consideration should be given before any admission price increases are made. "Certainly," he declared, "pre-war admission prices were entirely too low to compensate for the entertainment a patron received. Present admission prices, however, seem to represent a fair salary for two or three hours of entertainment. We should be careful not to risk the glutted markets that exist today, which are the result of consumer resistance, some of which is organized."

The Century comptroller stated that exhibitors on film rentals is that they had passed the saturation point, and consequently, presented a fertile field for reducing expenses. In addition," he concluded, "we must once again return to careful operation, with close scrutiny of expenses, to determine wherein profits may be stabilized."

PRC's Roth, Hendel Here For Parleys

Max Roth, Eastern sales manager of Producers Releasing Corp. and James Hendel, district manager for Cleveland, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, will arrive in New York today for conferences on forthcoming PRC product with Lloyd L. Lind, vice-president and assistant general manager, and other company executives.

'Depinet Drive' Meet

RKO Radio home office sales executives will attend a meeting here of the current "Ned Depinet Drive" today, to be conducted by Len S. Graenberg, drive captain, who will be introduced by Charles Bosberg, metropolitan district manager. Personnel of the RKO exchange will take part in the meeting.

10% ABPC Dividend

London, Jan. 19.—ABPC has announced a 10 per cent ordinary dividend. Under the terms of the March 31, 1975, dividend, compared to 75 per cent for the previous year.

Admissions Doubled In the Philippines

Admission prices in the Philippines have doubled since the end of the war, with some Manila first-runs now charging as much as $1.80 for choice seats, Cliff Almy, Warners Far Eastern supervisor, now in New York, discloses. Almy, who will leave here Wednesday for the Coast en route to his headquarters in Manila, reported that all of that city's war-damaged first-runs have been rebuilt to meet modern standards and are enjoying good business.

Many 35mm prefabricated theaters have mushroomed across the islands during the past eight months, and an increased number of 16mm mobile units are in evidence in the provinces, Almy revealed. Native product (Philippine studios turn out approximately 40 pictures a year) offer strong competition to American films, particularly in the provinces, he said.

Adopt Special Policy For 'Years' Showings

"The Best of Our Lives," Samuel Goldwyn's three-hour film, will be shown for the first time under a new showing policy, beginning with its engagement at the Fulton Theatre, Pittsburgh, on March 5th, the Goldwyn office here reports. The picture will be shown four times daily; at 11.00 A.M., at 2.30, at 6.00 and at 9.30 in the evening. Each performance will be reserved, but individual seats will not be. The number of tickets sold equaling the seating capacity of the theatre. Reservations may be made four weeks in advance.

Admissions

Hollywood, Jan. 19.—The motion picture industry's Permanent Charities Committee has met for the Infantile Paralysis Foundation with the announcement that it will continue to make an annual collection for all except religious purposes.

The Los Angeles Community Chest, which is the chief beneficiary of the $71,043,552 contributed last year by 20,048 Hollywood film industry donors, with a per capita average of $77, backing up the Permanent Committee.

The 1945 disbursement to the Los Angeles Community Chest was $1,015,317; and to the American Red Cross, $722,649, Basil O'Connor, in his capacity as chairman of the American Red Cross, has indicated his intention to reject the somewhat smaller allocation of $316,000 as Hollywood's 1946 contribution to the Red Cross.

The American Red Cross, the Los Angeles Community Chest and the March of Dimes are the only three beneficiaries of the 1946 payroll deductions and contributions to the picture personnel here through their Permanent Charities Committee, established in May, 1940.

Shouras Jersey Theatres Join March of Dimes

All Shouras theatres in Hudson County, N. J., and Rockland County, N. Y., have joined the March of Dimes to collect funds through Jan. 30.

Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division of the March of Dimes, who made the announcement about the Shouras theatres on Friday, also stated that Long Theatres, Texas, and McCarthy Theatrical Enterprises, Fargo, N. D., will cooperate in all of their houses.

Para. to Tradeshow Two

Paramount will trade show "Easy Come, Easy Go" on Jan. 31 in all exchange areas, except New York, where the film will be shown on Jan. 30; on Feb. 7, the company will trade show "Madly It's Spring" in all exchange areas.

Cagney Adds 'Life'

Hollywood, Jan. 19.—William Cagney has revised his 1947 production schedule in order to put before the cameras as early as possible—probably in February—William Saroyan's "The Time of Your Life," which the producer has lately acquired.
Maas, Europe

(Continued from page 1)

in Europe's "toughest zone" was offered Friday by Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of the Maas Motion Picture Co., which he heads in collaboration with the SS. Queen Elizabeth from a three-month survey of the European situation and its prospects.

In requesting theaters to receive the newreel shortly, he added, expressing the hope that Czechoslovakia and Poland would also enter the agreement. Maas appointed the journey to this zone on another trip "within the next few months," revealed that the MPEA is "in touch with authorities in Russia and Bulgaria and that Gene Birkham was scheduled to arrive in Yugoslavia on Friday, but that there are no immediate prospects for reaching accords in those countries.

Warning that a revival of the German industry may bring that country back again into competition with the rest of the film world, the MPEA executive emphasized that he is not thinking in fundamental terms; specifically and, sociologically, he pointed out, the Germans are still infected with "Nazi poison," and that there is more than one way that this can be remedied. "There is a strong desire for films from all over the world, instead of product from their own studios," he stressed.

He cited the bustling activity in all four German occupation zones, sponsored by the respective occupying powers, as assisting the physical regeneration of the German motion picture industry and disclosed that German production will produce between 50 and 60 films this year compared with a pre-war output of about 100.

The Rosenthal agreement, which is under Russian administration, "has probably the greatest sound equipment in the world," Maas asserted, adding that Nazi-built studios have been enlarged. This activity, however, is unique to the Russians alone, he stressed.

Johnston Warns British
On New Restrictions

Hollywood, Jan. 18.—Reporting on his trip to London to conclude a luncheon of studio heads and production executives in the Beverly Hills Hotel today, Eric Johnston warned them that further British restrictions upon American films would breed quotas in other countries, with harm resulting to the British as well as the American motion picture industry.

"Every country with a struggling film industry is in the same boat," Johnston said. "Instead of Britain finding expanding trade overseas for films, she would meet resistance.

While in England, he stressed the British the fact that the United States has no tariffs, quotas or other barriers on importation of foreign films, and urged the British to continue in this direction. In the absence of a quota law requiring 20 percent of the airplay time for British films, "I explained to British officials, producers, distributors, and exhibitors," Johnston said, "that we in America hoped for a greater exchange of films between the two countries and hoped to avoid further restrictions. I proposed an international motion picture policy providing for a gradual phasing out of trade restrictions and barriers. I found much agreement with my point of view."
New Theatres

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 19.—Remodeling of three theatres, including the historic Old Eagle Theatre of Sacramento, construction of a new house in Folsom and the conversion of a movie house in Hughson by United California Theatres are prominent this week among activities in the field.

Operation at the newly-completed house in Hughson, purchased by M. C. Board, owner of Showmen's Theatre from John C. Sanders, has already begun. Sold for $75,000, the 800-seat house will be managed by Charles Helyard, who has moved over from the Fox Turlock.

Funds for remodeling of the old Eagle Theatre, a civic repertory house in Sacramento, are being solicited, with construction to get under way in February. Although a goal of $500,000 has been set, only $200,000 is being sought currently.

Renovation, including installation of new sound equipment, curtains and stage draperies, has been completed at Paul Glick's Canoga Theatre in Canoga Park. George Schine, manager, and Elinore, recently sold to E. G. Patterson, has undergone an entire new decorative job. Bessie A. Lenger has been contracted to build a general permit to construct a $310,000 theatre in Folsom.

Plan 900-car Drive-in

Theatre Near Seattle

SEATTLE, Jan. 19.—Acquisition of 13½ acres of land on Garden- tract, 99 north, south of this city, for the construction of a modern playhouse with a capacity of 900 automobiles, has been announced by John Danz, president of Sterling Theatres, and William R. Gibson, operator of the new circuit in Oregon and Washington. Erection will begin as soon as regulations permit, they added.


LANETT, Ala., Jan. 19.—Construction of a new 500-seat theatre in the main part of this city will begin soon, according to Sidney Laird, general manager of Al-Dun Amusement Co. of Atlanta. L. J. Duncan is president of the company.

Platt Gets Lease of Ohio House

For Year on Bid of $7,500

Mr. VERNON, Ohio, Jan. 19.—With its lease, Jan. 12, of the 114-seat James C. Platt, city manager for Schine Theatrical Co., has been awarded the 1947 lease on the Theatre house by the Knox County commissioners. Commissioners

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Short Subjects

“Pooch Parade” (Paramount)

Interviews with 15 representatives from dogdom's world of 225 different breeds are featured in this subject, and the talking dogs prove they can hold their own with some of our top box-office stars in this "Affen" short. Running time, 10 minutes.

“Moonlight Melodies” (Universal)

Frankie Carle and his orchestra and vocalists Marjorie Hughes and Derry Fallgatter, who provide most of the music for this one, Songs featured are: "How Would You Feel," "Swinging Down the Lane," "In Love with Love," and "Warming Up." Running time, 16 minutes.

“Double Dribble” (Walt Disney-REKO Radio)

In this Technicolor cartoon, two famous basketball teams meet for a championship match. Everything wild, tany and imaginative happens, with just Merithew winning the game after he units the string of a player's shorts. Running time, seven minutes.

“Like Father—Like Son” (Paramount)

This Grantland Rice “Sportlight” presents five American sport standouts who are following in the footsteps of their famous fathers. Teams represented are baseball, football, hockey, boxing, and bowling and arrow marksmanship. Running time, 10 minutes.

“Ray McKinley And His Orchestra” (Columbia)

In this “Thrills of Music” short, Ray McKinley and his boys sing the lyrics of a musical with “Hootie Addie.” Then come other tunes, including “Tabu” and “Comin’ Out.” Running time, 10 minutes.

“Community Sing” (Columbia)

With Dick Leibert at the organ, the Song Spinners lend their voices to five numbers: “Surrender,” “Five Minutes More,” “My Fickle Eye,” “Who Told You That Lie,” and “There’s No One But You.” Running time, 10½ minutes.

“Bowling Fever” (RKO Radio)

Bowling has grown to a sport of tremendous popularity. In this “Sportscope,” Mrs. Catherine Fellmeth, women’s all-events champion, instructs youthful novices, gradually leading them to a point of high efficiency. Other experts are introduced and perform with dazzling technique and deftness. Running time, eight minutes.

Grant Leaves Republic

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 19.—W. M. (Bill) Grant has resigned as manager of the local branch of Republic. Manager of the branch for four years, Grant will leave here for California next month.

Mexican Union Asks Admission Decrease

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 19.—Asserting that theatre prices are “exorbitant,” the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, which includes thousands of employees, has called upon the Senate and the municipal government to order a substantial reduction in admission charges.

With theatre admissions currently ranging from 85 cents to $4 for first-run houses, the workers maintain that a close examination of exhibitors’ and distributors’ books would disclose that the admitted price could be reduced by 40 per cent.

Paramount Launches New Photo Service

Hollywood, Jan. 19.—Paramount’s studio, after months of development, announced that it would begin a lecture on psychiatry and psychol- ogy in films will be given here today at the Preview Theatre by Dr. Lawrence K. Franke, director of the Carolyn Zachary Foundation. Newspaper and civic organization representatives are on the invitation list.

MacMurtie Promoted

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 19.—William MacMurtie, who has been identified with the companies as an ap- pointed general purchasing agent of Philco Corp., by William Baderston, executive vice-president. Raymond A. Hassett, Amusement agent and a member of the Philco board, has been promoted to director of all purchases and will concentrate on over-all planning and general administratve work.

were incorporating attorneys.

New Production Firm

ALBANY, Jan. 19.—Cavalier Productions, Inc., of Los Angeles, has received a certificate to establish a motion picture production business with offices in New York City. Robert S. Young is listed as Hired City as the empres, Kaplan, Livingston and Lewis, Los Angeles.

$2,924 for ‘Best Years’

“The Best Years of Our Lives” grossed $2,924 on its opening day at the Colony Theatre, Miami, the Samuel Goldwyn office here reports. The theatre has advanced its prices for the run.

New Mexican Chief

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 19.—The municipal government announces the appointment of Fernando Gonzalez as chief of the mugger’s supervising office, which has jurisdiction over all theatres here.
Review

“I’ll Be Yours” (Universal-International)

The good news here is that Deanna Durbin has reverted to singing for the screen. And that is a promotional point which is bound to pay big dividends. Another plus, supplementing Miss Durbin’s own marquee strength, this cinematic coda (and what a honey-dipped, cello-trilled boss it is) offers the name-power of Tom Drake, long to be remembered for his work in “The Green Years,” William Bendix and Adolphe Menjou.

Speaking of names, that’s one card Miss Durbin can play on her. Miss Durbin, interpreting Miss Durbin’s film-inspired, a new one is on the boards for all it is worth (and that’s plenty) in the musical-coda department. Further credits: Felix Jackson produced. William A. Seiter directed, and William Chertoff wrote the original comedy, which was translated and adapted by John Taintor. But however impressive most of this roster may be, the picture, richly endowed with quality production values seldom shows itself as more than the sum of its parts, although the acting is first rate and the songs, written by Nacio Herb Brown, are excellent.


Charles L. Franks

“Ginger” (Monogram)

SENTIMENTALITY seeps from every foot of this picture, which relays the story of a girl and the forces the boy must overcome before he and his charges prove themselves worthy of respect. Judged from its tone and the emphasis, placed on Johnny Calkins, the boy, and Janet Burston, his tomboyish side-dance, “Ginger” will have a special appeal to parents and children.

Johnny is taken to a small town by his uncle, Frank Albertson, an unsuccessful pagliari who has retired from the ring and has obtained a job as master of ceremonies. There he and his nephew find the property adjoining the pound in order to build a park to be named for him, and so Albertson has some tough sledding, particularly since the boy is a very difficult child to control. Barbara Pepper’s performance as Miss Calkins is effective, and the story undoes. Much of the rough stuff is cut out of the script, which gives the sequence a light and amusing touch.


Irving Kaplan

“Song of the Sierras” (Monogram)

JIMMY WAKELEY’S tuneful contributions succeed in lifting somewhat this otherwise usual Western about how the cowboy succeeds in saving the old homestead. Lee “Lasses” White, his side-dance, carries the burdensome comedy, feebly though it appears.

Wakeley, in town to sell some horses, discovers that the buyer, Iris Crive, is manipulating a mortgage to take over a dude ranch owned by Bud Buster. Challenged on the breed of his horses, Wakeley agrees to race his horses against Miss Crive’s for a $1,000. U.S. Cavalry contract, and there is a lot of dirty work afoot before he gets the evidence to put Miss Crive and her subordinates in the sheriff’s custody for murder.

Also in the cast are Jack Baxley, Jean Carlten and Zam Murray. Oliver Drake is Fred, directed and wrote the story. Elmer Clifton wrote the screenplay.

Running time, 55 minutes. General audience classification.

Jordan to Monogram

SANTA CLARA, Jan. 19.—Ben Jordan, formerly with Universal as sales representative and for the past five years sales representative for Warner Brothers, Atlanta, has resigned and will handle Tennessee for Monogram Southern Exchanges, replacing his brother, Harold, who has been transferred to Monogram’s Charlotte branch, as manager.

Youngquists Buy One Astor

HARTFORD, Jan. 19.—New Astor Theatre Corp., of East Hartford, a subsidiary of the New Astor Theatre, there, from Ambassador Theatres Inc. Principals are Mr. and Mrs. Carl Youngquist. Mrs. Youngquist has taken over as manager.

Cleveland Aids ‘Dimes’

CLEVELAND, Jan. 19.—Cleveland independent theatre owners have agreed to cooperate in taking up audience collections during the March of Dimes drive, M. B. Hor- nitz and John D. Kalafat, co-chairmen of the theatre division, announce. Affiliated theatre policy has not been stated.

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Jan. 19

In a general re-alignment of production assignments, Sidney Picker will take over all pictures formerly assigned to Armand Schaeffer, who will remain in charge of February production. Gordon Kay and Mel Tucker have been promoted to the status of associate producers of straight Westerns which Phil Ford will direct, and Tucker to supervise a series of Westerns starring Monte Hale... Gottfried Reinhardt has been signed to a new long-term producer contract by M-G-M.

Operators of the Hitching Post Theatre in Beverly Hills plan to change the theatre’s all-Western policy by introducing a full-hour bill of news and special subjects on weekdays only. Residents of the neighborhood have polled on their reaction to the proposed change...

...The role of the composer Tchaikovsky in “Alfred Hitchcock’s ‘The Tragic Symmetry’” is expected to be in color cameras at Monogram, will be enacted by Swedish star Frank Sundstron.

Producer George Haight and scenarist George Fisher, who worked together on “Lady in the Lake,” have been assigned by M-G-M to a similar suspense film, “Saigon Singer,” based on Van Wyck Mason’s latest novel.

Newfoundland News: Neil Tawse has been signed to a long-term contract by Michael Curtiz Productions, and is set for the romantic lead opposite Joan Caulfield in “The Unsuspected.”... Toni Reynolds, former Powers model, has been signed by Walter Wanger to a long-term contract.

Walter Mayo will function as production associate for Monogram actress Noreen Berkeley’s “Atlantic,” in which Maria Montez and Jean Pierre Aumont are to costar. Walter Mayo has been assigned for a top role in “Repeat Performance” at Eagle-Lion.

Due to the factable release system, C.G.-M’s Technicolor short, “The Cat Concerto,” Fred C. Quinby plans to produce a series of similar cartoons based on celluloid masterpieces. The first will present Johann Strauss. Tales from the Vienna Woods is next. Ray Raviare, according to word received at Columbia, has arrived safely in Shanghai, where he will direct the China releases for the Kennedy-Buchman Production, “Assigned to Treasury.”... The second Thalia production starring Edward G. Robinson and Jean Arthur, “Together They Sing.” Sot Lusser has just engaged Paul Trivires to write the screen treatment for a Florida Fredericks’ story.

Janet Martin has been assigned the starring role in Republic’s forthcoming melodrama, “The Farmer Woman.” Miss George Blair will direct... Helen Freeman has been assigned a top spot in “The Kennedys,” which has been shooting at 20th-Century-Fox... Comedian Billy Green has been engaged by Warners for the role of a steamboat captain in “My Wild Irish Rose.”
High Court to Hear Schine Case

Acts After NY Decree Is Cited on Diversitute

Washington, Jan. 20.—The U. S. Supreme Court will hear Schine Chain Theatres’ appeal from the partial diversitute verdict handed down by Judge John Knight in Buffalo Federal District Court, the high tribunal ruled today, vacating its Dec. 16 judgment which denied the original Schine petitions and granting a new petition filed on Jan. 9 by Wil- lard S. McKay, counsel for the circuit.

The court, in its December judgment, dismissed two Schine petitions—one on the ground that it was filed before the Buffalo verdict became final. (Continued on page 7)

Allied Will Discuss Film Sales Policies

Charting a course of further action in line with a protest adopted by Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, against sales policies of film compa- nies will be among the subjects to be considered by the board of National Allied when it convenes in Wash- ington on Jan. 31-Feb. 1.

Criticism of sales policies, which expressed alarm at the manner in which (Continued on page 7)

IATSE to Stand Fast On Strike Issue Before AFL Heads

With the Screen Actors Guild and possibly all branches of the AAAA demanding that action to end the juris- dictional strike in Hollywood studios be taken by the American Federation of Labor executive council at its meet- ing in Miami on Jan. 29, the IATSE stands ready to answer any council questions with regard to the side of the dispute, Richard F. Walsh, “A” president, said here yesterday on the eve of his departure today for Seattle, where the “A” executive board will open a mid-winter session on Jan. 27.

Noting that the Seattle meeting will prevent his personal appearance in Miami, Walsh declared his organization will, in any event, maintain its (Continued on page 7)

Maas Report To MPEA

Foreign distribution managers of member companies of the Motion Pic- ture Export Association will convene here tomorrow afternoon at the offices of the Motion Picture Association of America to hear a report of the three-month survey of the European situation made by Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager. In an interview reported in yesterday’s Motion PICTURE DAILY, Maas, who returned to New York last Friday aboard the S.S. Queen Elizabeth, sketched the impressions of the trip which took him to Holland, Germany, Austria Czechoslovakia and other countries chartered for MPEA activities.

Flogging that MPEA would judiciously select American product for (Continued on page 7)

2 Anti-Trust Suits Ask $2,650,000 in Chicago

Chicago, Jan. 20.—Two separate anti-trust suits totaling $2,650,000 were filed here today by the Middle States Corp, on behalf of the Minnesota Theatre in Minne- apolis, together with the Riverside Operating Co. of Milwaukee on behalf of the Riverside Theatre there, and naming as defendants all major distri- butors and their subsidiaries.

In both suits jury trials were re- quested. Judge Michael Ligo, who has supported the Jackson Park in all respects to date, was handed the case of the Minnesota Theatre. Judge Philip L. Sullivan, who is handling the Piccadilly Theatre triple damage anti-trust suit, was given the Milwau- kee Theatre case.

The Minnesota case, in addition to all major distributors, also named as defendant the Minnesota Amusement Co. Based on alleged damages of $250,000 suffered from 1940 until the past seven years, damages asked is $750, 000, with the total amount set at $900,000. The latter figure includes $150,000 as lawyers’ fees.

Both the Minneapolis and Minnesota cases cited as precedent the New York decree of December 31 and the Jackson Park case, which has re- sulted in a U. S. Supreme Court vac- tion. In the Minnesota case the petitifant said it operated the Minnesota Theatre in 1940-41. The Middle States charged that the major distributors and big circuits squeezed the theatre so that it was unable to obtain first- (Continued on page 6)

Universal to Appeal, Alone if Necessary

Universal will carry the industry anti-trust suit decision to the U. S. Supreme Court, even if no other party does, according to Thomas Turner Cooke, who took over as special counsel for “U” prior to argument on the final decree in Federal District Court here last October. At that time, Cooke contended that (Continued on page 7)

In This Issue

“It’s a Joke, Son,” is reviewed on page 7.
Minnesota Elevates Charles Winchell

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 20.—Charles W. Winchell, advertising director of Minne- sota Amusement Co., has been ap- pointed assistant to Harry B. French, president and general manager, Everett E. Seibel, assistant advertis- ing manager, was promoted to Win- chell's former post. A man who followed appointment of French to succeed the retiring John J. Friedl, has been advanced to the position of associa-" 

Curl Heads Dayton Exhibitors' Group

DAYTON, O., Jan. 20.—James M. Curl, manager of the neighborhood theatre, was named vice-president of the recently-organized Dayton Theatre Owners association at a meeting here recently. Dear Baker, associate manager of the Palace, was named vice-president and James Herb, of the Seminole circuit, secretary- treasurer. Director is Dan Keys, owner of the Victory; William Reisinger, Locy's; "Gooby" Sable, Keith's; Fred Krim, of the Airlines and Theatre, Roy Oakes, president; Herbert and Herbert Oakes of the Drive-In. Baker was also chosen chairman of an executive committee to which will be Robert Partlow, "Shick" Davidson, Keys and Reisinger. Rob- bert Tucker of the Dale Theatre was named publicity director.

The organization, which voted 100 per cent cooperation in the March of Dimes, held meetings each Wednesday of each month.

CSA Decree Meeting Set for Feb. 10

ATLANTA, Jan. 20.—Date of the 20th Century-Fox release of the new record of the Confederacy of Southern Associations for discussion of the New York Fed- eral Court decree has been set for Feb. 10 by Mack Jackson, CSA pres- ident.

Robert T. Barton, Jr., of Richmond and George B. Brooks of New York, attorneys for CSA, will report to the meeting on the decree and a decision made whether or not to appeal to the New York court's denial of CSA's petition to intervene in the anti-trust suit in order to challenge the decision appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Flexer Will Start New National Circuit

MEMPHIS, Jan. 20.—City managers of Flexer Theatres, Inc., at a meet- ing in Memphis at the weekend and discussed new plans for a nationwide circuit. Dave Flexer presents.

Managers attending included: Joe Simon, Memphis; Paul Reisinger, Watertown, Tenn.; Nathan Flexer, Waver- ley, Tenn.; Mrs. William H. Allen, Miss.; Albert Allen, Miss.; Alfred; Albert; Al; W.; Miss.; Eugene Boggis, Amory, Miss.; Marvin Morris, Memphis.

New B'nai B'rith Lodge

DETROIT, Jan. 20.—The newly- formed Cinema Lodge of the B'nai B'rith received its installation today. At the initial meetings held a dinner at the Variety Club in the Fuller Hotel. Master-of-ceremonies was Oscar Adelman of the Loew Cohen Theatre Circuit. Harry Gilbert is acting club secretary and Paul Broder, Broder Theatres, is treasurer.

Lewis, McLaren Confer

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 20.—Sinclair Lewis is checking in here for a series of conferences with Leo McCarey regarding the story of "Adam and Eve," which Lewis will write for Lewis which will make four Rainbow Productions.

"Duel" Repeats $80,000

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 20.—For the third straight week David O. Selz- nick's "Duel in the Sun" earned $40,000 at the boxoffice, putting it at the Vague and Fairfax Theatres here.

Mary Astor's Mother Dies

EXCEN, Cal., Jan. 20.—Mrs. Helen Langhans, mother of Miss Astor, film actress, died at the home of her daughter Saturday after an illness of eight months. Mrs. Langhans' hus- band died nearly four years ago.

Personal Mention

ROBERT BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Corpora- tion here, will leave Hollywood to- morrow by plane for Dallas, from where he will depart for New York on Friday.

Joe Inger, Brandt Theatres repre- sentative, was married here on Sunday and is on a honeymoon trip with his bride.

William F. Rogers, M-G-M vice- president and general sales manager, is back in New York from Miami today.

Herman Robbins, president of Na- tional Screen Service, has returned to New York from Miami.

Arthur M. Locy, head of Locy's International, has returned here from the Coast.

Fine, Imprison Three In Print Theft Case

Three of five defendants charged in an indictment arising from the FBI arrests of last April in the matter of the stolen 16mm prints, have been sustained by U. S. District Judge Robert Inch, in Federal Court for the Eastern district of New York.

Defendants Frank Raymond Trillo, George John Sinigallia and Nicholas Peter Peruso each pleaded guilty last week to a charge of taking from the Army to a charge of taking from the Army to a charge of taking from the Army to a charge of taking from the Army to a charge of taking from the Army to the Army to the Army to the Army to the Army to the Army to a loss of $1,500 on 30 days in jail and fined each $100. Sentencing of defendants Abe Robert Glassden and Melvin Maurice Baker, who also pleaded guilty to the same indictment, was adjourned to Feb. 7.

Legion Classifies 4 Additional Pictures

Paramount's "Ladies' Man," Columbia's "District Attorney," and "20th Century-Fox's New Company" have been classified A-II by the National Legion of Decency.

Dinner for '5th Avenue'

Hollywood, Jan. 20.—A dinner will be given at the Bel Air Hotel by Roy Del Ruth Productions on the night of Jan. 30 in connection with the first showing of Roy Del Ruth's initial pro- duction for Allied Artists, "It Happened on Fifth Avenue." Producer-director Del Ruth, who has launched prepa- rations on his new production for Ap- lied, "Mr. Gideon."
Hazen to Confer on Future Wallis Plans

Joseph Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Productions is in Hollywood, where he will spend two or three weeks viewing new films and working out plans for producing new products to be released this month or deferred. Both executives are booked to leave New York on April 10th to attend meetings in Hollywood. Guy Jace, una Merele, Kenneth Farr, Jane Darwell, Sheila Ryan, Andrew Russell, Peggy Ryan, Lois Andrews and Audrey Potter.

Benny Rubin, dialogue director, will herald the opening of the International Circle while J. McCall Hart, Guy Levy will be booking a picture tentatively entitled “So Evil My Love.”

Goldman Buys Radio
To Build New 1st-Run

Philadelphia, Jan. 20 — William Goldman, president of Goldman Theaters, Inc., has purchased radio station WDAS, subject to approval of the McCarran Act. As soon as the arrangements are lifted new studios and offices will be built on the present site of the station, the former Keystone, and the policies will be changed to WDAM. The present Keystone structure will be demolished to make room for both the station and a new 2,500-seat first-run house which will replace the present Keystone playhouse.

In addition to the combination radio-television, Goldman has announced that the proposed building will also incorporate television studios. Goldman also stated that he would incorporate facilities to provide for second-run pictures when Keystone becomes a first-run.

Reade Considering
New Theatre, Hotel

Walre Reade interests are negotiating for purchase of the Republic Theatre here, together with surrounding properties, and may erect a large theatre and building restricted short distance from the Broadway site, according to New York film and financial circles.

A command performance of the new show in the hands of City Investing Co., with which Reade is said to be having negotiations. The theatre at present under lease to the Brandt interests, who are understood to hold it on a month-to-month basis.

Gruenberg Conducts 'Depinet' Meet Here

Harry Michalson, Nat Levy, Frank Drummy, Harry Gitullov, Sid Kremmer, M. G. Poller and Jack Level represented the RKO Radio home office at a meeting of the 1947 "Red Depinet Drive" held in the New York exchange yesterday. Len S. Gruenberg, drive captain, presided at the meeting, which is one of a series he is conducting throughout the country.

Cleveland, Metropolitan district manager, and Phil Hodes, New York exchange manager, were present, together with Carl Pepper, representing the Mitchell interests; producer-director Herman Silverman, and salesmen John Dacey, Lou Kutinsky, Ed Carter, Harry Zartila and Charles Fenger.

Yonkers Owners Gird
For Anti-Tax Fight

The Yonkers Motion Picture Theatre Owners Committee has advanced a plan of action in opposition to a proposed Yonkers theatre admission tax; the committee deciding to fully inform patrons that the burden of the tax will fall directly upon them, in addition to the existing Federal 20 per cent tax.

Samuel Orson of the Kent Theatre has been elected chairman. He said: "If the City Council imposes this tax, we will be paying the admission tax ranging from 20 per cent to 43 per cent. This is a discrimination against the single out theatre patrons for special class taxation."

Glaubinger to RKO

Cleveland, Jan. 20 — A. Glaubinger, who left the Columbia branch in Detroit, has joined RKO Radio here as city salesman.

IATSE to Extend 'Collator' Activity

With the recent integration of the Front Office Exchange Local, F-51, of New York, into Local No. H-63 of IATSE, two new offices of Warners Bros. Universal and in the exchanges of Warner, Paramount, RKO Radio, Universal and Republic, has been active in the radio, music and theatrical fields, was recently appointed business rep. with the staff of Local H-63. He will assist Russell Moss, executive vice-president and business manager.

RKO Executives to Baltimore Opening

RKO Radio and Liberty Films executives from here will attend the opening of J. Rappaport's new Town Hall Theatre, Baltimore, Monday. An advertisement showing "It's a Wonderful Life" will be given, with a regular run to be held thereafter. RKO will be represented by Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president; Robert Mochrie, vice-president and sales managers; Harry Mishaulon, short subjects sales manager; Walter E. Branson and Nat Levy, traffic and account sales managers, respectively; S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising-publicity, New York, and G. A. Mead, public relations manager. So Schwartz, vice-president of RKO theatres, also plans to attend, as will R. J. Pollard, RKO Radio Eastern district manager and Joseph B. Brecheen, Washington exchange manager.

Bill to Repeal 3% Ohio Admission Tax

Columbus, O., Jan. 20 — A bill to repeal the state's three per cent admission tax, the proceeds of which are used to defray levies excise taxes has been introduced in the Ohio legislature by Rep. George Marbach, Dayton. A similar proposal in the regular tax bills to be sponsored by members of the Franklin county delegation to the legislature.

The present state tax yields about $2,900,000 annually. It is probable that city levies in this field will be set at more than twice per cent. Charles Egger, Columbus Citizen political writer, recently suggested that Columbus might enact a 10 per cent to balance the city's budget.

N. Y. News Editorial Boosts Liberty Film

Liberty Pictures' "It's a Wonderful Life" was described as a "wonderful show" in an editorial in Saturday's New York Daily News, which recommends a picture on its editorial page.

"We've seldom seen such a moving and inspiring, entertaining and exciting picture as this one," the editorial declares. "We advise our readers to go and see this picture," the editor concludes.

H. J. Wessel Honored

Cincinnati, Jan. 20 — H. J. (Pop) Wessel, owner of the Film Service Co., film truckers, voted the "Swell Guy of 1946" by the Cincinnati Variety Club, Tent No. 3, was tonight presented with the M. T. Maxwell "Variety Club Swell Guy" award on the stage of Keith's Theatre, between showings of the Universal film of that name.

Kiepura in Mexico

Mexico City, Jan. 20 — Negotiations are being conducted with various Mexican producers by Jan Kiepura and his wife, Martha Eggerth, who are here on vacation, for the making of a picture in English and Spanish.
"Occasionally there comes from Hollywood a picture which catches some aspect of life in a vivid and tangible relation to normal experience, which sets up a group of fictional characters who resemble persons living or dead and which makes of these juxtapositions a drama of dimensions and power. Such a film is the current Samuel Goldwyn production, 'The Best Years of Our Lives.'

'The homecoming problems of war veterans have been pretty well run through by now—the physical and spiritual readjustments, the social levelings and the heartaches of the maimed. Most everyone in the country has known something of what it has been like to absorb a large citizen army (and navy and air force) back into civil life, to take up a normal way of living after three and a half abnormal years of war. We have known—some more markedly than others—the joy and shyness that reunions have provoked, the bitterness of anti-climax, the estrangements threatened by war's raw scars. This has been a vast national experience. This has been a poignant drama of real life.

'And this is the drama which is captured in 'The Best Years of Our Lives'—a title, incidentally, which has merit for its subtly ironic overtones. This is the drama which, for many who have been most involved in it, is just now emerging in patterns that can be recognized and grasped. For the nature of such experience is generally difficult and vague until it is clarified by hindsight. And that is what this excellent film provides. By observing the varied readjustments of three veterans returned from the war—their typical joys and bewilderments in relations with their loved ones and their friends, with society and, significantly, with each other—it throws into penetrating relief the stresses and strains of a drama which is still, as it were, in its third act. And that is immediately important.

IT IS ENRICHING.

As a matter of fact, it's art."
ARE GIVING IT THEIR BEST...

and PLENTY ENRICHING AT THE BOX-OFFICE, TOO!

8th Week at Astor, N.Y.
New All-Time Record!

MARCH OF Dimes MOTion PICTURE Drive
JANUARY 24th-30th

GOLDWYN’S

s of Our Lives

TERESA WRIGHT • VIRGINIA MAYO • HOAGY CARMICHAEL

From a Novel by MacKINLAY KANTOR • Director of Photography GREGG TOLAND

Released by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.
Maas Report to Motion Picture Daily
(Continued from page 1)

Maas declared that European, emerging from its grim war experiences, displays a new interest in American war films. While emphasizing that the demand is for escapist screen fare, he pointed out that films, which were being shown in Holland at the time of his departure from the Continent, were on war themes. In neutral Switzerland he continued, where U. S. pictures have always been very popular, theatrical patrons are finding the "black market" in admission tickets has sprung up.

Responding to recent criticisms of American product, Maas insisted that official opinions conveyed to him "in a friendly, advisory manner, ask us to select pictures for export very carefully and to exclude pictures which would give a false impression of American Life," and, also, that "we don't flood the market."

"American films are wanted everywhere," he said. "In pre-war prestige and are the most popular films, except in countries like Czechoslovakia, Poland and others, where local product attracts strong support."

Organized last May to arrange

Revision Predicted

Levy asserted that if the burden of proving clearance to be legal is left to distributors it "will ultimately call for a revision of the entire distributor control system." Among the decree's disadvantages, Levy mentioned the "spectre of Government control of the industry's wagginess and uncertainties in the competitive bidding procedure; freedom of distributors to engage in auction and competitive bidding procedures, and the "avalanche of litigation and strife" which the decree invites.

"One of the great tragedies of industry history," he said, "is the discrediting by the court of industry arbitration. It means confusion, litigation and more litigation. When the proper time comes you will be asked to bend all efforts toward the creation of a system of industry arbitration."

M-G-M Will Cooperate
On M.P. Forum: Richey

Henderson M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, pledged to the meeting toward fulfillment of the Motion Picture Forum idea advanced some time ago by Fred Wehrenberg, president of both the local group and its parent organization, the MPTOA.

"At a time when all indications point to court-mote rules," Richey said, "it is refreshing to know that many theatre owners are giving consideration to the feasibility of a frameworl, cooperation and expansion of alleged industry ailments. We pledge you our cooperation that we may all face the future in a better way."

Referring to the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, Richey said: "We too share the optimism of our friends, and those who take refuge in the statement that 'the Supreme Court will straighten it out'. I am convinced a better way will depend on the white light of analysis on many of the half truths and imaginary ailments we hear so much about."

Wehrenberg Reelected

The local MPTOA refused to accept the resignation of Wehrenberg, who offered to step down and declared that the court here in order to devote full time to the national organization. Instead, the executive committee of the local group elected to aid them. They are: Carson and Rodgers, Cairo, Ill.; Clarence Kaimann, St. Louis; and L. A. Mercer, Fredericktown, Ill.

Kaimann was named as secretary; John Anschutz, St. Louis, treasurer; Walter Thelen, St. Louis, sergeant-at-arms. Directors are: Harry E. Miller, William A. Collins, Charles W. Johnson, St. Louis, and Fred Scutter, Herman Tanner, Robert E. Cluster, Sam Pirtle, George Kerkhoff, Henry Holloway, Orville Crouch and Al Rosean.

2 Anti-Trust Suits
(Continued from page 1)

run product. Middle States claimed it was forced to give up operation of the Middle States circuit.

In the Milwaukee case, there are two plaintiffs. The Riverside Operating Co. was the first, from the Riverside from 1934 to 1939. The other plaintiff, Middle States, says it operated the theatre from 1934 to 1939. Charging unfair business practices and claiming that they were unable to obtain first-run product, Middle States says it was forced to close the theatre.

Both plaintiffs are suing for a total of $1,750,000, based on damages of $200,000 a month in each case from 1934 until the present. This is tripled in an anti-trust damage suit and $250,000 is added to include lawyers' fees.

Warner Bros. and the Stanton-Riverside Co. of Wisconsin now operate the Riverside on a fifty-fifty arrangement. The suit names the Warner and Fox Theatre circuits as two of the main defendants. The Riverside company claims that Fox and Warners have been operating first-run houses, except Riverside, from 1929 until present.

List of Allegations

In both the Milwaukee and Minneapolis complaints the following devices are alleged to be among themselves to deprive plaintiffs of first-run films: sharing advertising costs, operation contracts, contract modifications, reduction in film rentals where pictures were "disappearing," reduction in film rentals when films were double spoiled, changing percentage percentages to flat rental, elimination of some pictures by extending stays of importance films to prevent pictures from one theatre to another of defendants, cancellation of some pictures contracted for, permitting defendants to play fewer pictures, cancellation of short subjects, and move-overs.


Full equipped for 35MM, 16MM, and Slide Projection.

Cocktail parties, luncheons and special opening night gala.
**IATSE on Stand**

(Continued from page 1)

stand that William Hutchinson, president of the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades, has re-affiliated the AIA by the "Cincinnati agreement." Under terms of that 1945 strike settlement, CSU members were to be the "right to build" on which AIA members were to "erect" them.

A key to the difficulty which has dragged on into the present phase of the strike is a shortage of space in studio carpenter shops, which is the result of changing that most of the carpenter work on numerous sets now is done on the studio stages where the AIA has the work. The remaining setders of the labor into the field of "erection" than the CSU members had originally anticipated. In supposedly "clarifying" the Cincinnati ruling by giving the "IA" only the right to assemble sets, an AIA arbitration committee violated the terms of that agreement, Walsh contends.

Joseph D. Keenan, Chicago Federation of Labor officer, who was appointed to seek approaches for settling the dispute, has postponed from Feb. 1 until late in the month his departure for Germany to become labor advisor to Gen. Lucius Clay, the military governor of Occupation Germany. Walsh pointed out that it would be time to spend on the film industry assignment, Walsh reported.

Meanwhile, the AIA has scheduled a council meeting in New York for Jan. 27, the day before the AFL governing council meets in Miami, and is expected to act at that time on joining the SAG in demands for a Miami settlement of the strike issue, or at least of the arbitration becoming a machinery that can lead to such an end.

**Schine Appeal**

(Continued from page 1)

final and the other on the ground that a substantial question had not been shown.

McKay, in his petition this month, pointed to the New York Federal District Court's refusal to order diversity in the industry anti-trust suit and further questioned the propriety of ordering the suit of theatres which were not shown by the evidence to have any relation to any restraint of trade. It referred to Judge Knight's ordering of the appointment of a trustee to sell the properties as "a clear abuse of discretion" and took issue with the Buffalo court's accepting as evidence communications between employees of distributing companies.

In disclosing its decision to hear the appeal, the Supreme Court today said it finds "probable jurisdiction," in the case. The hearing is expected to appear on the docket in March.

**Review**

"It's a Joke, Son"  
(Eagle-Lion)

THE first release from Eagle-Lion is a presentation of film of the Senator Claghorn character on the Fred Allen radio program, enacted in both media by William Claghorn, who was also optioned in *Motion Picture Daily's* 1946 radio poll, clearly with the Claghorn character and type of humor a factor in that result, which is a circumstance to weigh in any showmanship consideration of the picture. But, in the case of the picture, and his lines are of the same kind, thunderously championing the South and condemning the North, all in the interests of good, clean fun. It is what may be described as a specialty attraction, rather than a feature of the type which has been the rule in the past.

The original screenplay by Robert Kent and Paul Gerard Smith quantitative of Delmar as an exaggerated Southern gentleman, still fighting the Civil War in order to become a nominee for state senatorship. It is all handled for comedy, ranging in variety from the vocal to the slapstick, but a little past midpoint the picture tightens up to include some gangsterism which gives it a little additional interest. It ends as it should, for all but the villains, who are not taken very seriously either.

Una Merkel, June Lockhart, Jimmy Conlin and Douglas Dumbrille are among the players present, but the spotlight is on Delmar throughout. Aubrey Schemb produced, on a moderate budget, and Ben Stoloff directed.


**Universal to Appeal**

(Continued from page 1)

numerous clauses in the New York court's June 11 opinion were contrary to rulings of the high tribunal. Since then, Universal has requested a stay of competitive bidding pending appeal, and has asked modification of the ban on franchise agreements.

Cookie has been associated with a number of Supreme Court cases, including the Schoedel letter, which resulted in the invalidation of the National Recovery Act; the McCardle-Kansas City stock yard suit and the Max Krause meat industry suit. The latter action concerned tie-in sales under the Office of Price Administration.

**Cleric Warns**

(Continued from page 1)

picture men realized in the early thirties that they almost killed motion pictures with cheap, dirty stories and characterizations. The wave of moral indignation which swept over this country so frightened Hollywood that it cleaned its house and subscribed to a code which was supposed to insure the American people against indecent pictures.

"Had this code not been put into effect, motion pictures might well have gone back to the nickelodeon stage instead of rising to the place it has established for itself in the entertainment field.

"The code still exists, and while the letter of it may be obeyed, its spirit has been broken often enough to reflect discredit upon the men who profess to subscribe to it.

Citing "Duel in Sun" and "The Outlaw" as films in point, the editorial observes, "There have been many straw men in the wind lately, and they would be wise men in Hollywood who would see the way the wind is blowing."
43 GREAT PRIZES
FOR EXHIBITORS IN
March of Dimes Contest

If you did not receive the broadside that was shipped to you directly, you can see the list of prizes here. See your press sheet for complete rules and details of the contest that offers equal chances to all theatres, regardless of size.

This space is contributed to the March of Dimes by MOTION PICTURE DAILY

CONTEST No. 1

1st Prize—New Higgins Camp Trailer
2nd Prize—Cine-Kodak Magazine 16 mm Camera
3rd Prize—Ampro 8 mm Projector
4th Prize—Hammonton Park Man's Suit
5th Prize—Regent Cigarettes; a carton a week for one year
6th Prize—12 Pairs of Fownes Gloves
7th Prize—1-Year subscription to Book of the Month Club
8th Prize—Gold Eversharp Pen
9th Prize—An original Walt Disney Drawing
10th Prize—Richelieu Pearl Necklace
11th Prize—Richelieu Pearl Necklace
12th Prize—Richelieu Pearl Necklace
13th Prize—Century Glide-O-Matic Electric Iron
14th Prize—Set of Lord Davenport Briar Pipes

CONTEST No. 2

1st Prize—Victor Animatophone 16 mm Sound Projector
2nd Prize—R.C.A. Victor Television Receiver
3rd Prize—Gold Kingston Watch
4th Prize—Regent Cigarettes; a carton a week for one year
5th Prize—Regent Cigarettes; a carton a week for one year
6th Prize—Schiaparelli Shocking Perfume
7th Prize—1-Year subscription to Book of the Month Club
8th Prize—Gold Eversharp Pen
9th Prize—Richelieu Pearl Necklace
10th Prize—Richelieu Pearl Necklace
11th Prize—Richelieu Pearl Necklace
12th Prize—Century Glide-O-Matic Iron
13th Prize—Century Glide-O-Matic Iron
14th Prize—Solid Gold Key from Lambert Bros.

CONTEST No. 3

For Theatres Up to 300 Seats

1st Prize—Apex Washer
2nd Prize—Apex Deluxe Cleaner
3rd Prize—Garod Playmate Radio

Theatres 301 to 600 Seats

1st Prize—Mercury II Camera
2nd Prize—Apex Deluxe Cleaner
3rd Prize—Cwil Chapman Wrap

Theatres 601 to 1000 Seats

1st Prize—Apex Washer
2nd Prize—Charles of the Ritz Make-Up Kit
3rd Prize—Rembrandt Phonograph

Theatres 1001 to 1500 Seats

1st Prize—Mark Cross Game Kit
2nd Prize—Book of Knowledge Set
3rd Prize—Spaulding Ski Set

Theatres 1501 Seats and Over

1st Prize—Lionel “O-27” Freight Train
2nd Prize—Budd Cocktail Jacket
3rd Prize—12 Haviland China Service Plates

MARCH of DIMES—MOTION PICTURE DIVISION

EMIL C. JENSEN
DIRECTOR

HOTEL ASTOR, TIMES SQUARE
NEW YORK, N. Y.
MPTOA Board Approves Plan For MP Forum

Asks Meeting of All Exhibitors to Start It

St. Louis, Jan. 21.—The board of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America today approved the proposal for a motion picture forum, advanced by Fred Wehrenberg, president, as an industry agency of self-regulation and conciliation of internal disputes.

The board urged that all branches of distribution and exhibition join in making the forum possible. Wehrenberg was authorized to communicate with national and regional exhibitor organizations to ask (Continued on page 5)

E. C. Grainger Sees End of Price Rises

CLEVELAND, Jan. 21.—E. C. Grainger, president of Shea theatres, at the annual managers meeting here at the Carter Hotel, led a general discussion of all phases of theatre activities, reviewing the past year and anticipating this year's problems. Grainger anticipates no further admission price boost, on the basis of the present buyer resistance trend.

George Ruffley, lawyer, of New York, explained the consent decree to the 35 managers present and its possible effect on the industry. Attending the banquet tonight were 100 persons, including Eastern division (Continued on page 7)

Western Penn. Allied Meet Opens Today

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 21.—With officers to be elected and important business to be disposed of, the annual two-day convention of the Western Pennsylvania Allied will get under way in the William Penn Hotel here tomorrow.

A luncheon and open meeting will launch the affair, which was postponed twice because of hotel strikes. Among (Continued on page 5)

MPTOA Favors Appeal on Decree; Federal Tax Fight

St. Louis, Jan. 21.—Independent exhibitor directors of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America today opposed by resolution the film licensing methods established by the New York Federal court in its decree in the industry anti-trust suit and authorized Herman Levy, general counsel, to file brief as amicus curiae in opposition to the selling plan if the decree is appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The directors also adopted resolutions opposing the extension of the federal admission tax beyond next (Continued on page 5)

Permit Direct Line To Ex-Axis Nations

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—Film companies with proprietary interests in Germany and Japan, abandoned during the war, may now communicate directly with business parties or interests in those countries without channeling such inquiries through the State Department, it was said here today.

Hereafter, under wartime restrictions, persons in the United States were prohibited from communicating with business representatives in Germany or Japan concerning their property, nor could persons in the occupied nations communicate such information to residents of the U. S.

Skouras Names Drive Group

The national organization of the industry's drive for "American Brotherhood Week," Feb. 16-23, has been completed by Sporos P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox and chairman of the drive. The industry's overall objective during this period will be 25,000 new memberships in American Brotherhood.

The campaign, which has been carried on for 11 years by the National (Continued on page 7)

CIEA Favors Bidding Stay

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—It would be unwise to put the complicated and costly competitive bidding system into operation until all doubt is dispelled whether the Supreme Court will approve it as a proper Sherman Act remedy. Abram F. Myers, counsel for the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations, will today in a letter to the New York Federal court supporting the major defendants motion that a 90-day stay be granted.

Myers will say that CIEA believes complete separation of production and (Continued on page 5)

British CEA Leaders Cite Need of US Films

$19,000,000 in New Rank Financing

London, Jan. 21.—The final stages of refinancing British Odeon Theatres have been completed by J. Arthur Rank with the issuance of the equivalent of some $19,000,000 in debentures and preferred shares.

Issued were 3,500,000 pounds ($14,000,000) in three-and-one-quarter per cent debentures, at par, (a4), and 1,250,000 shares of preferred shares ($3,000,000), at one pound par (a4), to be sold at 21 shillings ($13.40).

By PETER BURNUP

MGM Buys Astor Hotel in N. Y.

M-G-M has purchased the Astor Hotel, New York, in a deal reported to involve $5,700,000. In real estate circles, announcement of the purchase provoked speculation about whether the film company will demolish the building to erect a theatre and office building, but company spokesmen declined comment. Vincent Astor retains title to the land on which the hotel is situated. The acquisition of the purchase came from Arthur Collins, vice-president of Brown, Wielbeck, Harris, Stevens, Inc., brokers in the deal.

In This Issue

“Pilgrim Lady” and “Der Partisan On Wheels” are reviewed on page 6; key city grosses are given on page 6.

Five Seek New Amendments; Hearing Today

‘Protective’ Expansion, Pooling Stay Are Asked

The theatre-owning decree defendants yesterday filed a memorandum in Federal Court here, asking that the decision be amended to make it clear that they be allowed to acquire theatres in order to “protect their interests” rather than merely to expand in competitive areas as the decree may now be interpreted. The memorandum asks further that a provision be made for a two-year (Continued on page 5)

Edward C. Beatty Dies in Detroit

DETROIT, Jan. 21.—Edward C. Beatty, 54, president of the 115-house Butterfield Circuit, died in his office here this afternoon of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Born in Cortland, Ind., Beatty attended public schools in Indiana and (Continued on page 7)
M-G-M, Enterprise Sign Foreign Deal

Foreign distribution of Enterprise productions’ output will, as expected, be handled by M-G-M through Loew International. It was announced here yesterday by Arthur M. Loew, president of the Enterprise. Handling foreign distribution is unique because it provides for export of the product outside the U.S. and Canada. It is part of the plan to distribute in this country. It climax ed a series of conferences with David Loew of the Enterprise board in Hollywood and Charles Einfeld, Enterprise president, here. Einfeld came here from Hollywood to conclude negotiations for the foreign setup, which was reported in Motion Picture Daily on Jan. 16.

Asserting that the M-G-M unit would devote its “full resources overseas” to boosting Enterprise, Loew listed high on the list of product “Arch of Triumph,” recently-completed $4,000,000 production starring Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer. Others set for Loew distribution is the forthcoming film, “The Merry Widow,” with Barbara Stanwyck and David Niven; “Body and Soul,” with John Garfield, and “The Great Train Robbery,” starring Bing Crosby and “Ramrod,” with Joel McCrea, Veronica Lake, Donald Crisp and Don DeFore.

Wever, Ramsaye Will Address AMPA Meet

“New Trends in Magazine Promotion” will be the subject of a talk by George Wever, promotion director of Life, at the annual convention meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers to be held at the Town Hall Club, here, on Feb. 6. The meeting will observe the 100th anniversary of the birth of Thomas A. Edison, inventor of the kinetoscope, and in this connection Terrys Ramsay, editor of Motion Picture Herald and industry historian, will address the gathering.

Robert Powers, also of the Wever organization, will preside at the meeting and Phil Williams will be master-of-ceremonies. Among other guests invited to attend are members of the board of editors, and Don Marshman, cinema editor, of Life, and James Branson, publisher of Editor and Publisher.

Surveys New York for Equipment Meeting

Roy Boomer, secretary-treasurer of Theatre Equipment Supply Manufacturers’ Association, Chicago, is in New York looking over hotel sites for the fall convention. Charlotte Boomer, his wife and publicity director of the association, who has been attending meetings in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

Bert Stern Stricken

CLEVELAND, Jan. 21—Bert Stern, head of Co-operative Theatres, Pittsburgh, suffered a heart attack while visiting here, and had been admitted to Mt. Sinai Hospital.

Personal Mention

NEIL F. AGNEW, president of the Selznick Releasing Organization, is due back in New York from Hollywood in a few days.

OSCAR F. NEU, head of Neumade Products and president of the Theatre Equipment Supply Manufacturers’ Association, is in California, from New York, on association business.

GERALD MAYER, head of the international division of the Motion Picture Association, returned here yesterday from the East.

GEORGE RAFTERY, attorney, is expected back in New York today from Cleveland.

HUGH OWEN, Paramount Eastern and Southern division sales manager, is in Boston. He will return here tomorrow.

LOU NOVINS, assistant to Paramount president Barney Balaban, will return to New York today from Washington.

JULES LAPIUJUS, Warner Eastern division sales manager, and SAM LEIBERMAN, New York district manager, left here last night for Buffalo.

NORMAN AYER, Warner Southern division sales manager, is en route for Memphis and New Orleans.

8 Loew Promotions Are Made by Vogel

Eight Loew theatre managerial promotions have been made by Joseph R. Vogel, company vice-president.

Sam Pearcy, who operated with Loew’s Theatres in 1932 as an assistant manager at Loew’s 46th Street, Philadelphia, and who had succeeded the late John W. Loew of Loew’s Triboro, Astoria, L.I., has been promoted to manager of Loew’s Silver Screen in New York.

Ernest Edward Douglas, resigned.

Following the death of David Schiller, manager of Loew’s Dyckman, and promotions of the other several other managers, Vogel has also promoted seven assistant managers to the posts.

Robert Gibbons, assistant at the Capitol, was given the managerial spot at Loew’s Plaza; William Kneer, assistant at the American, Parkchester, moves to Loew’s Woodside; Joseph Sica was promoted from Loew’s Jersey City to Loew’s Dyckman; Harold Privalle, from Loew’s Metropolitan to Loew’s Canal; Howard Agnew, manager of a local Loew’s in Woodland Park; Nathan Berneke of Loew’s Victoria, Harlem, to the Melba, and William Klein, from Loew’s State to Loew’s Post Road.

Sen. Robertson to Address Va. MPTO

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Sen. A. Willis Robertson of Lexington, Va., will be the chief speaker at the Virginia Motion Picture Theatre Association’s annual mid-winter conference scheduled for tonight and tomorrow on the evening of Feb. 3. Robertson will speak on “The Motion Picture and Its Place in Today’s Society.”

Heading the list of Virginians who are expected to attend, are Governor and Mrs. William M. Tucker. The Virginia Congressional delegation at the conference will include Senator Harry F. Byrd and the following Congressman: Otho Bland, Virginia; Gary, Patrick Dewey, Thomas Stanley, Lindsay Amond, Jr., Burr F. Harrison, Howard W. Smith, and John W. Flannagan, Jr. and Porter Hardy.

Sane Roth, Virginia circuit judge, is convention chairman.

Wright Meets Sears, Raftery on Decree

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U.S. Attorney General, has advised Edward S. Sears, president of Associated Theatre Owners of America, and Gradwall Sears, vice-president in charge of sales, thatroadshowing of “Ill Ills” violates the New York Federal Court decree. Following the meeting of the group, Wright said that “we did not discuss any one phase of the judgment in particular, but rather points of law including those on roadshows were taken u.”

300 to Harry First Testimonial Today

Some 300 members of all branches of the industry in the New York area will join in a farewell tribute to Harry First, Universal salesman for 30 years, who is retiring, at a luncheon in the Hotel Astor, here, today. Harry Felleman of the Universal sales organization is in charge.

First will leave New York shortly for Atlanta, where he will live. The Motion Picture Associates has planned a testimonial dinner for him.

MPEA Meeting Today

Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association, will report on his survey of European conditions and present a program today before the board of directors, at the Motion Picture Association’s offices here. Foreign distribution managers of member companies will attend.

Newsmore Parade

GEORGIA’S “battle of the governors” is highlighted in all current newswires. Other items include the M-G-M-Alco Colion merger, Field Marshal Montgomery in a trip to London. Moscow: Field Marshal Montgomery visits Russia. Sports: billiards, skiing, ice skating.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 239

Georgia’s “battle of the governors,” Byrnes’ last official act. Merged of Army and Navy, Field Marshal Montgomery visits Russia. Inaugural baccalaurate at Halseah.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 43—Field Marshal Montgomery. Three to drive to rule Georgia. Creech’s two-year daily plan, Photo play award to “Belles of St. Mary’s.” Byrnes signs peace treaty.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 6—Governor feud rages in Georgia. High-ranking military heads and civilians pin Army-Navy merger in Washington. Fighting still raging between Greek troops and revolt. Reitering Secretary of State Byrnes signs first peace treaties. Greek ship runs aground off English coast. Swiss style parade for junior and junior misses at New York’s Steak Club.

Invaluable Signatures Hit Daylight Hopes

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 21.—A check of half of the petitions seeking repeal of daylight saving time in St. Louis, by the election board, reveals that one-third of the signers are not bona fide registered voters. The board is expected to file the referendum law. Included were duplications, failure of signatures to match voting registration books, and others not registered in St. Louis.

The petitions were filed by Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, in behalf of 40,000 signatures, it is believed, petitions seeking repeal of daylight time. The petitions contained 24,500 names.

Powers Sets Up Firm

Pat Powers, formerly of the 20th Century-Fox Motion Picture staff and recently industrial film representative for Jerry Fairbanks, has set up his own staff to serve as consultant in the industrial and educational film field here and abroad. Powers will have offices in New York and Washington.

Cinema Lodge Event

Cinema Lodge, B’nai B’rith will present a presentation of the interfaith lodge, Municipal and B’nai B’rith Youth Organizations at the Hotel Astor, here, on Tuesday, Jan. 28. Jack Rovner, director, is Cinema president.
M-G-M's PRIZE PICTURE!
The Nation Hears About "THE YEARLING"!

"One of Hollywood's All-Time Achievements."—LOUELLA O. PARSONS, nationally syndicated column

"Picture of the Year... Masterpiece."
—THORNTON DELEHANTY, Redbook Magazine

"As beautiful a job as I have ever seen."
—MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS, the author

"Academy Award Picture. Best of the Year."—DOROTHY KILGALLEN, nationally syndicated column

"Picture of the Month."
—COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE

"The Pick of the Pictures."
—JIMMY FIDLER, nationwide broadcast

"The Movie of the Year."
—ESQUIRE MAGAZINE

"Picture of the Month."
—PARENTS' MAGAZINE

"One of the Year's 10 Best."
—YOUNG AMERICA

"Movie magic. A classic."
—LOOK MAGAZINE

"Best Picture of The Year."
—SHEILAH GRAHAM, nationally syndicated column

"Our entry for Picture of the Year."
—THE CHRISTIAN HERALD

"One of the greatest epics ever to come out of Hollywood."—THE CATHOLIC YOUTH

"Magnificent. Pick of the Pictures."
—LIBERTY MAGAZINE

"Best Picture of the Year."
—TORONTO STAR WEEKLY

"It may be the greatest motion picture ever made in Hollywood."
—JOHN TODD, International News Service

This is the Year of THE YEARLING!

M-G-M's "THE YEARLING"

starring
GREGORY PECK
JANE WYMAN
A CLARENCE BROWN PRODUCTION
Claude Jarman, Jr. as "Jody"
Clem Bevans • Margaret Wycherly
Forrest Tucker • Photographed in Technicolor • Screen Play by Paul Osborn • Based on the Pulitzer Prize Novel by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings • Directed by Clarence Brown • Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

American Brotherhood Week, Feb. 16-23
Distributors End Extra Collections

Toronto, Jan. 21.—A committee of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, headed by N. A. Taylor, has called off its five-months' dispute with Canadian film distributors over percentage provisions in the current film rental agreement following modifying developments on the part of film exchanges.

In a statement, Taylor, who is the head of 20th Century Theatres, said some of the distributor companies had replaced the controversial clause with a paragraph from the previous contract while others were following the policy of individual bargaining with exhibitors. The distributors' association as a whole, however, had declined to amend the standard license agreement for 1947, Taylor asserted.

The disputed clause gave distributors the privilege of collecting a percentage of all of a theatre's receipts in addition to box-office revenue during the playing period of a participating feature. This provision applied to the sale of candy, any sub-rental of theatre property and revenue from subsidiary advertising.

Hughes Replies to MPA Seal Claim

Howard Hughes yesterday filed in U. S. District Court here his answer to a contempt citation raised by the Motion Picture Association in which the association charged that Hughes had not surrendered the PCA seal of approval from "The Outlaw" after the MPA had revoked it. The answer, provoked by counter-claims entered by the MPA in the Hughes anti-trust suit against the association, was filed by the office of Charles Pololeti, attorney for Hughes, on the deadline set some time ago by Judge Alfred C. Cote.

Solon Proposes U. S. Media Center Abroad

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—Establishment of the film, book and magazine industries of a permanent overseas media promotion bureau to stimulate the sale of their products abroad was proposed here today by Sen. Alexander V. Wiley of Wisconsin. The Senator said the bureau would be a direct benefit to the State Department in selling the American way of life to foreign peoples.

Individual motion picture producers and major distributors would, of course, continue to have their own offices overseas to sell their own films, but the bureau could cooperate with the central promotion bureau to sell American media as a下去 national unit, as Senator Wiley said. He added that if people in other nations are given the opportunity to choose their own informational and entertainment media, American products would definitely be the choice.

ABC Eliminates All Video Programming

American Broadcasting Co. has discontinued all television studio programs in New York for the indefinite period, Paul Mowrey, the network's national director of television discloses.

"We have built up a backlog of tested shows, and during 1947 ABC television will concentrate principally on the construction of new facilities and studios and the training of a television engineering department," he added.

Testing Stage Shows

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 21.—First test of straight stage shows at the 4,000-seat Radio City, here, will be made with a two-day engagement of the Velox-Yolanda dance combination and company, this week, with tickets ranging from $1.20 to $3, including tax. The show will run about two hours. One show will be staged Thursday evening, with a matinee evening show on Friday. Matinee prices will be scaled at $1.20 to $2.40.

Bolton Joins Selznick

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 21.—Whitney Bolton, former publicity director for Warners, Columbia and other studios, and who recently with Golden Gate Studios, he has had a special work for "The Best Years of Our Lives," has joined the David O. Selznick publicity department in charge of relations for contract players.

End Booking Contract

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 21.—By mutual agreement, Ted Mann, new operator of the World, first run, and Minneapolis Amusement Co. have terminated a deal whereby the circuit has cooperated in buying, booking and advertising for the house.

'Sinbad' Tradeshow Set

RKO Radio has scheduled showings of "Sinbad the Sailor" for Tuesday, Jan. 28, in all cities except Des Moines, where a tradeshow will be held on the following day.

'Dimes' 100% in Atlanta

ATLANTA, Jan. 21.—The Street claim has been subscribed to support the March of Dimes program, Jan. 23-29, by taking collections.

AFC Meet to Hear Youngstein, Prince

Executives and critics will address the film chapter of the American Veterans of Foreign Wars at a meeting to be held in the Henry Hudson Hotel. Walter T. Brown is chairman.

The forum, first in a series, will be conducted by Frank Quinn, critic for the Daily Mirror; Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising publicity for Eagle-Lion; Don Prince, foreign exploitation manager for RKO Radio Pictures.

PRC Will Re-release 9 Small Productions

Arrangements have been completed between PRC Pictures and Edward Small Productions, for the reissue of nine motion pictures. It is announced by Harry H. Thomas, president and general sales manager of PRC.


Gaumont-British and GTC Pay Dividends

LONDON, Jan. 21.—Gaumont-British has declared an interim dividend of five per cent on its ordinary and "A" ordinary shares for the year ending on March 31, 1946. There was no interim dividend paid in 1946.

J. Arthur Rank's General Theatre Corp. has also declared an interim dividend of seven-and-one-half per cent for the same period on participating ordinary shares. GTC, likewise, paid no interim dividend last year.

$100,000 for 'Yearling'

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 21.—Although it was announced a few weeks ago that the Coast engagement of M-G-M's "The Yearling" to four weeks on a two-day policy, Fox West Coast has extended the run two additional weeks, starting tomorrow, at the Garthay Circle, where with the finish of the four weeks tonight, the engagement for the period is close to $100,000, a record for the house. The film will have its Eastern premiere on Thursday at Radio City Music Hall.

ITP Meet Postponed

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 21.—The convention of the Independent Theatres Owners of Ohio has been postponed to Thursday and Friday, May 22-23, from March 18-19, because of overwhelming hotel conditions.

Crest Opens Tomorrow

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 21.—Harry Crock-
er, Heart of Marion, will be master of ceremonies at the opening of the Crest at Long Beach on Thursday of Charles Skouras' 1,100-seat pre-

THE BANK OF AMERICA

The Bank of America

National Trust and Savings

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System
New Amendments
(Continued from page 1)

time limit, instead of a July 1 deadline to reappear. All class adjustments with independents to conform to the decree. This latter period was given by the court for the dissolution of joint interests with independents. It elaborates further on the companies' original motion for the stay on bidding dealing with some runs for exhibitors. It suggests that such a conclusion of law regarding conspiracy in the following manner: "To eliminate against independent competitors be adjusted to eliminate fixing of minimum admission price, run, clearance and other license terms. It contends that the exhibitor-defendants were not making any such adjustment having discriminated against their competitors in fixing admission price, run, and clearance except to the extent that they received discriminations in certain situations."

Joint Memorandum

The five companies jointly submitted the memorandum in support of their motion of Jan. 10 asking that competitive bidding be stayed at least until 90 days after final judgment of the United States Court of Appeals is given on the motion on the matter. The five companies are Universal, Columbia and United Artists. The hearing is to be held in Federal court here today.

The new defense memorandum cites the preceding paragraph 3 of section 3 of the decree. In this, it is declared, the distributors may enter competitive fields of exhibition so long as the percentage of theatre ownership is under five per cent or over 95 per cent.

Addition Sought

In consequence of this it is asked that paragraph six of the above section, which enjoins the defendants from taking new theatre holdings except as permitted in the preceding paragraph, have this additional wording: "or except for the purpose of acquiring or changing any interests therein in order to protect its investments, or in order to enter a competitive field, if such defendant shall show to the satisfaction of the Court, and the Court shall first find, that such acquisition will not unfully restrain competition in the exhibition of feature motion pictures."

"Reasonable notice of the intention to make any acquisition shall be served upon the Attorney General and the Plaintiff shall be given an opportunity to be heard with respect thereto before any such acquisition shall be approved by the Court."

Justice Department to Oppose Defense Petitions

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Justice Department attorneys have opposed the defense petition for the first amendment to the motion picture act in this case. The defense petition is by the Associated Exhibitors, Inc., to set aside the decree of the United States Supreme Court of what they consider a violation of the act.

Mr. Exhibitor Investigate Filmack's NEW Prevue Trailor Service before signing any trailer contracts. Write, wire or phone Filmack 1327 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill. and receive full details.
**Key City Grosses**

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents:

**LOS ANGELES**

"Till the Clouds Roll By" did enormous business here during a week of balmy weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 22:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>UA</th>
<th>$75,000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THE RETURN OF MONTÉ CRISTO (Col)</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT (Col)</td>
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<td>$75,000</td>
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**THE RETURN OF MONTÉ CRISTO (Col) and CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT (Col)**

"BEGGAR-THY-NEIGHBOR-TIME" (RKO Radio) - BILL HARRIS (400) | $75,000 |

**THE RETURN OF MONTÉ CRISTO (Col) and CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT (Col)**

"STROLL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY" (M-G-M) - FOX WILSHIRE (200) | $75,000 |

**THE RETURN OF MONTÉ CRISTO (Col) and CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT (Col)**

"WHO WOULD BELIEVE" (DEAG) - FAIRFAX (400) | $75,000 |

**JULIA** (UA) - SAINT ANGELES (250) | $75,000 |

**THE DEVIL ON WHEELS** (Producers Releasing)

"THE Devil on Wheels" is essentially a lecture on the evils of reckless driving. It was produced by Ben Stoloff, with Jerry Briskin as its associate, and depicts the near-tragedy which results to a family when a teenager is hit-and-run accident. In fact, his mother, Darryl Hickman, is the youth with the home-made, high-powered car who, learning from the disparity between his father's lectures and actions, displays only the usual caution.

It is difficult to estimate audience reaction to a picture of this type because it has its terrifying moments, and devotes solitary footage to building up characterizations. On the positive side, however, is the welcome relief that several juries are shown here. The problem of how the plot is contrived is of little importance; suffice it to say that the youngsters of the town, with their home-built autos, are a problem, and that the parents, in their own lackness, are responsible in part for consequences.

Also in the cast are Lenita Lane as the mother, Damien Ol'ynn as the father, James Cardwell as Hickman's older brother, Noreen Nash as the love-interest and daughter of a judge, played by William Forrest. The other young stars are Jan Fong and Sue England, girl-friends of Hickman and Bobby Shaw. Robert lowenbach, with Arch Parker, who usually are good, matched by sharp photography. Cran WaIlrurray directed from his own screenplay.


**Key Grosses**

**Review**

"The Pilgrim Lady" (Republic)

WARREN DOUGLAS, Lynne Roberts, Alan Mowbray and Veda Ann Borg are the principals in this glossy, pretentious comedy, spun from the familiar theme of a bespeckled, studious miss who, by force of circumstances, posle the death of her father, is revealed by an elderly spinster whose personal appearance would deprecate the book of promotional possibilities foreseen by a literary agent. One of last year's films, "She Wrote the Book," starring Jean Davis, along the lines of this one. Adequately sprinkled with chuckles, "The Pilgrim Lady" (which gets its title from the book of the title itself), should provide a pleasant hour's entertainment for neighborhood theatre customers, for whom it appears particularly suited.

Miss Roberts is the studious young lady who volunteers to pose as the author of the book, written by her aunt (Helen Freeman). When Douglas, the big-name literary agent, first sees the bespectacled Miss Roberts he fails to conceal his disappointment over her appearance, but later is highly inspired by radio commentator Mowbray, dofts her glasses and fluffs up her hair, both he and Mowbray fall in love with her. The authorship ruse is concealed from Miss Roberts' friend and sister, but when they visit New York and meet up with their two wandering kinfold, complications mount, but finally all ends happily with Miss Roberts and Douglas in each others arms and the truth about the book's authorship satisfactorily explained.

Clarence Kolb, Doris Merrick, Russell Hills, Carlyle Blackwell, Jr., and others round out the cast. Lesley Sandler directed from a screenplay by Dave Lassier. William J. O'Sullivan was associate producer.


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**THE JOLSON STORY** (Col) - "Apollo" (1,376) 4th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $2,100)

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N.Y. 1st-Run Income

Spotty; '13 Rue,' 'Best Years' Score

Greatest at New York first runs add up to an overall unimpressive average. The week's business at a few situations is ceiling high while at others income has fallen off to platitudinous levels. Unfor-

table weather was held responsible along with box-office weariness of the film after a few weeks of play-
time.

On the top are "I3 Rue Madeleine," outstandingly the best box-office score and "The Best Years of Our Lives," the holdover business favorite, at the Astor.

"Madeleine," accompanied by Gracie Fields and others on the stage, amassed a tremendous $105,000 in its first five days, with the week figured to bring in $130,000. The Roxy is back to its pre "Razor's Edge" scale of $1.25 top for weekdays and $1.50 for weekends and holidays. "The Best Years of Our Lives" continues its earning power at the Astor, in its ninth week, business at $18,000.

"It's a Wonderful Life" is holding up well at the Globe, where the fifth week returned $35,000. California" got off to a big start at the Rivoli with a mighty $60,000 appar-
cent. For "Marriage," at the Paramount, with the Mills Brothers topping the stage bill, is good for about $70,000.

"Humoresque" Healthy

An income of $25,500 during the five days of the weekend indicates a healthy $29,500 for the fourth week of "Humoresque" at the Holly-
wood. In "Strand, The Time, The Place and the Girl," with Vaughn Monroe's orchestra on stage, drew about $34,000 for four days with a gross of $48,000—not too high in view for a fourth and final week. "The Man I Love" will make its New York debut at the Houston Friday.

"Stop The Clouds Roll By," with a stage presentation, grossed a good $74,000 on Thursday through Sunday at the Music Hall, where $111,000 is anticipated for the seventh and final week. "The Yearling" will bow in to-
morrow.

"The Secret Heart" and Tommy Dorsey's orchestra at the Capitol, which combined to take in $62,700 last week, is falling off with a modest $55,- 000 expected for the fourth and final week. "Lady in the Lake" will open at the house tomorrow. "Stairway to Heaven" is holding nicely at the Plaza, which set $50,000 for a fourth week is looked for. The "Wicked Lady" is figured to take a lukewarm $18,000 in a fifth and final week at the Winter Garden. "Swell Guy" will open Friday evening in a benefit premiere for the Damon Runyon Memorial; the popular newcomer on for the week.

At the Criterion, "Love Laughs at Andy Hardy" lost more ground in its second week with only $16,000. "Dead Reckoning" will open there today. Also to open today is "Sinbad the Sailor" at the Park, which took $11,000 in its fourth day of a second week. "The Beast With Five Fingers," at the Victoria, which took $10,000 in a fourth and final week and will be

Skouras Names

(Continued from page 1)

Conference of Christians and Jews, is being designed to reach greater pro-
on the top are innumerable papers that at an impor-
tory than its history. Radio, the press, national organizations and the industry are putting every tool to work and this national drive is headed by President Truman as honorary chairman, and John G. Winant, former Ambassador to Britain, as national campaign chairman.

Jack Kirsch, president of National Allied, Fred Wernherberg, of the MPTOA, and Ted R. Gamble, chairman of the board of the Ameri-
can Federation of Musicians, will be in attendance. Other important leaders of the drive will be from the Catholic, Jewish, Protestant and Minutemen of the Country.

The final resolution of the conference will take the form of a "Declaration of Principles," to be presented to the public.

It is expected that the conference will be a great success and that the conclusions of the conference will be an important step in the solution of the problems of the world in general and the problems of the motion picture industry in particular.

British Leaders

(Continued from page 1)

counted numerically. Both prior and Fuller today de-
clared the "quadrennial dispares" of Hollywood. Eliminating. Prior said flatly that without American picture—which they said and to a list of 50 percent of British-
some other independent exhibitors in this country might just as well close shop.

Prior added that this is the prin-
cipal argument for the retention of the quota for British distributors. The BFPA proposes to the BOT for a new quota recommended that a distri-
butor's quota be abolished in any event. A quota law that everyone in Britain nowadays knows what undercounter shopping entails, citing 1,125 of the country's 5,000 exhibitors as defaulting on their 1946 quota require-
ments.

He warned that the BFPA's proposed elimination of a distribution quota would mean 2,000 exhibitors would default annually, thereby being stigmatized as law-
breakers.

He declared that a decent under-
standing of America is the essence of British exhibitors' livelihoods and means the success of the whole Brit-
ish film industry. He said he could welcome Americans producing in England which would mean that they would place part of their British film income into production here, thereby reducing the present melancholy from the exportation of dollars to Amer-
ica.

Prior declared that owing to labor

End of Price Rises

(Continued from page 1)

sales managers and territorial district managers. Also here from New York are Jack Shea, Tom Shea, Gerald Shear, George Goett, William Barry, Jack Cine-Life, Mike Callaghan, Phil Lowe, Raymond Shover, Ben Perse. Grainger will return to New York Saturday.

Edward C. Beatty

(Continued from page 1)

graduated from the University of Kentucky. His first venture in show business was with Jeffrey Brothers' dog-and-pony show, after which he became manager of a motion picture theatre in Lexington, Ky.

Beatty went to work with the late Col. W. S. Butterfield in 1914 to manage the Bijou in Bay City, Mich. In 1927 he became general manager and secretary of the circuit. When Butterfield died in 1936, Beatty be-
came president and treasurer.

Beatty's widow is among his sur-
vivors. Funeral services have not been set.

agreements, forbidden nightwork, and other obstacles, British production will only reach 66 percent of pre-war totals, despite the availability of studio space. He asked how could Britain attempt to compete with America under such conditions, adding that Eric Johnston, president of the Mo-
tion Picture Association, when in Britain agreed that the present setup whereby Britain gets so little in film is undesirable.

"Non, non... eet deed not happen here!"

"Cmon! Give! Where did it happen?"
It's here! Starting January 27th on the Chesapeake & Ohio

"CHARGE-IT-AS-YOU-GO" TRAIN TRAVEL

You can reserve space by phone, then after you board the train, charge it on a Credit Card. Apply for your C & O Credit Card now!

NO NEED TO STAND IN LINE AT TICKET WINDOWS

SOME six weeks ago the Chesapeake and Ohio announced its intention of installing, for its passengers, a simple Credit Card plan and space reservation by phone. Now that plan is here. It goes into effect the 27th of this month.

No longer do you have to spend your valuable time waiting in ticket lines. No longer do you have to dash down to the station to pick up your reservations. The C & O does all your scurrying and worrying for you.

All you do is reach for a phone. For now—and this is new—you can reserve space in reserved-seat coaches as well as Pullman* space.

For Pullman Space, phone in your name and Credit Card number. Go to your reserved space aboard the train, and charge it on your C & O Credit Card or pay cash if you prefer.

For Space in Reserved-Seat Coaches, simply telephone in advance, giving your name. Go to your reserved seat on the train, and pay for your ticket there, or charge it on your Credit Card if you prefer.

And there's another important feature to the new Credit Card. You can use it to charge any C & O service on the train or in the station. This includes meals in dining cars and baggage service.

THEN SIMPLY BOARD THE TRAIN AND USE THE NEW C&O CREDIT CARD (OR PAY CASH)

Apply For Your Credit Card Now!

You're invited to apply for a C & O Credit Card, right away. Just call any Chesapeake & Ohio Ticket Office for an application...or write Chesapeake & Ohio, Terminal Tower, Cleveland 1, Ohio. Do it today and take immediate advantage of this new traveling convenience.

The "Charge-It-As-You-Go" Plan is the latest—but not the last—of many far-reaching improvements pioneered by the Chesapeake & Ohio to make rail travel more comfortable, more sensible.

*To hold Pullman space by phone, it will be necessary to have a Credit Card. Pullman space, if not used, must be properly cancelled, or it will be charged to your account.

CHARGE-IT-AS-YOU-GO—ON THE C & O

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, Terminal Tower, Cleveland 1, Ohio
Jury Awards $966,000 in Momand Suit

Distributors to Appeal Boston Jury's Verdict

BOSTON, Jan. 22.—Stemming from an action first instituted in Oklahoma City in 1931, a Federal Court jury today decided in favor of A. B. Momand, former Oklahoma theater operator, in his restraint-of-trade suit against eight distributors, calling for treble damages of $966,000, including interest.

Judge J. Wydzanski reserved the right to set aside the jury's verdict and will hear argument tomorrow on a motion by the defendants asking substantial reduction of the damages, claiming them to be excessive.

The case took numerous litigation twists and turns in Oklahoma until 1937, when it was brought to Boston, where Momand now resides. Another action by Momand against the distributor is pending in Buffalo Federal Court.

Momand contended during the
(Continued on page 7)

Wartime Excises Get Additional Support

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The House Ways and Means Committee today supported continuation of wartime excise taxes, including the 20 cent theatre admission tax, after getting testimony that the tax load soon will be lightened in other respects.

Upon recommendations of the Ways and Means Committee, the rules group voted for House action next week on a bill to continue war excises.

Without the new legislation, the war
(Continued on page 7)

Paramount Starts Coast Television

Hollywood, Jan. 22.—Paramount's television station KTLA began commercial operations tonight as a studio audience of over 500 screen personalities, local and state civic leaders and members of the exalted executive witnessed the inaugural broadcast, Paramount also
(Continued on page 7)

ATLANTA, Jan. 22.—At a regional meeting of members of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Georgia, representing independent exhibitors of middle and South Georgia, general dissatisfaction was expressed regarding the New York statutory court decree, J. H. Thompson, president, declaring: “Our organization represents the 'grass-roots' of exhibitors in Georgia, a group seldom heard from on various policies and rulings laid down by distributors and the courts, but nonetheless more vitally affected by them than perhaps any other single group in the industry. We have watched the whole issue of our right to keep dragged through the courts for nine years, and after the recent statutory court decree, we find that our position regarding the raising of the product completely turned over to the distributors and the court. "Our association is made up entirely of small independent exhibitors
(Continued on page 6)

March 1, US Appeal Date

The Department of Justice has selected March 1 as the date for filing its Supreme Court appeal from the New York Federal District Court's final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, said here yesterday.

Conferring informally with defense attorneys, Wright agreed that, under the high tribunal's Rule No. 52-B, the 60 days allowed for preparing and filing appeals could quite likely be held to begin with the date when the local court rules on the motions presented to it yesterday, rather than
(Continued on page 6)

March 8 Is Set for Greek Orphan Drive

Nol E. Dupinet, St. Fabian and Jack Cohm, co-chairmen of the motion picture appeal for the War Orphans of Greece, in honor of Spyros I. Skouras, announced that the drive will start March 8 and continue one month, scheduled to begin next month, the later date was chosen to aid coordination.

Tom Connors heads the distributors'
(Continued on page 7)

New Stromberg-UA Pact for 9 Films

United Artists' board of directors yesterday authorized a new three-year deal with Hunt Stromberg for the production of nine more pictures. Under the last contract, the producer delivered five films to UA, including "Lady of Burlesque," "Guest in the House," "Young Widow," "Strange Woman" and "Dishonored Lady," the latter to be released shortly.

Tom Clark Organizes Small Business Unit

Washington, Jan. 22.—U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark today established a small-business unit in the anti-trust division of the Justice Department. "The unit is authorized to invoke all the power which Congress has confered to maintain full opportunity and free competition in business," Clark said.

Bernhard Is FC President

Joseph Bernhard, former president of United States Pictures, and prior to that a Warner executive, has been named president of Film Classics. He will make his headquar ters at FC's New York office. Hereinafore, Film Classics did not have a president. Per se, Sam Wheel er is the company's sales manager, and Jules Chapman is Wheeler's executive assistant.

Concurrent with Film Classics' announcement yesterday of Bernhard's appointment, Bernhard himself disclosed that
(Continued on page 7)

Court Turns Cold Ear to Decree Pleas

Quick Decision Likely Vs. Defense Petitions

By TOM LOY

The New York statutory court at a hearing yesterday indicated that it probably would deny all defense motions for modification of the final judgment and would grant stay of the competitive-bidding clause beyond the July 1 effective date established in the decree. A ruling on the defense motions is expected momentarily.

Judge Augustus N. Hand, presiding at the hearing, indicated from the bench that the court was unmoved by pleas that the bidding provision be held up until 90 days after final disposition of the case by the Supreme Court. "If there's an appeal," he said, "you can go right down"
(Continued on page 6)

All but 'Big 5' Now Certain to Appeal

While theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit are still silent on initiating appeals, all three non-theatre-owning defendants and the Department of Justice yesterday expressed determination to carry the case to the Supreme Court.

Appearing at a hearing on motions for modification of the New York Federal District Court's final decree, Edward C. Raftery, of United Artists, said his company will appeal from the bans on price-fixing and franchise
(Continued on page 6)

Theatre Expansion Gives ATA Concern

The American Theatres Association, which up to now has been seeking to intervene in the industry anti-trust suit for the sole purpose of opposing competitive bidding, yesterday indicated an extension of its interest to include the question of theatre expansion.

Thurman Arnold, ATA counsel,
(Continued on page 6)
Personal Mention

By RED KANN

1 ONE explanation, shared in a number of places where there is a plenty of space, is that a recent recession in film securities was uncertainty over the manner in which the final consent decree with the studios has been interpreted by investors. This viewpoint was explained here last Thursday, Wall Street's belief that declining grosses were not the result of the more direct hard work, but were failed to rally much support. Or much understanding, for that matter.

Speculation over the legal position of companies not entangled in the Government's suit appears to be heading for a quick dissolve on the strength of the statement made by Robert Wright of the Department of Justice to this end. While by the decree these companies have to watch their step in considering any practices which the New York court has found to be violative of the Federal anti-trust laws.

We were pointing out here only recently that the non-defendants were aware of the case and were inclining toward conduct in strict keeping with their inclination. Wright, moreover, clearly suggested, without stating it in specific language, that the D. of J. is prepared to pounce on any company probably enabled enough to step out. He would use the decree as precedent.

Of course.

Statement issued by David O. Selznick relative to the United Artists litigation read at one point.

The management [UA] repeatedly told Pickford, Chaplin and their representatives that there was no merit whatsoever to their claim Selznick and/or UA Radio could violate contracts by turning over to 20th-Fox and to RKO Radio stories and scripts which Selznick had abandoned and approved for his distribution agreement because he did not think them up to his standard. "...

And so he sold them to both companies in the case of RKO, at 50 per cent of the profits.

If the war has served Holly- wood in any positive way, it is in the provocation of a healthy trend toward realism which, in some respects, might redound to the financial and creative welfare of American films, Frank Capra tells Motion Picture Daily.

Where was his conviction when he said, "It's a Wonderful Life?"

Three More Circuits Join 'Dimes' Drive

Three more circuits joined the March of Dimes yesterday and have scheduled audience collections at every performance Jan. 24-30, according to an announcement made by Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division.

Circuits are Bullock Amusement Enterprises, shamrock, Pa.; Atlantic Theaters, Philadelphia; Hudson Theaters, Richmond, Ind.

Hart Left a Million

Hollywood, Jan. 22.—William S. Hart, the late silent-screen cowboy, left an estate estimated at $1,000,000, according to an accounting approved by the court.

Bill Introduced to Curb N.Y. Licenses

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 22.—Senator Willis S. Van Dusen and Assemblyman Malcolm Wilson, Westchester Re publicans, have introduced a bill in line with the State's policy of regulating the sale of liquor, that the Excise Law be amended to authorize the Motion Picture Division to declare any kind of liquor dispensing business of any kind is indecent, immoral, inhuman, etc. etc.

The measure, by Van Dusen, apparently broadens the scope of the law to include advertising in newspapers and magazines which, the regents stated in denying Van Dusen's request for a Commissioner Fielding's appeal for revocation of "The Outlaw" license, is not recently covered.

Bateman Headed for Philadelphia Talks

F. A. Bateman, general sales manager of Screen Guild Productions, who is now touring the country for a series of conferences at the company's field offices, is scheduled to leave New York today for Philadelphia for discussions with Jack Engel. He held talks here yesterday with Arthur H. Hunter, president of Liberty, New England franchise holders.

Explaining that by the time he returns to Hollywood he will have covered all offices except those in the South, Bateman said that he would hold conferences on Friday, where he will confer with St. Louis, Minneapolis and Milwaukee representatives.

5 French Pictures To AFE for U. S.

William Shelton, sales manager of AFE Corp., has acquired the following French pictures, to be nationally distributed in the U. S. during 1947.


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Western Pa. Allied Hears Rosenberg

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 22.—A luncheon and opening of a week-long branch of the Independent Theatres Owners of Western Pennsylvania in the William Penn Hotel here today, marked the beginning of a series of branch meetings held throughout the state. Speakers and leaders held the gathering of 1,500 members returned to company to date.

There were 81 known battlefront casualties from the Warner ranks.

Coast Riots Bring New Control Bills

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 22.—Eleven bills resulting from a legislative investigation last year, of the "breakdown of law and order" in Los Angeles following the film jurisdictional strikes, have been introduced in the California legislature by Assemblyman Tom Folsom of California and Senator George Hatfield of Merced.

The measures include technical changes in the existing laws and propose to make the following changes: First, the state law should provide that the motion pictures should be supervised by the state authorities. Second, the provisions of the California District Court would enable those cities to receive assistance from other cities.

Publicists Agree To 6 New Clauses

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 22.—Screen Publicists Guild has approved a recommendation by its executive committee to undertake negotiations with producer for the inclusion of six additional clauses in the contract offered to members last November. The clauses, not included in the original agreement of the Guild by the Guild to be essential to job security.

Publicists have also agreed to proposals to end its affiliation with the Conference of Studio Unions was deferred for the present, with the formation of a 10-man committee appointed to explore possibilities in this connection. A Guild executive said that the present affiliation will stand until the committee reports another one acceptable to a majority of the membership.

Schwalberg Tours Pa. On New E-L Releases

Alfred W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Bros., took off today for a sales tour with Philadelphia and Harrisburg, circuit heads, and today will be in Pittsburgh to discuss future openings in that city. Schwalberg is operating out of that territory.

Schwalberg is concentrating on Pennsylvania launches of "Delphi," which is already set for openings on Jan. 29 at the Senate Theatre in Harrisburg and the Astor, Reading. He will return to New York tomorrow.

Richard Rosenthal, 54

RKO Radio's foreign department here has received word of the death of Richard Rosenthal, 54, pioneer showman in Zurich, Switzerland, and manager of the Bellevue Theatre in that city.

1,500 Warner Workers Still in Armed Forces

Out of approximately 5,000 Warner employees, 1,500 are in the branches of the Armed Services since the start of World War II, nearly 1,000 of whom are veterans who have returned to the company to date.

Huges Asks Court To Dismiss Suits

Asking for a general dismissal of counter-claims raised by the Motion Picture Association in its suit against Harry F. M. Hughes, an order filed in New York Federal Court a general denial of allegations made by MPA in asking for injunction against alleged breaches of contracts. Through the offices of Charles A. Poletti, attorney for Hughes, Court Co., Hughes refutes the charges that his company has not followed the implementation of its production code and particularly the clauses relating to examination of exploitation and advertising matter to be used by its members, can thwart the potential success of a motion picture.

The MPA has also met with no unproved first-class pictures have been shown in first-run, second or key house limits since 1930, and that no film can be marketed successfully in the United States unless exhibited in those theatres. While admitting that some unproved films have been shown in the country, Hughes denied that the association are unlimited in the country, Hughes, who withdrew from the motion pictures industry and is responsible to advertising matter to be used for "The Outlaw," denied that non-members of the MPA could obtain the benefit of the previously members.

Fabricated Program Launched on Coast

LONG BEACH, Cal., Jan. 22.—R. H. McCullough, National Theatre's director of television and pre-fabricated theatres, tonight gave the principal address at a motion picture Crest Theatre, explaining the construction of this first pre-fabricated house produced by Charles Skouras under an arrangement with Henry Kaisser. It is expected to result in a steady production of new theatres on an assembly-line basis when required materials and facilities become available.

Following McCullough's address, the party, transported from Hollywood by buses, number 250.

WB End Views Previews For Film Critics

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 22.—The Stanley-Warner has incurred disavowal of its movie film critics by deciding to hold stop screening views, Warner claims critics don't get the right slant in a "cold" screening room without an audience. Critics are complaining that no press previews makes it difficult meeting deadlines, that they often have to work on weekends and holidays.

The other first run houses of Fox and William Goldman are still previewing for the press.

Farris A. Jones, 52

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 22.—Farris A. Jones, vice-president of Motion Picture Advertising Co., died of a heart attack today at his residence here.

Jones, who left Western Food Bride's Association of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.

Establishment of minimum admission prices, the provi-

sions regarding clearance, run and availability, are included in the agree-

ments, attorney Philip B. Gale, counsel for the UA. Gale said the answer to the UA allegations, adding that the distributor would not license any picture to anyone before the UA.

At the same time, Gale asks for a jury trial, the right to examine the demand for protection from new organizations, which brief says, looked up the company's records in 1945. Such examinations will not be permitted, Mr. Gale, no was fraud, the defendants contend.


275 at Testimonial For Harry Furst

More than 275 friends and business associates of Harry Furst, Universal sales manager here for 30 years, who is retiring, joined in a tribute to him at luncheon at the Hotel Astor yesterday. Furst was presented with a gold watch, a life membership in the Motion Picture Theatres Owners Association, and the order of the Legion of Honor, all signed by all of those present.

Harry Fellerman of the Universal sales organization was toastmaster. Dass guests included John J. O'Connor, E. T. Gomersall, William A. Scully, Oscar Lager, Edward Lachman, John Bubel, Nat Goldher, David A. Levy and Mrs. Furst. Every circuit in the Metropoli-

tan New York area was represented.

Vogel Conducts Loew Division Meeting

A combined meeting of Loew's out-of-town managers and New York branch managers was held here yesterday at the Hotel Astor, with Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president in charge of Loew Theatres, presiding.

Meetings of the out-of-town men will continue through Friday, when complete listings for forthcoming pictures and general theatre operating problems being on the agenda. Among those in New York for the con-

ferences: Carter Barron, Allen Sparrow, Harry Shaw, Martin Burnett, Mike Cannon and Charles Raymond.

Jackson Acting Mgr.

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 22.—Charlie Jackson, who has been named acting branch manager of the Minneapolis Warner sales staff, has been named acting branch manager of the Famous Players-Lasky, Mr. Jackson, who leaves on an eight-week vacation trip of the South and Mexico.

Alabama House Moves

VINCENT, Ala., Jan. 22.—T. W. Williamson's Vincent Theatre has been forced to close on account of a lack of business.
WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED HOLDING
YOU CAN START HUGGING
4th N.Y. Week! Held again and held again in all openings!

Dennis Morgan, Jack Carson
Janis Paige, Martha Vickers
S.Z. Sakall, Alan Hale, Angela Greene, Donald Woods

Carmen Cavallaro and Orchestra

WARNERS'

"THE TIME, THE PLACE, THE GIRL"

Directed by David Butler
Screen Play by Francis Swann, Agnes Christin Johnston & Lynn Starling
Original Story by Leonard Lee
Orchestral Arrangements by Roy Heindorf
Musical Sequences Created and Staged by Le Roy Prinz
Produced by Alex Gottlieb

A lu-lu for Lupino (she sings!)
Melodrama, Romance and Music—and a Smash!

Ida Lupino, Robert Alda, Andrea King, Bruce Bennett

In the WARNER HIT "THE MAN I LOVE"

Directed by Raoul Walsh
Produced by Arnold Albert
Screen Play by Catherine Turney
Adaptation by Jo Pagano and Catherine Turney
From a Novel by Maritta Wolff

Hear her singin'! 'The Man I Love' "Just My Bill" 'Why Was I Born' "Body and Soul"

Jack L. Warner, Executive Producer
with Dec. 31, when the decree was handed down, but he added that the government does not want to run any risk of being too late.

Should the theatre-owning defendants, possibly desiring to appeal after the Department has done so, wait beyond March 1, it was said there may be some danger that the Supreme Court might decline to accept its appeal on the grounds that the questions raised in court here yesterday were not "substantially" as Rule 52-B says they must be. Wright told reporters. However, he was in agreement with a number of attorneys who held that the questions appeared quite substantial.

Thomas Turner Cooke of Universal is another who prefers not to take a chance. "If Mr. Wright files his appeal at three o'clock on March 2, I'll file mine at four o'clock," he declared.

Costs Cause Concern

Both Cooke and Wright appeared concerned over the financial and physical difficulties involved in printing the record of the trial, which an appeal will require. It contains more than 300 pages, and the Department of Justice now is calling for 40 copies, but the jurists in Washington sometimes will accept as few as 20, the prosecuting attorney said. Remembering that the theatre-owning defendants had the record printed as the trial proceeded, Wright appeared surprised yesterday to see if enough of those copies to serve the purpose could not be readied up. The Department, he said, has only two. The defense lawyers were noticeably noncommittal, replying only that the Government Printing Office should be equipped to do the job. Wright nodded but said the Washington presses are very busy these days. Later, however, he appeared reconciled to using the U. S. facilities.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Thursday, January 23, 1947

Appeal Date

(Continued from page 1)

Court Turns Cold Ear

(Continued from page 1)

8-motion Date

(Continued from page 1)

Attack Decree

(Continued from page 1)

to Washington and try to get in the 19th stay!"

The court likewise was cool to the theatre-owning defendants' request that the ban on expansion of their holdings as exhibitors be modified to permit them to acquire new companies for the purpose of entering competitive areas or protecting present investments. "We reserved jurisdiction in the matter," Judge Hand said. "That includes anything connected with the question of expansion," he added. "It bears too hard on any situation, you could still come to the court and ask to have it modified."

Denied Indicated

He was even more firm in indicating a denial when attorney John P. Cas- key of 20th Century-Fox, speaking also on behalf of Loew's, RKO, Paramount and other defendants, asked for a period of two years in which to dissolve existing pools between any of these companies and independent exhibitors. "Those pools ought not to have existed," Judge Hand said. "The parties ought to have known enough." Attorney Thomas Turner Cooke, counsel for Universal, attempted to present his reasoning in favor of allowing that company to preserve its theatre-owning defenses and to franchise agreements of several years' duration with small independent ex- hibitors, to Judge Hand. He in- deed with: "We don't intend to have these long arguments. I think we've got your point."

An argument by Louis Frohlich of Columbia, who sought to have single sales stayed until after the Supreme Court rules on those cases, failed. Judge Hand, who opposed placing upon the distributor the burden of proving the legality of the contractual clearance provisions, were both presented briefly and accepted without comment by the court.

Wright's Stand

Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, directly opposed the suggested postponement of competitive bidding, said: "Our position is to see this provision given a chance to work in actual operation. You can't stay a part of Section Eight and have other parts operate effectively. Also opposing modification of the general ban on the theatre expansion, Wright pointed out that the decree already contains "liberal exceptions" on this point—that the theatre-owning defendants can expand by acquiring interests from their present partners and by buying existing facilities as they abandon them or lose them through fires, expired leases or other causes."

Unopposed by Judge Hand's mention of the court's continued jurisdiction as leaving the way open for additional hardship cases, Wright declared: "If this provision doesn't mean what it says, there is no need for the court to say so now."

Myron Sulzberger, Jr., representing independent stockholders who have a 30 per cent interest in Loew's White Plaza Theatre, asked the court to hold a new hearing, with advance pub- licity, in order to give all persons who would be affected a chance to be heard "before the decree is put in final form." He pointed out that his cli- ents were affected by the clause requiring the theatre-owning defendants to buy or sell out all but five per cent of their partnership holdings. Judge Hand replied: "The idea that we can make a decree under the Sherman Act without bringing in stockholders and everybody else has been exploded and we don't intend to follow that path much farther."

General William J. Donovan of RKO presented arguments for modification of the expansion ban, citing Supreme Court rulings in the Crescent and Interstate cases and stating that his company, with 102 theatres, has none in the South outside of New Or- leans, none in the Southwest or Northwest, and only two in California. Whitney North Seymour of Parm- ount, supplementing Donovan's views, referred to the new United Na- tions home on the East River as a place where expansion may be needed and said the spread of the drive-in theatre idea may necessitate more activity in that field. "Paramount pictures," he added, "have been boycotted in places where Paramount has no theatres."

Time Extension Sought

John W. Davis of Loew's argued for the time extensions asked by the theatre-owning defendants, and Joseph S. Meschke of Warners urged that the defendants as exhibitors be found guilty only of "conspiring to receive dis- crimination license privileges," rather than "conspiring in fixing minimum admission price, run, clearance and other license terms," he said. This would reconcile one of the court's con- clusions of law with one of its findings of fact, but Wright objected, contending that "the conclusion in its present form is a necessary consequence of the finding."

Attorney Sherman Rosenberg, appearing for Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, who was out of town, charged the organiztion argued that com- petitive bidding ought to be stayed pending Supreme Court action.

‘Big 5’ Won’t Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

deals. Louis Frohlich of Columbia was the explaining client would appeal from the competitive-bidding provi- sions. Following the hearing, Thomas Turner Cooke of Universal, and Rob- ert L. Wright of the Department of Justice reiterated their previously-stat- ed appeal plans.

Widow Would Costs

The competitive bidding would naturally increase film costs, while at the same time the available business would be cut. Under such cir- cumstances both competitors would travel down the road of economic ruin to eventual destruction of one or the other. "We have hoped that the court's decision would return the independent exhibitor to his own market, but in- stead find that it puts him almost at the complete mercy of the distributor. It gives the distributors power to get quantities of film that they may see fit to assess in a com- petitive situation, and now, even be- fore the decree becomes effective, they are forcing higher prices in these situa- tions through auction bidding."

I predict, as an independent exhibitor, that there is modi- fied, and some fair selling plan worked out, there will be an eventual complete divestiture of defendants’ theatre interests, and the entire in- dustry will be under a Government commission," Thompson concluded.

Theatre Expansion

(Continued from page 1)

appearing in Federal District Court here as attorney for the theatre-own- ing defendants, sought modification of the final decree's expansion ban, said that, in his opinion, "the court cannot consider this motion until it has given notice to our membership as to what property rights are involved in Sec- tion III (4). That section enjoins each exhibitor defendant ‘from making or continuing leases of theatres under which it leases any of its thea- tres to another defendant or to an in- dependent for years past helped in developing picture personalities. They have done the direct selling job of the in- dustry and are surprised and dis- mayed to now find that the business which they have built up is in jeopardy because of the trend to higher and higher film rental."

"We have discussed the recent de- cree in detail here today, and the practical effects it will have upon our operations. For instance, if there is a theatre in a community that is ade- quate for the type of business, it is possible for any per- son, irresponsible and unscrupulous, or sincere and of good character, to come into the community, build a thea- tre, equip it, and demand the right to bid on pictures, even though good business practice in the theatre busi- ness would indicate that the commu- nity could not afford a larger theatre-capacity."

Would Increase Costs

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I predict, as an independent exhibitor, that there is modi- fied, and some fair selling plan worked out, there will be an eventual complete divestiture of defendants’ theatre interests, and the entire in- dustry will be under a Government commission," Thompson concluded.
Production on Rise Again; Start on Five

Hollywood, Jan. 22. — Production continues to climb as five new films begore camera stages, and three have gone to cutting rooms. Work has been resumed on Paramount’s “Variety Girl,” as well. The shooting index is now up to a total of 46 pictures in work; the production scene follows:

(Columbia)

Shooting: “The Crime Doctor’s Vacation,” “The Corpse Came C.O.D.” (Kennedy-Franchon); “Three Were Thoroughbreds” (Cavali); “The Lady from Shanghai.”

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: “Repeat Performance.”

Independent

Finished: “Women in the Night” (Southern California Films).

M-G-M

Finished: “Green Dolphin Street.”

Monogram


Paramount


RKO Radio

Finished: “Magic Town” (Riskin).


Shooting: “If You Know Susie.”

Republic

Shooting: “Twilight on the Rio Grande,” “Bells of San Angelo.”

Selznick Releasing Organization

Shooting: “The Parade Case.”

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: “The Ghost and Mrs. Muir,” “Moss Rose,” “Captain from Castile,” “Forever Amber,” “Mother Wore Tights,” “It’s Only a Game.”

United Artists

Started: “Stork Bites Man,” (Comet) with Jackie Cooper, Gene Roberts, Gus Schilling, Emory Parnell.

Shooting: “Body and Soul” (Enterprise); “Heaven Only Knows” (Nebenzal); “Copacabana” (Beacon).

US Films Maintain Hold in Belgium

By LOUIS QUIEVREUX

BRUSSELS, Jan. 17 (By Air Mail) — A review of the film year in Belgium shows that American pictures have steadily maintained the prominent position they enjoyed here for so many years before the war. At least 35 first class American pictures were exhibited here during the year, among them “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde,” “The Great Dictator,” “It Happened Tomorrow,” “The Little Foxes,” “The Moon and Sixpence,” “Hellzapoppin’,” “Five Grapes to Cairo” and “Arsenic and Old Lace.”

The British film effort has been remarkable. Pictures like “The Way to the Stars,” “Salute to John Citizen,” “Murder in Reverse” and “Henry V” were shown in Belgium this year. Many of the critics felt that “Henry V” was by far the best film to come from any country.

In both good and bad, according to Francis Bolen, film critic of the weekly Herbo, his award for the best French film went to “Children of Paradise.”

SOPEG Will Induct Young, Others Today

Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, local No. 109, will induct new officers, an executive board and a membership meeting to be held here tonight at the Hotel Capitol. High point on the agenda will be a report on the recent meeting of the UOPWA national general executive board, the salary policy agreed upon, and its effect on SOPEG’s future negotiations.

Officers to be inducted are: President, Sidney Young; vice-president, Norman Hassell; secretary-treasurer, Otto Langer; recording secretary, Jeanne Forestier.

Claims New Method For Television Ads

The opening of what was described as the first agency to produce and place both television shows and commercials has been announced by Barney Sackett, general manager of the new firm of Sackett and Prince, Television Productions, New York City. The firm said it plans to introduce new techniques designed to exploit the full possibilities of video as an advertising as well as an artistic medium, Sackett said more than 18 shows are planned for 1947.

Variety Election

OMAHA, Jan. 22. — Variety Club officials are to be selected Saturday. The crewmen who will pick the new leaders are: Eugene Blair, Myer Stern, Ted Emerson, Donald Shae, Glen Rogers, Jack Refo, G. E. Mcglinn, Edward Shalston, Frank Hannon and H. B. Johnson.

Universal-International


Warner


Paramount Video

(Continued from page 1)

electrosc in Chicago from its B. and K. video out.

Among those on hand for the event were Cecil B. DeMille; George Shupter, assistant to Paul Kahan, head of the company’s television operations; Kraus Landsberg, KTVA manager; Mrs. Eileen Heimann, assistant state superintendent of public education. The program broadcast featured Bob Hope, William Bendix, John Brown, Eddie Bracken, Jerry Colonna, William Denarem, and others.

Greek Orphans’ Drive

(Continued from page 1)

committee; the exhibitors’ committee consists of Fred Wehrenberg, president; MPTA; Robert H. Poole, president Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors; Harry Brandt, president, Independent Thebre Owners Association; Robert Caine, executive director of the American Theatres Association. Harry Kalmine has been named treasurer of the drive with Ben Ser Kou and S. Barret McCormick co-chairmen of the publicity committee.

Bernhard Heads FC

(Continued from page 1)

FC has acquired three additional exchanges of its own, at Portland, Seattle and Washington. This brings to 10 the number of exchanges owned and operated by the company. Wherever, Classics product is distributed by state-right franchise holders.

THE WORD IS AROUND

"Bedelia" IS BEGUING!
BEWITCHING!
BDEVILLING!

Watch for WORLD PREMIERES, JAN. 29th at Pennsylvania’s State Capital, Senate Theatre, Harrisburg, and Astor Theatre, Reading.
ESTIMATES OF KEY CITY GROSSES

**PHILADELPHIA**

"Till the Clouds Roll By" is breaking records at the Majestic this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 21-23.

- **WICKED LADY** (U.-ALDIXE) (900) (75c-95c-85c-75c-65c-55c) 6 days, $14,000.
- **CROSS MY HEART** (Para.) (ARCADIA) (350) (50c-50c-45c-40c-35c) 6 days, Gross: $6,500.
- **MAGNIFICENT DOLL** (U.) (BOYD) (1,500) (90c-80c-75c-65c-50c-40c-35c) 7 days, Gross: $11,000.
- **THE FABULOUS SUZANNE** (Rep.) — EARLE (1,000) (90c-90c-85c-80c-75c-70c-65c-60c-55c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring Earl Carroll Variets. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $4,200)
- **THE SECRET HEART** (M-G-M) — GOLDMAN (1,400) (55c-40c-40c-35c-30c-30c-25c-20c-15c-10c) 7 days, running Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,100)
- **HOLD UP** (M-G-M) — MASTHABA (4,700) (75c-70c-65c-60c-55c-50c-45c-40c-35c-30c) 4 days, $5,000. (Average: $1,250)
- **HARRY V. (U.) — FIX (1,000) (90c-90c-80c-75c-75c-70c-65c-60c) 6 days, Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,830)
- **BLUE SKIES** (Para.) — STANLEY (1,000) (55c-40c-40c-35c-30c) 6 days, Gross: $6,750. (Average: $1,100)
- **NOCTURNE** (RKO) — STANTON (2,100) (75c-70c-65c-60c-55c-50c-45c-40c-35c-30c) 4 days, Gross: $11,000. (Average: $2,750)

**BOSTON**

Theatre business here held steadily despite rain and bad traveling conditions. The general opinion locally is that films are getting the best business in all the key field. All other branches of the field are in the throes of a slump. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 23.

- **BETTY CO-ED** (Col.) — BOSTON (2,900) (50c-100c) Stage show. Andrews Sisters and other acts. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $720)
- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL** (WB) and **THE TRAP** (Mono.) — PENNY (1,700) (90c-80c-75c) Gross: $6,500. (Average: $930)
- **MISS BIG** (U.) — MEMORIAL (2,900) (90c-90c-85c-80c-75c-70c-65c-60c-55c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $5,000)
- **THE PERFECT MARRIAGE** (Para.) and **FABULOUS SUZANNE** (Rep.) — METRO (2,500) (50c-40c-35c-30c) 3 days, $2,000. (Average: $666.67)
- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL** and **THE TRAP** (M-G-M) — PENNY (4,300) (90c-80c-75c-70c-65c-60c-55c) Gross: $15,900. (Average: $3,725)
- **THE MOVING GHOST** (Rep.) and **FABULOUS SUZANNE** (Col.) — ORPHEUM (3,200) (90c-85c-80c-75c) Gross: $12,500. (Average: $3,875)
- **SAN FRANCISCO**

Business here jogged along satisfactorily this week, especially for "Humoresque," which grossed a solid $2,150. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 24.

- **SWELL GUY** (U.) — ORPHEUM (2,440)

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**BUFFALO**

Although two theatres did better than average, there has been a marked fluctuation in attendance at the extreme cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 25:

- **THE MAN I LOVE** (WB) and **FABULOUS SUZANNE** (Rep.) — BUF (600) (90c-60c-50c-45c-35c-30c) 7 days, Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000)
- **NOCTURNE** (RKO) — STANTON (2,100) (75c-70c-65c-60c-55c-50c-45c-40c-35c-30c) 4 days, Gross: $15,000. (Average: $3,750)

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**CINCINNATI**

"Two Years Before the Mast" is playing strongly for a high-budget figure. The RKO Palace, while most other product, both new arrivals and holdovers, are registering plus-average receipts. Weather is unseasonably warm. Estimated returns for the week ending Jan. 21-24:

- **THE MAN I LOVE** (RKO) — ALDER (1,300) (75c-65c-60c-55c-50c-45c-40c-35c-30c) 7 days, plus Saturday night show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000)
- **HUMORESQUE** (RKO) — CAPITOL (2,800) (50c-45c-40c-35c-30c) 7 days, plus a Saturday night show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714.29)
- **RUSTER'S RUNDOWN** (U.) and **LIGHTNIN' JAY** (Col.) — STREITFELD (1,500) (100c-95c-90c-85c) 4 days, Gross: $2,500. (Average: 625)
- **ON TRAIL OF THE GIRL (Col. release) and UNIVERSE** (Rep.) — KELLY FAMILY (1,000) (65c-60c-55c-50c) 3 days, Gross: $1,350. (Average: 450)
- **THE SECRETS** (Rep.) — GEORGE (3,500) (90c-80c-75c-70c-65c-60c-55c) 7 days, plus a Saturday mid-week show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714.29)
- **MANKIND** (U.) — KETTIES (500) (55c-50c-45c-40c-35c-30c) 7 days, plus a Saturday mid-week show. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $857.14)
- **SUNDAY NIGHT** (RKO) — LYNCH (4,600) (50c-45c-40c-35c-30c) 7 days, Gross: $6,000. (Average: $857.14)

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**DENVER**

Business here this week has been "good" to "big" at all first-runs. The National Western Stockshow hurt somewhat, but theatre business snapped up with all but one of the estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 22.

- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE** (2th-Fox) — ALAD (2,125) (50c-40c-35c-30c) 7 days, Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714.29)
- **THE MAN I LOVE** (WB) — DENNIE (1,750) (90c-75c-65c) 7 days, Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,571.43)

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**MINNEAPOLIS**

With few exceptions, Loop grosses are running at average or better. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 23:

- **THE PLAINSMAIN** and **THE LADY** (Rep.) and **AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE** (U.) — RADIO (2,000) (75c-65c-55c-45c-35c-25c) 7 days, Gross: $19,000. (Average: $2,714.30)
- **THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL** (WB) — LYNCH (1,900) (90c-85c-80c-75c-70c-65c-60c-55c) 7 days, Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714.29)
- **SUNDAY NIGHT** (RKO) — ORPHEUM (2,600) (90c-80c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $16,000. (Average: $2,285.71)
- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE** (Rep.) — NORTHERN (2,100) (90c-80c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,571.43)
Names ... in Today's News

S AM DEMBOW, JR., has become sales representative for the Borroes-William LeonBaron Federal Pictures, which distributes through United Artists. Dembow, as a result, has formed Producers Service, Inc. as his operating organization, and intends to open offices in New York. Producers Morros and LeonBaron are now preparing their next production, "Babes in Toyland." Dembow still is president of Golden Productions, Inc. He returned to New York from the Coast yesterday.

Charles Schlaifer Elected Head of Eastern PIC

Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, yesterday was elected chairman of the Eastern Public Information Committee, to succeed Paul Lazzaro, Jr., of United Artists, at a meeting at the Hotel Astor here. The group comprises advertising, publicity heads of the distributor companies and concerns itself with general industry promotional matters. The chairman-ship is on a rotating basis, changes every six months. Glendon Allwine, public information director for the Motion Picture Association in New York, continues as executive secretary.

Schlaifer, Ptak, Erdmann, and Scoville Reelected

CLEVELAND, Jan. 23.—Ernest Schwartz today was re-elected by acclamation to serve his 14th year as president of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association. All other officers were also re-elected by acclamation, including vice-president Albert E. Ptak, secretary George W. Erdmann and treasurer James E. Scoville. Elected to the board were Max Lorchwicz, Ted Verno, Frank Gross, Ed Bleier, Henry Barden and Frank Porosinski.

PCCITO Lays Out Enforcement Plans Based on Decree

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 23.—At its meeting here today the PCCITO reiterated the stand it took at a trustee meeting in August, 1946, which was stated in the CIEAA brief submitted as amici curiae on the New York decree hearing.

In addition, the PCCITO passed a resolution recommending that its four territorial units should establish committees for enforcement of the decree. Attending the meetings here were Mrs. Sam Gillette of Tooele, Utah, J. H. Moran of Laurel, Mont., Ralph (Continued on page 7)

Odell Heads Para. Press Department

Promotion of C. N. Odell to head a newly-created press department in a realignment of Paramount's home office promotional set-up following the resignation as Eastern publicity manager, was announced here yesterday by Curtis Mitchell, vice-president and general advertising, and exploitation director Odell, who joined Paramount in 1931, is now in charge of newspaper contacts.

Gordon Swarthout, formerly director of special events, has become co (Continued on page 7)

March of Dimes Starts In Film Theatres Today

The March of Dimes drive of the motion picture division starts today, with between 7,000 and 8,000 theatres taking collections at every performance. The drive will continue through March 31.

Emil Jensen, Director of the Motion Picture Division, yesterday expressed gratification with the results and with the cooperation of so many exhibitors, producers, distributors, and others in the industry.

"The success of the division's campaign (Continued on page 7)

Schine Case Seen Divorce test

Washington, Jan. 23.—A Justice Department attorney expressed the belief today that the Supreme Court appeal of Schine Chain Theatres may provide the real test on theatre divestiture.

The attorney said that if the Supreme Court upholds the Federal Buffalo in Schine case he believes the impending Government appeal on divestiture in the industry anti-trust suit also will be successful. Conversely, if the Supreme Court reverses the Schine divestiture order, that decision in Government victory in the industry case would be lessened. In that case the Government might abandon its appeal for divestiture and settle for a ban on cross-licensing of affiliated theatres.

Johnston, Others Promote Air Series

A number of film stars and writers, directors and executives of both radio and motion picture pictures, including Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will join in promotion of a Mutual network weekly dramatic series, entitled "The Family Theatre," dealing for the most part with post-war problems, "both social and (Continued on page 7)

Warner Vote on 5 Directors Feb. 18

Samuel Carlisle, Stanleigh P. Friedman, Charles S. Guggenheimer, Samuel Schneider and Morris Wolf have been renominated to the Warner Bros. board of directors, and will be up for election at the annual stockholders' meeting at Wilmington, Del., on Feb. 18. According to a proxy statement received yesterday from Robert W. Perkins, secretary of the company, renomination of the company's officers and directors for the fiscal year (Continued on page 7)

Forum Proposal Is Endorsed by ITOA

A resolution favoring a meeting of all branches of the industry to establish the Motion Picture Forum proposed by Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, was adopted by the ITOA of New York at a meeting in the Astor Hotel here yesterday. Harry Brundt presided.

Other exhibitor organizations were urged by the resolution to get behind (Continued on page 7)

In This Issue

"Boomerang" and "Blind Spot" are reviewed on page 6.
New York Theatres

Radio City Music Hall

"The Yearling"
Gregory Peck, Jane Wyman, Claire Jarnagin, Jr.
In Technicolor • An M-G-M Picture Spectacular Stage Presentation

Palladium

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Maureen O'Hara, Walter Slezak
In Sinbad the Sailor • In Technicolor

On Screen Heldover: "The Jolson Story"
In Technicolor • A Paramount Picture starring)
Ray Milward, Barbara Bary

The Perfect Marriage

Rivoli Theater

Doors Open B'way & 50th St.
9:30 A.M.

The Best Years of Our Lives

Continued Performance

"California"

A Paramount Picture starring
Ray Milward, Barbara Bary, Millard Stannwyck, Fitzgerald

WB Memphis Meeting

MEMPHIS, Jan. 23—Warner Theaters executives met in Memphis this week, James Cotton, zone manager of Chicago; Alex Halperin, head booker, Chicago; M. D. Brazeau, district manager, and John L. Barron, contact manager, Chicago, were the visiting officials, J. H. McCarthy, manager of the Warner Theatre, Memphis, was host.
13 RUE MADELEINE

AT THE ROXY, N.Y., IS BLASTING SKY-HIGH THE BOXOFFICE RECORDS OF SUCH GREAT MONEY-GETTING ATTRACTIONS AS "MARGIE", "SMOKY", "STATE FAIR", "A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN" AND "THE HOUSE ON 92nd STREET"!

No Company Ever Had So Many Great Attractions Playing and on the way as

CENTURY-FOX

THE RAZOR'S EDGE" • "THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM" In Technicolor
"BOOMERANG!" • "CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA" In Technicolor
"THE LATE GEORGE APLEY" • "THE HOMESTRETCH" In Technicolor
AMPTO of W. Penn. Conclude Meeting

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 23.—The Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania cleared all officers at their 25th annual convent-ion, which was brought to a close in the William Penn Hotel here to-night.

They are Morris M. Finkel, president; Fred A. Beedle, vice-president; Fred G. Briggs, secretary; and Joseph Goldman, treasurer. The nominating committee, of which Glenn Carruthers was chairman, named Norman T. Rockwood, Lee L. Janoplos, Iris Roths and William J. Walker, William R. Wheat, Jr., has retired.

At today's closed session, guest speakers were: Tom Connors, Allied president, and David Palfreyman of the Motion Picture Association.

In his remarks, Palfreyman said: "It is no longer politics than willing to carry our share of taxes, but we should not be singled out and hit with special taxes just because we are movie people. There are twenty-eight states and hundreds of cities which appear appealing to see what we can chalk off the major part of admission taxes. The Federal tax collected from movie houses during 1946 was more than the more production cost of all pictures made in Hollywood last year. That is a situation that you must give some thought to because if you don't contact your senators and congressmen, the whole tax business is going to out of hand.

A capacity crowd attended the banquet. Lake Barnett was toasting chairman, and other Paramount executives will leave here tonight for the Coast to join Barney Balahan, president, and studio officials in a series of conferences on both domestic and foreign production. Balahan, now in Miami, will leave for New York, where Mrs. Balahan, will attend a conference of European production representa-tives, left here for the studios yesterday.

The New York contingent includes Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution; George Welt-ner, New York manager; Russell Holman, Eastern production manager; Al At-ten; Alan Jackson, story editor here; Curtis Mitchell, production manager, and J. E. Perkins, chairman and managing director for Paramount in Great Britain.

Katherine Randall Is PRC Drive Winner

Katherine Randall, PRC booker, saleswoman in the Memphis office, has won a five-week radio campaign sponsored by the company. The Mem-phis branch is managed by Leonard Shappell.

Final standing of other top branch: follows; Milwaukee, New Haven, St. Louis, Charlotte, Atlanta, Minneapolis, Des Moines, Washington, Buffalo. By divisions, final standing was: First, Grover Parsons' South- ern; second, Abbott Swartie's North- west; third, Hart Herman's New England; fourth, William Sherman's Midwest; fifth, Beverly Miller's Western; sixth, Robert Church's Atl-antic; seventh, Joe Miller's New York; eighth, James Hendel's Ohio Valley.

Loren Ryder Named President of SMPE

Loren L. Ryder, Paramount studio sound executive, was installed as pres-ident of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at a meeting of its board of governors held at the Hotel Penn-sylvania, here, yesterday.

Riley later in Hollywood, SMPE's out-going president, affidated at the in-duction of Ryder, former executive vice-president, who was elevated to the presidency at the Society's October meeting in Hollywood.

Industry Leaders To Bealty Rites

DETOIT, Jan. 23.—Funeral services for Edward C. Beatty, president of the Detroit Theatre Owners Association, who died here on Tuesday, will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral tomorrow afternoon. Internment will follow at the White Chapel Mausoleum here. Scores from the industry here and elsewhere will attend.


Others from out-of-town who will attend the funeral will be: Edward Maloney, M-G-M, Pittsburgh; Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president; Juley Levy of 20th-Fox’s home publicity department; Leslie Gottlieb, Universal, Chicago; E. T. Gomersall, Universal, New York; T. B. Kramer, RKO Radio, New York; Milt Cohen, RKO, Cleveland; Robert S. Mochrie, RKO Radio, New York.

Easy to Move, Erect Prefashioned House

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 23.—The Crest Theatre at Long Beach could be taken down in one month, shipped to a new location and reassembled—ready for operation—in 90 days, according to R. H. McCullough, designer.

Long Beach was selected as the first site for erecting a pre-fashioned thea- tre, said McCullough, because the city, due to earthquake history, has the trickiest building code. In the U. S. L. Maloney, M-G-M, Pittsburgh; Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president; Juley Levy of 20th-Fox’s home publicity department; Leslie Gottlieb, Universal, Chicago; E. T. Gomersall, Universal, New York; T. B. Kramer, RKO Radio, New York; Milt Cohen, RKO, Cleveland; Robert S. Mochrie, RKO Radio, New York.

Gruenberg to Toronto For 'Depinet' Meet

TORONTO, Jan. 23.—Len S. Gruenberg, captain of the 1947 "New Depinet Drive," will meet with personnel of the local RKO Radio exchange to-morrow. Jack Bernstein, manager, will preside at the meeting, which will be attended by M. G. Pfeifer, home office sales executive, and Leo M. De-vaney, Canadian division sales man-ager, who will present a Drive meeting in Montreal. It is also announced that M. L. Devaney is manager of the latter exchange.

Navv Cities U.A.

United Artists has been awarded a $75,000 Certificate of Achievement from the U. S. Bureau of Naval Personnel in recognition of outstanding services rendered by United Artists during World War II. The presentation will be made at the Naval Motion Picture Exchange in Brooklyn during the week of Feb. 3, with Navv dignitaries in attendance.

U.S. Films Superior To Europe's: Mayer

"The reason why British and French pictures playing in America are good, is because they have been 'screened' out there before being sent to the United States," Ar-thur D. Mayer, president of the Screen Producers of America, and American Red Cross deputy commissioner, who recently re- trived here from a two-month tour of Eu-rope, Mayer viewed many films in addition to surveying Red Cross in- stances for a report on the advis-ability of their maintenance, the main purpose of his trip. He said he cannot see comparisons made by American critics between American and Eu- ropean pictures.

'It's a Joke' Makes Dual Bow in Austin

AUSTIN, Tex., Jan. 23.—The world premiere of Eagle-Lion's first film, "It's a Joke," starring Kenny Delmar (Senator Claghorn), here last night, originally scheduled for the Paramount, opened at the State Theatre to handle overflow crowds, with Hollywood personalities, including George Woll, vice-president, participating in the ceremonies.

And the stars were guests of Gov. Bourke H. Jester, whose inauguration took place simultaneously with the opening of the picture. The gala opening was attended by: Una Merkel, Frances Langford, Jon Hall, Andy Russell, Tom Conway, Hen-ry Rubin, Sheila Ryan, Lois Andrews and Steve Brodie.

Hughes Elected by American Writers

Robert Hughes has been elected president of the American Writers Association, succeeding Dr. John Erskine, first head of the organiza-tion, who has been named honorary president.

The association was formed last September as an American Writers Authority plan advanced by James M. Cain, involving the leasing of rights and sale of literary properties to film companies, as also supported by the Screen Writers Guild.

Californians Ask Studio Red Probe

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Rep. John Rankin (Miss.), said today he has a petition containing "thousands of names" of Californians who demand an immediate investigation into com-mission in Hollywood by the Un- American Activities Committee.

Rankin believes the West Coast probe should "head the list" of commit-tee investigations. It is indicated, however, that other studies will come first. The American Film and Allied Writers Union, investigating the bottom of the list.

Myers' Leg Mending

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Aram F. Myers, assistant manager of the national office of the District of Columbia, has had the plaster case removed from his broken leg and is expected to return to his office within a week.

Schlaifer to Coast For Product Talks

Charles Schlaifer, 20th-Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, will leave here today for the Coast to confer with Syros P. Skouras, pres-ident; Darryl F. Zanuck, production vice-president; Leo G. Griffin, out of Pitts-burgh's outstanding civic leaders, was a speaker. In thanking the delegates for their support and confidence, Finkel said: "The success of the meeting of the National Allied in Washington next week with many answers to current problems.
AN INVITATION TO THE INDUSTRY

Mr. Charles P. Skouras cordially invites you to view the World’s First Pre-fashioned Theatre...

The Crest
Atlantic Boulevard and Burlinghall Road North Long Beach, California

For your convenience:
Specially conducted tours between 10 A.M. and noon daily.
For cards of admission write or phone R.H.McCullough, Republic 4111, National Theatres Amusement Co., Inc., 1609 West Washington Blvd., Los Angeles 7, Cal.

THE WORLD’S FIRST PRE-FASHIONED THEATRE! • Pre-designed, pre-styled, and built with tomorrow’s techniques, the Crest is an accomplished fact. First of the many that can be fashioned in the future with production line techniques and economy, it is a theatre of many wonders. • All steel frame; fibreglass wall panels; earthquake-proof; fireproof; orthoscope projection; curtains of spun glass; transvox sound; galbestos roof; television tower; plastic light coves; air-cooled davenports; germ-proofed air; no-glare lighting; snap-on decorations; prefabricated projection booth panel. • These, and many other revolutionary features, stamp it as the Theatre of The Future.
**Palestine's First Processed in U.S.**

By IBRAHIM ZEIN

JAFFA, Jan. 16 (By Air Mail)—The first complete Palestinian (Jewish) feature, produced in the Philippine Islands from an American possession to a nation in its own right, with its own national pride, is recounted in Frederic Ulmann Jr.'s current "This is America" short. Blackstone of the process, which helped to prepare the natives for independence, was a one-room schoolhouse which taught old and young, and was founded by the late Rabbi E. J. Mandel, in which the teacher braved the jungles, tropical diseases and poverty to bring elementary courses as well as the story of liberty to the people. Narration is by Ken Smith; the photography is striking. Running time, 20 minutes.

"Sinbad" Sets Record

RKO Radio's "Sinbad the Sailor" brought a record for the Palace Theatre here on Tuesday, with receipts of $8,350 topping the previous week-day opening record of $7,500 set by "Spanish Main," Ray Connór, manager of the theatre, announced yesterday.

**Filmmak Is Expanding**

Chicago, Jan. 23—Filmmak Trailers has purchased new laboratory equipment which will make possible the production of five times the company's present trailer output, according to Irving Mack.

Irish Prepared to Produce This Year

By T. J. M. SHEEHY

DUBLIN, Jan. 17 (By Air Mail)—Definitively established that Ireland is to enter the motion picture industry in 1947. First orders for equipment have been placed with American firms, manufacturers of the latest stereopticon. The Irish Government is reported to be government-run, but is being carried on by private enterprise.

Three companies are being formed, one to build and rent studios, another to produce features and the third to produce shorts and possibly a screen news magazine.

It appears that the production center has based plans on a normal trading basis and is not depending on any quota or monopoly privileges.

Foreign technicians will be used to start the new industry, but it is intended to train Irish talent so that eventually the technical staff and talent will be Irish with few exceptions.

The new enterprises are not in any way connected with Arthur Rank. It is probable that the directors will help strengthen Irish and American film ties, which have been somewhat slackened since the Rank Organization purchased large theatre interests in Ireland and attracted much Irish acting and author talent to English studios.

"U" Has Acquired 28 Exchange Sites

Universal has acquired approximately 80 per cent of the sites for the 28 new exchanges it plans to build throughout the country, beginning on March 1. John J. O'Connor, U. vice-president and executive assistant to president Nate J. Blumberg, said here yesterday.

Bids for the first of the new buildings, to be erected in Chicago, now are being accepted by Fuller Construction Co., and similar activity in several other key cities is expected soon.

**Cincinnati Variety Has Founding Plan**

CINCINNATI, Jan. 23—The Cincinnati Variety Club, having adopted and placed in a foster home, a two-week-old baby girl abandoned on Celestial Street, is planning to sponsor the Irish business men. And Adams, the club will assume full responsibility and expense of rearing and educating the child, with the help of the city. The club also has pledged support to a local institution devoted to the betterment of boys.

**Taplinger in Conference**

Robert Taplinger, Enterprise vice-president in charge of advertising, will be here today for conferences with United Press International executives on advertising campaigns of "Arch of Triumph," "The Other Love," and "Out of the Soul." While here, Taplinger will confer also with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer on the foreign publicity and advertising campaigns of the Enterprise pictures which M-G-M will handle.
March of Dimes

(Continued from page 1)

"Many of those members of the industry who are participating in the campaign and to those whose contributions are part of the motion picture trade journals in space, engravings and typog-

raphy. Without this essential as-

sistance, we could not have suc-

ceeded."—Louis Edward for Kansas

charge of the few.

Jack Schneider, head of M-G-M, is wishing for "wishing wells" for the campaign.

Distributors of American Legion, and the American Legion, Distribution arran-

gements are being made for houses in New York and New Jersey.

To Fete Waters, Moore

ALBANY, Jan. 25.—The local Varie-
ty Club will give a farewell dinner at Town House here Feb. 3 for Welden Waters and John Moore. Waters is now Pittsburgh manager for 20th Century-Fox.

Johnston on Air

(Continued from page 1)

spiritual," according to Mutual.

The announcement, by Phillips Carlin, Mutual vice-president in charge of programs, lists among the executive committee supervising the programs, along with Johnston, Leo McCarey, independent producer and director, and William Bacher and Clarence Hudson, directors of 20th Century-Fox. Raymond Longnecker of the Mutual Radio Agency is the producer and chairman of the group.

Carlin states that the new programs will result in a combination of the efforts of leaders of all branches of both the radio and film worlds, "public-spirited business heads who have given freely of their personal time and energies."

The first of the unsponsored shows will be true Boardman's "Flight from Home," starring Loretta Young. It will be heard Thursday, Feb. 13, at 10 P.M., EST. Meredith Wilson will be musical director for the series.

Forum Proposal

(Continued from page 1)

the forum, at which intra-industry disputes would be settled, as far as possible, through round-table confer-

Theatrical publicists of Paramount thus will be conducted by the new department directed by Odell, by Aileen Brenon's magazine department, and by the radio department, which will continue under the direction of Bert Champion in the East and Martin Lewis on the Coast.

D. John Phillips continues as short subjects publicity director and Joseph Callahan as his assistant. Milton Mohr will remain in charge of syndicates and Louis Pelegreine of the trade press, with Fred Hodgson continuing as publicity writer. All three will work under the supervision of Odell.

St. Louis DST Drive

Sr. Louis, Jan. 23—Theatre owners here launched renewed drive today for signatures to petitions asking for repeal of daylight saving time. The election board said petitions presented by exhibitors were 2485 names short since a great many were invalid.
Columbia Seen As First to Upper Court

Frolich Says Appeal 'Probably' This Week

By GENE ARNEEL

Indications point to Columbia's becoming the first party to file notice of appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit. Louis Frolich, counsel for the company, having stated at the weekend that such action will be taken "probably this week," subject to rulings on motions to alter the decree. Universal and United Artists also are on record with their intentions to appeal, although the theatre-owning defendants have

(Continued on page 9)

Rules Cut Rates or Premiums Void Rights of Theatres to Clearance

Milwaukee, Jan. 26.—Dismissing complaints against 20th Century-Fox and Warner Brothers, the local arbitration tribunal has ruled that in view of special cut admission rates and the practice of giving away or premiums "other than legitimate entertainment to attract patrons," clearance of the Milwaukee and Hollywood theatres in favor of the Burleigh, is eliminated.

Only "upon discontinuance of the practices referred to as objectionable," the arbitrator continued, "and the charging of regular adult admission prices at all times after five P.M.," will the two houses be awarded 14 days clearance over the Burleigh. The award also permits one-day clearance for the Burleigh over the Mars Theatre, complainant in a case which named the five distributor circuits as defendants and Langenreich Brothers, operators of the Burleigh; Fox Badger Theatre Corp., Warner Theatres of Wisconsin, Northwestern Theatre Co., and Hollywood Operating Co. as intervenors. Although not a complainant, the arbitrator pointed out, the Burleigh entered the same complaint as the Mars and asked for relief by a reduction of clearances.

Nelson Takes Part In Gov'l-Film Plan

Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will represent that group on the 12-man industry committee whose duty it will be to expedite the handling of approved Government Films. Actually, the Government has yet to approach the industry on film matters since establishment of the machinery, so far as is known.

RKO Meeting Starts Today

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president and general sales manager, will preside at a mid-winter sales and policy meeting of the company's district managers to be held today through Wednesday in the Waldorf-Astor, here.

Home office executives who will also attend include Nat Levy and Walter E. Branson, Eastern and Western division sales managers, and Harry J. Michelson, short subjects manager. Leo M. Devaney, Canadian division sales manager, will be present, and so will the following district managers: H. H. Greenblatt, Midwestern; R. V. Nolan, Prairie; Len S. Grunenberg, Rocky Mountain; J. H.

(Continued on page 9)

Ask for Reversal of Momand Decision

Boston, Jan. 26.—The distributor defendants in the case brought by A. B. Momand, former Oklahoma exhibitor, have filed motion for a reversal of the jury's verdict of last week which awarded the plaintiff damages of $869,000, including interest.

(Continued on page 9)

McCarthy Named MPA France Mgr.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Promotion of Frank McCarthy to the position of manager in France for the Motion Picture Association was announced at the weekend by Eric Johnston, MPA

(Continued on page 8)

In This Issue

The following films are reviewed on page 5: "South of the Chisholm Trail," "Train to San Antonio," "Plunder to Speed" and "Wild Country." On page 8, "Hungry Hill" is reviewed.
H. W. SCHWALBERG, general sales manager, has been inducted into the Hollywood Quigley Hall of Fame. He and his associates, Arthur C. Goodale and C. A. Nash, have been very active members of the Quigley organization for many years. Mr. Schwalberg is well known in the industry for his excellent work and his ability to promote and sell motion pictures effectively. He is succeeded by Mr. Goodale, who has been associated with the company for a number of years. Mr. Nash has also been a long-time member of the Quigley organization. The three men are highly respected in the industry and are deeply admired for their dedication to promoting motion pictures. The Quigley Hall of Fame is a prestigious honor that recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the motion picture industry.
"SOME WOMEN CAN'T STAND CATS...

With Me

It's Men!..."
That Gal Guild Drives Montgomery Wild!

THE BRASHER DOUBLOON

(Rarest and most dangerous of coins!)

Starring

GEORGE MONTGOMERY · NANCY GUILD

with Conrad Janis · Roy Roberts · Fritz Kortner · Florence Bates · Marvin Miller

Directed by JOHN BRAHM · Produced by ROBERT BASSLER

Based on the Novel "The High Window" by RAYMOND CHANDLER · Screen Play by Dorothy Hannah · Adaptation by Leonard Praskins

No Company Has Such Sensational Boxoffice Hits Now Playing And On The Way As

20TH CENTURY-Fox

"MARGIE" In Technicolor · "MY DARLING CLEMENTINE" · "THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM" In Technicolor · "BOOMERANG!" · "THE LATE GEORGE APLEY" · "CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA" In Technicolor
AAA Appeal Board Upholds Ruling

Affirming a ruling by the New Orleans board of the Arbitration Appeal Board, New York, has sustained rejection of a request by Joy Thea- tres, 37-20 42nd St., for elimination of the subsidy, $15,000, by the downtown Loew-M.G.M. Don George, author of the Glenwood Theatre, filed as intervenor.

The Joy Theatre, which was a party in a voluntary agreement for reduction of an original clearance of 60 days to 15 cents a front foot, is in the Glenwood Theatre, of Nor- wood, Mass., over the Elite Theatre at Walpole has been awarded by the Boston board of the American Arbitration Association. The complaint, filed by the Elite, named M.G.M., 20th Century-Fox, Warner Brothers, RKO Radio, Paramount and the George A. Giles Co., operator of the two Norwood theatres, as defendants.

Citing the contracts between the Elite and RKO Radio and Paramount as providing for 21 days’ clearance for the Norwood house at Walpole, the attorney said, however, that he “was treating the contracts between the Norwood and RKO and Paramount as providing only 30 days’ clearance for 30 days’ lead.”

GE Television Sets Due in February

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 26—Television sets, which attained only 10 per cent of the 1946 schedule of 200,000, is due to reach that goal this year, Philip J. Caldwell, sales manager of General Electric’s transmission division, declared here, in an address to the Electric Appliance and Radio Dealers Association.

Caldwell said that his company will begin nationwide distribution of sets early in February, which will be direct-view consoles with a six-by-eight-inch screen and a standard band for radio reception, he added.

Donald Hicks Named Paramount Manager

OSAKA, Jan. 26—Donald Hicks comes to Osaka from Kansas City as the new Paramount branch manager, succeeding Jess McIrie, who has been transferred to Milwaukee. Foremost in entertainment, comes from the same city to replace E. I. Rubin as Paramount salesman.

At RKO Radio, exploiter John Milton, from which RKO has been sold to Zenith in Chicago, has been named sales manager in Des Moines to become a Columbia sales- man, succeeding Pat Jolly.

Monogram Signs 153

Hollywood, Jan. 26—Five circuits comprising 153 situations, have signed for the Monogram output for 1946-47.

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RKO French Film Ready

“Golden Silence,” first feature for RKO Radio world distribution made jointly by RKO and Pathe Cinema, is to be released in New York, Paris, and London during the first quarter of 1947, it having been completed in Paris. Clair, who produced it with Maurice Chevalier, Francois Perier and Marcelle Derrien, will remain there to make additional pictures. Chevalier will sail in April for America to begin a one-man tour.

High Army Honors To Jack L. Warner

Washington, Jan. 26.—The War Department announced today the award of the Medal for Merit to Jack L. War- ner, vice-president in charge of production of Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc. The award is for “services rendered in connection with services to the War Department from Sept., 1939, to Sept., 1945.”

Presentation of the award will be made by General of the Army Henry H. Arnold on Warner’s return from Europe.

Trade Shows for Seven by Reagan

Trade screenings of seven Paramount productions have been sched- uled by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

“Ants,” a favorite Brunette” will be shown to the trade in all exchange areas on Monday, Feb. 7. On Feb. 14, three Pine Thomas productions will be screened in all territories: “Big Town,” “Seven Wilder Savory” and “Fear in the Night.”

Another trio of Pine-Thomas prod- uctions will be traded in all areas on Friday, Feb. 21. The films comprise “Danger Street,” “I Cover Big Town” and “Jungle Flight.”

3 British Firms File To Recover $60,300

A suit to recover $60,300 and interest since October, 1944, against James W. Johnson, individually, and as Collector of Internal Revenue here, has been filed in U. S. District Court of New York by Missourie Pictures, Ltd.; British Aviation Pictures, Ltd., and Missourie, which has been granted a temporary restraining order against defendants, who maintain that the money, deducted from $201,000 paid to them by Samuel Marx and William Marx for their production, “Spit- fire,” is part of a payment for a tangible asset.

The money was taken by the tax collector as a withholding tax, but the plaintiffs contend that his action was “erroneous and illegal” and that since the amount paid by Goldsmith” did not con- stitute an advance payment of royalties.

Sunday Issue Favor

Harriman, Jan. 26.—The board of alderman ordinance committee has voted to recommend the allowance of all or theatrical shows to open on Sundays at 1:30 P.M., and remain open until 11:30 instead of the present hours of two to 11.

Mr. Exhibitor: Investigate Filmmark’s New Prevue Till- er Service before signing any trailer contracts. Write, wire or phone Filmmark 1327 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, I.L. and receive full details.
Competitor Threat Is Big in Australia

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, Jan. 21 (By Air Mail)—Most of the product shows improvement. American distributors are unlikely to maintain 1946 grosses this year. Reduced public spending is one factor, the increasing popularity and greater numerical strength of British films is another.

In the latter half of 1946, British films outgrew American product all along the line, with a few exceptions. Once the British trade-mark was a lightning rod, now it is a variable asset. It is expected that Britain this year will release about 50 features in 16mm. and 35mm. versions. The finished product will be the entering wedge for encroachment of the narrow pictures in competition with standard size films, says P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatres Owners of Ohio, in a bulletin to IFO members.

"If the showing of these free 16mm. pictures were confined to train audiences," said Wood, "it would be of little concern to theatre owners, but it has been the experience in this business that when a new gadget is introduced by one company all of the others try to improve upon it. With all companies reducing their top pictures, there will be a long period during which all of them will be selling these in competition to their 35mm. department, to the detriment of bona fide exhibitors."

Charge Police Remiss As Holdups Increase

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 26—A series of theatre holdups has prompted local theatremen to launch an investigation into police protection. It is charged that only one policeman is assigned to a large area of many downtown blocks, and robbers are virtually completely assured of no trouble while "pulling" a job.

Ralph Stitt Resigns

Ralph Stitt, New England field exploiter for 20th Century-Fox, has resigned, the home office announced at the weekend.

PCCITO Plans Fight On 20% Oregon Tax

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 26—Executives of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, meeting at the Benson Hotel, here, outlined a program of opposition to the proposed 20 per cent Oregon theatre admission tax.

Decry's Train Shows As 16mm. 'Wedge'

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 26—Showing of 16mm. versions on Chesapeake and Ohio trains may be the entering wedge for encroachment of the narrow pictures in competition with standard size films, says P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatres Owners of Ohio, in a bulletin to IFO members.

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Claim 1st Helicopter Delivery of Print

On Wednesday, the first door-to-door aerial film delivery flights, in cooperation with Lion-Lion Films reports here. The company has contracted for a single monoplane to deliver the first print of its "Bedelia" to the Senate Theatre, where it will have its world premiere showing.

The rotary-winger, with Mayor Frank T. Cashman at the controls, took off from the helicopter base at Central Airport, Camden, and landed in Market Street, Harrisburg, directly at the door of the theatre. Isadore Goldsmith, producer of "Bedelia," will be on hand, also newly-elected Gov. James H. Duff of Pennsylvania and Mayor Howard Miliken of Harrisburg.

ASCAP Elects 18 to Its Directorate

ASCAP's board of directors has named S. A. Mench, president, and publishers to membership: In the popular music field, writers Leroy Anderson, Rhett Barkley, Robert M. Board, H. O'Reilly Clint, Will E. Duncan, Piers J. Lilley, Leonard C. Mackenzie, Jr., Harold Mott, Max Terr and Jaime Wherry, for the next five years. Writers John W. Duke and H. Maurice-Jacquet.


Continue Committee On Small Business

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26—The Senate today voted to continue its special committee on small business. Sen. Kenneth Wherry (Neb.) will head the group during the coming session.

"Enforcement of the anti-trust laws and monopolistic practices in major industries will take up a considerable portion of our time," Wierry commented.

Sen. Alben Barkley, Democratic leader, opposed the continuation of the committee on the grounds that it has no legislative power, and said that enforcement of the anti-trust laws "should be left up to the Justice Department."

Sandler Supply Firm

CLEVELAND, Jan. 26—David Sandler, who during the period of material scarcity worked up a mail order used equipment business, has formed the Drive-In Theatre Equipment Co., to manufacture and distribute a new type in ear speaker called "Auto Voice" for drive-in theatres.

Sack Acquires 3 Films


Hoblitelle, Jackson At Carolina Meeting

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 26—Karl Hoblitelle, president of Interstate Theatres, Inc., Dallas, and Mack Jackson, president of both the Confederation of Southern Associations and the Southern Theatre Owners Association of Alexander City, Ala., are additional speakers who will address the 38th annual convention of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, being held here at the Hotel Charlotte today through Tuesday.

More than 500 theatre owners and film industry officials are attending. Ben Stromsland of Rock Hill, S. C., president of the association, is presiding.

APPROVES FDR Film

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has approved "The Roosevelt Story," a 90-minute documentary which the Martin Levine-Oliver Unger Tola Laboratories here, produced, except for the musical background. Edward Craig has been retained as sound editor and Jack Shaw as assistant director. Elliott Roosevelt was the editorial consultant for the film.

Deutsch Transferred

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 26—Sam Deutsch, office manager and head booker for the local Universal exchange, has been transferred to Omaha in the same capacity.
The shot that started
the film editor on his way...

CRUDE as this shot seems to us now, it opened a young industry's eyes to a new way of making motion pictures—and started the film editor on his way to his present important position.

Today, working closely with director or producer, the film editor is responsible for much of a picture's continuity, its smooth flow and rhythm. On his creative understanding of theme and mood...his feeling for pace and its effect on drama...rests a large part of a picture's ultimate success.

And top-flight photographic quality, contributed by the family of Eastman motion picture films, gives the film editor the help he needs if he is to carry out his responsibility to the full.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.
J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
Ohio Tax Reduction Awaits State Study

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 26.—Specific recommendations for possible reduction in Ohio taxes, including cutting the state real estate tax from 50 cents to 25 cents, will have to await a study of a report of the state tax commissioner by Rep. Ernest Heritage, the Republican governor declared in his first message to the legislature. The tax commissioner’s report will be ready by Feb. 1.

Gov. Heritage’s campaign promises included a sales tax reduction, presumably covering the three per cent admission tax, which is essentially a sales tax on tickets. The governor did not propose the possibility of repeal of the admission tax, although he had been considering its proposal, according to reports. Cities have been urging such a move for the past year.

Minneapolis to Get a City Ticket Tax Bill

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 26.—Representative George A. French, Minneapolis, reveals he is preparing a bill enabling cities to tax entertainment 10 per cent, with the receipts to go into each city’s general fund. The bill would be in addition to other ticket taxes and would be imposed regardless of whether Congress maintains the present 20 per cent wartime levy.

Mexican Income Tax Hits U.S. Workers

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 26.—All industry workers here, including foreigners who work in Mexico as directors, scenario writers, playwrights, or otherwise, as well as persons affiliated with other businesses, will pay higher income taxes under a new federal levy.

The amended income tax law provides such rates of payment as 22 per cent on an income up to $4,500; 26 per cent from $4,501 to $7,000; 28 per cent from $7,001 to $10,000, and 30 per cent on all incomes above $12,000.

Cal. Bill Embodies Film Truckers Tax

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 26.—A new proposition on trucks which would directly affect film truckers has been introduced in the state legislature by Sen. Randolph Collier, calling for $2,800,000,000 highway reconstruction program, and the principal part of the tax, according to Collier’s committee, would fall on trucks.

Double Tax Threat

NORTH ADAMS, Mass., Jan. 26.—Theatres in this city face the threat of a city assessment and a state assessment on tax gross receipts, the City Council naming a special committee to investigate both possibilities and possible new methods of raising funds. If new methods fail, councilmen said the real estate tax would jump 10.

Clement’s Father, 83

Frederic P. Clement, 83, father of Roger C. Clement, Paramount International, died at his home yesterday Thursday at Doctor’s Hospital, New York. Services and burial will take place in Rutland, Vt.

Review

“Hungry Hill”

(Two Cities—C.F.D.)

THE latest top-bracket offering from the J. Arthur Rank Organization may not rate the esteem which certain of its immediate predecessors earned, but nevertheless, by reason of its star appeal and the impeccable playing of its supporting cast, it will gather good money at British box offices, and given appropriate exploitation will do well in select American showcase houses.

The exhibit—an episodic piece ranging over 50 years of troubled history—concerns itself with Ireland of the mid-19th century; one of its minor merits is that it depicts faithfully and closely mingled extremes of elegance and poverty which epitomized that place and time without ever descending to the tawdry whimsy of stage “Irishisms.”

There are two families: the rich, comfortable, energetic Brodricks who prosper on the land which their forefathers took. The Brodricks get on with their money-making, the Donovans the while standing around deriding their enemies. The Brodricks enrich themselves, but with their wealth comes an bitter hatred bred through their long feud with the Donovans. It is a grim relentless story whose unfolding is not assisted by some heavy-handed direction, but which is redeemed by choice performances not only by the stars but by a considerable galaxy of lesser known people.

Margaret Lockwood, Britain’s No. 1 screen actress, puts across the best work of her career. Dennis Price, one of the rising favorites of the screen, takes a mighty leap forward. But chiefly to be remarked are the Irish. The cast of whom here make their motion picture debuts. Notable among a worthwhile host are Dermot Walsh and Siobhan McKenna; they are real acquisitions. Also to be recorded is the unusual happiness circumstance that Two Cities have made an Irish film without once mentioning religion or politics.

Running time 109 minutes. British audience release. Date not set.

Edward Patrick Elected

HARTFORD, Jan. 26.—Results of election of local No. 334, Motion Picture Projectionists, New Bedford, have been announced as follows: President, Edward Patrick; vice-president, George McLelland; secretary, Walter O. Smith; financial secretary, Wilfrid E. P. Kegans; business manager, Edward Patrick; assistant, Alfred Davis. The executive board is composed of Joseph Thibulge, Lucien Cz., Patrick Smith, Walter Smith, McLelland and Robloux.

Iernigan Leaves Kaye

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26.—Jerry Iernigan has resigned as branch manager of Kaye Film Exchange here. Lynn Dunn, branch manager of the Kay exchange in Memphis is holding fort here until a new manager is appointed.

NSS Moves Love

DETROIT, Jan. 26.—Harry Lowe, Detroit salesman with National Screen Service, has been transferred to the Philadelphia office. Replacing him will be Norman Linz, formerly head exhibition man for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Indianapolis.

Getschal Joins Bart

Bud Getschal, former member of the plans board of the Blaine Thompson agency; here, has joined the Stuart Bart Advertising Agency as assistant in charge of creative departments.

Plan Coast Office

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 26.—The Protestant Film Commission, a New York organization formed several months ago, will establish a branch office in Hollywood to maintain closer watch over the propagation of the film in this section, if the plans set in motion by the Los Angeles Federation of Churches mature.

Correction

Pictures of Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, and Emil Jensen, director of the promotion picture division of the March of Dimes drive, were inadvertently transposed in stories concerning their work this week by the “Motion Picture Daily.” As a result, Schlaifer was erroneously identified as Jensen, and Jensen as Schlaifer.

Frank McCarthy

Frank McCarthy

(Continued from page 1)

president, McCarthy will succeed Harold L. Smith, who is being transferred to the Hollywood MPA office.

Since Feb. 1, 1946, McCarthy has served as assistant to Byron Price, executive director of the Motion Picture Association in charge of the Hollywood office. During the war, McCarthy served as military assistant to Governor Marshall, the new Secretary of State.

“The Association is endeavors send the right type of talent as its representatives,” Johnston said in announcing the appointment. Johnston said McCarthy’s experience in the Army, as assistant secretary to the State, and in Hollywood will enable him to strengthen relations of the motion picture industry with the two countries. Last November McCarthy, under commission of Nelson A. Rockefeller, was in charge of the reorganization of five major United States foreign trade associations. Prior to the war, McCarthy worked with George Abbott, New York theatrical producer. In 1938, he served with the Warner Studio in California.

Mutual Launches New Coast Video Outlet

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 26.—Ground-breaking ceremonies for a new $2,500,000 radio and television studio of Mutual network in Hollywood will take place before Feb. 1. The new studios will contain a building, which, it was said, will be the largest and modern of its kind built exclusively for sound and television broadcasting.

RCA’s R. R. Beal, 59

Dies in New York

Ralph R. Beal, 59, vice-president in charge of television engineering of RCA Communications, Inc., Radio Corporation of America subsidiary, died on Friday night at his home. Beal was president of the Doctors Hospital here after a brief illness.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Merle Beal Beal, and a son, Ralph R. Beal, Jr., of Santa Monica, Calif.

Set ‘Prentiss’ Premiere

World premiere of “Nora Prentiss” has been set by the “Prentiss” producers for Feb. 7 at the Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia. Two other out-town openings, at the Winkler Theatre, Philadelphia, City, on Feb. 12, and the Warner Theatre, Memphis, Feb. 13, are booked before the New York Strand opening, on Feb. 14.

Brubaker to Europe

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—Robert E. Brubaker, Executive Director of American Films will sail for Europe aboard the S. S. America on Feb. 6 to establish Swiss offices and serve as consultant on the continent.

Hassler to Astor

ATLANTA, Jan. 26.—Don Hassler, former head of the Paramount Enterprises and Bailey’s Theatres, Atlanta, has been appointed special representative for Astor Pictures of Georgia.

‘Pursued’ Tradeshows

“Pursued,” second United States Pictures’ production for Warners, release, has been set for national trade showing on Monday, Feb. 17.
Loew Board

(Continued from page 1)

(Co is president); William F. Rodgers, 100; J. Robert Rubin, 5,940; Nicholas M. Schenck, 21,439; Joseph R. Vogel, 3,800; and Henry Rogers Winthrop, 300.

Remuneration received by Loew’s officers and directors for the fiscal year ended Dec. 31, 1945, is as follows: the late David G. Bernheimer, $48,505; Howard Dietz, $31,205; decrease of $3,871 over the preceding year; Friedman, $16,300; increase of $4,919; Loew, $31,100; increase of $500; Alexander Leventhal, $20,805; Edwin H. Gaysie, $18,600; Leake, $21,100; increase of $200; Alexander Lowry, $19,000; Louis B. Mayer, $60,000; Jesse T. Miller, $29,000; and Nahum Goldmann, $28,300; increase of $8,500; Nicholas Nayfack, $50,000; Frank Loew, $43,000; and at the end of the year members of the board were: Lowry, $14,714; Rubin, $23,600; Marvin H. Schenck, $22,000; increase of $4,205; Nicholas Schenck, $20,500; and Arnold Loeb, $20,000; increase of $9,205; Rubin, $16,100, an increase of $12,161; David Warfield, $1,300, and Winthrop, $6,300.

In addition, according to the proxy statement, the company deposited $96,250 in escrow, payable to Loew's under certain contingencies.

The statement also lists amounts set aside for former employees’ retirement, the total amount being $6,180,000. The statement further states that the company and its subsidiaries have an obligation for the retirement, relief, and welfare of present and former employees, totaling approximately $8,700,000.

Loew’s plans to retire $4,000,000 of its common stock, which will be sold at a price of $10 per share. The proceeds will be used to pay the company’s outstanding mortgage bonds, which are presently due in 1947. The company also plans to retire $2,000,000 of its debentures, which are currently due in 1949. The company has also set aside $1,000,000 for the purchase of additional factory equipment.

Columbia Appeal Seen First

(Continued from page 1)

amount to filing of a petition to appeal, plus a statement seeking to establish the court's jurisdiction over the case and a citation of substantial questions found to be involved in the lower court’s ruling.

Each company shall designate to the New York Federal District Court clerk that portion of the record of the case, if not all, which is to be sent to the Supreme Court clerk. The latter will thereupon have it printed at the company's expense.

For example, if there were to be made only that part of the record dealing with price-fixing and franchises. On the other hand, Universal would, for practical purposes, the entire record over 3,000 pages. Cooke estimates that this would cost in the neighborhood of $7,800. However, he points out, if the voluminous exhibits entered into the case, numbering about 500, which are not certified by the government as now they stand, the costs would soar since printed copies of these would be necessary.

Cooke recalled a Kansas City case similar to the film suit in this respect. Here all exhibits had to be submitted and the costs ran up to $90,000.

Nelson

(Continued from page 1)

the solution lies rather in some form of partial dissolution that would provide for each producer's having a fair showing of his work's on the basis of merit.

In its quiescent curate brief filed with the New York Federal Court in the litigation of the equity suit against the distributors, SIMPP held the independent producer to be free of any of the monopolistic practices charged against the defendants and asked that they be exempt from any court order.

Nelson said that a committee headed by Lord Wright is now at work on an analysis of the court's decree and the extent to which it will affect the organization. Upon study of the group's report SIMPP will set its course of further action, possibly efforts to be heard by the Supreme Court.

Approve Sunday Films

Sunday films, still forbidden in hundreds of British communities, have been tacitly approved by the Christian Film Council, provided the pictures shown on the Sabbath are of "a high moral tone," according to press dispatches reaching New York from London.

Lynn Dunn Promoted

Memphis, Jan. 26.—Lynn Dunn, branch manager of Kay Film Exchange, Memphis, has been promoted to district manager and will have headquarters in New Orleans.

The Word Is Around

Baddie

is

THE WICKEDEST WOMAN WHO EVER LOVED!

Watch for WORLD PREMIERES, Jan. 29th at Pennsylvania's State Capital, Senate Theatre, Harrisburg, and Astor Theatre, Reading.

3 U' Sales Meets

(Continued from page 1)

national director of advertising—publicity, Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern director of advertising—publicity, and contract distributors Foster Blake and Barney Rose.

The second is set for the Drake Hotel, Chicago, Feb. 7-8, and the third will follow in New York.

Particular emphasis will be placed upon the release and selling plans for "The Egg and I," which will be set for release only after a complete plan of distribution has been formulated. "We want to make a big thing of it," Scully declared at the weekend, "that exhibitors will have as much chance to reap proper rewards as we will. For that reason we will carefully select our first engagements with the view of proving the picture's merit." It is expected that Scully will announce in New York the details of the distribution plan for the picture.

Vidor Asks New Trial

Hollywood, Jan. 16. — Director Cecil B. De Mille, who recently died for a new trial of his case against Columbia for release from his contract, has signed against him last month by Federal Judge Ben Harrison.

"Gangs' from Madison

"Gangs, Inc., is being distributed by Madison Pictures, Inc., and not by Film Classics, as was inadvertently reported last Thursday among Motion Picture Daily's estimates of key city grosses.

"Outlaw' Plea Wednesday

A motion by counsel for Howard Hughes, who have filed notice that they will appeal to the Supreme Court of four defenses entered by New York City license commission in the prosecution of Mesnier, police commissioner Arthur W. Wallander, is scheduled for a hearing on Wednesday afternoon in New York.

The city officials maintain that they are legally empowered to block exhibition of "The Outlaw" in New York.

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You've heard of the House that Jack built... watch this page tomorrow for news about the house that will build JACK!

"The RED HOUSE"
Ticket Tax Revenue Is 3rd Highest in History

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27—The nation's box-offices had the biggest November in history, according to the Bureau of Internal Revenue receipts for that month which amounted to $4,182,000. That figure was well over that of Nov. 1945—$3,602,000.

Nov. 1946 collections were the third highest monthly returns in history, equal only to Sept. 1946 and Sept., 1945.

Revenue receipts from the Broadway area representing November business amounted to $8,991,301. The report from the Third New York Internal Revenue District (Manhattan above 23rd Street), showed a $900,000 increase over November 1945.

November tax returns were collected by the Treasury Department during December and early January. Due to collection ramifications the Bureau is running approximately two months behind in announcing returns.

Goldwyn Will Lease Theatres for 'Lives'

Samuel Goldwyn has formed Samuel Goldwyn Pictures, Inc., which will lease theatres for the purpose of exhibiting "The Best Years of Our Lives," produced by his Samuel Goldwyn Productions, Inc.

The exhibitions will be de luxe, pre-screened engagements in selected thrust of the U.S. General release will take not place until after Jan. 1, 1948. Arrangements have been made with RKO Radio to assist in the acquisition of such theatres and in the physical servicing of the picture.

Hope for Reversal On Bidding Seen

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 27—Robert T. Barton, Jr., attorney for the Confederacy of Southern Associations, yesterday expressed the belief that the U. S. Supreme Court may entirely eliminate competitive bidding from the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit.

Speaking at the annual convention of the Theatres Owners, Inc., in North and South Carolina at Hotel Charlotte, Barton said the present decree is an improvement over the opinion of last June, but added: "Perhaps if the court had had the objections of the exhibitors.

Roadshow for 'Duel' Is Out

"Duel in the Sun," David O. Selznick production, becomes the first roadshow fatality in the light of the prohibition against fixing minimum admission prices under the New York Federal Court decree and will open initial Texas and California dates on a general policy of advanced prices of $1.50 top, including Federal tax. The decision to charge advanced admissions in both areas was reached by Robert J. O'Donnell for Interstate and Charles P. Skounas for Fox.

Kansas-Missouri Sets 8 Regionals

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 27—Regional meetings in the Kansas City exchange area, projected by the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association, have been set, to begin March 10. Hosts have been designated for each meeting town, they have accepted the appointments, and have made preliminary arrangement in conferences with directors of the association. The schedule follows:

Monday, March 10, Abilene, Kan.; host, Homer Strong; Tuesday, March 11, Wallace, Kan.; host, C. B. Kelly; Wednesday, March 12, (Continued on page 10)

Univ. Reports Record Net of $4,565,219

In This Issue

The "Macomber Affair" is reviewed on page 7. On page 10 appear estimates of key city grosses.
Coming Events

Today—Mid-winter meeting of the IAATE executive board in Seattle.

Today—Meeting of Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, Charlotte.

Today—Statewide New Jersey Allied Management meeting, Stacey-Trent Hotel, Trenton.

Today through Jan. 30—March of Dimes drive with theatre collection generally in the week of Feb. 27.

Jan. 31—National Allied board meeting, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Feb. 2-3—Convention of Virginia managers for damages allegedly suffered through strike, association, Shoreham Hotel, Washington.


Feb. 15-16—Greek War orphan appeal, New York.

Feb. 16—American Brotherhood drive begins.

Selznick Loses in Arbitration Move

Samuel Goldwyn need not submit to arbitration in his dispute with David O. Selznick over occupancy of the Astor Theatre here, Judge Denis O’Leary Cahalan ruled in New York Supreme Court yesterday.

The two producers, who are joint lessees of the house, have an agreement to take turns using it as a showcase for their properties, the judge ruled. Goldwyn caused the difference between his decision and that in the case of John Kobal, former president of the National Association of Theatre Owners, who got the Astor for the “Best Years of Our Lives.”

Subsequently, Selznick made a claim for arbitration of any misunderstanding, that Goldwyn moved to avoid arbitrating the dispute. The decision was made as a result of the case of The Strange Woman to fill the gap until “Duel” would be ready; but Goldwyn, after a number of legal maneuverings, got the Astor for the “Best Years of Our Lives.”

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Quigley to Coast

Martin Quigley, publisher of Motion Picture Daily and Motion Picture Herald, and related publications, left New York yesterday for a stay of several weeks in Hollywood.

Personal Mention

George Bagnall, United Artists vice-president, has left New York for Hollywood.

Carl Leesman will leave Hollywood by train for New York on Friday, en route to Europe where he will spend a month in London and Paris offices for Boguea Productions.

James Stewart and Frank Capra will be guests of Stanley-Warner Theatres at a reception in the Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, today.

Bob Kauffman, 20th Century-Fox exploiter, will leave New York today for Albany and Chicago.

Sam Wheeler, Film Classics’ sales manager, has left New York on a Midwestern trip.

Expect Portuguese Tax Decree Action

Washington, Jan. 27—Ratification by Portugal of the new tax decree which will impose high import rates on American films distributed there will be expected within the next month, despite a protest from the U. S. State Department, George Canty, Department film consultant, said today.

The Government protest was not heeded by Portugal because the United States has no commercial treaty with that country. The tax on American newsreel and short subjects distributed in Portugal.

Purpose of the new tax rate, according to the State Department, is to provide funds for a national motion picture industry in Portugal which would stimulate domestic production of pictures. The decree was passed by Government officials in Portugal on Jan. 1, but is not official until Congress ratifies it.

Canty expressed the belief that there is only a “slim chance” that the decree will be amended.

J. Hodes to Assist Weisfeld of E-L

Jerome Hodes, for many years with RKO Radio sales, has joined Eagle Lion Films as assistant to M. J. Weisfeld, E-L special sales representative.

A. W. Schwaberg, vice-president, and general sales manager announces.

Griffiths in UK to Represent Lesser

Hollywood, Jan. 27—David E. Griffiths, veteran distribution executive in England, has been appointed British representative for Sol Lesser Productions. Griffiths represented International Pictures prior to its merger with Universals.

New York Bookers Hold Annual Dinner

The Motion Picture Bookers Club of New York held its eighth annual dinner and dance at the Tavern-on-the-Green here last night. Oscar Lages of the Moses Circuit, president of the club, and other newly-elected officials were installed.

2nd Phase of RKO Sales Meet Today

Current RKO-Radio releases, including “Notorious,” “Northwest,” “Sister Kenny” and “San Quentin” were discussed here yesterday at a Mid-Winter meeting of the company’s district managers in the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, with Robert Mochlic, RKO-Radio vice-president and general sales manager, presiding.

Home office executives attending the three-day conference include Harry M. Goldschmidt, Walter E. Branson, Nat Levy, M. G. Pollee, Harry Gittelson, Frank Drumm, A. S. Schubart, Leon J. Bamberger, Sid Kramer and William J. Walsh, president. Topics that will concern Liberty Films are: “It’s a Wonderful Life,” Walt Disney’s “Song of the South” and the forthcoming “The Farmer’s Daughter.”

400 Boycott Films For Moral Reasons

Hollywood, Jan. 27—Following an address by the Rev. Thomas McCarthy, editor of The Tidings, 400 members of the Catholics, Catholic high school youth organization, have adopted the following resolution: “We, the representatives of the Catholic youth in Los Angeles, resolve never to attend ‘Duel in the Sun,’ and not to attend any picture, good or bad, for one month as a protest against immoral pictures filmed or being filmed.”

In his address, Father McCarthy said in part: “Let us protest in the strongest terms in the area where men who live by money will feel it most.”

New York Theatres

Radio City Music Hall—Rockefeller Center


In Technicolor—All 846 Picture Spectacular Stage Presentation

Palace

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Maureen O’Hara—Walter Slezak

Sibyl the Sailor

In Worldcolor

State Theatre

Johnny Downs—Bonnie Baker

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The Best Picture of the Year

The Years Best of Our Lives

N. Y. Film Critics

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Caliornia in Technicolor

4th Paramount Picture Star—Ray Milland—Stanwyck—Fitzgerald

Rivoli Theater

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9:30 A. M.

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Bogart is out with a new woman...
Humphrey Bogart
Lizabeth Scott
in John Cromwell's
Dead R

Introducing A New Song Hit
"Either It's Love Or It Isn't"
By Allan Roberts and Doris Fisher
"I forgot to tell you. I don’t trust anybody ... especially women!"

eckoning

MORRIS CHARLES WILLIAM MARVIN WALLACE
CARNOVSKY - CANE - PRINCE - MILLER - FORD

Screenplay by Oliver H. P. Garrett, Steve Fisher
Directed by JOHN CROMWELL - Produced by SIDNEY BIDDELL

A COLUMBIA PICTURE
“I didn't want any part of her!"

“...but I kept smelling that jasmine in her hair..."

“and I wanted her in my arms..."

“Yeah... I knew I was walking into something!”

HUMPHREY BOGART
LIZABETH SCOTT

in John Cromwell’s
DEAD RECKONING

with Morris Carnovsky • Charles Cane • William Prince • Marvin Miller • Wallace Ford
Screenplay by Oliver H. P. Garrett, Steve Fisher
Directed by John Cromwell • Produced by Sidney Bidwell
A COLUMBIA PICTURE
ATAs Seeks to Save US Film Channel

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27—Executives of the American Theatre Association may testify before the House Appropriations Committee to urge continuation of the film division of the Office of Governmental Reports, sources within the Government disclose. It is said that ATA desires to see a general clearing house for all Government film matters.

It was ATA which recommended that President Truman designate the Office of Reconversion as the single Federal agency liaison between the Government and the theatre industry. When this agency was dissolved, the President re-created OGR, to whose film section was transferred.

President Truman has requested that Congress appropriate funds to continue the film unit, Congressman John M. Vraz, of the Appropriations Committee, said that his group will not approve the expenditure unless it is displayed that the section is necessary "without a question of doubt."

A spokesman for the American Theatres Association here yesterday confirmed that the ATA is interested in the continuation of a clearing house for all Government film matters and will take steps to encourage Congress to make this possible.

Funeral Services for Grace Moore in N. Y.

Funeral services for Grace Moore, opera and film star, who was killed in an automobile crash on the Connecticut Turnpike near Hamden, Conn., as she and her husband were returning from an engagement in Lowell, Mass., will be held in New York on January 28 at 10 a.m. at Riverside Memorial Chapel.

Miss Moore, 35, was a member of the Los Angeles Opera Company before she came to Broadway in the musical comedy "The Girl of the Golden West."

Funeral services will be held at Riverside Memorial Chapel here tomorrow for Isador Perse, 62, founder of the Capital Motion Picture Supply Co., who died Sunday in Miami.

Surviving, in addition to his widow, are two daughters, Mrs. Alice Gold and Mrs. Jean Lipman; two sisters, Mrs. T. W. Moore and Mrs. A. M. Mintz, and three brothers, Sidney, Jack and Harry, all of New York. The family requested no service at the Hollywood Theatre here.

Quarrel to California

Hollywood, Jan. 27 — Lincoln Querberg has joined California Pictures Corp., as director of advertising-publicity.

Review

"The Macomber Affair" (RKO-United Artists)

Hollywood, Jan. 27

With the names of Gregory Peck, Joan Bennett and Robert Preston nicely matched for purposes of action, this screening comes as a confirmation of the reputations of Gregory and Casey Robinson, of a story by Ernest Hemingway which got a lot of reading and generated plenty of comment, comes to market as an item easy to sell at box-office profit. It is, additionally, one of those films which suggests that the film, like the story, will be talked about extensively enough to leave no doubt about its commercial career.

The subject matter, conveyed in a well wrought script by co-producer Robinson and Seymour Bennett, differs in essence from most material utilized for pictures. The story opens with the Macombers, played by Preston and Miss Bennett, employing a professional hunter, played by Peck, to take their children hunting between them, which suggests that the Macombers, unexplained but clearly dating from back in the past, and when Preston displays cowardice in the face of a charging lion his wife exhibits conversion for him and her affection for Peck. It is suggested that she visits the latter in his quarters on the following night, after which she and her husband have harsh words, but Peck dismisses the couple's marital quibble as none of his business. Next fear of animals, and tells his wife that she will have to regard him henceforward as a man rather than as the mouse she has believed him to be. In the next dangerous shooting incident a bullet from the wife's gun kills the husband, with whom Peck reports it. To the end, Peck says he lost his wife to one of the Macombers, but here, after two years, when she killed him intentionally. After dialogue covering all facets of the situation, the film ends with the wife going before the inquest, whether to testify that the shooting was accidental or to confess to murder being left to the audience's choice.

Unique in many respects, the film deals conversationaliy with length with the relationship between the certain of accuracy, the slaughter of animals, to note the dialogue, "make a man, a man and a woman a woman." This type of thing is not commonly dealt with for the very young, and probably will come as news to a majority of grownups who see the film. Direction by Zachan, Korda is steadily effective. Running time, 90 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Hope for Reversal

(Continued from page 1)

Macleod (Conn.) told the Senate today. Speaking on atomic energy control, the Senator pointed out the importance of using every available medium of information to distribute the truth. "By means of the motion picture, by very cultural art and by every media of information, we must tell the good, plain people of the earth the inspiring and fascinating story of Democracy in action," McMahon told the Senate. He urged continuation of efforts to eliminate barriers imposed against American films and other American products, and doing an excellent job. If we are to reach people with our culture, we must fight Europeanism and the impotence of drastic trade barriers on our product," he added.

W. M. Finney Retires, Sparrow Succeeds

ATLANTA, Jan. 27 — Willie M. Finney, southern manager of Atlanta Theatres, has retired because of ill health, Veteran of 40 years with Loew's, he will make his home in Daytona Beach, Fla. Allen Sparrow will succeed Finney. He comes from Loew's Midwestern division, stationed in Columbus, O., Norfolk and Richmond, Va.

'Valour' Plans Dropped

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 27 — Warners has abandoned plans to make a screen version of the Charles Jackson's novel, "The Fall of Valor," the studio announced at the weekend. Rights to the novel had been acquired, but studio officials are subject to the company's ability to work out a screen play suitable to the Production Code Administration. It is understood that such efforts were not successful.

57' Queenin Premieres

A series of area premieres for "San Quentin" will be staged by KRCO Radio starting tomorrow at Grand, Cincinnati, and Palace, Chicago. Law- ence Strobeck, star of the picture, will make personal appearances in both cities as well as in Louisville, Indianapolis, Columbus and Dayton, accompanied by Harry Reiners of Turner's home office exploitation staff.

14 Short Subjects in Academy Selections

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 27—Five one-reelers, all animated cartoons, have been nominated by the Academy for annual awards selection, as follows:


Academy also announced 16 more shorts and two features, representing Uniting States and foreign countries, have been made eligible for consideration in the documentaries division with screenings scheduled for February 2, 4 and 6.

Kans.-Missouri Meet

(Continued from page 1)

Dodge City, Kan., home of B. F. Adcock, manager of Fox theatres; Thursday, March 13, Wichita, Kan., hostess, Mrs. T. H. Slothrop; Friday, March 14, Kansas City, Kan., host Bill Wagner; Tuesday, March 25, Hamilton, Mo., host, Harry Thill; Wednesday, March 26, Appleton City or Osceola, Mo., host, Chet Borg; Thursday, March 27, Neosho, Mo., host, Harley Fryer.

Officers Will Attend

Strowig, president of the association; C. E. Cook secretary, and several other officers and directors will attend each regional meeting. All exhibitors of the region where meetings are scheduled will be invited to attend, whether members of the association or not. Subjects to be discussed will include all of the "regular" ones, and also topics or problems brought up by exhibitors at the sessions.

$7,500 Studio Fire

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 27 — The fire which broke out in Enterprise's cutting rooms on Sunday caused $7,500 damage to the extent of an estimated $5,700.
The nation's best magazines are giving it their best...

Collier's

January 4, 1947
Ten cents

Important Movie

If you're a veteran, or if for any reason you are anxious to know more about some of the veterans' most perplexing and most frequent problems, there is a motion picture now on the boards which you should not miss.

It is Samuel Goldwyn's The Best Years of Our Lives, a highly significant and important motion-picture drama, and an interesting and exciting one into the bargain. It is a pleasure to give the film this unqualified, and unsolicited, endorsement.
and IMPORTANT BOX-OFFICE too!

"Two-a-day at the Esquire Theatre in Boston with record four-weeks-in-advance sale yields absolute capacity turnaway each evening! Word of mouth is terrific!" — HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

SAMUEL GOLDFYN'S

"The BEST Years of Our Lives"

starring

MYRNA LOY • FREDRIC MARCH • DANA ANDREWS
TERESA WRIGHT • VIRGINIA MAYO • HOAGY CARMICHAEL

Directed by WILLIAM WYLER • Screenplay by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD
From a Novel by Mackinlay Kantor • Director of Photography GREGG TOLAND

RELEASED BY RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
Univ. Reports

(Continued from page 1)
tic operations accounted for a record $39,809,451 against $32,637,500, while foreign revenue brought in an all-time high of $23,125,415, compared with $22,679,518, in the preceding year. The 1946 foreign receipts amounted to over 50 per cent of the company's total income.

Taxes last year amounted to $3,-
283,886. Net working capital increased to $29,278,995, from $23,030,555 in the previous year. Current and working assets were $36,313,115, and current liabilities were $7,034,135. Inventories increased $2,553,002 during the year, to a total of $21,655,843.

The report notes that with the acquisition last year of the assets of International Pictures and, partly because of the new selling method prescribed by the New York Federal Court decree, Universal will make 25 top-quality pictures this season instead of the approximately 50 features of different budget scales released annually heretofore.

Hits Court Ruling

"Under the court ruling," the report states, "it has become impossible for a company to sell in advance on a firm commitment basis an entire program of pictures. The changes in selling methods are likely to have the effect of increasing the cost of marketing pictures."

The report notes further that Universal will distribute, under its arrangements with J. Arthur Rank, a number of British pictures in addition to Universal-International product. Universal stockholders are advised that Universal has initiated its program of acquiring theatre showcases; that it has arranged to have built for it 31 new film exchanges and that it has entered the narrow-gauge film market on a large scale through its subsidiary, United World Films.

The report is the 10th annual statement since Universal's change of ownership in 1936 when a deficit of $15,885,606 was reported for that year on an operating income of $17,415,636.

The annual meeting of Universal stockholders is scheduled to be held on March 12, the company announced yesterday.

Bell & Howell Dividends

CHICAGO, Jan. 27—Preferred quarterly dividends of $1.06 a share were voted by the board of directors at a meeting of Bell and Howell here. The board also voted a 12 1/2-cent per share quarterly dividend on the common stock.

Johnston Hits

(Continued from page 1)
ment toward further British hindrances. The conference on the eve of the Geneva conferences designed to work out a "mutually benefi-
cial program for world trade revival and better economic adjustment, " I must remind our friends abroad that they can't expect America to make all the concessions," the "America alone cannot give the world freer and expanded trade."

The Republican Party should support America's reciprocal trade program as a "necessary measure" for world prosperity.

Reciprocal Trade

Fri, Jan. 27—Sen. Hugh Butler (Neb.) today asstalled the State Department's reciprocal trade agreement program as a "biggest hoax on the American people ever tried on." Taking exactly the opposite view to that expressed today by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, in an address at Rochester, Sen. Butler told the Senate that in his opinion the "giant boys are utilizing public ignorance of the implications of tariff reductions" to their advantage.

Commenting on the reduction of tariffs, the senator said: "The masterminds in the State Department even now are pushing the tariff reductions which will lower our standard of living."

The senator concluded by recommending that Congress take away the State Department's authority to make reciprocal agreements with other nations.

No 'Duel' Roadshow

(Continued from page 1)

West Coast, according to Neil F. Agnew, vice-president in charge of Van
guard distribution.

Opening dates in Texas is now scheduled for Amarillo on Feb. 24, re other key cities in that state are scheduled to open at two points inter-
vening between each new engagement. These cities are Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, and San Antonio.

After the first opening, approximately 24 other Texas cities will launch runs day-and-date.

ABOUT March leg for West Coast is scheduled to launch the film in 70 situations in Northern and Southern California. These runs also are planned as day-and-date engagements at $1.50 top, but in the case of Texas, the state admission tax will be added.

$172,873 for 'Duel'

David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" earned $41,813 in its fourth week in Los Angeles at the Fairfax and Century Theatres, the Selznick Releasing Organization disclosed here yester-
day, making a total of $172,873 for the four weeks it has been in Los Angeles. The best situation in which it has opened.

Pizor Names Friday

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 27—Tom Fri-
day has been appointed executive secretary of the United Motion

Picture Owners of Pennsylvania by president Lenew Pizor, with whom the programme.

MARTIN JOHNSON'S ADVENTURE EPIC CONGORILLA

For Foreign Rights—Cable

FILM RIGHTS EXPORT Corp.
1620 BROADWAY—NEW YORK 19, N. Y.
ANCE ADDRESS "FILMINHIA"

Key City Grosses

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

BALTIMORE

Holdovers are not helping business, the report notes. This week's business is better than average since the recent holiday season. However, managers are pleased that matinees are drawing better than expected sales for many months. Weather is perfect, and nothing offers any outside competition.

The Shubert, opened here this week, estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 30:

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—CIN- TURY (3,500) (35c-44c-60c-65c weekdays—2,205) 7 days, $1,064,252. Average: $150,000

THE WIDOW'S MARRIAGE (Paris) — KEITH'S (3,600) (35c-44c-60c-65c) 7 days, $323,250. Average: $46,000

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—HIPPODROME (3,200) (35c-44c-60c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $1,450. Average: $200,000

THE WHEEL-DRIVER'S DAUGHTER (Silt-)

LITTLE (230) (35c-44c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $225. Average: $38,000

HER SECRET'S SECRET (PRC)—MAY FAIR (1,000) (35c-34c-34c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. Average: $1,214

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio) — TOWN (1,475) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000.

CINCINNATI

For straight film gross, "Blue Skies" is giving the RKO Albee the best week in quite some time, with the first-run double house average in sight. Other offerings, with holdovers in the majority, are recording fair figures, much above the normal, with one prominent exception. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 28:—

AFM's Petroillo and Broadcasters Agree

James C. Petroillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, and the four outstanding network councils have reached an agreement on extension of their contract for another year. The agreement prevents the possibility of a strike.

Under the accord, representatives of the union in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles will negotiate with the networks on a local basis in the matter of new pay scales.
SHAKESPEARE’s swoon-provoker had his hands full just trying to pitch a little “woo” with one innocent femme... and then the poor guy lost his book on “porch climbing”... and had to trade his banjo for a harp.

Now, you take The PRIZE BABY! There’s a lover who compares to Romeo like a P-38 compares to the horse-and-buggy! The kid’s got class!

He pitches his line to anyone close enough to SEE him... and what he doesn’t sell on SIGHT... he gets over with an EAR-enticing line that brings back Jane Q. Public, her pa, her ma, and the whole family... just to find out what the kid’s got to sell!

Of course, Romeo’s handicap was that Shakespeare was born too early... but The PRIZE BABY is living in this wonderful age... that gives him TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES... to back up his play... to do a job of convincing... that opens Jane Q. Public’s EYES... and makes her want to LISTEN, while he woos her... to your Box Office!

Yeah... when it comes to wooing your public... you can count on The PRIZE BABY! He’s the Great Lover of the industry!
12,000,000 readers know about this House! They followed its exciting story for five thrilling weeks...
just a small portion of the nationwide audience eagerly waiting to get into every motion picture house to see "The RED HOUSE"
Map Battle on Taxing Films
As a 'Luxury'

Lee Sees Danger of 20%
Levy Becoming 'Routine'

By TOM LOY

The 20 per cent Federal tax on ad-
missions stands in danger of be-
coming "routine" unless exhibitors
and their patrons can succeed in a
campaign to convince their Con-
gr Ess-
ment that films do not belong in the
class with luxury items on which
e.xercise is placed, according to
Claude F. Lee, public relations direc-
tor for Paramount, which holds a part-
nership interest in theatres throughout the country.
Following a discussion of this dau-
(Continued on page 8)

MPA Annual Meet
Here on March 26

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Eric John-
ston, president of the Motion Picture
Association, is collecting departmental
reports and data for his annual report
to the board of directors of the Asso-
ciation, which he will deliver on
March 26 in New York.
The ramifications of the West Coast
studio jurisdictional strike will be dis-
cussed by Johnston. He is also ex-
(Continued on page 8)

Four of 20 for 1947
Set by Schwalberg

Following pre-release engagements of "It's a Joke Son!" and Vera Cas-
pany's "Bedelia," A. W. Schwalberg
Eagle-Lion Films vice-president and
general sales manager yesterday an-
nounced national release of four of
the company's 20-picture 1947 produc-
(Continued on page 8)

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
25 EAST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.,
NEW YORK, N. Y.
(6 COPIES)

ACCURATE
CONCISE
AND IMPARTIAL

NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1947

VOL. 61, NO. 20

TEN CENTS

5 Meet Today
On Appeal

It became evident here yesterday
that the five theatre-owning distribu-
tors will appeal the New York Fed-
eral Court's decision. If so, the
companies will meet today at the
office of John Casley, 20th Cen-
tury-Fox counsel, for the pur-
purpose of laying the groundwork for appeal action.
This would first take the form of
appointment of a committee to draft
(Continued on page 8)

AFL Will Act Upon
SAG's Resolution

Hollywood, Jan. 28.—The Screen
Actors Guild has announced receipt of
notification from the Executive Coun-
 cil of the American Federation of
Labor, which will open a two-week
parley at Miami tomorrow, that action
will be taken on the Guild's resolution
for the establishment of perma-
nant arbitration machinery, for the
settlement of jurisdictional disputes in
the motion picture industry.
SAG president Robert Montgomery
had wired AFL president William
(Continued on page 8)

Jack Warner to British:
End Criticism of US Films

LONDON, Jan. 28. — Active inter-
gen and the United States, work-
change of motion pictures in England, in a spirit of mutual cooperation instead of criti-
cizing each other, was urged by Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive pro-
ducer of Warner Bros., in ad-
ressing Sir Stafford Cripps, presi-
dent of the Board of Trade, high govern-
ment officials, editors and film
reviewers at a luncheon given today in
Warner's honor by directors of
Associated British Picture Corp., in
whose theatre subsidiary Warners has substantial interests. Host at the
luncheon was Sir Phillip Warner,
chairman of the board of ABPC.
Warner's challenge followed the
pronouncements of some British producers and exhibitors insisting that
ABPC be "de-Americanized.
This was answered today by Warner's
observation that he could justifi-
ably make the claim that the company was the pre-war producer of the greatest
number of British pictures, a condi-
tion which he said might have con-
 tinued if the British government had
not requisitioned studios.
Britain owes a vast debt to Ameri-
cans, particularly to Warner Broth-
ers, Warner declared, disclosing that
Warners are doing as much as the
English in behalf of England's films.
Warner then announced that he had
(Continued on page 8)

'U' Will Continue to
Build 'Showcases'

Along with its new ex-
change program, Universal in-
tends to continue acquiring
"show case" theatres, John J.
O'Connor, "U" vice-president,
discloses here, indicating that
the extent of the company's entry into exhibition may de-
pend somewhat on whether the
New York Federal Distric-
tional Court's tight ban on
franchise agreements is event-
ually reversed by some British
Supreme Court. At present
"U" is operating the Park
Avenue and Winter Garden the-
tres here and Keith's in Cin-
cinnati.

Carolina Owners
Re-Elect Strozier

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 28.—Ben L. Strozier
of Rock Hill, S. C., was re-
elected president of the Theatre Owners
of North and South Carolina at
the closing session of its 35th annual
convention held at the Hotel Charlotte.
Charles H. Arrington of Rocky
Mount and J. C. Long of Charleston,
were re-elected vice-presidents, and
Mrs. Pauline Griffiths of Charlotte
was re-elected secretary-treasurer.
Most prominent among resolutions
(Continued on page 8)

ATA Fight on Objectionable
Pictures Seen

Convention To Consider
'Going After' Producers

The American Theatres Association,
alarmed by possible damage its
exhibitor members may suffer as a
result of films and advertising
which draw the fire of church and
censorship groups, is considering a
campaign to discourage the production
of such pictures, according to an
ATA spokesman, who mentioned
"The Outlaw" and " Duel in the Sun"
as two which tend to prompt the antici-
pated move.
This problem, as well as nu-
merous others concerning ATAs,
(Continued on page 8)

Urges US Women
Oppose 'Dope' Film

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—In a
letter to the 21st Women's Confer-
ce, National Defense, Mrs. Eugene
Harper, wife of the publisher of the
Washington Post, urged American wom-
nen to register with the Motion
Picture Association to prevent their opposition to the production
films which deal with narcotics.
"I have been a leader of the film industry," Mrs.
(Continued on page 8)

Goldmark, Du Mont
In Color Video Row

Hearings on the petition of Colum-
bia Broadcasting for Federal Com-
unications Commission approval to
put its color television system on a
commercial basis continued at New
York Federal Court house yesterday
with Dr. Peter Goldmark, inventor of
the CBS system, testifying that the
method is completely developed, while
(Continued on page 6)

In This Issue
"Bedelia" is reviewed on
page 6. Estimates of key city
grosses appear on page 10.
Personal Mention

JERRY WALD, Warner producer, will leave New York today for the Coast, and will stop over in Chicago on route.

SIDNEY G. ALEXANDER, motion picture director of B. B. Warner, Van Norman and Staff, advertising agency, will leave New York by train for the Coast Friday. He will remain three weeks.

WILLIAM W. BRUMMIG, manager of Warners' field publicity relations station, addressed the fifth annual dinner of the Pictorial Council of Central Queens at Jamaica, L. I., yesterday.

WILLIAM J. GERMAN, president of Jules Brulatour, Inc., left New York last night for a brief visit to Rochester.

ARGYLE NELSON, Vanguard studio manager, and JOSEPH AUGUST, cameraman, are en route back to the Coast after a visit here.

CHESTER FREEMAN, editor of the Managers' Round Table of Motion Picture Herald, is in Harrisburg from New York.

F. A. MCCARTHY, Southern and Canadian division sales manager for Universal-International, is in Nashville from New York.

BEN KALMENSEN, Warners' vice-president and general sales manager, is back in New York from the Midwest.

HARRY M. KALMINE, general manager of Warner Theatres, left New York yesterday for Chicago, Milwaukee and Oklahoma City.

A. DUFF, Universal foreign department executive, has returned to his office here following recovery from a prolonged illness.

GEORGE M. JONES, Republic sales representative, Atlanta, is celebrating his 25th anniversary in the industry this week.

JUDD CURRAN, special home office representative of Republic, is visiting Atlanta from New York.

WILLIAM B. BOELNER, head of M-G-M's reprints and importations, is in Chicago from New York.

ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager for Warners, is due back in New York from the Coast today.

STEVE FITZGERBON and MICKEY ALBOM of Desdvichile Film Co., Boston, are in New York.

OSCAR A. MORGAN, Paramount short subjects sales chief, left New York by train yesterday for Atlanta.

WALTER PIGEON is in New York from Hollywood.

RKO Radio Holds 2nd Sales Session

Ned E. Depinet, RKo executive in charge of company policy and product at yesterday’s session of the mid-winter sales meeting of RKo Radio district managers, in the Waldorf-Astoria, outlined the 1947-48 subject program which will be augmented by one new series, to be announced tomorrow.

Gordon Youngman, vice-president and general counsel for RKo Radio, also spoke and did William Zimmerman, sales executive, S. Barrett McCormick, director of advertising-publicity, outlined large scale pre-release campaigns on forthcoming product and Terry Turner, exploitation manager, spoke on new plans for merchandising pictures.

Leon J. Bamberger, sales promotion manager, addressed the meeting, and also discussed the situation at Disney and William Levy, representing the Walt Disney organization; James M. Arthur, Sam Schary, Samiel Goldwyn Productions, and E. K. (Ted) O'Shea of Liberty Films.

Today’s sessions will be taken up by individual meetings with district managers and their respective district managers; Nat Levy for the Hollywood and Walter S. Branson for the Western Division. This will be preceded by a showing of “The Farm-Mother’s Daughter,” a Dore Schary production.

International Dates For ‘Beginning’

International world premieres, with simultaneous openings in New York, London, New York, Ottawa, Canada, and Sydney, Australia, will be held for “The Beginning and the End.” M-G-M’s story of the atom bomb, on Feb. 20. The immediate release of the picture throughout the world will follow the premieres, simultaneous engagements in every major city in the U. S. being booked for the opening week.

Producers File New Motion in Labor Trial

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 28.—Federal Judge Ben Harrison today took under advisement a motion by counsel for the producers for dismissal of a suit brought against them by a group of carpenters.

The plaintiffs charge a conspiracy to prevent them from working in the studios.

AMPA Meeting

Rutgers Nelson, AMPA president, presided at a meeting of the board of directors of the American Motion Picture Advertisers and 30th anniversary committee to meet in his office in the RKo Building tomorrow.

Seek Uniform State Laws to Avoid Fires

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28.—Adoption of uniform fire protection standards, to be embodied in uniform state legislation, for all places of public assembly, including theatres, is urged by Curtis W. Pierce, of New York, president of the National Fire Protection Association, at a conference here of state fire authorities to discuss the recent break of fires and to draft preventive legislation.

Proposals to be included in suggested measures are: protection of all vertical openings in buildings to prevent the spread of fire; automatic sprinklers in frame buildings.

Berge Urges Trial Of Bidding Method

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The only hope of making producers and distributors of foreign films pay their fair share of the competitive bidding system is to try it, Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice, Department, said today here.

Berge declined to discuss in detail the story behind the refusal of foreign distributors, however, that the system contains many loose ends, and that it has "unlimited ramifications."

There is no doubt at the Department about the validity of various questions which have arisen, as a result of the court-sponsored bidding plan.

Berge expressed the belief that the industry should be held up to the bidding system, let experience be the guide for changes and, if any suffering results, the court is bound to discontinue it.

Baronet Named by Foreign Publicists

The International Film Relations Committee yesterday elected Fortunat Baronet, of Universal-International, as president of the British-American Foreign Publicists, Leslie Whelan, of 20th Century-Fox International, as vice-president, which met at the office of the Motion Picture Association, works on general foreign film promotion matters.

Navy Cities PRC

Producers Releasing Corp. yesterday notified the Third Naval District that the company has been named the Navy’s "Certification Achievement" for "recognition of outstanding services to Naval personnel during World War II.

Luncheon for Taperling

Ralph Taperling, advertising-publicity director for Enterprise Producers, was guest of honor at a luncheon at the 21 Club here on Friday. UA releases a newsreel.

Newsreel Parade

THE war in Indo-China, the election in France and a variety of sports-events are featured in the current newsreels. Full contents follow.

MOVIECENTRAL NEWS, No. 44—World events: Fighting in Indo-China, new French leader, Gandhi’s peace march, inside Com-saud China. Lead story is a hair-riden. Shorts: Wisconsin to New York, by air; Ohio League to Florida, New York, by air; California College ski carnival.


Dr. DeForest Honored, Going to Mexico

Dr. Lee de Forest, honorary president of the Veteran Wireless Operators Association, was given a farewell to his next trip to Europe, last evening.

Leaders of the radio industry were present and the VWOA presented him with a more than one-tenth the World's appreciation of its lifetime efforts.

Dr. de Forest was presented to him earlier in the day by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. He is going to teach young Mexicans how to shoot television scenes.

Cars to Stoner, Wobber

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28.—R. B. Stoner, district manager, for 20th Century-Fox, and Herman Wobber, were recipients of new Cadillac for their record totals in the Spyrkos Cars' 20th Century sales drive.

Para. Manager Missing

K. W. POON, Paramount branch manager in Chungking, is listed as a passenger on the CUAC plane reported missing last Saturday. The airliner was making a flight from Canton to Chungking, and is still being sought in the hills of Szczawian Province near Chungking. Paramount's home office department reported here yesterday.

Columbia Signs Starr

BROOKLYN, Jan. 28.—Producers Irving Starr, of M-G-M, and previously with 20th Century-Fox, has signed to produce for Columbia.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Wednesday, January 29, 1942
HAVE A HEART, M-G-M!

Now it's THE YEARLING at Radio City Music Hall—
We just finished 7 weeks of handling the mobs for M-G-M's 'Till The Clouds Roll By'—
They tell me it broke all records at the Hall!
Oh, my aching feet!
From the looks of things THE YEARLING will top it!"

(You're right, officer! M-G-M's Prize Picture is off to a terrific start. The reviews are ecstatic! The audiences rave about it. Call us up officer and this time we'll give you a ticket!)
EVERYTHING YOU'VE WANTED

every compelling element that makes for HAPPY BOX-OFFICE!
...ALL YOURS... in*I'LL BE YOURS*!

*POWERFULLY PRE-SOLDO WITH A
IN A DURBIN PICTURE!

STARS...

Exciting DEANNA DURBIN ...Singing, loving, having fun!

Sensational TOM DRAKE ...The Screen's new romantic star!

Hilarious WILLIAM BENDIX ...That "Life of Riley" favorite!

Merry Mad ADOLPHE MENJOU ...A riot in his grandest role!

STORY...

The merriest boy-girl escapade in years...spiced with the kind of romance that makes them yell for more!

SONGS...

Deanna ...Singing with her heart on her lips... as only she can sing of love! Hear the applause for "It's Dream Time", "Sari Waltz", "Granada"!

UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL presents

Deanna Tom William
DURBIN DRAKE BENDIX
I'll be Yours

with Adolphe MENJOU

WALTER CATLETT • FRANKLIN PANGBORN • WILLIAM BROOKS
Produced by FELIX JACKSON • Directed by WILLIAM A. SEITER • Associate Producer: HOWARD CHRISTIE
Adapted by FELIX JACKSON • From the Screenplay "The Good Fairy" by Preston Sturges • Based on a comedy by Ferenc Molnar
Translated and Adapted by Jane Henson • Director of Photography: Neil More, A.S.C. • A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

NATIONAL MAGAZINE CAMPAIGN!
**Workers in Britain Ask Quota Change**

**London, Jan. 28.—**The Film Industry Employes' Council has issued a memorandum recommending abolition of the distributors' quota and division of the exhibitors' quota into categories for first features, second features, and short subjects.

The group further recommends that the three large British circuits be reduced in size, and whenever the trust is dissolved, that a new council be established with broader powers than the present Cinematograph Films Council and that the national government film bank for financing production and also a government distribution organization be created.

In the quota laws, it is suggested, minimum labor cost clauses should be established for both features and short subjects, equalizing the five-fourths of the total labor production costs paid to British subjects.

**FIRC's Call for Establishment of Fair Trading Arrangements Between Distributors and Producers of Short Subjects and the Box-Office Receipts of Foreign Films Shown in This Country.**

**Butterfield Parent Company Elects**

**Detroit, Jan. 28.—**At a meeting of the board of directors of Bijou Theatrical Enterprises, holding command of W. S. Butterfield Theatres, the following officers were elected today: Lawrence E. Gordon, president; William A. Ruble, vice-president; Olive M. Cox, secretary, and George S. Berger, treasurer. Gordon was trustee of the Butterfield estate and former secretary of the company. Ruble is with the Merchants Trust Co. at Lansing. Gordon succeeds the late E. C. Beatty.

**Laurence Ginsberg Dies on the Coast**

**Hollywood, Jan. 28.—**Laurence Robert Ginsberg, 31, nephew of Paramount vice-president Henry Ginsberg, and a partner of the Malyba-Ginsberg Publicity Agency, here, died last night of a heart ailment.

Other survivors include his mother, Mrs. Edith Ginsberg, and uncles Leonard and Dr. Charles Ginsberg of New York.

**Marcus Benn, Exhibitor**

**Philadelphia, Jan. 28.—**Marcus A. Benn, pioneer exhibitor, died on Jan. 23 at his home here. Benn opened the Belmont Theatre, now the Ben- son, in 1909 and then built a circuit of theatres and remained active in the industry until his retirement last year when he sold out to Stanley-Warner.

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**New York Film Industry**

Mr. Exhibitor: Investigate Filmack’s New Prevue Trailer Service before signing any trailer contracts. Write, wire or phone Filmack 1327 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill. and receive full details.

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**MOTION PICTURE DAILY**

*Wednesday, January 29, 1947*

**Review**

**"Bedelia"**

(Eagle-Lion-PRC)

Margaret Lockwood, who knocked "em off right and left in "The Wicked Lady," continues pretty and murderously in this British film based on a popular novel by Vera Caspary, who also wrote "Laura." She dabbles in husbands and poison—the husbands who take over large life insurance policies in her name, and the poison to remove them for collection purposes. On the printed page, these adventures may have had more than the celluloid kind.

"Bedelia" ranges from fair to middling to good, never remaining constant in any of these brackets. Its opening scenes are talkative and stretched beyond their own dramatic good. Toward the middle stretches, matters improve and tension steps up as the net closes in on Miss Lockwood, who is successfully thwarted in executing murder on Husband No. 4, who is Ivan Hussey.

It is the suspicions of the insurance company that launches the investigation. Miss Lockwood, it appears, had a habit of disappearing without visible trace after each marriage and each death. Barry K. Barnes is assigned and eventually succeeds in running the trail. Meanwhile, "Bedelia" is trying her wiles and her sex on Hunter, who resists the temptations and determines to turn her in. The film ends on a note of justice, the poisoner giving herself up to the police.

Best performances are delivered by Barnes and Hunter. Miss Lockwood comes in a lagging third although she has the principal role. She may fill the eye, but she lacks dramatic strength, least in this role. It could be that the characterization is more responsible than the actress. But whatever the cause, there is an air of unbelievable lack and conviction in the Lock- wood performance. Lance Comfort's direction ranges from perfunctory to punchy, but generally is uneven. I. G. Reese and the producers of General Films and Distributors, the film having been originally reviewed from London in Motion Picture Daily of June 24, 1946. Running time 81 minutes. Adult classification. Release date Feb. 1.

**Red Kann**

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**Production Off Slightly As Seven Are Finished**

**Hollywood, Jan. 28.—**Production has slackened slightly, the shooting index dropping to 41. Seven films were completed, whereas only two new ones went before cameras; the production scene follows:

**Columbia**

Finished: "The Crime Doctor's Vacation."


**Eagle-Lion**

Shooting: "Repeat Performance." (M-G-M)

**Monogram**


**RKO Radio**

Shooting: "Indian Summer," "Under the Tooto Rim," "If You Know Susie." "Republic"


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**Sales for Selznick To Be Set by Reiner**

**Hollywood, Jan. 28.—**Manny Reiner, general sales manager in Latin America for the Selznick Releasing Organization, has arrived here to con- tact agents and studio officials. On Feb. 5 he will go on to Mexico City to set up a sales or- ganization in that country. A Mexican distribution of Selznick pictures.

"Duel in the Sun" will have a Mexico City premiere in May, probably open in Buenos Aires June, and other South American cities later. Reiner will go to Buenos Aires immediately to finish up his organizational work in the Mexican capital, and will cover several other Latin-American countries before returning to New York. On the trip he will coordinate promotional publicity and distribution plans for Selznick films that were worked out on a six months' tour of Mexico, the West In- dies, Central and South America, last summer and fall. Advance promotional plans for "Duel" south of the border call for a grand gala gala premiere and video showing, made under direction of Alfred Katz, who has been retained by Selznick to begin an around-the-country-publicity campaign within the next for- tnight. Field men will have been engaged to arrange screenings in key cities. "Duel in the Sun and other Selznick pictures will each be sold on the basis of individual merit," said Reiner.

**Video Row**

(Continued from page 1)

Alan B. Du Mont counted the claim with the declaration that the CBS system is "totally inadequate." Both were questioned by FCC Commissioner Charles Denny.

Goldmark stated that the Remington-Rand Co. is satisfied with the development of CBS Color Video and will begin the manufacture of color image orthicon cameras immediately upon receipt of approval. Du Mont said the CBS system at present actually represents no improvement on the network's color video as it was in 1939.

The hearings shift to Princeton, N. J., today, for demonstrations by RCA and Philco. Card members of the proponents and opponents of color television will be made at further sessions in Washington Feb. 10.

**Chattanooga Rites For Grace Moore**

**Chattanooga, Jan. 28.—**A funeral service for Grace Moore, opera and motion picture star, who was killed in an automobile accident in Cincinnati last Sunday, will be held here, burial in the Moore family plot, according to arrangements announced by the family.

A memorial service for Grace Moore will be held at the Riverside Church, Manhattan, tomorrow at 3:30 P. M.

**Moritz Hilder Dead**

Moritz Hilder, 81, one of the founders of the Goldwyn Pictures Corp., died at his home Saturday. He was with Goldwyn from 1917 to 1924 when the company became part of M-G-M.
On the street where anything can happen... one wonderful night...
EVERYTHING DID!

Allied Artists Productions, Inc. presents
Don DeFore • Ann Harding • Charlie Ruggles • Victor Moore • Gale Storm
in Roy Del Ruth's
"IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE"

With Grant Mitchell • Edward Brophy • Edward Ryan, Jr.
Produced and Directed by Roy Del Ruth • Associate Producer, Joe Kaufman
Screenplay by Everett Freeman • Story by Herbert Clyde Lewis and Frederick Stephani
Musical Score by Edward Ward • Music and Lyrics by Harry Revel and Paul Webster
ATA Fight

(Continued from page 1)

future policies and operation, is expected to come up at the annual convention, to be held in April at either Chicago or San Francisco, with a decision on the date and place to be determined this week. A meeting of the board of directors may be held Wednesday in Harrisburg, J. Ed Perkin, president, announced.

Advocates of ATA’s entry in the field of “policing” film content and exploitation point out that often, in the past, various groups are involved. This industry is most closely identified with the “theatre down the street” and that widespread newspaper campaign pictures does the exhibitor much harm in his community. This also is true, they declare, of charges of Communism in Hollywood; therefore, that too may come up at the convention.

Hands-off Policy

Other decisions to be reached at the April gathering will concern ATA’s “hands-off” policy regarding trade practices and its advocacy of one annual audience collection for charitable purposes. This trade-practice ban is not expected to be lifted unless the Supreme Court should grant the Department of Justice’s request for establishment of exhibition. As for the charities, ATA is expected to continue its current efforts to get the March of Dimes, Red Cross and other groups together on a single collection. Should that fail, the association probably will cooperate during the coming fiscal year in boosting various drives, as it has done during the past years, but again will steer clear of all collections.

Alliance Possible

ATA officials do not rule out the possibility that an alliance with one or more other national exhibitor organizations may be suggested at the April gathering. They point out that the association has been cooperating closely with MPTOA, the Confederacy of Southern Associations and rarely divided with respect to the charity drives and some other activities.

At present, approximately 6,500 houses in the affiliated circuits, Warners never has joined but National Theatres also is a Paramount partner and 294 of the 300 Paramount pictures remain interests withdrew from the association during this year; but their financial support of the ATA will be, continued at least until April, it is understood. Officials of this production group have yet heard from any of the major companies regarding their participation during the year, Al Fabian, ATA president, made no comment on the subject, for another year if he is asked to do so, it is understood, but there is a desire among the group’s executives to re-

Film Taxation

(Continued from page 1)

‘Dope’ Films

(Continued from page 1)

Meyer said, “that only such picture will be made. If this is true, why don’t they publish the Report of the Production Code to its original form?” (Columbia has announced production of “Assumed Names,” which deals with the traffic in dope.—Ed.)

Unless the women of the country register their opposition with Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Meyer continued, “we can expect the moving pictures to become the allies instead of the rivals of the narcotic trade.”

Drop Scopony Motion

Scopony, Ltd., yesterday withdrew a motion in U. S. District Court here it had filed against a cross country rival, against it by Scopony Corp. of America and Arthur Levy, president of the American Motion Picture Association, with the Government in connection with the Government anti-trust suit. Scopony, Ltd., previously had been dismissed as a defendant in the case.

Have him of some of the auxiliary duties, such as drive committee work, are not as easily controllable as the more general activities of the president. They point out that these activities have the motion far more burdensome than was originally anticipated.

ger at last week’s convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and southeastern Illinois, Lee went to Charlotte, where he appeared last night, as banquet toasting master at the convention of the Theatre Owners of North Carolina and the State of South Carolina, presenting the subject there as well. He will also attend the Washington meeting of the Virginia Motion Picture Theater Association, Feb. 23.

Recalling that the first 10 per cent quota tax law has continued World War I, ostensibly as a temporary measure, but never was repealed, Lee says the luxury classification of agreement picture post-war agreed to again being taken for granted in the matter of the second 10 per cent, the motion picture producers and exhibitors seeking inexpensive recreation. The theatre has proven in many ways that it can be judiciously classified as a nonessential, Lee points out.

He finds that exhibitors, by and large, have been giving much thought and some action to the subject of anti-theatre exploitation, but fears that many may have failed to recognize the trend toward taking the public by it, for granted. Noting present indications that the Federal admission tax is to be continued among other wartime excise levies, Lee feels that now is the time to become active in the luxury designation. Regardless of this, he urges exhibitors, exhibition and their customers must be on record for the future consideration of Federal War and municipal taxing authorities, he declares.

Carolina Owners

(Continued from page 1)

passed by the convention were the condemnation of coin collections for charity purposes, the condemnation of unfairness of distributors in demanding first-run theatres for the picture, and the issue of the better films of the past.


Mack Jackson, president of the Confederate of Southern Associations and president of the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association, addressed the closing session on problems of exhibitors.

Schwalberg Sets Four

(Continued from page 1)

distribution schedule. We have a prime time on the interior circuit theatricals which have appeared Jan. 21 in Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio and Houston, garnering more than the national release date for "It’s a Joke, Son!" has been established as Jan. 25. "Bedelia," the dual premier today in Harrisburg and Reading, Pa., listed for national release on Feb. 1. "The Adventures" has been scheduled for March the 11th. and "The Time, the Place, and the Moon" has been set for March 29.

Eagle-Lion’s initial Broadway engagement of "Wake Up and Dream," will follow the current "Wake Up and Dream" into the Victoria Theatre.

AFL Will Act

(Continued from page 1)

Green urging immediate action on the resolution “in order to insure labor peace and further to help us keep the studios under the AFL banner.”

‘End Criticism’

(Continued from page 1)

concluded an agreement with Jack Warner, anticipating the expenditure of $500,000 to modernize ABPC’s Elstree studios and to produce films there suitable for the American market, the initial program calling for six picture releases within the next 24 months.

UK Growth Healthy

Warner, who is on a tour and visit of England and the Continent from Hollywood, told the gathering that he and other exhibitors have watched with interest the post-war development of the British industry. We feel that the growth which has taken place in the United Kingdom is a very healthy thing. There is plenty of room for all of the good pictures which America and England can produce.

We would both do well not to criticize each other’s films too narrowly. We should look at the many things we have in common rather than single out the differences between us,” Warner said.

‘Associated British Picture Corporation will produce a series of six pictures at their Elstree Studios, which have been recently constructed.

“The six productions will be in color in quality to those now produced by Warners in California,” said the Warners president, adding: ‘Warners personnel will be in charge of production of the films, which are to be produced by ABPC.”

“The films will later be shown throughout the United theatre circuit in America and other theatres in the United Kingdom, after distribution organization services; in addition they will be distributed by Warners throughout the world. ABPC’s share in the returns will be payable in dollars to the corporation here in London,” Warner added.

Regular Program

“These pictures will not be distributed as additional pictures in the United Kingdom but will constitute a part of Warners’ regular program. As an example, where we release 18 programs in March, we will release 15 plus the extra one for ABC.

“Once this program is in successful operation, Warners will withdraw from production in the United Kingdom, but we will continue to extend aid to ABC in its future production activities.”

“Warners is to ABC (the circuit) being an American-dominated company are ridiculous,” Warner declared. While Warners own part of the circuit, the stock shares were purchased at a time when ABC needed aid badly. For those who think the program is a means of our original interest in ABC was in 1940 when many others had the same opinion. “It is necessary to come the aid of ABC. The stock purchases have always been approved by the British government.”

Five Meet Today

(Continued from page 1)

a statement of jurisdiction for the upper court which would include citation of the opponents who will claim to be involved in the New York court’s findings, conclusions and the decree decision.”
NEW
Re-recorder by
Western Electric
makes re-recording better and easier

8 outstanding features of the new RA-1251 RE-RECODER

1 With it, you keep flutter down to no more than 0.05% in any particular frequency band and total flutter down to no more than 0.07%.

2 You can play all types of film tracks: variable area or variable density, 100 mil standard, 100 mil push-pull or 200 mil push-pull. The scanning slit covers all existing types of 100 mil and 200 mil tracks without moving optics or film. Visual inspection of scanning is provided for.

3 It’s easy to adjust accurately the film start mark to scanning beam.

4 The method of vernier synchronization provides accuracy of better than one sprocket hole.

5 During threading, Automatic Loop Setter enables you to lock movable rollers to mid-point operating position, thus assuring accurate setting of loop.

6 You’re assured of low distortion by highest quality photocell amplifier. Plug-in mounting is handy.

7 Re-winding is simplified. Automatic Re-wind Cutoff has separate motor, which cuts off when film is re-wound. You can adjust speed of re-wind.

8 You can watch operation through glass doors that keep out dust.

This radically different re-recorder is the result of an entirely fresh approach to the complex problem of re-recording sound on film.

Engineers of Western Electric’s Electrical Research Products Division talked with studio technicians—studied their re-recording methods and difficulties—found out where previous equipment could be improved.

Then they designed the RA-1251 to meet the technician’s needs and specifications. It marks a tremendous step ahead in appearance and compactness—in efficiency, accuracy, speed and ease of operation—in quality of reproduction!

It is one more evidence of Western Electric’s continuing contributions to the technical progress of the industry.
New Films Reap Fortunes At New York First-Runs

A number of new films are reaping fortunes at New York first-runs and this is in spite of Sunday's dreary weather and rain. The "Yielding," "Sinbad the Sailor," "Lady in the Lake," "Dead Reckoning" and "Town of London" all are showing very important box-office showings.

"The Yielding" with a stage show at the Music Hall drew $80,000. Thursday through Sunday, thus indicating a triumphant $13,000 for its first week. A new weekday audience for the second week, is expected to result in $22,000. "Sinbad the Sailor," "Lady in the Lake," "Dead Reckoning" and "Town of London" have taken in $1,400,000, which is an increase over business brought in by the film at the same theatre in 1939.

"Lady in the Lake," with Tex Beneke's orchestra on stage, is providing the Capitol with very healthy income, total of $10,000 being looked for in the initial week. The Man I Love and Charlie Barnet's orchestra are an excellent combination at the Strand and $2,000 for the first week is in view.

"Swell Guy" bopped in at the Winter Garden and the results here, too, are good. Gross for the first week should hit $50,000, although the show is now coming into its second week of running. "Wake Up and Dream" is doing well enough at the Victoria, where $15,000 is anticipated for the first week. "Her Sinister Secret" has grossed an estimated $9,500—about fair—in its first week at the Gotham.

The STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—ORIENT (1,200) 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $4,666)

SWELL GUY (U) AND VACATION IN RENO (ROKO)—PALACE (3,400) 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,000)

THE PLAINSMAN (Para, reissue) and THE JUNGLE PRINCESS (Para, reissue) at the 17 (1,090) 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $1,750)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (ROKO)—WOOD (1,300) 1st week at the 17. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $200)

SAN FRANCISCO

The first onslaught of the rainy season is keeping film patrons at home. With the exception of "13 Rue Madeleine," most films took a dive at the box-office this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 29:

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,800) 1st week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $4,000)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,725) 2nd week. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $2,400)

TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and DANDY BUSINESS (M-G-M) (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (2,273) 3rd week. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $333)

HUMORESQUE (WB)—UNITED STATES (1,290) 1st week. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $533)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and DANGEROUS BUSINESS (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,200) (56c-55c) 2nd week, Gross: $1,000. (Average: $500)

DENVER

The weather and first-run business both have been good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 29:

THE SEVEN GIRLS (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox) at the 17 (2,030) 2nd week. After a week each at Denver, Esquire, and Denver, business is expected to be $31,000. A.R.$11,000.

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—DENNIS (1,720) (40c-45c) 7 days, Gross: $9,200. (Average: $1,316)

STRAW MAN (UA) and THE TRAP (Mono.)—DENVER (1,520) (40c-75c) 7 days, day and date with Webber, Esquire, and Denison, business is estimated to be $14,500.

STRAW MAN (UA) and THE TRAP (Mono.)—WEBBER (750) (40c-75c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire, and Webber, business expected to be $5,000. (Average: $714)

PHILADELPHIA

Although new bookings are doing well, "Till the Clouds Roll By," in its second week, is still out in front. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 29:

TELEVISION (U)—ALDINE (900) (60c-75c-80c-90c) 7 days, Gross: $18,500. (Average: $2,643)

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB)—RADIO (750) (60c-70c-75c-85c-90c) 1st week, Gross: $3,500. (Average: $500)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (20th-Fox) and WIFE WANTED (M-G-M) (3,000) (20c-25c-30c) 7 days, Gross: $2,200. (Average: $314)

THE RAZORS EDGE (20th-Fox) and THE TRAP (Mono.)—WEBBER (750) (40c-75c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire, and Webber, business is estimated at $5,000. (Average: $714)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA) and THE UNDERWORLD (M-G-M) (750) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire, Webber, and Dobbs, business estimated at $3,500. (Average: $500)

PITTSBURGH

Excellent weather over the weekend brought slightly better average business, than was reported for the
(Continued from page 19)

week ending Jan. 31: 
WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) — FULTON (1,700) (45c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,750. 
THE MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U) — J. HARRIS (2nd) — Astor (1,729) (45c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $1,786)
THE BACHELORS DAUGHTERS (UA) — PENN (1,800) (40c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $3,214)
LUKE SKIES (Para.) — RITZ (1,109) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,250. (Average: $1,035)
THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB) — WARNER (6,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $1,643)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business has been moderately good, aided by mild weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 28-29:

DECEPTION (WB) — CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,629)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio) — STANLEY (3,200) (45c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $2,857)
THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB) — WARNER (6,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $1,643)

OMAHA

All four first-runs are registering over par in a solid business week. Spring-like weather continues. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 29-30:

CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA (UA) — OMAHA (2,000) (50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,286)

SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI (Mono.) — ORPHEUM, 2nd — Fox (1,000) (45c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $4,250. (Average: $614)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) — WARNER (2,400) (50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,100. (Average: $2,157)

THE CAT CREEPS (U) AND THE WOLF OF LONDON (U) — L-REC (1,200) (40c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $1,114)

BUFFALO

Spring-like weather and good product, coupled with a stage show, resulted in one of the best weeks of this year or last. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 1:

THE BACHELORS DAUGHTERS (UA) — BUFFALO (2,000) (50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $1,357)

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (20th-Fox) — WARNER (4,000) (45c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $2,571)

THE WICKED LADY (U) AND SPOOK BUSTERS (Col.) — WARNER (2,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,600)

TEMPATION (Univ.) AND BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.) — LAFAYETTE (3,000) (45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,400. (Average: $1,057)

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM (20th-Fox) AND DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox) — MISSOURI (3,154) (30c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,286)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M) — LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,500) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,143)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) — LOEW'S ASTORIA (1,200) (45c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $1,033)

BLUE SKIES (Para.) — LOEW'S STATE (3,900) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,286)

SECRET HEART (M-G-M) — LOEW'S ASTOR (1,200) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $857)

HERVY V (UA) — LOWER MALL (500) (25c-35c-50c) 7 days. Two-a-day. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox) — RKO — ALLEN (1,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Total week's gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,429)

THE ROME (20th-Fox) — RKO PALACE (3,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,143)

THE DARK MIRROR (International) — WARNERS' LAKE (110) (35c-50c-75c) 7 days. Total week's gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,429)

ATLANTA

Theatre business is holding steady. The weather has been clear and warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 29:

THE RUNAROUND (U) — FOX (5,500) (50c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $3,571)

MAKE ME MUSIC (RKO Radio) — PAR (5,100) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $2,571)

FOOL'S GOLD (UA) AND DING DONG DING DONG (RKO Radio) — ORPHEUM, 2nd (2,400) (45c-50c) over from Fox. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $1,550)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M) — LOEW'S GRAND (2,500) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $2,143)

MINNEAPOLIS

A spell of unseasonable weather helped business hold a shade above average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 30:

BLUE SKIES (Para.) — CENTURY (1,600) (35c-50c) 7 days. 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $1,214)

THE PERFECT MARRIAGE (Para.) — LYRIC (1,600) (35c-50c-75c) 7 days. Week on radio from Radio City. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $1,214)

THE MIGHTY McGURK (M-G-M) — STATE (2,500) (45c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,643)

ST. LOUIS

"The Secret Heart" is in the lead during a week of June weather in St. Louis. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 29:

HUMORESQUE (WB) — AMBASSADOR (1,150) (35c-40c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000)

STAGE SHOWS ABANDONED

CINCINNATI, Jan. 28.—The RKO Aflee, playing stage shows and pictures, has temporarily reverted to a straight picture policy, and will resume stage shows as soon as it is possible to secure additional shows of a higher caliber that have been playing the house.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The RKO "Benedia" is BOXOFFICE!
There's Boxoffice Value in "The RED HOUSE"

Edward G. Robinson... in a dramatic part destined to top every role he's played

from "Little Caesar" to "The Stranger"!

{see tomorrow's page}
Kirsch Will Continue as Allied Head

Myers Lauds Justice Dept. In Annual Report

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Jack Kirsch of Chicago will continue as president of Allied States for another year, his successor today at the Allied board prepared to convene at the Statler Hotel here on Friday for its annual meeting.

Abram E. Myers, chairman, and William L. Amsworth, treasurer, are also Allied officials who will be re-elected to office at tomorrow's meeting. In his annual report to the board, Myers will cite high film rentals as the major industry problem which remains unsolved on a national basis. The report will recommend that Allied continue its campaign for the production of foreign films.

(Continued on page 5)

May Lease Theatres For 'Arch' 1st-Runs

Following a plan inaugurated by Samuel Goldwyn this week, Enterprise Productions may lease theatres throughout the country for pre-release roadshow engagements of "Arch of Triumph," Charles Einfeld, president of the company, said here yesterday. The leasing method, designed to ob

(Continued on page 6)

House Passes Excise Levy on Admissions

Washington, Jan. 29.—Advocates of continued war-time excise tax rates on admissions and other items scored an initial victory in the House today when they overwhelmingly beat down a move to open the legislation to amendments. The voice vote to leave the bill retaining the high war-time levies unchanged pressed its passage later in the day.

The tax measure now goes to the Senate where public hearings on it may be held.

US Is Resorting to Independents to Push Film Program

Faced with a threatened drastic cut, on July 1, in its $2,600,000 motion picture budget, the U. S. State Department is moving to make maximum use of the appropriation for the current fiscal year ending July 1, especially in the production field, according to Hamilton MacFadden of the Department's New York office.

MacFadden now is in Hollywood completing arrangements for the production of at least 160 reels of short subjects, some of which will be devoted to the others two ree
er. A total of $2,600,000 has been earmarked for these pictures, to be made on a contract basis. So far, only nearly complete socialization of the production field is slipping away, because, under Government arrangements, any appropriated funds not expended by July 1 cannot be carried over to the next fiscal year. Although the Department had hoped

(Continued on page 6)

FCC Is Shown RCA's Color Television

PRINCETON, N. J., Jan. 29.—RCA's all-electronic, simultaneous color television demonstration was described here today to the Federal Communications Commission as the latter continued its investigation of the feasibility of granting to Columbia Broadcasting its petition for ultra-high frequencies that would allow it to use commercial color telecasting. RCA is among those strongly opposing the commercialization of color television at present.

The program originated at the RCA laboratories here and was transmitted to the Princeton University Club, a distance of about half a mile, where FCC studied reception.

British Unions Rebel Against US Combines

Less than twenty-four hours after one of the biggest American-British four deals in history had been signed, the Film Industry Employes Council yesterday violently attacked Hollywood-London motion-picture combines and demanded near complete socialization of the industry in Great Britain according to press dispatches reaching here last night.

Warner Brothers and the Associated British Picture Corporation announced on Tuesday that they had agreed to join forces to make six

(Continued on page 6)

Defendants Meet On Appeal Study

Attorneys for distributors met here yesterday at the law office of John Caskey, 20th-Century-Fox counsel, to work out preliminaries in their likely appeal of the New York Federal Court's decision.

Doubt Precedent if Schine Wins Appeal

The U. S. Supreme Court can reverse the partial-divestiture order in the Schine anti-trust case and then, without any breach of logic, order the complete divestiture of exhibition from distribution in a decision on the Government's appeal of the industry anti-trust suit, in the opinion of William McKay, counsel for Schine Chain Theatres, Inc.

Granting a recent decision of Justice alent that the high tribunal cannot logically uphold the Federal District Court's decree in the Schine case without following with a divestiture order in the New

(Continued on page 6)

Paramount Product Conferences Start

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 29.—Conferences on the company's domestic and foreign production plans got underway today at Paramount studios with most of the company's top executives in attendance.

Home-office executives participating in the meetings are Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board; Barney Balaban, company president; Charles M. Reagon, vice-president in charge of

(Continued on page 6)

Brooker Says Benton Criticism Correct

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Assistant Secretary of State William Benton's critical remarks about the film industry were "accurate reporting" of the facts, Floyd Brooker, film chief of the U. S. Office of Education, said here today in an address before the Washington Film Council.

Referring to Benton's statement in Chicago that "Europe looked far more the spread of cultural imperialism through motion pictures," Brooker defended the Benton speech, which brought a blast from Joyce

(Continued on page 6)

Church Group Sets 7 for Production

The first seven films to be produced by the Protestant Film Commission, interdenominational motion picture agency of U. S. Protestant churches in this country, were announced yesterday.

(Continued on page 6)

In This Issue

"Odd Man Out" and "Song of Scheherazade" are reviewed on page 4.
Personal Mention

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal-International director of advertising-publicity, is in Mt. Zion Hospital, San Francisco, recovering from minor injuries suffered when he was thrown from a horse.

BEVERLY KURZ, secretary to Earl Williams of 20th Century-Fox's home office publicity department, will be married to Irwin Lasky on Sunday at the Lindens Heights Center, Brooklyn.

DON MERSEBEAU, general manager of Film Daily, is in Doctor's Hospital here with a fractured leg, having been struck by a hit-and-run driver near his Manhattan home Tuesday night.

W. C. GEERING, Central sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, has left New York for Rochester, Minn., where he will enter the Mayo Clinic for a physical check-up.

A. M. KANE, Paramount district manager, Boston, and Edward Ruff, Albany, N. Y., branch manager, have been visiting Gloversville.

LES S. GREENBERG, Frank DRUM and Groll SCHULZ, RKO Radio sales executives, have returned to New York from Albany.

NORMAN H. MORRY, short subject sales manager for Warners, will return to New York on Tuesday from a Southern tour.

STANLEY SHUFORD, Paramount advertising manager, has returned to New York from a West Indies vacation.

SID MISKOW, Paramount's assistant exploitation manager, has returned here from Columbia, Mo.

EARL RETTIG, secretary-treasurer of Rainbow Productions, will return to the Coast from New York this week.

JOHN S. ALLEN, M-G-M district manager at Washington, will arrive here tomorrow.

JOSEPH KAUFMAN, Monogram producer, is visiting New York from the Coast.

Greenfield in Video

Felix Greenfield, who appeared in a radio series as "The Man of Magic," has been signed by General Film Productions, of which Harry A. Kapti is president, to make a series of television shorts titled "Tele Trix." The contract is for one year, with options.

Williams on Film Ads

Advertising accounts of Phil Williams on Fortune Magazine have been expanded to take in major film companies, and Williams was formerly advertising publicity director of March of Time.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, editor-in-chief and publisher; Sherwin Kane, editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., associate editor, published daily, except Saturdays. Summer and holidays, Quigley, Publishing Company, 410 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. No. 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-3100. Cable address, "Omniwire," Chicago, Ill. Office and display address, 410 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Youngstein Expands E-L Promotion Staff

Max Youngstein, Eagle-Lion's advertising-publicity director, has increased his field force from 10 to 12. The additions are Richard Owen, formerly with 20th Century-Fox, who will cover the Southwest, out of Dallas, and Vernon Berg, formerly with National Screen, who will operate out of San Francisco covering the Northwest, who was named as Warner's exploitation man in the Columbus-Cincinnati-Cleveland area.

Court Sets Feb. 4 For Hughes Hearing

Arguments on the motion by How- ard Hughes to have the witness charges of New York state commissioner Benjamin Fielding in Hughes' suit to restrain Fielding from naming "The Outlaw," were postponed yesterday to Feb. 4 in the New York Supreme Court.

Dr. Clifford to Korda

Alexander Korda has appointed Dr. Hubert Clifford musical director of London Film Productions, Korda's American subsidiary. Clifford, a composer, is professor of composition at the Royal Academy of Music in London. During the war he was in charge of BBC's empire music services.

QP Team Wins AGAIN

The basketball five of Quigley Publications was again victorious, last night, in a pitched floor-fight with the sturdy quintet of the Compton Advertising Agency. The score was 27 to 14, in an exciting game played at the Rockefeller Center Gymnasia, where the profits of many, many fans of both sides.

Hollander to Albany

Elmer Hollander, in charge of playdates at Producers Releasing' home office in New York, has left for Albany as temporary replacement for Joe Miller, New York state district manager, who has been hospitalized with pneumonia. Upon Miller's recovery and return to the Albany office, Hollander will return to his own duties at the home office.

Dortic, PRC Terms Fail

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 29—A last-ditch effort which was to install Charles Dortic as Producers Releasing' manager here. Dortic, formerly a film sales manager at sales event was released.
ANN SHERIDAN
plays
"Nora Prentiss"
as only
ANN SHERIDAN
could play
"Nora Prentiss"

This is the next WARNER PICTURE

CO-STARING
KENT SMITH - BRUCE BENNETT

WITH ROBERT ALDA - ROSEMARY DECAMP
DIRECTED BY VINCENT SHERMAN - WILLIAM JACOBS
PRODUCED BY

SCREEN PLAY BY N. RICHARD NASH - FROM A STORY BY
Thursday, January 30, 1947

**Reviews**

**“Odd Man Out”**

(Two Cities Films)

London, Jan. 29.

TO the dismay of bobby-soxers but to the delight of students of serious film drama, James Mason herein moves at one leap from the hackneyed ranks of popular juvenile roles to the role of a sharp gun battle. Meanwhile, the film unfolds not only the outward appearance of the gunman's worldly life but also the underlying passions of a dozen people's souls.

The charm of the music and its box-office appeal probably will run parallel only limitedly. "Scheherazade" is deliberately designed to hurdle the commercial limitations of classic music, with its whimsically and wholly flavorful approach. No monumental tribute to a great composer, the film is ban-

**“Song of Scheherazade”**

(Universal)

OBVIOUS charm has the music of Rimsky-Korsakov as it is rendered in "Song of Scheherazade," a unique film with a setting as colorful as a carnival and a story that might have had a frivolous comic-opera prototype.

The glorifying tunes of Tchaikovsky's "1812" and "The Beautiful Girls" allude, however, in their usual distinctiveness, although they still add considerable lustre to the presentation of the fanciful tale about a group of Russian naval officers who, as the composer, on shore leave in Morocco, back in 1865. The film is picturesquely decorated with gay costumes of the period, and also Yvonne de Carlo, Brian Donlevy's chore is the role of a captain completely convinced that his cadets should have stayed in Russia.

The performers and the little story play roles subordinate to Rimsky-Korsakov's compositions, which range from the frolicsome "Dance of the Young Girls to the thrilling "Song of India." The film is primarily a story-and-dance festival, with Charles Kullman, celebrated opera star, in several instances bursting forth with the title number and others; Miss de Carlo executes the choreography.

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**Decrees of Murder, Films With Other Pictures**

Columbus, O., Jan. 29—Practice of dueling "blood-curdling murder mysteries" and other such colorful second features with films of special appeal to children, like Walt Disney's "Song of the South," are no longer safe. Members of the 27-organization Hilltop Community Council are conducting a critical survey of West Side houses in an attempt to correct the situation.

Managers of Hilltop theaters will be interviewed by organization members to see what practices they can do to prevent such dueling. Charles P. Maus, president of the council, said he had been notified of complaints, chiefly from women members, for the past 18 months. A full evening of entertainment is planned by the Press Photographers Association of New York for its 18th annual ball to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Friday night, Feb. 7. Staffs of stage, screen and radio will contribute, and Harry Hershfield, who has written the book, will be a guest of honor. Darien Sullivan, Danton Walker and Mory Amsterdam will share honors as mas-

**Six M.C.'s to Preside at Cameramen's Fete**

The French film company, Bureau Cinematographique, expects to start producing films in the Nether-

**French and English To Produce in Hague**

The French film company, Bureau Cinematographique, expects to start producing films in the Nether-

**Best Years in London**

Samuel Goldwyn has concluded re-

**Key City Grosses**

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

**SALT LAKE CITY**

All theaters are above average in a week of moderate weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 30:

**THE MIRROIR (International)**

CAPITOL (1,878) (30c-55c-75c) 7 days on a gross of $3,800. (Average: $570)

**THE BOHEMIAN GIRL (Film Classics)**

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — UPTOWN (1,300) (30c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,100. (Average: $730)

**WELL SWELL (RKO) — IRVING THEATRE (800) (20c-55c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $670)

**TWO MILLIONS (RKO), and CHILD of DIVORCE (RKO Radio) — EAGLE THEATRE (1,086) in 7th week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $1,790)

**RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M release) — UPTOWN (2,550) (30c-55c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,100. (Average: $2,350)

**LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and CHILD of DIVORCE (RKO Radio) — VICTORIA (2,260) (30c-55c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $2,080)

**$13,500 for 'Gangs'**

Madaris Pictures reports a weekly gross of $13,500 for Alan Ladd's "Gangs, Inc.," in a test of that re-

**Dimes' Show at Rivoli**

Representatives of Latin-American countries and their organizations have been invited to the Rivoli Theatre, here, last night in behalf of the March of Dimes Drive. The show was arranged by Mrs. Roseann Seaumont, manager of the Rivoli, and Dr. A. Ramon Ruiz, director of the Good Neighbor Center.

**Barring Indecency, Most Yarns Filmmable**

Hollywood, Jan. 29.—In the light of the recent Mexican and Spanish stories to reach the screen during the past few years, the complaint that the industry is over-indulgent with its choice of themes is no longer valid, John Stahl declared in an ad-

**Legion of Decency Classifies 14 Films**

Seven new films are rated as un-

**Decrees of Murder, Films With Other Pictures**

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Allied States

(Continued from page 1)
tice on its efforts "to eliminate monopoly in the industry" and urge it to continue its attempt to achieve di-

vorce-ment of all Section 20A motion picture companies. It is submit-

ted, his report will say, on which Alli-

ded in agreement with the Justice

Department in the final stages of litig-

ation of an anti-trust suit against the

The report will say that theatre di-

vorce will insure a flat market for motion picture, and will open the

way for new producers and distribu-

tors with new ideas and methods.

The report adds that at present there is a "critical" pic-

ture shortage, contending that with through them exhibitors "will lose the last vestige of their buying power and will be denied the right of select-

ion which the court sought to confer by the ban on compulsory block book-

ing."

Problems Shifting

Myers will tell the board that the task of interpreting, policing and en-

forcing the decree will continue for several years, and will say that industry problems are shifting to re-

gional areas and call for local action in state and municipal taxation and in con-

nection with exhibitor-public relations.

Concerning the outlook for the in-

dustry, "no one doubts that regardless of internal con-

volutions or economic changes, motion pictures will maintain the strength of their position as the people's basic en-

tertainment. Undoubtedly, many new theatres will be built. Under the American system of production, block booking cannot be halted. Competition will develop where it has never existed before. Expansion in the exhibition field will be restricted to independents and distributors will be allowed to play no favorites."

Approximately 30 Allied directors and observers are scheduled to attend

the meeting. The board will discuss Allied's report regarding the time of production of 12 features by an independent producer. Discussion of taxation and legislative problems also will be on the agenda.

Brodie Claims Miami

Got Jersey Print

A print of "Guilty Parents" intended

for distribution in New Jersey was received and shown by accident at the Miami Theatre here, Benja-

min Brodie, former owner of the

house, testified in Special Sessions Court here yesterday in defense of charges of exhibiting an indecent film.

John P. Donnelly, chief inspector of the motion picture division of the State Board of Education, had testi-

fied earlier that the picture shown at the Miami and repeated 401 feet dis-

approved by the division in 1934.

Following a screening of the film for Judges John V. Flood, Nathan D. Perlmutter and a prosecution witness, the charges were moved by Jack Leff, Brodie's counsel. This was done to demonstrate the picture's ent-

ting, and the hearing was ad-

journed until Feb. 3.

Assistant district attorney John A. McAvoy presented the prosecution, aided by Dan Rosen, representing

New York license commissioner Ben-

jamin Fielding, and Sgt. James Quinn of the police commission's legal de-

partment.

New Jersey Allied Wants

Action on Film Shortage

Edward Lachman, president of New

Jersey Allied, at the holiest of mon-

ehy of that organization will go be-

fore the National Allied board of directors to recommend "outstanding ac-

tion" to combat what the group feels is the hoarding of product by distri-

butors. The ailed board will meet in

Washington Friday.

At a state-wide legislative meeting of Jersey Allied in Trenton on Tues-

day, 12, in which the distributors, companies' present backlog of films as compiled by Peter Wood, business man-

ager of Allied, Columbia, 18; M.G.M., 15; Universal, 16; Paramount, 22; RKO Radio, 21;

— Century-Fox, 8; United Artists, 18.

Lachman's mission to Washington stems from a resolution adopted last

Sept. 18, in which the distributors.

sellers policies were strongly objected to, with emphasis on the "artificial product shortage," and the number of percentage pictures.

Theatre checking was generally discussed at the meeting. Lach-

man reported to members to submit complaints to him in writing, adding that he had an assurance from Confidential Re-

ports that those which are justifiable will be corrected. (This was concerned in New York yesterday by that checking company.)

Admission taxes and adverse legis-

lation were also before the session. Lachman warned that it is the duty of

theatre owners to become acquainted with local legislators with the aim of mak-

ing known the position of exhibition when new tax sources are looked for.

"Pressure groups are out to get new money," he warned.

State Senator Arthur W. Lewis and Assemblyman Hugh M. Mehotor told the meeting that they will hold their stand against additional revenue from theatres. Walter Van Riper, At-

orney General for New Jersey, and Maj.-Gen. Clifford R. Powell also were there, praising the community work of exhibitors.

Lachman recommended support of American Brotherhood Week and the subsequent drive for funds for Greek orphans.

Myers Asks Allied

(Continued from page 1)

ferred until the U. S. Supreme Court has acted on appeals in the New York

Griffith and Schine anti-trust suits.

Although Myers devotes two pages of his report—to be delivered to the Allied board at a meeting here on Fri-

day—to the subject of exhibitor-distri-

butor cooperation, he does not once

mention the motion picture picture frame which has been proposed as a medium for hearing and discussion of industry problems, by the Motion Pic-

ture Theatre Owners of America, the formation of which will be discussed at a meeting of independent exhibitors in New York next month. The report leaves no doubt, however, that refer-

ence is made to the proposed forum.

"Not knowing," Myers' report will say, "exactly what the outcome of those (Supreme Court) decisions will be, no one could with confidence or safety outline a program involving any joint action or agreements at this stage. The time to initiate such a movement definitely is not ripe, but the subject should be given preliminary study by the (Allied) board at some later meeting."

Reviews Earlier Efforts

Myers' report reviews broadly earli-

er efforts to effect exhibitor-distribu-

tor cooperation which came to naught and indict distribution companies on numerous counts of recent and current alleged trade abuses.

"Actually," the report concludes, "the permissible scope of any discus-

sions between representatives of the several branches of the industry is very narrow."

Myers' position is regarded as tan-

tamount to Allied's notice that it will not participate in the exhibitor forum meeting called by Fred Wernher, MPTOA president, for March 10, in New York, to discuss an approach to better exhibitor-distributor relations.

Ginsberg Rites Friday

Hollywood, Jan. 29.—Funeral services for Laurence Ginsberg, 31, nephew of Paramount vice-president Henry Ginsberg, are to be held Fri-

day at the Pierce Brothers Mortuary, Beverly Hills. Internment will be at the Hollywood Cemetery. He died here Monday.

NJ Allied Convention

New Jersey Allied's annual convention will be held at the Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, June 24-26. Ed Lachman is president of the unit.

Budget Slash Seen

Cutting US Films

Washington, Jan. 29.—Discussing a planned $5,000,000 to

-000 slash of President Tru-

man's budget, Congressman John Taber, chairman of the House Appropriations Com-

mittee today predicted that a majority of the Government's public information services will be curtailed or elimi-

nated.

He did not make specific reference to films, but indicated that a single press re-

culations officer may be the sole public information employee in each department, thereby eliminating or cutting film activities in every agency.

'Brotherhood' to Army

The War Department's civil affairs division has purchased the color cartoon, "Brotherhood of Man" for re-

distribution purposes in enemy-occupied countries, it was announced by Pare

Lorentz, pre-war documentary film producer and presently chief of the films and theatre section, re-orientation branch of the War Department's civil affairs division.

COLUMBIA MOVES FURTHER OUT FRONT

WITH ITS SECOND 1946-47 STOCK SERIAL!

The hottest serial hero EVER in the biggest serial scoop YET!

JACK ARMSTRONG THE ALL-AMERICAN BOY

15 YEARS ON THE AIR! Broadcast 5 times weekly over 183 stations of ABC, coast-to-coast!

A COLUMBIA SERIAL
Brooker Says

O'Hara, assistant to Eric Johnston Brooker, a member of the U. S. delegation to UNESCO, said that in the field of mass media, the fear is applied only to American films since, this is the field we control throughout the world.

New Petitioners Hit Daylight Savings

St. Louis, Jan. 29.—New petitions for repeal of daylight saving time have bearing 4,400 signatures have been presented to the St. Louis election board by Fred Wehrenberg, president of Harris St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois, to replace some 2,500 signatures which had been disqualified by the board on an earlier petition.

May Lease Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

certain necessary advanced-admission revenue for costly films without violation of the price-fixing ban laid down in the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, will be used by Goddyn for showing "The Best Years of Our Lives," as reported on Tuesday in Motion Picture Daily.

For "Arch of Triumph," Emfield said, theatre leasing is being considered along with other methods of obtaining boxoffice results without violating the decree provisions. General domestic distribution of the film, along with foreign distribution of his company's pictures, is scheduled to return to the Coast tomorrow.

Maryland Considers Theatre Ticket Tax

Baltimore, Jan. 29.—The possibility of taxing admissions again is being discussed in connection with a bill now before the Maryland Senate Judiciary Committee, at Annapolis. The bill provides for the distribution of proceeds from taxes on admissions to the public subscription in which the admission is located, after 10 per cent has been deducted to defray the cost of collection.

The recommendation has been made on the theory that these should be a tax on amusements, which will be increased to 20 per cent during the war, will be reduced.

Para. Product Talks

(Continued from page 1)

distribution: George Weltner, president of Paramount International; Russell Holman, Eastern production head and Alan Jackson, Eastern story editor.

Leading the Coast executives taking part in the conference is Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of production and studio operations. Attending from the foreign field are J. E. Perkins, chairman and managing director for Great Britain, and Frank Farley, European production representative.

M.P. Forum

(Continued from page 1)

carding said, asking them to appoint representatives to attend the meeting. The petition is in line with a resolution adopted by the MPTOA board at its meeting here last week. The resolution stipulates that the meeting for initial discussion of the forum should be attended exclusively by independent exhibitors and that a subsequent meeting should be held to discuss conciliation plans with distribution executives and representatives of affiliated circuits.

Letters of invitation to the March 10 meeting were sent to Allied States, American Theatre Association, DTO of New York, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatres Owners, Confederacy of Southern Associations, Conference of Independent Exhibitors, and others.

US Film Program

(Continued from page 1)

to interest major producers in contracting to make a substantial number of the pictures, these companies have declined, MacFadden reports, with the result that he now hopes to close enough deals with independents to round out the program.

Of the two films now being made, one is entitled "American Adventure" and is being filmed at the University of California at Los Angeles, with Jack Chertok as producer. The other, from United Productions of America, is an animated cartoon showing the operation of public-opinion polls in the U. S.

In addition to the production program, the Department is using approximately 80 films acquired from Government agencies, private industry and American civic groups. Some of these, explaining new U. S. devices and production methods, were obtained from Westinghouse, Ford Motor Co., and other manufacturers.

Doubt Schine

(Continued from page 1)

York suit, McKay does not agree that the converse is intended. The combined size of the major companies is so much greater than Schine's that McKay believes he can succeed in Washington without establishing a precedent against separating theatres from the circuit distributors.

McKay plans a trip to Washington next week to arrange for printing the Schine case record for the Supreme Court appeal. It contains more than 4,700 typewritten pages in the ten to numerous exhibits. How many of the latter shall be printed has not yet been agreed upon by counsel for the Government and the defense.

Thompson to King Bros.

Hollywood, Jan. 29.—Walter Thompson, film editor and former executive assistant to William Goetz at International Pictures, has been signed by King Brothers as supervising film editor on "The Gallery," first Allied Artists film to be produced by them.

He will join the producing organization at the Hal Roach studio on Feb. 1.

To Show 'Duel' to Vets

Hollywood, Jan. 29.—David O. Selznick will screen "Duel in the Sun" at 30 veterans hospitals in Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas, as soon as arrangements can be made by publicist Claud Morris, who will leave here by train tomorrow in that connection, the studio announces.

Church Group

(Continued from page 1)

terday by Paul F. Heard, executive secretary, following the second annual meeting of the commission at Presbyter Theatres headquarters here. According to Heard, the pictures will comprise the full 1947 production schedule.

The first, he said, will be a film designed to illustrate the Church's charge to the nation to be more creative and progressive in Christian living; the second will be a film to promote Christian education by stressing the basic values of religion, and a third will dramatize the church school teacher, to aid in the recruitment of them. Other films will deal with the need for racial and religious tolerance, vocational opportunities in the missionary field, the ministry, and Christianity in China, Heard disclosed.

In addition to the seven films scheduled, Heard outlined five series of pictures which the commission is planning for future production.

British Unions

(Continued from page 1)

British pictures under American distributor will be modernizing and re-equipping the Elstree Studios.

The unions proposed: a council of Government, producers and union representatives to foster films under state patronage with a circuit of state-owned theatres and state film production; a reduction in the size of the three present circuits; a films' bank to finance production and legislation stipulating that four-fifths of labor costs in British films be paid to British subjects.

A memorandum containing the union's proposals was sent to Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade.

Odeon Dividend

London, Jan. 29.—Odeon Theatres announces a seven and one-half per cent interim ordinary dividend, the proceeds of which are formed in 1942.

Mayer Auction Feb. 27

Arcadia, Cal., Jan. 29.—Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M President, will auction his $5,000,000 racing stable on Feb. 27. The Fasig-Tipton Co. of New York will handle the sale at Santa Anita race track.

New Hollingshead Shorts

Hollywood, Jan. 29.—Let's Sing a Song of the West" is the first in a series of six one-reel "Memory Lane" musicals to be produced by Hollingshead at Warners. Jack Scholl is directing.

Lewins on ASCAP Board

Edgar Leslie, writer-member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has been appointed to the Society's board of directors.
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<th>Week Of</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>MONO</th>
<th>PARA</th>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>REPUBLIC</th>
<th>RKO RADIO</th>
<th>20TH-FOX</th>
<th>U.A</th>
<th>UNIV.-INT'L</th>
<th>WARNER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>(Rev.)</td>
<td>EASY COME, EASY GO Sonny Tufts Diana Lynn</td>
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<td>(Color)</td>
<td>M—60 mins.</td>
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<td>PURSUED</td>
<td>Teresa Wright Robert Mitchum</td>
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<td>Mar. 8</td>
<td>(Rev.)</td>
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[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]
Co-starring in

“The RED HOUSE”

Lon McCallister, the idol of millions after his warmly human performances in “Stage Door Canteen” and “Home in Indiana”, will assuredly gain new fame and stature among filmdom’s finest!

Not a little of success is directly responsible to the superb support of Julie London, Allene Roberts and Rory Calhoun whose futures now are marked for stardom!

(See tomorrow’s page)
Labor Aid for Johnston Plan
On UK Quota

NATKE Favors Year's
Delay, World Council

LONDON, Jan. 30.—The British
Board of Trade should adopt the
suggestion made by Eric Johnston,
president of the Motion Picture
Association of America, that existing
British quota legislation be continued
for at least another year, T. J.
O'Brien, M.P., general secretary of
the National Federation of Theatrical
and Kind Employees, declared at a
meeting of his organization's film
studio section here today.

To this statement, which
came as a complete surprise,
O'Brien added the opinion that
Johnston's proposal for a World
Film Council is "a great and
statesmanlike ideal."

"Sick and tired"

(Continued on page 8)

Allied May Confer
With Justice Dep't;
Wright to Va. Meet

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—Robert L.
Wright, special assistant to the
Attorney-General, expects to confer here
tomorrow or Saturday on the New
York Federal court decree with
members of the Allied States
executive committee who are scheduled to
return on him at the Justice Department.

In addition, Wright will make an
appearance on Monday at the
convention here of the Virginia Motion
Picture Theatre Association for an "off-
the-record" discussion of the New
York Federal court decree in the
industry anti-trust suit.

At Allied States' meeting
headquarters in the Statler Hotel, here,
where the executive committee met
(Continued on page 8).

MPTOA Urges Tax
Contest in Senate

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 30.—Fred Wehren-
berg, president of the Motion Picture
Theaters Owners of America, today
called upon exhibitors throughout the
country to express their opposition to
extension of the Federal wartime 20
per cent tax to their
Senators in Washington, as the House bill
continuing the excise taxes now goes to
the Senate.

Wehrenberg pointed out that the
MPTOA board of directors, meeting
here last week, adopted a resolution
(Continued on page 8).

Plan Move for
Arbitration
Continuance

Exhibitor Sponsors to Seek Distributor Aid

An exhibitor movement for volun-
tary continuance of the motion picture
arbitration system, in line with a suggestion made by the New
York Federal court in its final decree,
will be launched in the near future,
according to spokesmen for a wide-
spread group of theatre men who favor
the plan.

Although the Independent Theatre
Owners Association of New York is
the only exhibitor group so far pub-
licly on record as favoring continuance
of the arbitration system, support is
expected to be given also from a number of other organizations,
with proponents of the plan hoping to
muster enough strength soon to make
it a reality. When sufficient exhibi-

125 Feature
Imports in '47

A minimum of 125 and possibly 150
feature imports will reach here this
year, in an effort already undertaken
by U. S. distributors of foreign films
to recapture the market lost during the
war years when very few pictures
were imported, Motion Picture Her-
ald will say today.

From all indications the distribution
of these films is going to be highly
competitive, with the large volume of
product and few exhibition outlets, it
was said. Executives directing their
(Continued on page 8)

Enterprise Product
Out of MPEA Areas

Enterprise Productions, headed by
Charles Einfeld and David Loew, will
withhold product from the 13 areas in
which the Motion Picture Export
Association operates under its foreign
distribution agreement with Loew's
International.

Enterprise's initial five films, which
figure in the pact, are to be handled
(Continued on page 8).

"The Late George Apley"

[20th Century-Fox]

JOHN P. MARQUAND, literary prober of Boston and what makes
it tick, wrote a Pulitzer Prize novel in "The Late George Apley.
"George S. Kaufman, playwright, worked it over for a successful New
York stage run. Then C. 20th Century-Fox snapped up film rights
and now places on display a first-class job of transplanting from one
medium to the other.

In all departments, this attraction reflects very substantial skill.
Its title performance, in the hands of Ronald Colman, surely is among
his best efforts; no doubt, there will be those who will settle for nothing
less than insistence he is his finest. But producer Fred Kohmnan
and director Joseph L. Mankiewicz have gone considerably further. They
have seen to it that the other principal roles—Edna Best as Mrs. Apley,
Richard Ney as their son, Peggy Cummins as their daughter, Percy
Warram, Mildred Natwick, Richard Haydn (pleasantly to be remem-
bered as the pharmacist in "Chitty Brown"), Vanessa Brown and Charles
Russell—as well as the minor players, reflect dramatic accuracy and that
(Continued on page 9).

Advance UN's
Film Program

The United Nations Film program
gained impetus yesterday when Ger-
adour M. Mayer, director of the Motion
Picture Association's international
division, conferred with Jean Beniti-
Levy, UN film chief, here, relative to the
establishment of an American in-
dustry film advisory committee, while
at the same time it was announced that
Hans Burger has resigned as head of CBS Television's film depart-
ment to become production supervisor
for UN.

With industry advisory groups al-
(Continued on page 8).

Returns Heavy for
'Dimes', Says Jensen

Although exhibitors were not re-
quested to file their telegraphic re-
turns on March of Dimes collections
until the completion of the drive, tele-
grams have started pouring into the
motion picture division at the Hotel
Astor, here. Yesterday, according to
Emil C. Jensen, director of the divi-
(Continued on page 8).

4,550 Film Theatres
Operating in France

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—The
U. S. Bureau of Foreign and
Domestic Commerce, here, re-
ports from "reliable French
sources" that there are ap-
proximately 4,550 commercial
motion picture theaters in
continental France. About 2/3 of
these are in Paris and 450
in its nearby suburbs. As of
Dec. 1946, there were in
operation, 1,100 permanent
16mm. theaters and 1,700
mobile theaters serving about
10,000 localities in France.

Forum in Talking
Stage Only: MPTOA

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 30.—Replying to the
pejorative report of Abram F. Myers
Allied States' chairman and general
counsel, on the prospect of an effective
exhibitor-distributor arbitration plan
at this time, Fred Wehrenberg, presi-
dent of the Motion Picture Owners of
America, said today that only "pre-
liminary work" on such a plan is con-
templated now.

Wehrenberg, author of the proposal
for an industry forum to discuss and
eavor to remedy exhibitor-distribu-
tor problems, has invited representa-
tives of national and regional exhib-
itor organizations to attend a meeting
in New York on March 10-11, to con-
sider the proposal.

"The MPTOA board of directors,"
Wehrenberg said, "felt that a great
deal of preliminary work could be ac-
(Continued on page 8)

Returns Heavy for
'Dimes', Says Jensen

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turns on March of Dimes collections
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motion picture division at the Hotel
Astor, here. Yesterday, according to
Emil C. Jensen, director of the divi-
(Continued on page 8).
Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

F Rom THE New Jersey laboratories of the late Thomas Alva Edison came many things mechanical which today seem incredible, and some of the newer, and perhaps less obvious, branch of his Great Invention was one of the most fascinating. When Edison's personal desk is unsealed on Feb. 8, after standing untouched for 16 years, additional items of interest to the film business could conceivably be found.

The old-fashioned roll-top was sealed at the time of Edison's death, and it has been rumoured that the thing has been under lock and key ever since. Several years ago, two New York spiritualists declared they had received a communication from the inventor to the effect that he had left a 'mementous message to the world' concealed within a fan inside his desk. Edison was a pencil scribbler, hardly ever used a pen.

Another piece of evidence that the night club gravy train is passing by is the announcement appearing in the newspaper ads of Dallas nightclub operators offering to pay the taxi fare for four or more guests, another offering an unheard of $100 to those who can turn up and all the beer one can drink.

In the pre-ultima era one could have bankrupted a place on that kind of a deal.

The great New York Central Railroad System this week became the first railroad to do 100 for the picture business, when Robert R. Young's Palace Laboratories, Eagle-Lion, PRC Pictures, et al, acquired control of the line.

Lew (The Bard) Lehr poetics this piece of merriment: "No matter how grouchy you're feeling, you'll find the unique more or less healing; it grows in a wreck all around the front teeth, thus preserving the face from congealing.

French Unions Plan US Strike Support

Plans for a boycott of American films by French trade unions to support Hollywood film studio strikers were announced in Paris yesterday by spokesmen for the American Federation of Labor's Amusement Industry Workers, according to press dispatches reaching here last night.

A union delegation visited United States Ambassador Jefferson Caffery. It said also that French film industry workers "dubbing in" French dialogue on a portion of Labor's Amusement Industry Workers, according to press dispatches reaching here last night.

Koster Joins Cagney

Hollywood, Jan. 30—Henry Kos- ter is leaving M-G-M to direct "The Eighth Year of Our Life," said to be excellent. This ends Koster's 17-year asso- ciation with Joe Pasternak, first in M-G-M and later with Universal and M-G-M.

Sioux Falls Leader In 'Dope' Drive

RKO Radio's Sioux Falls exchange, which was Boston's first in a new pro- duction to be started in Eire, and for which equipment has already been ordered. Plans for a studio are well under way.

Pat Farrell, well-known Dublin in- dependent exhibitor; Bob O'Flanagan, who has been responsible for several Irish films, and Frank Der- mody, Abbey Theatre producer, al- ready training for film work under Pasky's direction, are associated with the project.

Pat Farrell is one of the only two Irish independent exhibitors who can control run-house in Eire and exhibitors here realize that his ideas on quota and similar forms of protec- tion are similar to their own. Farrell has always advocated that when an Irish industry is established it will have to see some protection in merits to a public which expects good entertainment value.

Moyer Moves Up

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 30—Allen M. Moyer has taken over as managing editor for 20th-Century-Fox here, succeeding Joseph G. Mullen, who is ill.

WB Coast Workers Still Buy Bonds

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 30—Completing the fifth year of its U. S. Savings Bonds program, Warner Brothers' Burbank studio employees have partici- pated in the amount of $24,896,455 in purchases through voluntary pay- ment and one-stop cash. Almost 40 per cent of the studio roster still have regular monthly deductions, with 1,258 members enrolled, according to E. L. DePatie, studio auditor.

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal-Inter- national director of advertising and publicity, and BRACKEN. BRIAN'S, M-G-M's director, will leave Hollywood on Tuesday to attend a Chicago meeting, and will then proceed to New York.

DONALD HIDE, vice-president of United States Pictures, will leave Hollywood by train for New York today.

MITCHELL RAWSON of M-G-M's home office publicity department is in Washington.

JACOB WULF, Eastern story editor for Warners, will leave tomorrow on his return to New York.

RALPH WHEELER, assistant to HAROLD HAMMERSTOCK at M-G-M's Coast studio, will leave here Tuesday for Washington and will return to the Coast from that city on the following day.

JOSEPH PASTERNAK, M-G-M pro- ducer, will leave here for Washington today.

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO radio sales promotion manager, will leave here Monday for Washington.

HARRY RUSIN, M-G-M writer, is in town from Culver City.

Pierce in New Project

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 30—Jack Pierce, make-up director for Universal-International Studios, has resigned, effective Feb. 15, to launch a new idea in film production make-up which will be available to the industry, following brief vacation in New York. Pierce has been with Universal for 20 years, having taken over its make-up de- partment in 1926.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, Low's vice-president and general sales manager, will leave here tomorrow for Chicago for a two-day meeting with division managers in Chicago, and from there will continue on to the Coast for his annual studio visit.

J. CHEEVER COWIN, Universal board chairman, is on route to New York for a visit from the studio. President William A. Scully will leave Hollywood for Chicago on Tuesday.

HERMAN GOLDBERG, purchasing agent and maintenance supervisor for Exchange, returned to New York from the Midwest yesterday.

DOUGLAS A. HENDRICKSON, W. J. Earle and Chirsty Walbert will leave Hollywood for New York by train this weekend.

JOHN S. ALLEN, M-G-M district manager, is due here from Washington today for home office conferences.

R. K. HAWKINSON, RKO radio assist- ant foreign manager, is back at the home office, here, from Mexico.

Cedric B. Demille, Paramount pro- ducer, is expected here from the Coast on Feb. 15.

Milton Lewis has returned to the Paramount studio talent department after a visit here.

GABRIEL PASCAL in New Eire Company

DUBLIN, Jan. 27 (By Airmail)—Though no public statement has been made, it is now known definitely that Gabriel Pascal will be in a new production to be started in Eire, and for which equipment has already been ordered. Plans for a studio are well under way.

Pat Farrell, well-known Dublin independent exhibitor; Bob O'Flanagan, who has been responsible for several Irish films, and Frank Derrmody, Abbey Theatre producer, already training for film work under Pasky's direction, are associated with the project.

Pat Farrell is one of the only two Irish independent exhibitors who can control run-house in Eire and exhibitors here realize that his ideas on quota and similar forms of protection are similar to their own. Farrell has always advocated that when an Irish industry is established it will have to see some protection in merits to a public which expects good entertainment value.

SIOUX FALLS LEADER IN 'DOPP' DRIVE

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The National Conference of Christians and Jews is an organization devoted to good will among men. Or, what the charter of the United Nations defines as, "Universal respect for an observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, language or religion." American Brotherhood Week will be observed February 16-23, 1947.

Joining together in this fight against prejudice will be:

RADIO
THE PRESS
NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
and
THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY!

You are the Motion Picture Industry!
You are the vital part of this drive!
All you are asked to do is to obtain a minimum of 10 people to sign a pledge card and mail it in with a contribution of at least $1.00

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, National Chairman; JACK KIRCH, FRED WEHRENBERG, TED GAMBLE, National Co-Chairmen.

First sign and mail the pledge, printed here for your convenience . . . then turn to the next page for more information on how to implement the drive!

AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD
HARRY S. TRUMAN, Hon. Chairman

I pledge allegiance to the ideal of my country—fair play for all.
I pledge myself to keep America free from the disease of hate.
In good heart I pledge unto my fellow-Americans all of the rights and dignities I desire for myself.
And to win support for these principles, I join the American Brotherhood.

NAME .................................................. THEATRE ..............................................
CITY .................................................. STATE ...........

To become a member I give $ ........................................... (TAX DEDUCTIBLE)
YOU ARE AN EXHIBITOR

Into your theatre regularly come the most important figures of your community—merchants, professional people, ordinary citizens. All you are asked to do is to obtain 10 pledges—BUT YOU CAN GO FURTHER. Through your many public-spirited activities in the past, your community has come to look to you for leadership. Your friends, acquaintances and business connections will respond to your leadership in this drive—and will work with you in obtaining additional pledges beyond the minimum of 10 you are asked for!

NOTE: You will receive these pledges through the mail, together with additional information about the drive. A special short news featurette, produced by David O. Selznick and featuring stars America knows and loves will be included in all newsreels issued the week of the drive!

AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD
National Conference of Christians and Jews
381 FOURTH AVENUE,
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

NO AUDIENCE COLLECTIONS—
NO EXTENSIVE EFFORTS ON YOUR PART—
JUST OBTAIN A MINIMUM OF 10 PLEDGES—
YOU!
Walsh Sees IATSE
In Television Field

Seattle, Jan. 30.—The future position of the IATSE in regard to television has come up for discussion at the current executive board meetings of the national labor organization, with Richard Walsh, president, and John F. Sleeper, vice-president, and other directors present. They believe that the local IATSEs will move into the field when the opportunity arises.

Patents Granted
Color Video Using 1 Tube

An all-electronic color television system using a single electron picture tube has been patented. The system was designed by George E. Sleeper, Jr., chief engineer of Color Television, Inc., and the company's president. Patents for the system have been granted to Sleeper and associates.

Sleeper was formerly chief engineer for Farworn Television & Radio Corp., and television engineer for Columbia Broadcasting.

Electronics on IRE
March 3-6 Agenda

The realm of electronic research will be the theme of one of 20 papers for sessions at the 1947 national convention of the Institute of Radio Engineers, to be held in the Hotel Commodore and Grand Central Palace, here, March 3-6. Leading the papers is a survey titled, "The Electronic Research Sponsored by the Office of Naval Research." To be presented by the staff of the Office of Naval Research, Washington.

MBS Stations Total
393; 11 Additions

The addition of the 11 mutual Broadcast Syndication System affiliates brings the total to 393, announces Carl Hav-erlin, vice president and charge of station relations. The additions are: Texas, KCBD, Lubbock, and KROK, McAllen: WILS, Wills, and KTRK, Dallas; WKOB, Galax, Va.; WLOE, Leakes-ville, N. C., and WCTT, Corbin, Ky.

Air Sponsors Renew

Rugoff and Becker and Leo Brech-tcher, New York independent circuits, have renewed as participating sponsors of the "Cocktail Time" musical program over the WABC Empire. The show is heard Monday through Thursday and on Saturday.

In New KMOX Post

J. Souillard Johnson has been appointed executive assistant to the general manager of station KMOX, St. Louis, it is announced here by Columbia Broadcasting.

Philadelphia Tax
Rises on Realty

Philadelphia, Jan. 30.—Tax ass-essments on mid-town motion picture legitimate theatres have been raised by the city's board of tax revision. At the same time, the city council has estimated its receipts from amusement taxes fell far short of expectations.

New York Bill to Regulate Assembly

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 30.—Senator William Condon of Yonkers has intro-duced a bill extending the definition of a place of public assembly for superintendence of the State Labor Depart-ment. The bill would apply to any street or sidewalk, enclosed, or otherwise, used or occupied by hotel and fair grounds. It would provide for changes relating to enforce ment of the existing law, and to either of compliance and would apply to all cities, towns and villages in the state. The measure appropriates $100,000 for enforcement and has been referred to the legislature's labor committee, of which Condon is chairman.

Would Confine Booth
Laws to Theatres

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 30.—Sen. William Condon of Yonkers has intro-duced an amendment to the state's general business law exempting "places of public assembly and amusement" to include theatres from regulations governing motion picture projection booths. If the amendment, which was tabled at the last session of the Legislature, passes this year, theatres alone will remain under the regulations.

A spokesman for the labor depart ment, sponsors of the Condon amend ment, explains that the present law was passed in 1913 and that motion pictures are now considered safe enough to be used in church halls, schools, etc., without the elaborate safeguards provided by the statute.

Mexicans Win Tax
Battle After Closing

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 30.—Exhibitors operating the five theatres in Torreon have won a tax battle, after their books are closing for three weeks in protest against taxation considered exorbitant. The municipal government, by ignoring the threat of the closings, imposed a new 10 per cent levy which was later raised to 25 per cent. The governor of Coahuila relented, dropping eight per cent of the tax, and the theatres reopened.

D. C. Citizens' Group
Opposes Ticket Tax

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—The Bur-roughs Citizens Association today endorsed the action of the House and Senate opposing the District Commis sioners' recommendation for the imposition of local admissions, sales and street taxes.

The Washington Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association is fighting to prevent the tax raised.

Tax Action Is Delayed

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Jan. 30.—Municipal leaders have delayed action on a tax increase on local legitimate theatres in theater license fees, allowing a clash between the common council and the city auditor. When the audit came up before a joint session council members objectted, declaring the matter was scheduled to have a public hearing before the proposed in creases, ranging from $400 to $700.

Nelson Greene, 65

CHICAGO, Jan. 30.—Nelson L. Greene, 65, one of the founders and editors of Educational Screen Maga zine, where he was general manager, died today. He was a member of the Society for Visual Education. Survivors include a widow, Marie, and a daughter, Mrs. Ermine Huntress.

New Loew Internat'l
Building in a Year

Loew's International hopes to have its new 16-story home office building done by January 1948. The foundation has been completed and builders are now awaiting steel. The building will rise at 357th to 38th Streets, near Broadway, and will house all departments of the Interna tional with radio station WHN, which Loew's owns, and M-G-M's record company. Space left over will be made available to other tenants.

At present, the company, which pur chased the site in July, 1945, is scat tered around the Broadway area, with the executive and sales offices at the M-G-M home office and with various departments functioning at the May fair Theatre Building the Capitol Building and 729 Broadway.

Meanwhile, still lacking confirma tion from any official source are the persistent reports of Loew's purchase of the Astor Hotel and adjoining legitimate theatres on West 44th and 72nd Streets for the purpose of erecting a huge amusement center, including two film houses. Charles Moskow, president of the parent corpora tion, had no comment to make, offer ing neither denial nor confirmation.

Loew's has also said that negotia tions for the property are in progress and express the belief that interest in participation is still too hot to be further delayed.

Atlantic Coast SMPE
Session on Acoustics

The next meeting of the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will be held on Feb. 4 at the Pennsylvania Hotel with James Y. Dunbar, acoustical engineer of the Johns-Manville Sales, as guest speaker, it is announced by James Frank, Jr., chairman of the section.

Dunbar's paper is titled "Space Acoustics for Recorded and Reproduced Sound." He will discuss some of the basic principles of acoustics as they relate to the the atre and broadcast, recording and television studios.

First Regional for
Greek War Orphans

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 30.—Morris Lieb-bera, manager of RKO Radio's local exchange, presided over the first in a series of regional meetings today on behalf of the scheduled industry fund drive for the cause. The one-month drive, which starts on March 8, will be in honor of Sypros P. Shoukas.

Writers to See Sport Film

New York's baseball writers will be guests at a special preview of Metro Goldwyn-Mayer's "Diamond Diamond," on Feb. 4 at Radio City Music Hall. The one-month drive, which starts on March 8, will be in honor of Sypros P. Shoukas.

Century's House Paper

Edward Schreiber, Century Theat re's advertising manager, announced that the first issue of the circu its' house publication, Century News, will appear on Feb. 1. It will be a monthly paper.
Now breaking all-time industry records for holdovers... after breaking all-time industry records for grosses coast to coast!

"GREAT, THRILLING ENTERTAINMENT THAT PACKS A TREMENDOUS PUNCH... AND WILL PACK THE ROXY!"*

Rave the N. Y. Reviewers as it smashes the records of "The House On 92nd Street" sky-high at the Roxy, N. Y.!

*Lee Mortimer, Mirror

COMING FROM THE BOXOFFICE
First Big 4 of 1947!

Shocking?? She's Sensational!

Matching the Top-Figures of 20th's Biggest Big-Money Musicals! It's Grable... Gershwin... and Great!

"Exhibitors will have a happy time with it at the boxoffice!"

Showmen's Trade Review

Already the entire industry is ablaze with the excitement presaging a great event!

An Event so Starting It Will Forever Leave Its Imprint Upon the Industry!

Half of Best-Sellers From Century-Fox

March of Dimes — January 24th-30th
UN Films

(Continued from page 1)

Johnston Plan

(Continued from page 1)

M. P. Forum

(Continued from page 1)

Allied Meet

(Continued from page 1)

Motion Picture Daily
Friday, January 31, 1947

ready set up in England, France, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Argentina and Peru, the American committee is expected to be named soon, according to Mayer reports. Johnston, MPA presi- dent, on the outcome of yesterday’s conference.

Meanwhile, the United Nations Film Board has scheduled a meeting for March 18 at Lake Success, when representatives of the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization, the Office of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and the International Monetary Fund will discuss the problems of film production in furthering United Nations activities. The session will be devoted to the problems of film production in furthering the war aims of the United Nations.

No Propaganda

Hoping that the UN films will be suitable for showing in regular commercial theatres, Benoit-Levy stresses that the propaganda visions are only getting "junk." He says, "We will be a problem," he said, "but always in an objective way, leaving the people to make up their own minds.

In addition to the UN’s own productions, several American production houses, including the Warner Brothers, are producing films to further the war effort. The houses will send their films to any film adequately setting forth the pro- fess of the United Nations or the Atlantic Charter, Benoit-Levy said.

William Farr has been named by Benoit-Levy as his representative director in the film and visual information di- vision of the UN’s department of public information. He will have head- quarters in Paris.

Enterprise, MPEA

(Continued from page 1)

in those countries only in the event that the MPEA now puts the scene and Loew’s releases the film independently. A deadline of July, 1950, is set, and if by that time Loew’s takes over on its own in any area it will discontinue the arrangement at the rate of a one month. Otherwise the otherwise the releasing rights will revert to Enterprise.

At the outset of its organization, MPEA declared it would cease opera- tions presently when restricted terri- tories are opened to competitive trade.

New Negro Film in Work

American News Productions has started a new all-Negro feature, "Hi-Dee, Hey, That’s My Station," in the Filmcraft Studios in the Bronx. Joshua Binney is director, Hall Segger wrote the screenplay, and with Callie- way in the cast are "Dusty" Fletcher, Idia James, Jennie Lee Con, George Washington, the Peters Sisters and the"

'Henry V' in Omaha

OMAHA, Jan. 30.—"'Henry V" will be on February 20 at R. D. Goldberg’s Dundie Theatre, at $2.40 top ad- mission. The engagement is the subject of much trade interest in this city where the top gross is 65 cents.

Johnston Plan

(Continued from page 1)

M. P. Forum

(Continued from page 1)

Allied Meet

(Continued from page 1)

 motion today it was said that the mat- ter of the motion picture industry with which the MPA inter- nity, met with Jack Kirsh, Allied president, absent due to transportation problems, at Cheers in Chicago, his home city. Kirsh is expec- ted to arrive tomorrow.


Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

for participation in the system is guar- anteed, the distributors will be ap- proached for cooperation, according to a present blueprint of those sponsor- ing the idea.

While the arbitration system in operation for the past six months is of- ficially scheduled to go out of exist- ence on March 31, effective date of the final decree handed down in New York Federal District Court last Dec. 31, the rule of "no Warner machines" will be prolonged automatically for 30 days with the filing of an appeal of the suit to the Supreme Court.

As of yesterday, no new complaints had been filed with any of the 22 ar- bitration boards since the decree was handed down and complaints pending with nine of the local tribunals, and two appeals are pend- ing before the appeal board.

There is a possibility that some of the exhibitors who plan to be in New York on March 10-11 in connection with the upcoming discussion meeting called by Fred Wehr- enberg, MPTOA president, may seize upon that opportunity to advance the voluntary arbitration idea.

125 Feature Imports

(Continued from page 1)

distribution point out that many of the pre-war "art" theatres were forced to change their policy during the war and devote a major portion of their exhibition to the exhibiting of American product or reissued foreign product. Some executives feel it would be possible for them to get these exhibitors to reconver to a full- time foreign film policy.

Others, however, are more optimistic. They see an emerging and high- ly lucrative market as a result of the recent favorable reception of new foreign product.

To Tradeshows 'Grass'

Tradeshows have been set on M-G-M’s "The Sea of Grass," in all exchange centers for Feb. 11. No defi- nite release date has been set.

Selznick to Produce 'Jenny' in New York


17 French Films Here

A program of 17 French-language pictures for American distribution is announced by Stritchy International Pictures Corp., which listed all with English titles, and all will have New York premieres, some at the Ambassa- dor Theatre, operated by Stritchy.

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20th-Fox Tradeshows

William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, has set "Brasher Doubloon" for tradeshows in the various exchanges Feb. 4, 5 and 7.
McConnell Files for Buffalo Independent

BUFFALO, Jan. 30.—Thomas C. McConnell, Chicago attorney, today filed a $1,000,000 anti-trust suit here on behalf of owners of a Buffalo toy store and house, naming as defendants the distributors and the Shea Circuit.

The suit is filed in connection with the Lasky Park Theatre, Chicago, which McConnell, a former judge of the U.S. District Court of Appeals in Chicago.

Details of the anti-trust suit which McConnell filed here, in the District Court for the Western District of New York are exactly the same as those previously filed in Chicago at a time the New York consent decree decision has been handed down and McConnell has indicated he will appeal very much. He said, "The New York decree outlaws the very thing which we are fighting against in Buffalo."

Explains Ownership

He explained that the Shea circuit is owned one-third by Loew’s, one-third by Paramount, and one-third by local Buffalo stockholders.

He added that the New York decree forbids Paramount or Loew’s and others from increasing their theater holdings. In the suit, McConnell, in asking for $1,000,000, bases damages allegedly sustained for the past six years.

The Rivoli is owned by the Rivoli Operating Co. with Stanford Kanezaki, one of the principal owners. The Shea circuit operates four downtown and five outlying houses in Buffalo.

According to McConnell, the Rivoli, at one time enjoyed a clear position 30 days after the conclusion of downtown Buffalo runs, McConnell said that the Shea Circuit bought the Roosevelt Theatre, a competing house to the Rivoli, with substantially the same seating capacity, and thereafter the product from the film companies was withheld from the Rivoli until 70 to 90 days after the conclusion of the downtown runs.

According to McConnell, the Roosevelt, after being taken over by the Shea Circuit, first played 14 days ahead of the Rivoli, then 10 days, and finally four days. McConnell said that an arbitration award some six months ago gave the Rivoli day-and-date playing time with the Roosevelt.

Kay Names Managers

ATLANTA, Jan. 30.—John Davis, who has been assisting W. H. Rudisill in the Atlanta Kay Exchange, on sales, has been made manager, according to James Kay, who assumes management of the Kay branch in that city. Lynn Dunn, another former Atlanta film man, is managing the Kay office in Memphis.

Correction

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—Federal admission tax collections for November were reported in Motion Picture Daily last Tuesday to have been $42,822,000. This was an error. The correct November collection figure is $41,182,756.

"The Late George Apley"

(Continued from page 1)

degree of competency which make their combined efforts virtually fool-proof.

This is a humorous and charming vignette about Boston's ultra, ultra Bostonian Street and its insular and provincial old set, as reflected in the life and habits of George Apley (Colman). The only university in his world is Harvard, New York is practically on the fringe of the wilderness area and Worcester is a foreign city.

He is always courteous and always the gentleman, but he is likewise stiff-shirt and reactionaty in his social standards. By his lights, it becomes for- bidden that Richard Ney, the son, must marry in strict accordance with the family tradition, and that so must Peggie Cummins, the daughter. But this happens to take place in 1912 when the younger generation, even in Boston evidently, is thinking more and more on its own feet. Ney runs away in St. Louis (Miss Cummins for Russell), a visiting lecturer at Harvard. As it happens, Colman finally has his way with Ney, but repents to the tune of 50 per cent anyway by shedding enough of his repressions and antiquated traditions to bring Miss Cummins and Russell together for their happy finish. The conclusion to be drawn is that Colman actually fails to change his spots, charming and courtly as they may be.

Philip Dunne, in his screenplay, has caught the full flavor of the original material from which he worked. Mansfield's direction is faithful to that original, which means he has extracted a great deal of quiet amusement from the clashes between the old-fashioned and the encroaching modern which tear at Colman's generations-old armor. The sum total is an intelligent motion picture, produced in impeccable taste, with an appeal which, in all probability will point itself more directly at grown-up rather than boy-sock audiences.


RED KANN

Critics' Quotes . . .

"THE YEARLING" (M-G-M)

A motion picture of beauty, artistry and deep feeling . . . an entertainment of which Hollywood may be proud and for which we may be profoundly grateful.—Howard Barnes, New York Herald-Tribune.

A truly great, wonderful picture. It is emotionally eloquent, tenderly human and warmlyming real—New York Daily Mirror.

A better-than-good dramatic film from the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings prize-winning novel of the same name.—Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.

A beautiful and wonderful picture, due to be one of the year's smash hits . . . one of Hollywood's most impressive achievements.—Rose Pelswijk, New York Journal-American.

Dazzles with its opulence and perfection. . . . Though missing greatness.—Sidney Franklin, Clarence Brown and company will, without the con- solution of having built a haystack of popular taste.—Archer Winsten, New York Post.

The "Yearling" is still another chance to get away from it all, but a won- derful chance, a sweet and good and beautiful kind one—very, very, very.—Cecilia Ager, PM.

This is a beautiful picture, a movie that will be remembered and loved for years.—Eileen Kennedy, New York Sun.

Provides such a wealth of satisfaction that few pictures ever attain . . . a cheerful and inspiring film about the coming to manhood of a youngster.—Evelyn Dyer, New York News-

This 1947 may or may not be the year of "The Yearling," as the slogan has suggested, but it is very likely to be the year of the big argument about it. This new picture is full of wonderful elements, each one a dramatic, heartfelt or whimsical case. But they are detached gems, stirring their audiences momentarily but never building to any strong, cumulative dramatic impact.—Alton Cook, New York World-Telegram.

Mexican Banks War of Producer Risks

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 30.—Although producers are generally optimistic about the 1947-1948 production with a total of from 96 to 134 films looks for-

Patrons Unaware of Fire

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 30.—Fire broke out in the boiler room of the Ace Theatre, yesterday afternoon, and patrons frit- tlemen battled the blaze for an hour while patrons remained in the house screaming and suffering.

They were not informed of the fire because construction of the boiler room is such that the rest of the building was not in danger. Manager Frank Roudini said an oil truck pumped too much oil and the overflow, hitting hot bricks beside the tank, caused the fire.

Chock Fire Safeguards

OMAHA, Jan. 30.—The Fire Department here has in work a new pro- gram of fire safeguards in theaters. Some theatres have already made changes in equipment as a result.

ABP's Stock Rises

LONDON, Jan. 30.—Associated British Pictures' common stock rose one shilling three-pence (26 cents) following this week's announcement of Warners' plan to produce at the studio.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Jan. 30

HARRY THOMAS, president of PRC, has completed an arrangement with George J. Schaefer where-upon PRC will make a dozen pictures of "Disc Jockey," to be released through PRC. William Stephens will act as producer-director, and negotiations are underway with leading "plater- spann" to portray themselves in the picture.

Plans are underway at 20th Cen- tury-Fox for the production of a picture based on the true-life story of a Chicago scrubwoman who spent her life's savings to prove the innocence of her son, convicted of murder. To be produced by Otto Lang, the story is tentatively titled "Call Northside 777."

Gloria Henry, Columbia's new dis- covery, has been assigned to a star- ring role for her film debut, the feminine lead in "Lionel Brennan's Trust Estate," which will be produced by William Bloom and direct- ed by Robert Gordon. . . . Irving Rapper has been assigned to direct "Voice of the Turtle," Warner's screen version of the John Van Druten play.

"The Queen's Necklace," based on Alexandre Dumas' version of an historical scenario, will be Benedic- to Bogues' initial production on his 1947 schedule. Ida Lupino is set for the starring role. . . . Universal-Inter- nal's 1947-1948 schedule includes spots to Lilian Hellman's current Broadway play, "Another Part of the Forest."

Paramount has announced plans for the production of a picture based on the life of Ludwig, the mad king of Germany in the 1820s. It is at work on the screenplay, which will in- clude some of the best-known music of Haydn, and will be called "Midnight King," a title based on Ludwig's predilection for the hours of darkness.

Screen Guild Productions has concluded an arrangement whereby the company will distribute "Bush Pilot," initial full-length film pro- duced by Dominion Productions of Canada. An aviation story, it stars Rochelle Hudson and Jack LaRue. . . . Walter Wanger has borrowed George Marshall from Paramount to direct "Two Guns," which Wanger will produce in Technicolor, for Universal-International.

Jules Levy has added Thomas Hardy's "Return of the Native" to his 1947 production schedule. . . . Charles Starrett, who has been star- ting in Columbia Westerns for 12 years, has signed a new four-year con- tract with the studio, under the terms of which he will make eight pictures a year. . . . Ruth Harbert has been promoted to the post of associate pro- ducer at Eagle-Laird, and assigned to produce "Convicted," based on her own original.

Ginger Rogers has purchased Mar- garet Rubeck's novel, "Great An- swer," to serve as the basis for her second film at Enterprise.

9
MOTION PICTURE DAILY
Friday, January 31, 1947
Sol Lesser presents

EDWARD G. ROBINSON
and LON MccALLISTER in

"The RED HOUSE"

with

JUDITH ANDERSON  RORY CALHOUN
ALLENE ROBERTS  JULIE LONDON
ONA MUNSON  HARRY SHANNON

from the novel "The Red House" by George Agnew Chamberlain

Written for the screen and directed by DELMER DAVES

Copyright by Toho Productions, Inc.  Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

for a full house get this House from UA
Increase in Short Rentals Is Stalemate

25 to 331/3% Rise Is Only Moderately Successful

The reported moderate success attending distributors' efforts to secure higher rentals on their one and two reeler, appears unlikely to grow beyond that point, at least for some time, according to a cross-section check of both exhibitor and distributor opinion.

Said to be seeking from 25 to 33 1/3 per cent above rentals charge before the war, because

(Continued on page 10)

20th-Fox Will Meet Feb. 17

Twentieth-Century-Fox will hold its first post-war national sales conference at the Hotel Astor in New York on Feb. 17-19, it was announced over the weekend by Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution. Discussions will cover new sales procedures and other problems affecting the distribution of the company's

(Continued on page 7)

Columbia Notice of Appeal Is Deferred

Columbia, its decree decision appeal notice to the U. S. Supreme Court, originally slated to be made last week, has been put off by Louis Frohlich, Columbia counsel, due to the pressure of other cases which required his immediate attention, Frohlich states. He said he now hopes to file this week, adding that the motions for certain changes in the decree pending in the New York Federal Court have no bearing on the action.

He explained that Columbia had asked for stays on the bidding and single sales provisions, and if a appeal on these two counts will be taken regardless of the decision on the stays.

E. K. Storage Space To Be Doubled; Rise In Production Seen

In anticipation of "greatly increased" raw stock orders to meet the needs of anticipated increased production, storage space for Eastman Kodak film in Hollywood will be approximately doubled through the building or acquisition of new facilities within the next two or three years, according to William J. German, president of Jules Brulatour, Inc., exclusive distributors of Eastman motion picture film.

German returned last week from

(Continued on page 10)

'Mimes' Deadline Is Set Back Five Days

Final date for filing telegraphic reports of collections in the theater business has been extended from Feb. 3 to Feb. 10, Emil C. Jenson, director of the motion picture division, reports. The date has been extended to permit the participation in the contest of some exhibitors who were obliged, because of local circumstances, to begin their week of collections after the specified starting date of Jan. 24.

William J. German

Mexican Grosses Are Still Running High

Theatre attendance in Mexico has displayed no sign of tapering-off from wartime highs, Luis Mantes, president of the Mexican Motion Picture Chamber of Commerce, said here Friday at a farewell luncheon given by Fox West Coast. Mantes then left for Mexico City following a week here on the invitation of Charles Skouras.

American pictures, which grossed less than Mexican product in Mexico during the war, due to their acceleration of war themes, have climbed back into favor since then, Mantes said, and now gross on a par with domestic films. Admission prices, which compare directly to American scales, have remained unchanged since the end of the war.

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It Happened on 5th Avenue

ROY DEL RUTH, whose long and successful career speaks for itself, produced and directed this initial Allied Artists presentation—a warmly human picture with wide appeal. It clearly commands preferred playing time.

Del Ruth selected a story of the same generic type as "You Can't Take It With You," and "It's a Wonderful Life," and gave it lavish production values, and talents of cast including such capable players as Don DeFore, Ann Harding, Charles Ruggles, Victor Moore and Gale Storm. The result is more than satisfactory entertainment, as evidenced by the reaction of the preview audience at Warners' Beverly Hills Theatre.

Everett Freeman's screenplay, based on original by Herbert Clyde Lewis and Frederick Stephani, opens in the New York mansion of a magnate who prefers to winter in the South. A tramp, familiar with the owner's habits, moves into the boarded-up mansion soon after the magnate departs. He settles down for a pleasant stay, wearing the millionaire's clothes, eating his food and drinking his wine, undetected behind the shuttered windows.

His solitude is shattered when he befriends a young war veteran who has been evicted from an apartment house owned by the same absentee landlord.

(Continued on page 7)

Allied Board Votes High Court Appeal

Meyers' Amicus Curiae Recommendation Taken

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2—The mid-winter meeting of Allied States' board on Friday voted to have the organization appear before the U. S. Supreme Court as amicus curiae when the industry suit reaches that jurisdiction from the lower court.

Meyers, Allied counsel, the board of directors agreed to let the executive committee serve as advisors to the counsel, with discretionary power to confer

(Continued on page 10)

Film Accuracy Needed: Price

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 2.—Private enterprise in the fields of motion pictures and newspapers is in jeopardy and will remain so to the extent that American distributors and news services "may fail to present a representative sample of American life," Byron Price, Hollywood vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, declared in an address before the Harvard Clubs of Southern California here at the weekend.

Noting that the alleged distortion of American life is used as an argument

(Continued on page 10)

In This Issue

In addition to the review of "It Happened on Fifth Avenue" which begins on this page, this issue contains reviews of "The Red House" and "Easy Come, Easy Go."—on page 7.
Personal Mention


MORRIS GOODMAN, former Republic foreign manager and recently Motion Picture Export Association representative in Berlin, is now in Paris where he will remain until Feb. 7 before returning to the U. S.

ARNOLD STOLZ, PRC special sales representative, is expected to return to his office here in about a week following an emergency appendectomy at West Side Hospital last Thursday.

RICHARD MORGAN of the Paramount home office, official department left New York for the Coast yesterday, accompanied by George A. Smith, Western division sales manager.

LOYAL HARVEY, assistant manager of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., left New York for Detroit today, accompanied by Eugene Street.

JOSEPH H. MOSKOVITZ, 20th Century-Fox vice-president and the studio's Eastern representative, left New York for the Coast at the weekend.

DONALD HYDE, vice-president of Universal division sales manager, is due to arrive today from the Coast. He will remain in New York two weeks.

DONALD MACK, Filmmac executive, and Mrs. MACK, are parents of their first child, Gary Allen, who made Irving Mack a grandpappy.

CHARLES EINFIELD, president of Eastern division sales manager, is due in New York for Hollywood on Friday. He will return in about four weeks.

CHARLES J. FELDMAN, Universal Western division sales manager, left here Friday on a trip to the Midwest and the Coast.

EARLE SWEIGERT, Paramount Mid- Eastern division sales manager, is in Washington from New York.

CLAUSE F. LEE, Paramount public relations director, is due in New York tomorrow from Washington.

BONITA GRANVILLE and Jack WATTERS, producer, will be married shortly.

SAM BOVETMAN of the Paramount home office legal staff is in New Orleans.

AUSTIN KROUZ, Paramount vice-president, is in Florida from New York.

DAVID ROSE will sail from New York for England on Wednesday.

DANE CLARK will arrive in New York from the coast.

Motion Picture Daily

Tradewise....

By SHERWIN KANE

A BRAM MYERS, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, gave a pessimistic report of conditions in the motion picture industry shortighted, in view of such considerations, for Allied to decline the invitation to attend the March meeting in New York to help lay the groundwork for the study and possible solution of the problems besetting exhibition, some of them named by Mr. Myers. He is hopeful of solving at least some of them.

Mr. Myers asserted in his report that the distributors are in no mood at this time to make concessions to exhibition. It was his conviction, apparently, that no relief may be expected from an agency of industry conditions until those which have been for his finally resolved current industry litigation. He asked that the Allied board consider the suit at a later date.

His report enumerated several distribution practices as evidence of vindictiveness toward exhibitors which, presumably, were to prove his contentions that relief was not ‘ripe’ for a “prosecution” between exhibition and distribution.

Unless the whole idea of the proposed motion picture forum has been laid before the industry, there is not a single issue charged against distributors in Mr. Myers’ report to his board of directors that could not properly be made the subject of discussion within an industry forum and a serious effort made to obtain relief in the event a fair appraisal of the grievance indicated relief was warranted.

There is a good deal of support for Mr. Myers’ view that the usefulness of a conciliation board has been determined until current industry litigation has been decided by the Supreme Court. The MP TOA, sponsor of the proposed forum, shares that view with Mr. Myers. Fred Wehrenberg, MP TOA president, explained that the meeting of independent exhibitor organizations can be held March 10 and 11 in New York will be concerned only with the preliminaries of organization.

There is, apparently, no wish or wish to have the forum begin to function at that time. Meetings subsequent to that one will need to be held with distribution representatives, and agreements to this end shall be reached before an agreement could be reached on the makeup of the forum and the area of its interests. The wisdom of an immediate start is clearly indicated.

In Allied’s contention, the consequences of such a course, in fact, would be to place in the hands of Allied’s critics some not inconsequential evidences of support to the often-heard charges that Allied does not wish to see industry problems solved.

The many analyses in recent weeks of the phenomenon of stable grosses and declining theatre attendance, prevailing in the motion picture industry, has not had new place emphasized up to the part played by increased admission scales in bringing about that result, according to some observers. There is the trend.

The analysts have pointed out the obvious—that the gross level is maintained despite a decline in attendance because the industry prices are higher than they were a year ago. The usual conclusion is that customers are “shopping” for their entertainment or that the drawing pow- er of the general run of pictures has declined.

Some trade observers point out that the shoppers for entertainment are customers, not non-theatre goers. They may shop by rejecting one or more pictures in favor of what they regard as their best option available, but most of them end up in some theatre, regardless. Therefore, these observers see little likelihood that a forum on over-all theatre attendance, certainly less on that than on the gross of individual pictures. They believe, rather, that the higher admission scales are actually keeping people from theatres, particularly young people and their “dates,” whose motion picture money comes from small weekly allowances or spare-time earnings. They conclude from this that attendance, as well as grosses would equal or exceed last year’s if admission scales had remained the same.

Perhaps they are right. Cen- tainly, when the cost of entertainment reaches $4.20 per person, it is beginning to shed its chain to be “mass entertainment.”

Motion Picture Daily

Newsreel Parade

P OLAND’S election, the year in Indo-China, aviation tragedies and Franklin D. Roosevelt’s birthday get the spotlight in current newsreels, which also include reports of sports and human interest items; full contents follow:


RKO PATH NEWS, No. 41—in mem- ory of F. D. R., D-Day reenactment. Italian premier; Polish elections; German youth burns Democracy. Radar clinics for children in the Alps.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 9—First room in Casa, Mexico; Olympicuna, Jesse, Crown Prince of Sweden die in air crash. European countries told of aid suffering to Europe’s hungry and homeless. Children’s Christmas at Hollywood; Morteau-takiin ski thrills at Dubuque, Md. Auto races on beach at Daytona.

Clear Up Claims in Fox Theatres Case

Skioukas Theatres Corp. and United Artists Theatres have settled, finally, all claims against them rising out of the hard times in 1944 of Fox Thea- tres and the reorganization of its subsidiary, Metropolitan Playhouses, with payment of $50,000 to trustees of Fox Theatres and its creditors.

Offer of the settlement was made by UA Theatres and Skioukas, Robert Armstrong, secretary-treasurer, and certain creditors then filed application for approval with the New York State Supreme Court and federal Judge John C. Knox, after a hearing, granted the application.

In 1935 Skioukas Theatres Corp. acquired all class A stock of the re-organized Metropolitan circuit for $150,000, in a deal approved by the court. Many legal skirmishes followed and subsequently the UA and Skioukas companies brought that figure up an additional $850,000.

All Film Companies Now Signed by SPG

All 12 distributors here are now signed with the Screen Publicists Guild under its new terms. Producers Releasing, which had recognized the SPG as bargaining agent last July, signed with the Guild on Friday while Republic also renewed its pact.
Parents Hail MPA ‘Library' As Educational Factor

**Johnston's Motivation Is Supported by Analysis**

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

Two new developments have evolved to lend added impetus to, and inspire the continued success of the "MPA Picture Association" ("MPA") of America, according to an analysis of public reaction established by the MPA.

Today, it is said, is by passing the "sainted" literary classics in their reading, and today's parents, appalled at the trends in past years, have been "in the Children's Library" as a compensatory agent and, additionally, are welcoming the opportunities for their children with past "film experiences" that would not otherwise be available. In other words, according to reactions, the public is looking to the MPA program to help guarantee a "well-read" younger generation. This was confirmed yesterday, during a meeting of the UA, considered a key period, which prompted MPA president, Mr. Johnston to launch the program.

**Factors Are New**

It was the non-existence of both of these major factors in the MPA program, it is believed, that doomed to failure a similar children's program developed by the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, 1924-25.

In those days children were more inclined to read such books as "David Copperfield", "Little Women", "Alice in Wonderland", "Young Tom Edison," and the others, as those that today's children are inclined to these days when the industry was in its infancy parents had had no past "film experiences" to share with their children.

Today MPA files are crowded with records of press, radio and civic support of, and enthusiasm for the "Children's Library." This is an impelled the MPA to make plans for extending the library beyond the 27 features that originally were included in the program, will be reviewed by groups of children to determine their fitness. Currently the Association is collating a wealth of data on the program, and this together with a compilation of accomplishments will be made available to exhibitors shortly.

**Loew's Ad Talks to Open Here Thursday**

Loew's out-of-town division managers and salesmen are coming here for advertising conferences on Thursday with M-G-M's Howard Dietz and Loew's Ernest Emerling. Divisional publicists include Joe Di Pesa, Boston; Ed Fisher, Cleveland; Ted Barber, St. Louis; Brock Whitlock, Washington; Lou Brown of the Poli Circuit and Gertrude Bunchez of Baltimore.

**Solrrell Hearing Delayed**

Hollywood, Feb. 2—Hearing on defense counsel's motion to dismiss indictment against the former owner of the Balaban and Katz circuit, former president of the Conference of Studio Unions, and 13 other strike leaders charged with conspiracy, will be delayed until Monday, according to Superior Court Judge Thomas Ambruce to Feb. 24.

**Six Top Stars for 'Brotherhood' Film**

June Allyson, Lionel Barrymore, Joan Bennett, Gene Kelly, Gregory Peck and Dick Powell comprise the cast of the special David O. Selznick news featurette which will announce American Brotherhood year. Monday, week of Feb. 16-23. Produced by Selznick, and directed by William Dieterle, the subject will consist of the fifth part of every week starting with the opening of the drive.

Skouras Is Chairman

The motion picture industry Drive is under the chairmanship of Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, with Fred Weinreb, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; Jack Kirsch, president of Allied States Association, and Ted Gamble of the American Theatres Association, as cochairmen.

Exhibitors are being asked to obtain a minimum quota of 10 pledges per theatre, with this number expected to be exceeded when the campaign gets under way.

**Reciprocity Group To Hear Johnston**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2—Ernie Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, held a conference Friday with his local sides on the statement he plans to make before the Inter-Departmental Committee on reciprocity on Feb. 6.

Johnston will urge the continuation of the State Department's reciprocal arrangement with Canada, and the other trade barriers being imposed abroad.

**Allied and Monogram Have 11 in Backlog**

Hollywood, Feb. 2—Allied Artists and Monogram now have the most costly backlog of completed pictures in their history, it is announced by Steve Brody, president.

Headed by the Allied Artists release, Roy Del Ruth's "It's Happened Before," filmed at a cost of $1,300,000, the list of 11 Monogram pictures includes several of the company's most important films of the year, the latter group including: with "Black Gold," Cinecolor production, starring Roy Roberts and Barbara Britton; "Fall Guy," "Violence," "Panic," "Rainbow over the Rockies," "Valley of Fear," "Six Gun Serenade," "Trailing Danger" and "Lands of the Lawless."

**Thorner to Liberry**

Cecil B. DeMille will join Liberty Films on Feb. 17, according to Len Weintraub, Warner Brothers in Denver and Salt Lake prior to that was associated with the firm, will work on everything. His first assignment will be Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life," released by RKO Radio.

**Bader Now Business Head of Film Bulletin**

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 2—David A. Bader, veteran industry executive, has been named business manager of Film Bulletin, Moe Wax, publisher, announced here at the weekend. Assumed new duties tomorrow with the Philadelphia regional trade paper, Bader will make his headquarters in that city.

Bader, who entered the industry with Universal in 1920 and was known as "Tremendous Rags" to Carl Laemmle, its president, was head of the Literary Corp, of America in 1938 and served as trade press representative with the past few years. In 1942, he was executive editor of The Independent, New York. He has been associated with the current March of Dimes drive as a publicist.

In going with the Bulletin, Bader will conduct himself from the 16mm, Reporter, which he acquired some time ago, said Wax.

**St. Louis Will Vote On Daylight Saving**

St. Louis, Feb. 2—Exhibitors here have finally triumphed in efforts to get the issue of daylight saving time before St. Louis voters. It has become apparent that the issue will be included on a ballot in the April municipal election.

Past years, there has circulated petitions seeking repeal of daylight saving time and when petitions first submitted were found to have 7,000 allegedly invalid signatures, there were more than 2,000, the exhibitors took back the petitions and got more signatures and now have 400 more names than are needed. Meanwhile, too, the city council's office has ruled that the issue could not be certified in time to place it on the ballot, but exhibitors found loopholes in city ordinances and now it seems likely the board of aldermen will certify the issue.

**First Enterprise - UA Release Opens Feb. 29**

Enterprise's first release through United Artists, Harry Sherman's "Runabout," will have its premiere in 75 UA theatres on Feb. 22, in connection with the state's centennial. Robert Taplin, advertising-publicity director for Enterprise, made the announcement at a UA press luncheon here on Friday. Taplin is returning to the Coast next Friday.

Also present at the luncheon were: N. J. Landau, Jr., Houston; "Sicor, Fredrics Winchlow, Apple Barasch and Morie Krumhol, all of United Artists, and Red Kahn, James Conolly, Ted Friss, Frank Toler, Jacky Senf, Herb Golden, Paul Perez, Frank Hynock, Fred Antrop, Moe Keneally, Frank Edwards, George Bost, Chester Bahn, Walter Blake, Lew Melamed.

**Bedelia' Here Feb. 7**

"Bedelia," first Eagle-Lion film to have a New York City opening, will have its local premiere at the Victoria Theatre. The film, released Feb. 7, A. W. Schwaberg, B. V. vice-president and general sales manager, announces.

**Paramount Chiefs Honored on Coast**

Hollywood, Feb. 2—The Paramount board of directors and executive committee, who conferred here during the week on the company's domestic and foreign production plans were honored at a dinner last week at which they were greeted by 200 persons among whom were studio officials, trade association leaders, publicists, directors and writers. Henry Ginsburg, vice-president in charge of production and studio operations was host.

**Guests of Honor**

Guests of honor were: Barney Bala- ban, Paramount president; Adolph Zurer, chairman; the Honorable Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution; George Welner, president of Paramount International; Los Angeles; Richard Whiting, 20th Century-Fox head; Alan Jackson, Eastern story editor; Curtis Mitchell, director of publicity, who announced the follow- ing from overseas: James E. Perkins, chairman and managing director for Europe, and Frank Farley, European production representative for the company.

Among players at the reception were: Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Ray Milland, Dorothy Lamour, Betty Hutton, Alan Ladd, Joan Caulfield, Veronica Lake, Jack Carson, Andy Tod, Howard da Silva, Macdonald Carey, Billy De Wolfe, William Bendix, Lon Chaney, Betty Hutton, June and Bel-Air, Patrice Knowles, Virginia Field, John Lund, Robert Preston and Cath- erine Craig.

**Paramount Executives Are Honored by Studio Heads**

 되직 'Griffith Suit Taken to High Court''

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2—H. L. Griffith, the Griffith Circuit said here at the weekend that his organization has already been served with an official Justice Department notice that it will appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, which was appointed by the Supreme Court. Griffith expressed the belief that the lower court decision would be upheld in the Supreme Court.

"The Western exhibitor was in the Tad's restaurant in the downtown Texas dinner society. Other Texas exhibitors present were: E. H. Roy- al, manager of the Royal City Circuit; 1. M. Rice, attorney for Royal; and Jim Clemens of Dallas.

**Inter-City Dissolves**

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 2—Inter-City Circuit, Inc., New York, has been dis- solved. Moe Morris, Radio City, was recording attorney.
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

DICK EVELYN

POWELL - KEYES

Johnny

with

LEE J. ELLEN NINA

COBB - DREW - FOCH

S. THOMAS GOMEZ - JOHN KELLOGG

Screenplay by Robert Rossen

Directed by ROBERT ROSSEN

Produced by

EDWARD G. NEALIS - MILTON HOLMES

"Bound to bring smiles to exhibitors as they hear the coins bouncing in their tills."

— M. P. Daily
Johnny's Dangerous . . .
but that's how women like him . . .
Hits Bill Dropping School Show Taxes

ECLORIA, Iowa, Feb. 2—A bill to eliminate the Federal admissions tax on all school shows has been introduced in Congress by Rep. Henry O. Taft, it is disclosed by Leo F. Wolcott, board chairman of Allied of Iowa-Nebraska, in a bulletin to the membership urging protests against the proposal.

Wolcott calls the bill discriminatory. He states: "In view of the fact that schools have so completely commercialized their activities, pages, film shows and the like, there is no valid reason why the public which patronizes these activities should not be required to pay this tax the same as those who attend theatres."

Omaha Companies In Fight Over Site

OMAHA, Feb. 2—Four film firms here have protested the tentative selection of land which they occupy, as part of a site for a $3,500,000,000 auditorium.

An ordinance which provides for condemnation of the land and which would cut off westward development of Film Row now rests in the city council. The four who asked the council that they be heard include: Robert Ballantine, owner of The Ballantine Co.; J. M. McBride, Paramount; William Raapke, Metropolitan Scenic Studios; Frank Hannon, Warners.

Webster Is Named Warner Manager

Paul Webster, formerly of the Warner Bros. sales staff in San Lake City, has been promoted to branch manager in Des Moines by Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager. Webster, who succeeds George Lefko, resigned, left the field in the salesman division of the 1946 Warner sales drive.

Roy Haines, Western division sales manager for Warners, has arranged for the installation of the new Des Moines manager.

Installs McClellan

HARTFORD, Feb. 2—Byron McClellan has been installed as president of local No. 489, IATSE, New London. Other installed officers: W. W. Lucas, vice-president; William F. Totten, recording secretary; William A. Reed, financial secretary-treasurer; Fred C. Nowell, business agent, and John S. Kane, Salvatore Patti and Irwin Dau- ley, board of trustees.

I. Schlesinger, 80

I. Schlesinger, 80, father of Leon- ard S. Schlesinger, president and general manager of Warner Bros. Service Corp., died Friday at his home in St. Louis and was buried in that city yesterday. The Warner executive will return to New York tommorrow after attending the funeral. Two other sons, Sidney and Joseph, also survive.

Televise Edison Dinner

The Thomas Edison centennial dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here on Feb. 11 will be covered over National Broadcasting's television station WNET at 9:15 P.M.

SAG Asks AFL End Jurisdictional Rows

MIAMI, Feb. 2—A wire from Robert Montgomery, Screen Actors Guild president, requesting the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to take action during its meeting here to prevent jurisdictional disputes among A. F. of L. unions, such as that which occasioned the current Hollywood studio strike, was read to the assembly here on Friday.

Action on the request, which parallels another made by the Associated Actors & Artists of America, is expected before the council adjourns.

Gilbert Opens New Branch on Coast

Marc Gilbert Film Co., distributor of American and foreign films, with headquarters here, has opened a branch in Los Angeles. The exchange will have state-rights on product in a territory covering 13 Western states and will book two first-runs in Los Angeles, two in San Francisco and five in other states on the Coast.

Gilbert has also concluded negotiations to act as purchasing agent for the Mayan Theatre, Los Angeles and the Melvan, Hollywood.

Scofield and Taylor Form Producing Firm

Hollywood, Feb. 2—Ed Scofield and Sam Taylor have formed Scofield-Taylor Productions, to produce under the trademark of Four Leaf Clover Pictures, with Bert Harrison as treasurer, Eugene H. Levy, secretary, and Bert Vine, director of press relations.

"Las Vegas," the first picture, will start in April, with Arthur Treacher and others.

Bain Joins Turner

CHICAGO, Feb. 2—Keith Bain, publicity man and band manager, who at one time managed Lawrence Welk's orchestra, has been added to Terry Turner's Midwest exploitation staff, and will be assigned a territory following his present "sounding" period under the tutelage of Bob Hickley and Bill Prager.

RKO Screening Feb. 18

RKO Radio's "The Farmer's Daughter" will have a New York trade showing on Feb. 18 in the Nor- manville Theater. Dore Schary produced.

Gauss to D. and C.

Joseph T. Gauss, recently art direc- tor of Hazard Advertising Co., and formerly an art director of Lord and Thomas, has joined the Donahue and Loe agency here.

Mr. Exhibitor! Investigate Filmack's NEW Prevue Trail- er Service before signing any trailer contracts. Write, wire or phone Filmack 1327 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill. and receive full details.
Sharp Drop in Production; Total Hits 34

Hollywood, Feb. 2—Production has dropped off sharply, the shooting going down to 34 from the previous level of 41. Only two new films were started, whereas nine were completed; the production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "The Corpse Came C.O.D."


Shotting: "The Lady from Shanghai," "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennelly-Buchanan), "Three Were Thoroughbreds" (Cavilleri).

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Repeat Performance."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Song of the Thin Man," "The Huckster's Son," "Love of Life," "The Birds and the Bees in a Big Way" (formerly "To Kiss and to Keep").

Paramount

Finished: "Panic."


RKO-Radio

Finished: "Under the Tin Roof."


Shooting: "Indian Summer," "If You Know Susie."

Republic

Finished: "Twilight on the Rio Grande."

Selznick

Shooting: "The Paradise Case."

20th Century-Fox


United Artists

Finished: "The Other Love" (Enter prise).

Shooting: "Stork Bites Man" (Comet), "Body and Soul" (Enterprise), "Heaven Only Knows" (Nebnalian), "Vendetta" (California).

Universal-International

Shooting: "Time Out of Mind," "Ivy" (Interoood)."Warners

Finished: "Dark Passage," "The Unfaithful," "Deep Valley," "The Woman in White," "The Unsuspected" (Curitz)."It Happened on 5th Avenue" (Continued from page 1)

The veteran, quite naturally, has friends, also homeless pets, and they, too, move into the mansion with their wives and children. To complicate matters, the millionaire's daughter, fed up with finding jobs, comes home to find her father dead from an apparent heart attack, as well as controlling her own mintçoke.

The magnate, meanwhile, arrives in New York in search of his daughter, and before he knows what it's all about, the young lady has persuaded him to conceal his identity and join the little group of squatters, in order to learn first hand the character and qualities of the veteran on whom her daughter has set her heart. Quick-tempered and tyrannical, he is about to give the whole show away when his daughter, in despair, appeals to her mother, the magnate's divorced wife. She tells him about her daughter's happiness above all. That the right people will get the right things in the end is a foregone conclusion.

Charles Ruggles, as the magnate, turns in a notable performance, and Victor Moore, playing the tramp, is inimitable. Gale Storm, in the ingenue lead, hasn't been seen to do better advantage.

The picture throughout is replete with debut and tender scenes, with memorable moments of warmth and charm. Four songs by Harry Revel are skillfully worked into the film's structure.


THALIA BELL

"The Red House" (United Artists-Lessee)

GEORGE A. AGNEW CHAMBERLAIN'S Saturday Evening Post story of a New York dirt-farmer mentally betoged, and of murder and mystery, is given vivid, dramatically important expression in "The Red House." Edward G. Robinson, Lon McCallister and Judith Anderson provide the compelling players,而 Sol Lesser's production could hardly be counter-box-office difficulties.

Skilled hands in all departments have fashioned Chamberlain's piece into the living film that it is. Performances by those already named, plus Allen Roberts, Julie London and Rolly Calhoun, all in well sketched characterizations, are splendid. Delmer Daves' direction of his own screenplay is unhurried, effectively so. The camera work, lighting and mood music are unusual; Raymound's tautly dramatic emphasis to nearly every scene. Remarkable, too, are the settings.

A Red House, although seen only briefly, is the motivating force of the plot, and additionally by Robinson and Miss Anderson, playing his sister, as the home of his loved one and her husband. Robinson had murdered the couple 15 years ago. Miss Roberts and McCallister, who with Calhoun and Miss London round out the small farm group principally concerned, are aware of the existence of this house, in the woods, and suspect that mystery is attached there.

The story deviates a bit from its main line with some bits of romance involving McCallister and Miss London, with Roberts playing the third party. Development of the theme is taut and tense as Robinson gradually loses his mind trying to keep his secret and hold his adopted daughter, Miss Roberts, who actually was the offspring of the woman he had killed.

It builds to a startling climax as Robinson, now known to be the murderer, elections to the police as a policeman and himself in a watery grave, in an old ice house next to the Red House, into which he had placed his victims of 15 years ago.

Running time, 100 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Feb. 8.

GENE ARNETT

"Easy Come, Easy Go" (Paramount)

In essence a characterization by Barry Fitzgerald, with Diana Lynn, Sonny Tufts, Frank McNulty, Allen Jenkins, John Litel and Jeanne Cagney are present in roles designed to focus attention upon the principal portrayal, this production, by Kenneth Macgowan, from a screenplay by Francis Edwards, Farinoh, John McNulty and Anne Froadrick, based on some sketches by McNulty, is as good as or better than any others commercially speaking, as Fitzgerald is popular or not in a given exhibition area.

As directed by John Farrow, it is a leisurely enactment, in Irish brogue, of a story developed by Charles Schrafer, in which the stage business in which the star is assigned to tautly, is entirely characteristic with the given characteristic, and is associated automatically with what genially as the Irish comic.

In the tale, handled totally in light manner, Fitzgerald is forever borrowing money from his book, housekeeper and sign painter whose addiction to betting on the ponies, and general irresponsibility, incapacitates the lives of his family and friends. The brogue is laid on thickly, although Fitzgerald handles it well, and the stage business in which the star is assigned is entirely characteristic with the given characteristic, and is associated automatically with what genially as the Irish comic.

The conference will be attended by all district and branch managers in the U.S. and Canada, as well as sales and department heads of the home office. There will also be separate informal sessions with special problems of individual territories.

Sprintor P. Skouras, president, will address the meeting, giving a first-hand report of his recent visit to the company's Hollywood studios, and outlining plans for the year scheduled for release during the year.

Scheduled to attend from the home office a directing session with president W. C. Michel; treasurer Donald Henderson; assistant treasurer and comptroller W. E. Eades; general counsel Otto Koegel; general sales manager W. J. Kupfer; Charles Schrafer, director of advertising-publicity; John Case, comptroller; sales manager W. C. Gehring, A. W. Smith Jr., Her- man Wobber and Harry Ballance, and Jack Bloom, Edwin H. Collins, Martin Mosher, Peter Levathes and Jack Schigelman.

District Managers

District managers who will attend include: C. E. Pepinetti, Atlantic; E. X. Cahan, California; Will Chamberlain, northeast; southeast; Phil Longdon, Southwest; Jack H. Lorenz, Great Lakes; C. H. Caples, Chicago; J. E. Prziewski; Ward E. Scott, Midwest; Charles L. Walker, Mountain; Bryan D. Stoner, Pacific; Sydney Samson, New England; Charles E. Moon, Eastern New York State.

Branch managers who will attend include: O. W. M. Allen, Arizona; R. W. Lock, San Giss, Philadelphia; Weldon Waters, Pittsburgh; C. G. Norris, Washington; J. M. Connelly, Boston; William Graham, acting manager, Buffalo; Benjamin A. Simon, New Haven; Fred R. Dodson, Atlanta; C. T. Dace; Mark Sheridon, New Orleans; H. L. Berrington, Dallas; Tom W. Young, Memphis; Dick Moskowitz; C. T. Dace; Oklahoma City; T. R. Gil- lian, Chicago; Joseph J. Lee, Detroit; Joseph R. Neger, Milwaukee; Lawrence J. Bafic, Cleveland; J. T. Schmertz, Cleveland; George T. Landis, Indianapolis.

Others:

Also: Gordon F. Halloran, Des Moines; Jack S. Cohen, Minneapolis; Joseph E. Scott, Omaha; George W. Fuller, Kansas City; Benjamin B. Reynolds, Clty. Denver; Clyde Baysin, Salt Lake City; Clyde W. Eckhardt, Los Angeles; George L. Jones, sales man- ager, Oklahoma City; Tony Gil- lian, Chicago; Joseph J. Lee, De- troit; Joseph R. Neger, Milwaukee; Lawrence J. Bafic, Cleveland; J. T. Schmertz, Cleveland; George T. Landis, Indianapolis.

20th-Fox to Meet (Continued from page 1)

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WAYNE...
bigger than ever!

WORLD PREMIERE
FOX THEATRE

San Francisco,
February 5

WATCH FOR MORE DATES TO
Angel and the Badman

with
Harry Bruce Irene Lee
CAREY CABOT RICH DIXON

STEPHEN GRANT TOM POWERS PAUL HURST

Written and Directed by
James Edward Grant JOHN WAYNE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

THEATRES EVERYWHERE!
No Forum Tie-Up: Allied Board

Washington, Feb. 2.—The Allied States board of directors, on the recommendation of counsel Abram F. Myers, agreed at its meeting here Friday that it would be unwise for Allied to obligate itself to an industry-wide forum until the U. S. Supreme Court has finally acted in the industry anti-trust suit.

Myers, in his report to the board, stated that there is "nothing to discuss until the Supreme Court judgment is rendered."

MGM Sales Meet

(Continued from page 1)

gagement, stated that he has not met with the distributor in three months and in that time a number of subjects have come up for attention. Release plans for "The Yearling," which opens at the State Lake Theatre here, this month, are expected to be announced following the session. Division managers to attend are John J. Maloney, Central division, from Pittsburgh; John P. Byrne, Eastern, New York, and Rudolph Berger, Southern, New Orleans. Edward M. Saunders and Edwin W. Aaron, assistant general sales managers, will also attend from New York.

Space Increased

(Continued from page 1)

a trip to Hollywood, where he sought to make immediate arrangements to supplement or supplant the company's two warehouses, which have a combined storage capacity of about 50,000,000 feet of stock. He found, however, that some delay will be necessary because of currently inflated real estate values and Government restrictions on new construction.

Some time ago, German pointed out, property was acquired at McCadden Place and Santa Monica Boulevard, which is somewhat removed from the best congested vicinity of the present warehouses, but it now develops that further real estate in the crowded area will be necessary. Raw stock demands for distribution as well as production are due to increase within the next few years, Ger-

can said, pointing out that there will be more theatres to service than at present. Already the demand has begun, with the average picture now requiring 350 or 400 prints in contrast to approximately 275 during the war, he added.

Allied Board Votes Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

and cooperate with other independent exhibitor organizations. The board approved the flat-rental proposal presented by the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations and urged that the CIEA efforts continue with Allied cooperation.

Myers was authorized by the board to convey to the Attorney General the board's appreciation for his steadfastness in pressing for complete divorce. Also the skill and tenacity with which Robert L. Wright defended the industry case in the lower court was praised by the board.

In Myers' letter to Attorney General Tom Clark, he will earnestly request that the Government promptly appeal to the Supreme Court with a view of obtaining complete divestiture.

Allied on Friday refused to appoint a representative to the 12-man Industry-Government Film Committee. The action was taken at the recommendation of Myers, who contended that the present Allied reviewing committee operating under Lee Newbury of New Jersey Allied is sufficient to handle the Government-New York business.

The matter of production was discussed by the board, and it was agreed that Irving Dollinger, chairman of the production committee, will continue to negotiate with independent producers for 12 films, the exhibition to be guaranteed by Allied, and at the same time was given authority to accept bids for the films for 30 days. The final plan will be adopted by the board at the coming summer meeting. Appearing before the board was Stanley Neal, a pro-

ducer of films, and it was agreed that Allied might set up two or three members in a production company, but Meyers, acting as general counsel, advised against such a move. Later Meyers commented that for exhibitors to consider such production or distribution would be "unwise and imprudent" in violation of the anti-trust laws. Myers was quick to point out that Allied is not "entering production," but merely ensuring the exhibition of a group of 12 films.

The major exhibitor problem today is a growing trend toward state and municipal regulations harmful to the industry, Myers said. The board discussed exhibitor publicity or a "grass roots" level and decided to establish a clearing house at Wash-

ington to distribute assistance and information on methods of combating local legislation and regulation.

Meyers spoke particularly of the growing number of state and city governments which are establishing local "employment taxes, censorship borders, special age rules for theatre admission and other types of rules and regulations. "It is an exhibitor job to beat all work together on a national level in order to combat this dangerous trend," Myers asserted.

Peter Woods of Ohio Allied reported on the increasing shortage of proof prints, and stated that there were 353 films made, and in 1946 only 271 were produced. Said Woods: "It is more profitable for the producers and the theatres to keep 80-100 feature films at an absolute minimum. In 1941 each picture made a profit averaging $100,000; and in 1946, the majors received $580,000 on the average picture." Woods is working with another in the production deal for Allied.

Coal Pastors Heads Consultative Group

Los Angeles, Feb. 2.—Los Angeles Church Federation secretary Dr. C. Forrest Evans, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Hollywood, as chairman of the Protestant Committee to cooperate with New York's Protestant Film Committee in setting up a consultative office in Hollywood for coun-

selling producers on scripts and stories from the Protestant viewpoint. As presently planned, the office here would make its service available to producers on a volunteer basis only.

Film Accuracy

(Continued from page 1)

ment for a government news service and he predicted that screening interpretation in this country I do not refer to normal requirements of decency which apply to all American citizens and in particular to members of the armed forces, but to such derogation of life, limb, slander, blasphemy and pornography and no court anywhere in the country will say that such laws can be invoked against any newspaper, any broadcast or any motion picture. The courts have never, and cannot, according to the Constitution, approve or disapprove such laws and standards of civilized society. It is a quite different and un-American approach, he declared, when states and communities go the additional length of setting up censor boards, requiring censor approval and issuing licenses. That is censorship, exactly as it is practiced in the countries which most abhor civil liberties and free enter-

prise.

Turning to the international sphere, Price said: "Some of the nations which support freedom of communication in principle speak from the other side of the mouth about new barriers against the American motion pictures. The argument is that the American motion picture which can be the greatest instrument of all toward international understanding. It is the American picture which has taught the world the miracle of the screen and won the gratitude and loyalty of countless millions. To raise new barriers against it is a backward step toward the dark recesses of isolation. Barriers begotten of hatred, war and the desire to win the esteem and cooperation of his neighbors through a locked-door policy."

To Address Advertisers

Los Angeles, Feb. 2.—Byron Price, Hollywood vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, will address the Los Angeles Advertisers Club at its weekly meeting Feb. 11.
American Red Cross

AND

The Permanent Charities Committee

OF

The Motion Picture Industry

"The character of the Red Cross and its responsibilities under International Treaty and its Congressional Charter are such that the national interests will best be served if the Red Cross maintains direct contact with the people for the membership and support necessary for its work at home and abroad."

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT—1942

The Permanent Charities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry has announced its intention to offer to American Red Cross $350,000, part of a sum of money that committee raised in a joint fund raising campaign in the Motion Picture Industry despite the fact that the Permanent Charities Committee knew that American Red Cross could not participate in any joint fund raising campaign.

Statements that the American Red Cross is unwilling to accept $350,000 from the Permanent Charities Committee because that sum from the Motion Picture Industry which grossed $325,000,000 in 1945 represents only one-half of one percent of the Red Cross goal of sixty million dollars in 1947, are not true. The amount involved is not an issue.

The real issue is that nothing can be permitted to deprive American Red Cross either of its right to fulfill its obligations for humanitarian service to the American people by methods it has demonstrated to be efficient or of its right to maintain an organization in which all the people can be members and participate directly.

American Red Cross will barter neither its right to invite anyone to become a member nor the right of any American citizen to become a member.

American Red Cross will not be party to any scheme that will lead to dictation by other groups with motive and interests that would undermine the Red Cross and all for which it stands.

The American Red Cross may not participate in joint fund raising whether that joint fund raising is conducted by the Permanent Charities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry or any other organization.

This long established policy of American Red Cross is not the policy of any one individual. It is a policy that has been considered and reconsidered from time to time since 1936 by the Central Committee, the governing body of American Red Cross, and reaffirmed on every occasion. It is a policy that has been well known to all fund raising groups, including the Permanent Charities Committee.

The reason why American Red Cross may not participate in joint fund raising with others is as follows:

American Red Cross may not assign or delegate to others, in whole or in part, the obligations imposed upon it by international treaties, to which the U.S. Government is a signatory, and by its congressional charter. Neither can it share with others, directly or indirectly, its responsibility to carry out those obligations. When it participates in joint fund raising it permits others (at best, only slightly familiar with its obligations and activities) to determine from year to year how much money, if any, American Red Cross will receive and thus, in turn, permit those others to determine the breadth of its program and the extent to which American Red Cross may fulfill its obligations to the American people.

If American Red Cross participates in one joint fund raising activity, such as that conducted by the Permanent Charities Committee in the Motion Picture Industry, it must, of course, participate in all other joint fund raising activities. The Motion Picture Industry is only one of 46 major industries in this country. There are thousands of other groups and organizations. The result obviously would be that by participating in joint fund raising, American Red Cross would never know from year to year how much money it would have to carry out its obligations to the American people or plan an intelligent program, nor would it be able to have a membership organization open to all of the people of America.

The foregoing statements are not just opinions. They are statements of fact based on a disastrous experience which American Red Cross suffered after World War I, when some of its chapters submitted to exactly the same kind of pressure that is now being brought by the Permanent Charities Committee to participate in joint fund raising. At that time about 400 chapters engaged with other organizations in joint fund raising with the result that American Red Cross lost its identity in those chapters and was prevented from carrying out its program particularly in dealing with emergency situations. In 1936, therefore, the Central Committee of American Red Cross reasserted its policy and ever since that time has adhered strictly to the policy of non-participation by American Red Cross in joint fund raising.

From 1940 to 1945 the Permanent Charities Committee carried on separate drives in the Motion Picture Industry for the American Red Cross and others. The change to joint fund raising by the Permanent Charities Committee occurred as recently as 1945. It is clear, therefore, that there would be no violation of principle if a separate drive was conducted in the Motion Picture Industry for the American Red Cross in March, 1947, as was the case prior to 1945.

There is, however, a definite violation of the principle of fairness when a small group within the Motion Picture Industry deliberately attempts to mislead the Motion Picture Industry and the public into believing that American Red Cross will refuse to accept—when and if offered—$350,000 only because a mere matter of method is involved in the scheme. Fundamental principles are involved: principles without which there could be no American Red Cross.
**NPTOA Will Back Industry Arbitration**

Exhibitors Quiz Wright At Virginia MPTOA Meet

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—A system of "voluntary" industry arbitration should be adopted by all segments of the industry and will be proposed by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America at its planned industry-wide forum in New York March 10-11, Herman Levy, NPTOA general counsel, disclosed here today in the annual convention of the Virginia Motion Picture Theatre Owners.

Levy said the industry must work out some system of arbitration to settle internal disputes. Otherwise, he warned, continuous disagreement and chaos would result.

A distributor as well as an exhibitor may propose competitive bidding.

(Continued on page 8)

**UK Will Not Nationalize**

There will be no nationalization by the British government of "anything that has to do with art," which includes motion pictures, in the eyes of the Labor government," said Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive producer of Warner Brothers, disclosed here yesterday in relating an assurance given him by Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, and other British officials. Warner returned.

(Continued on page 8)

**‘Yearling’ a Special To Be Sold on Bids**

Chicago, Feb. 3.—M-G-M will sell its "The Yearling" as a special and in accordance with the lading provisions of the consent decree, it was announced here today after the first day of a two-day meeting between William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, and his field sales representatives and home-office executives, at the Drake Hotel.

It is planned to release the picture.

(Continued on page 11)

**Johnston, All Others Renamed by AMPP**

Hollywood, Feb. 3.—Eric Johnston was re-elected president, Byron Price was re-elected executive vice-president and board chairman, and all other officers, directors and executive committee members were re-elected by the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Inc., at its annual meeting today.

**Allied Maps Plans For Spring Meeting**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Allied States will hold a national convention in the late fall of early summer probably in Chicago.

Members of the Allied board of directors who met here at the weekend discussed plans for the convention but did not settle upon a date or place. In addition to Chicago, invitations for the convention have been accepted from White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

(Continued on page 8)

**Action Deferred on New MPA Surveys**

The industry's Research Committee was unable to reach any conclusions on which subjects would be added this year to the Motion Picture Association's survey work, at a meeting yesterday at the MPA office here, presided over by Eric A. Johnston. As a result, the meeting was adjourned to next week.

The MPA survey department, headed by Robert Chambers, is now at

(Continued on page 8)

**Congress May End U. S. Film Funds**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Rep. John Taber, chairman of the House appropriations committee, has made it clear that the committee will not vote to continue the Office of Government Reports, which includes the principal arm of Federal motion picture activities.

In addition, appropriations for many public relations activities of the Executive branch of the Government are under consideration.

(Continued on page 11)

**Exhibitor Claims Local Admission Tax Unfair, Court Agrees with Him**

San Bernardino, Cal., Feb. 3.—An admission tax case which will probably have a bearing on future local action against municipal admission levies in other situations, has just been decided in favor of the exhibitor in the case of Knapp vs. San Bernardino.

M. Knapp, operator of a local independent theatre, protested the unfairness of the imposition of admission taxes on his house. After lengthy court hearings, the judicial opinion was rendered in favor of the theatre.

Fox West Coast Theatres and Warner Brothers prosecuted the case and bore the tax cost, which ran in excess of $50,000. Knapp allowed his name to be used in the test case with the stipulated provision he would bear no cost of the action. No independent theatre or independent theatre organization contributed to the expense involved in the court action.

**Para. Raises '47 Lineup**

The conference of Paramount studio, home office and British officials in Hollywood last week has resulted in a decision to boost the number of releases planned by the company for 1946-1947. It was disclosed here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, following his return from the Coast meetings. The number of the increase has not been determined.

The Paramount sales chief said the

(Continued on page 8)

**Equipment Meeting Set for Washington**

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—Roy Boomer, secretary-treasurer of the TESMA, disclosed that arrangements for the annual national trade show and conventions of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers' Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association have been completed. The joint convention will be held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, on Sept. 24-29.
Johnston Promotes 2

In MPA, MPA

Alexander S. Aronson has been promoted by Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, in a switch to the MPA from the Motion Picture Export Association, and, at the same time, appointed John Gilman McCarthy to the MPA. Aronson, who will assume the duties of A. E. Mays managing director of the MPA’s international division will, in turn be replaced by William J. Goltz, who has spent 18 years in foreign film distribution, principally with United Artists and M-G-M. McCarthy had been in other commercial fields in London and on the Continent, while Aronson has been in foreign film activities for 30 years.

Navy Honors FC

Film Classics has been awarded a “Certificate of Achievement” by Monroe Kelly, Rear Admiral and Navy Commandant at the third Naval District, for “contributing and the expeditionary servicing of motion pictures to Navy personnel throughout the world.”

Joe Loeffler Named A Republic Manager

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 3—Joe Loeffler, for the past two years on the sales staff of the Minneapolis Paramount exchange, and a 15-year veteran in the film business, has been named branch manager of the Minneapolis Republic exchange. He succeeds W. M. Grant, resigned, and assumes his new duties on Feb. 15.

Loeffler’s appointment to the Republic post was made by James R. Granger, executive vice-president and general sales manager. He first came to the Republic as city salesman for RKO in 1940, and leaves the post of sales manager at Paramount to join Republic.

Donald Swartz Is On Own in Northwest

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 3—Stepping up his activities in the Minneapolis zone, Donald Swartz, who recently purchased the Independent Post Exchange has been named distribution manager. He has obtained a contract distribution deal with Filmcraft Trailers and Preview service, announces completion of negotiations for distribution in the area of Astor pictures, headed by Robert M. Savini.

Swartz, former film salesman, exhibitor and confederate with Abbott Swartz of the Minneapolis PRC franchise, resigned Jan. 1, as executive secretary of the North Central Allied exhibitor organization to re-enter business for himself.

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, and Leo Jones, his assistant sales executive, are due in New York from Hollywood through the middle of the week.

GLORIA BALARAN, daughter of David Balaran, Balaban and Katz Theatre, Chicago, was married last week at the weekend to Mr. Wolfman of Houston, Tex. The newlyweds left on a Caribbean honeymoon. Balaran left New York for Chicago yesterday.

Jack Bernske of ScreenCraft Pictures, and Mrs. Bernske, left New York yesterday for Buffalo to wed Josephine Kalmenson, granddaughter, Richard Alan, born to Dr. and Mrs. Robert S. Bernske.

William Moore, motion picture editor of Tidings, will leave Hollywood Thursday for a two-month speaking tour in 40 cities.

J. A. McCarthy, Universal Southern and Central Division manager, will leave New York today for Louisville.

Edward L. Walton, Republic’s assistant general sales manager, has returned to New York from the Midwest.

Arthur Jeffrey, Eagle-Lion exploitation manager, has returned to New York from a Southern tour.

A. Zinziatis, Film Classics national advertising chief, left New York yesterday for Philadelphia.

Sid Messidor, Paramount’s assistant exploitation manager, is in Washington.

Ella Raines and Major Robin Oles will be married in Hollywood on Thursday.

Jasper Hone, owner of the Opera House, Presque Isle, Me., is visiting New York.

Dor Siegel, president of Triumph Pictures, has left Hollywood for New York.

William Goldman, Philadelphia theatre owner, is vacationing in Bermuda.

In This Issue


Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, arrived in New York from Hollywood.

Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warners, accompanied by Jules Lapides, Don Johnson, and Sam Leipkovitz, Eastern District manager, are in Boston from New York.

Irving Kaplan, of Motion Picture Daily’s editorial staff, and Mrs. Kaplan, a newly married couple, were married here on Jan. 25, have returned from a week’s honeymoon in Washington.

Roy O. Disney, president of Walt Disney Productions, and William Lyons, international sales supervisor, have left New York for the Coast.

Ted Rottson has resumed as publicity chief at the Hippodrome, Baltimore, after having managed the Little Theatre, the.

Kenneth Clark, Motion Picture Association public relations director, will leave New York today from Washington.

Glover Parsons, Southern district manager of PCR, has returned to Atlantic from a tour of his territory.

Ed Fitzpatrick, manager of Loew’s Poli, Watertown, Conn., has returned to his desk following illness.

Mrs. William Richardson, Astor Pictures of Georgia, has returned to Atlanta from New York.

H. C. Hauftman, Columbia’s branch operations manager, has been an Atlanta visitor.

J. Kopstein, Astor Pictures, is en route back to New York from Miami.

Isadore M. Rappaport, Baltimore theatre owner, is vacationing in Florida.

Irving Sochin, general manager of Theatre Owners Corp., Cincinnati, is in New York.


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THE LOCKET
...CHAINED
A WOMAN TO
A TERRIFYING
PAST...

THE LOCKET
...DROVE
HER TO
RUIN ANY
MAN SHE
DARED TO
LOVE....

THE LOCKET
...PLUNGED HER
INTO THE MOST
STORMY LIFE
A WOMAN EVER
HAD!

RKO PRESENTS

The Locket
Men took their lives in their hands
When they took her in their arms!

From one man's arms to another she fled
—trying to escape the evil memory of
the tragic trinket whose strange power
changed her life...destroyed her loves!
The Locket

WITH

SHARYN MOFFETT • RICARDO CORTEZ • HENRY STEPHENSON

PRODUCED BY BERT GRANET

DIRECTED BY JOHN BRAHM

Written by SHERIDAN GIBNEY
AD. CAMPAIGN
TYPICALLY
RKO
89,745,975

CIRCULATION

reached through full schedule that includes pages in all the leading weeklies and monthlies, plus four-color ads in the Magazine Sections or Supplements of 75 leading Sunday newspapers.

LIST INCLUDES:
LIFE, LOOK,
McCALL'S, COSMOPOLITAN,
TRUE STORY, SATURDAY EVENING POST,
COLLIER'S, WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION,
LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, AMERICAN,
PIC, TRUE, REDBOOK, FAN LIST,
TRUE CONFESSIONS, LIBERTY,
AMERICAN WEEKLY, PARADE,
THIS WEEK, INDEPENDENT SUPPLEMENTS.
23 Field Men Named
For ‘Brotherhood’

Twenty-three field exploiters have been named for the annual “American Brotherhood Week” campaign during the week of Feb. 16-23. Charles Schaefer, of Kansas City, is general drive. “Brotherhood Week” is sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

The 250,000 pledges that have been promised by the nation’s exhibitors for the week’s campaign—Slogan for this year’s campaign is “Believe It, Support It.”

Following are the field men and the cities of drive headquarters: Chicago, W. J. Bishop; San Francisco, Ted Galanter; Los Angeles, Howard Herty; Philadelphia, Mike Weiss; Kansas City, by Freeman; Milwaukee, L. W. Orlove; Seattle and Portland, Murry Lalayette; Albany and New Haven, George Pelt; Pittsburgh, Wally Allen; St. Louis, Irving Waterstreet; Salt Lake City, Ernest Van Pelt.

Also, Dallas, Mongols and Oklahoma City, Jim Gillespie; Cincinnati and Indianapolis, Jim Keefe; New Orleans, Ken Prickett; Atlanta and Charlotte, Spencer; Pictor, Detroit; Charles Dietz; Washington, William Michaelson; Des Moines, Austin McGough; Kansas City, Gene Rich; Cleveland, Harry Weiss; Denver, William Prass; Minneapolis, Walter Hoffman.

8 Missouri Houses Sold to New Circuit

St. Louis, Feb. 3—One of the biggest theatre deals in this territory in several years was closed when George Karch, head of a circuit bearing his name, sold his eight houses in Southwestern Missouri to the recently-formed Edwards and Harris Theatre Co., which is controlled by J. Harold Harris, who had been general manager for the J. H. Griffith Circuit’s 34 theatres in Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and Iowa, and Tom Edwards, Missouri exhibitor. Both have been in exhibition in the Midwest for many years.

House Committee to Quiz FCC Officials

Washington, Feb. 3.—Rep. Charles B. Wolverson (N.J.) chairman of the House interstate and foreign commerce committee, said today that officials of the Federal Communications Commission will be called before his group to explain the functions of the Commission and recommend changes in legislation.

Wolverson said he has already discussed the matter with FCC Chairman Charles Sykes. The FCC official expressed an interest in the proposed hearings and agreed to cooperate, Rep. Wolverson added.

4 Atlanta Houses Net $12,000 for ‘Dimes’

ATLANTA, Feb. 3—W. K. Jenkins, chairman of the March of Dimes Drive for the state’s theatres, reveals that the Fox, Roxy, Paramount and Capitol did a total business during a 37-day period. Of this, the Fox patronage gave more than $6,000.

There are 50 motion picture houses in Greater Atlanta, and they joined the drive 100 per cent.

Review

“Nora Prentiss”
(Warner Brothers)

Hollywood, Feb. 3

A negro adroit handling of an intricate story accounts for remarkably greater sustained interest built up by this modern melodrama, strictly adult in theme, which wins up with a doctor convicted, quite plausibly, of his own murder. Ann Sheridan, supplying the popular name to deal with, and outstandingly effective as Aneta囿cing performance as well, and Kent Smith, a recruit from the stage who is quite likely to become a marque personality as time goes on, have the top roles, supported by Robert Alda, Frank Albertson, and Wally West as the police chief for the mature only, but promises to do right well commercially if handled accordingly.

N. Richard Nash’s screenplay, based on a story by Paul Webster and Jack Obell, traces with more skill and deftness than a likely resident San Francisco physician who falls in love with a nightclub singer and, on the point of asking his wife for a divorce so he can marry the girl, seizes an opportunity to disfigure the body of a dead patient that it will be identified as the girl in New York. He is successful in the deception, save that the police pronounce the death a murder instead of a suicide, but fear of recognition restricts his movements and a facial injury obliterates his appearance entirely. Then the police, matching his finger prints with those found in his office and believed to be those of his supposed murderer, arrest him for the crime. He stands mute through the trial, but, when finally he calls the girl, declares it is best for all concerned that he be executed. It is a strange tale, and conclusion, but a fascinating picture. Production by William Jacobs and direction by Vincent Sherman are up to standard throughout. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

Henry G. Plitt Joins Keegan at Northotho

Henry G. Plitt has become the associate of Jack R. Keegan, general manager of Northotho Theatres, the Kentucky Paramount circuit affiliate, the company disclosed here yesterday at its home office. Plitt will have headquarters in the southern division.

He is a former major in the 101st Airborne Division, receiving wartime recognition for having been the first paratrooper to invade Normandy, and for his participation in the campaign for capturing Julius Stret. This was twice awarded the Silver Star and three times the Purple Heart. Upon his discharge he joined Paramount’s theatre division, handling special assignments in the Paramount-Richards and United Detroit circuits. Prior to entering the service, Plitt was an attorney in New York.

DENY W. B. BAN ON ‘ABIE’S IRISH ROSE’

General W. B. Ben on ‘Abie’s Irish Rose’

Warner Brothers’ officials yesterday denied a published report that orders had been issued prohibiting the company’s theatres from booking “Abie’s Irish Rose.”

It was stated that while, to date, the picture has not played Warner theatres it was sold only on the basis of demand, and zone managers who felt that they might be curtailing public demonstrations and protests in their localities if they refused to play the picture.

There were no orders to that effect have been issued, however, it was said.

Evans Heads of Films for CBS Television

Edward R. Evans, formerly a director for RKO Pathé’s “This Is Hollywood” series, has been named head of the CBS Television film department. He succeeds Hux Bauri, who resigned last week to become producer-supervisor for the United Nations’ film division.

PCC Officials Deny Red Cross Donation

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 3—Following publication today of an advertisement in Motion Picture Daily and other papers that the American Red Cross had rejected a $350,000 donation by Hollywood’s Permanent Charities Committee, the PCC denied that any such donation had ever been made, except $30,000 contributed to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The PCC added that any donations this year will be made by PCC directors at the end of the current annual meeting, and that other campaigns for funds will be made in the industry this year, and that “one experience has proved this to be the best method of raising charity funds in our industry.” Last year the PCC made contributions to the Red Cross, the NFIP and the War Chest, which has been supplanted by the Community Chest.

The PCC’s advertisement had quoted the late President Roosevelt to support its contention that “national interest will be best served if the Red Cross maintains its relationships with the people for the membership and support necessary for its work.”

Minnesota to Consider Daylight Saving Bill

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 3—Among measures being prepared by the Minnesota legislature is a proposal which would place the state on daylight saving time for the next two years. The bill has not yet been placed in the hopper. North Central Allied will oppose the measure, claiming daylight saving works a hardship on theatres.

NCA president Ben Berger has intimated he is not personally opposed to the proposed sales tax, but that he and Stanley Kane, executive director of the association, do not favor the developments in the proposal of Representative French to tax amusement tickets. The Senate version of Gov. Youngdahl for a 20 per cent tax on theatre tickets “whether the Government has its wartime amusement tax or not.”

Booking Deadlock Ends in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 3—Terminating one of the longest holdouts in Minneapolis theatre history, the so-called “big five” buying and booking combine, Theatre Associates, and Paramount have come to an agreement on terms and conditions for a number of the company’s pictures. None of the participants would discuss terms of the agreement, and spokesmen for the exhibitor group declared “both sides gave a little ground.”

Circuit members of the buying combine are Ben Friedman, Ben Berger, Sid Dibbell, Harry Wallis and the Volk Brothers. Tom Burke is buyer and general manager of the combine.

New Ampro Projeto

CHICAGO, Feb. 3—A new sound-on-film 16m. projector, a portable, is announced by Ampro Corporation, subsidiary of General Precision Equipment Corp. of New York.
under the New York decree, Levy told the convention at the Shoreham Hotel. Levy's contention was supported by Robert L. Wright, Government counsel, who also appeared before the group.

Discussing arbitration, Levy said that while he was not suggesting that the Government's point of view did not necessarily mean that it is illegal, he said that MPTOA will urge the industry to adopt a system of "simplified arbitration" of internal disputes.

Wright could do little to dispel the notion resulting from the New York court's final judgment in the industry anti-trust case. He admitted that within a period after a question was answered that the Government's point of view is not very well defined on the various aspects of the decree. Bombarding Wright with questions were many Virginia exhibitors and several attorneys, including Levy and Robert T. Barton, Jr., counsel for the VMPTA.

**Interpretation Criticized**

Barton, who is also attorney for the Confederacy of Southern Associates, took exception to Wright's interpretation of the decree. Barton criticized the Government for constantly emphasizing the public's interest without regard for exhibitors' interests.

The Sherman Anti-Trust Act should be rewritten if a fair display of its efficiency to dispose monopoly can be found in the chaos now being born by the picture industry, Barton told Wright. He continued: "The decree leaves too much room for litigation, a point with which I wholeheartedly agree. "If the thinking of the Government continues to be different from that of the exhibitors, you're bound to destroy the little man as well as the big groups," Barton asserted.

In a plea for cooperation and trust, the part of all branches of the industry, Barton said that conferences between various elements could set the tone for the future.

Morton Thalheimer, president of Neighborhood Theatres, pointed out to the group that every time the Government's counsel was in court, the theatremen have come off worse than before, Wright.

**Boyer Signs Contract**

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 13.—Charles Boyer has signed a long-term contract with the RKO Picture Corporation for the French star, who has been free-lancing for several years, to star in an untitled original to be produced and directed by Lewis Milestone, another recent Enterprise signee. The production of the first film will begin in April.

in the discussion, virtually admitted this was true. "If ever a monopoly existed in the picture industry, it will be worse than before," Barton said by way of conclusion to Thalheimer's remarks.

All officers of the Virginia association were reelected. They are: William F. Crockett, president; H. E. Wood, secretary, and Sam Bendheim, Jr., treasurer.

Public relations at the industry's "grasps roots" level was the keynote of the two-day meeting which closed today. Growing tendencies is the slogan held the spotlight, with Leon Bamberger, RKO sales promotion manager, outlining the 16mm. program of his company. Robert Coyle, executive secretary of the American Theatre Owners Association, told the convention that efforts should be made on a local level to eliminate legislation and regulation of the industry. Coyle pointed out that theatres are no more deserving of discriminatory legislation than are the radio or television. "Government expects a lot from the exhibitors, but has little to offer in return," he said.

Discussing the growing importance of 16mm. exhibition Bamberger said that RKO will rent 16mm. pictures to exhibitors in their homes. He urged exhibitors to enter the 16mm. field in situations where it can be profitable to have a commercial 16mm. house.

Bamberger told the 200 exhibitors that theatre attendance records must be better kept. There is still too great a percentage of our population not seeing films," he said.

step had been taken as the result of requests for an increase in the number of employees. Continued: "The company, customers and theatre associates in order to alleviate the current shortage of product, have announced that during the first nine months of this year, Paramount will release at least as many as possible in excess of those in the whole of 1945-46. He said that in the list will be product of the heaviest financial investment in the history of the company.

Barney Balaban, president of the company, who returned with Reagan, said today, "During the past 10 months Paramount has spent some of its most important executives to countries all over the world. The result of their surveys and conclusions is in connection with the many problems that have developed in foreign countries since the end of hostilities was discussed in all of its phases (at last week's meetings) as it concerns international production, sales, and distribution throughout the world."

Balaban added that one of the purposes of the meetings was “to tie in the company to such as Gainsborough, closer to Paramount’s worldwide operations and to coordinate their efforts with future production plans."

Ten completed pictures, the largest number ever to be shown at one time to sales executives in the history of the company, were viewed at the conference.

**Allied Meeting**

(Continued from page 1)

**Action Deferred**

The executive committee was authorized to act later on Allied participation in the proposed motion picture forum to bear and attempt to adjudicate exhibitor-distributor grievances. Organization of the forum will be discussed at a national exhibitor meeting scheduled for March 10-11 in New York. Although Myers and Coyle had announced earlier that they would refuse to attend an official invitation to attend the New York meeting up to the weekend, they advised the board that they had since been made an official offer for participation, and this at the time.

Herman Levy, MPTOA counsel, said today that the invitation had been made several days in advance of the meeting of the Allied board here, and it was understood that Levy called on Myers at his Washington office today to remind him of the invitation.

**Decree along with most other features**

As a result of yesterday's ruling, competitive bidding will become effective on July 1, the date specified in the decree. The granting of the Supreme Court following the receipt of one or more anticipated applications from the New York Federal District Court's judgment. All defendants had sought to have the bidding delayed until 50 days after the filing of the appeal, which Columbia had requested a similar stay for single sales.

All motion pictures never made by Columbia, Universal and United Artists were denied outright. These included U's request to be allowed to exhibit "Cleopatra," a film made in a tribunal, and independents and UA's plea to have the burden of proof "reasonably necessary" clearance removed from the distributor.

**Motion Denied**

The judges denied the theatre-owning defendants' motion that they be permitted to expand present theatre agreements to include investments or to enter a competitive field, if and when it could be shown to the satisfaction of the court that such acquisition would not unreasonably restrain competition.

Also denied was a request that the defendants as exhibitors be found guilty of "conspire to receive discriminatory license privileges," rather than "violate" in fixing minimum admission price, run, clearance and other license terms.

The modification motions and the court arguments upon them which were reported in detail in Motion Picture Daily on Jan. 10 and 14 were referred to a tribunal entered by the judges provided that Paragraph (3) (2) of its decree should be modified by adding: "The pending agreement, by one or more defendants with others not parties to this action, which violates this provision, shall be terminated prior to July 1, 1947."

**MPA Surveys**

(work on three matters, none of which is complete: the number of theatres around the world; a study of U. S. companies, their number and type of operation, and a breakdown of film advertising expenditures.)

Members of the committee are: Abe Schneider and Mort Wormser, Columbia; John M. Whitaker and William B. Englang, RKO Radio; William McCarthy, Warner; Charles M. Reagan and Paul Balboun, Paramount; Murray Silverstone and Don Condick, United Artists; Charles C. Moskowitz and Leo Handel, Loew's, and John J. O'Connor and Joseph Seldehyde, Universal.

**Israel on Film Accounts**

Irving Israel has been named to handle film accounts for Colorchrome Corp., New York press book service.
"NobOoY... I SAy NOBoDY, THAT iS... WILl TOp CLAGHoRN'S BOX-OFFICE RECORDS!"

WORLD PREMIERE ENGAGEMENTS OF EAGLE-LION'S

IT'S A JOKE, SON!

SWEEP TEXAS IN CYCLONE OF BALLYHOO ROLLING UP RECORDS IN AUSTIN, SAN ANTONIO, DALLAS, HOUSTON AND FORT WORTH!

Terrific radio promotions hit 50,000,000 listeners weekly... sensational publicity buildup... nationwide exploitation fanfare—set the rocketing box-office pace for Eagle-Lion's first star attraction!

FLASH!

More than 150 key dates already... and more pouring in!

JUMP ABOARD THE BANDWAGON! BOOK IT NOW!

KENNY DELMAR as SENATOR CLAGHORN in "IT'S A JOKE, SON!"

with UNA MERKEL • JUNE LOCKHART • JIMMY CONLIN • DOUGLAS DUMBRILLE

'DAISY' the Dog • and introducing KENNETH FARRELL

Produced by Aubrey Schenck • Directed by Ben Stoloff • Original Screenplay by Robert Kent and Paul Gerard Smith • An Eagle-Lion Films Release
Another Bright Week At NY First-Runs With Few Exceptions

The week at the majority of New York’s first-run theatres was commercially bright one as those films which drew top business last week continued to maintain the pace. Some of the studios, occupied only with regents examinations, had free time while pleasant weather also was helpful.

"The Best Years of Our Lives" is clearly the best money-maker the Astor has in years. Business for the 11th week figures to reach $56,000, which is very close to the previous week; as a matter of fact the Astor’s income has varied very little over the picture named.

"Is a Wonderful Life" also figures to top last week’s gross of $27,000. This, the seventh week, at the Globe, the sixth week brought $25,000. "Sinbad the Sailor," at the Palace, also is up in the important money bracket with a $30,000 seen for the second week; Saturday’s gross of $10,000 represents a new single day’s record at the house.

"13 Rue Stays Strong"

"13 Rue Madeleine," with Gracie Faye starring, has moved to the Palace (240), where it, for the second time total of $95,000, which is only $2,000 under last week, very strong sustained business, and "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim" will follow on Feb. 11, on Tuesday instead of the usual Wednesday opening so as not to bring the picture in on a holiday.

"Lady in the Lake" and Tex Berman on the fourth week, likewise luring an abundance of cash, estimated at $92,000 for a second week, the first week’s gross was $94,600. At the Roxy, headed for a second week over $50,000, which is only $2,000 under last week, very strong sustained business, and "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim" will follow on Feb. 11, on Tuesday instead of the usual Wednesday opening so as not to bring the picture in on a holiday.

"Is a Wonderful Life" also figures to top last week’s gross of $27,000. This, the seventh week, at the Globe, the sixth week brought $25,000. "Sinbad the Sailor," at the Palace, also is up in the important money bracket with a $30,000 seen for the second week; Saturday’s gross of $10,000 represents a new single day’s record at the house.

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Urges Mexicans to Support US Strike

Hollywood, Feb. 3.—Following an address to strikers at a Conference of Studio Unions mass meeting last night, Vincente Lombardo Toledano, general secretary of the Confederation of Latin American Workers, telegraphed his Mexico City headquarters urging that all Mexican theatres be struck for one day on the earliest possible Sunday as an expression of sympathy for striking Hollywood workers. Toledano said that he would later try to arrange a similar one-day closing throughout Latin America if the strike is not settled shortly.

CSU President Herbert K. Sorrell told the meeting that the strike may be settled suddenly in the near future, but he declined to elaborate on that statement.

U. S. Film Funds

(Continued from page 1)

which include film production and distribution, are sure to be discontinued by the new Congress with the result that virtually all industry-Government relations in the motion picture field will come to a gradual end.

Start 'Jenny' Feb. 15

Feature production at the new RKO Pathé studios, here, will be inaugurated on Feb. 15 when David O. Selznick's "Portrait of Jenny" starts shooting. Frederic Ullman, Jr., president of RKO Pathé, announced the agreement also gave Selznick an option for three more feature pictures in the studio during 1947 and 1948.

Brodie Acquitted of Indecent Film Charge

Justice John Flood, William Farrell and William D. Perelman, in Special Sessions Court here yesterday, acquitted Benjamin Brodie, former owner of New York's Miami Theatre, of showing an indecent picture. They said the prosecution had failed to prove a case against Brodie.

Last June the Theatre Operating Corp., which ran the house, was fined $500 following the showing of "Guilty Parents."

After yesterday's acquittal, Chief Justice George B. De Luca said there was no ground for a statement by Justice Matthew J. Troy that the case had "all the earmarks of a nice fix." This criticism had come when Jacob Leff, attorney for Brodie, declared the New York City license department had promised to restore the license of the Miami following the corporation's guilty plea.

Theatre Television

(Continued from page 1)

sound business it must have adequate FCC facilities and that those proposed are not up to the requirements. The SMPE will ask the board to ratify the company.

Variety Foundling Aid

Cincinnati, Feb. 3.—Following through on a plan adopted a few weeks ago, the Cincinnati Variety Club, Tent No. 3, has placed six children, wards of local institutions, in foster homes, and is assuming responsibility for their care.

'Yearling' a Special

(Continued from page 1)

Generally in March, it was stated, with bids to be taken as outlined in the consent decree. Currently in its second week at New York's Radio City Music Hall and in its sixth week at the Carthay Circle in Los Angeles on a two-a-day reserved seat policy, the picture is scheduled to open at B. & K.'s Loop theatre, the State Lake, late this month.

Plans are being made for the Midwest première, it was stated, with B. and K. officials William K. Hollander and James Savage cooperating with William R. Ferguson, exploitation director for M-G-M, and his Midwestern field staff consisting of William G. Bishop, William Green and Warren Sleve, of Chicago; J. B. Watson, Cincinnati; Louis Orlow, Milwaukuee, and Harold Marshall, Indiana.

Among the local plans are the appearance of Claude Jarman, Jr., the body of the picture. Jarman, accompanied by his father, and Frank Liggert, will arrive in New York tomorrow. After 10 days in the East the contingent will head for Chicago. Ted Morris of M-G-M's public relations department, is now in New York working with Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of advertising, publicity and exploitation; Ferguson and Herbert Crooker, publicist, manager, on the New York and Chicago visits of Jarman.

Also to be released generally in March, it was stated by M-G-M executives, will be "The Beginning of the End." Special plans for marketing this picture are in work and will be announced shortly.

Industry to Gain By Army Increases

Washington, Feb. 3.—Admission prices at Army post theatres on the European Continent have been raised from 15 to 20 cents for adults and from 10 to 15 cents for children, according to Fred Bond, chief of the Army Motion Picture Service, who stated that the film industry will reap greater percentage profits as a result of the admission price increase.

25% Wage Increases To N. Y. Cartoonists

Famous Studios, producers of the "Little Lulu," "Popeye" and other cartoons, yesterday signed a one-year contract with the Screen Cartoonists Guild here providing for a general wage increase of 25 per cent. Sam Buchwald and the law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim represented the company in negotiations. Pepe Ruz and attorney Marvin Cristenfeld negotiated for the union. Thomas S. Dougherty of the U.S. Conciliation Service participated.

Loewe to Goldwyn

J. Winston Loewe, former Warner manager in Oklahoma City and Dallas, has joined Samuel Goldwyn Productions as sales representative covering the South and several Midwest situations, the Goldwyn office here announced.
LOEW-LEWIN, Inc., presents
Guy de Maupassant's
THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI
GEORGE SANDERS • ANGELA LANSBURY • ANN DVORAK
with FRANCES DEE • JOHN CARRADINE • SUSAN DOUGLAS • HUGO HAAS
MARIE WILSON • ALBERT BASSERMAN • KATHERINE EMERY
RICHARD FRASER and WARREN WILLIAM
Produced by David L. Loew • Adapted and Directed by Albert Lewin
Names... in Today's News

DONALD M. NELSON, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, Hollywood, has been elected a director-at-large of the Motion Picture Export Association, it was announced yesterday. The international distribution managers of MPEA's eight member companies were all re-elected directors, as was John C. Bryan, who continues as a director-at-large.

With the election of Nelson, the independent producers associated with MPEA's 19 distributors have direct representation on MPEA's board.

Also following MPEA officers were re-elected: John C. Bryan, president; Francis S. Harmon, vice-president; William A. Maas, vice-president and general manager; Gordon E. Young, secretary; Herbert J. Erlanger, assistant secretary; George Barth, treasurer; Frederick W. DuVall and William F. LaFenn, assistant treasurers.

Bowles Is Assistant to Para's George Smith

John Bowles has been appointed assistant to George A. Smith, Paramount's Western division sales manager, by Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president. Bowles will have headquarters in Los Angeles. He joined Paramount in 1943 as a salesman in San Francisco.

Reagan has also named Don Foster booking manager in Salt Lake City, replacing John Swenson, resigned. Harry Nicholson has been transferred from the Oklahoma City office to Dallas, and is succeeded by Ed Chumley, who has been moving into Chumley's former post. Don Hicks is succeeded in Kansas City by Ward Pennington, after having been named manager in Omaha.

Film Dividends Help Double General Total

Washington, Feb. 4.—General industry dividend payments for the quarter ending in Nov. 1, 1946, compared to $127,647,000, compared with $58,800,000 for the same period in 1945, according to the Commerce Department which pointed out that November is usually a slow month for such payments. The overall 51 per cent increase during the quarter was attributed in part to several large dividend payments made by motion picture companies.

Says Abandonment Of Reciprocal Trade Is a Threat

The fight both for and against continuation of the Washington Administration's policy of international trade reciprocity is a source of alarm to the Motion Picture Association, which feels that abandonment of the program will result in new and more rigid restrictions against U. S. films abroad, according to an MPA official.

Eric A. Johnston, MPA president, will appear before the Inter-Departmental Committee on Reciprocity at a hearing tomorrow to point out the trade problems which would be encountered in the principal markets of the world, not only for the film business but for all industries, in the event the program is not sustained.

(Continued on page 10)

Final Draft Ready For Foundation

Corporate structure of the Motion Picture Foundation came a step closer to reality yesterday with completion of the final drafts of the by-laws and certificate of incorporation and the sending of those papers to a foundation committee headed by Barney Balaban, as chairman, for final approval, after which they will be filed in the District of Columbia.

Dual purpose of the foundation—to help the needy, sick and destitute in all branches of the film industry and

‘Smash-Up’

[Underline: Walter Wanger-Universal] SUSAN HAYWARD'S light shines firm and bright in a strong, dramatic attraction about a female Dionysiac who finally wins her fight against drunkenness and regains her husband, child and home in the kind of finish that bulk audiences would want. "Smash-Up," original by Dorothy Parker and Frank Cavett, with a screenplay by John Howard Lawson, is what is known in the trade as a woman's picture. The type is persistently good for substantial weekly business, and so it is here.

The attraction, variously described in conversation around New York as a "female Lost Weekend," tells the story of a girl who establishes herself as a "blues" singer in plushy nightclubs, marries Lee Bowman, becomes responsible—initially anyway—for his nationwide airwave fame as a crooner and then finds herself pushed aside into little traveled alleys as an adoring public heaps adulation and dollars on her husband's head.

Bowman takes it all, but also takes it somewhat stupidly. He acknowledges he is aware of what is happening, but does little about it until Miss Hayward's careless cigarette endangers their young daughter whom the mother resists but with serious burns for her effort. By this time, Bowman belatedly is made to realize how much of their estrangement and the neglect

See Filing of All Appeals By March 1st

Defense, Like U. S., Will Not Risk April 'Deadline'

Although, in the opinion of a number of attorneys connected with the industry anti-trust suit, the U. S. Supreme Court probably would accept appeals of the case as late as April 4, which is 60 days after the "settled order" entered on Monday by the Federal District Court here, indications yesterday were that all defendant companies planning to file notice of appeal will do so on or before March 1, which is 60 days after Judges Augustus N. Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright handed down their final decile.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE (Continued on page 10)

Winston Churchill Hits At Film Imports

London, Feb. 4.—In light of the rapid exhaustion of last summer's $3,750,000,000 loan to Britain, Winston Churchill suggested in the House of Commons today that is "essential for film industry and all other expenditures to be viewed with the severest restraint" and, further, that the loan "be used to purchase appli-

(Continued on page 12)

In This Issue

In addition to the review of "Smash-Up" which begins on this page, this issue carries a review of "The Braided Doubloon"—on page 12. All of page 8 is devoted to photographs of the 1946 Motion Picture Daily-Fame radio poll winners, taken at the time they were presented with scrolls.

(Continued on page 12)
May Extend Theatre Boycott Nationally

Hollywood, Feb. 4.—A decision whether to extend nationally the volunteer ban on theatre attendance for next Sunday, instituted locally for February 28, was not reached last night. School sodalities, will be made next Sunday when sodalities leaders meet in San Francisco. The local ban, which is voluntary, is an extension of the national directive by Durkee, M-G-M New York, to extend the boycott. Charles Boycott, a member of the board of directors of the California Theatre Association.

Schoenost Circuit Hearings on Feb. 18

Chicago, Feb. 4.—Hearing of evidence on the Schoenost Circuit's $62,350 triple damage anti-trust suit on behalf of its Piccadilly Theatre has now been opened here on Feb. 18. Charles A. McDonald, former local circuit court judge, who was recently appointed by the javanier his chancery to hear evidence, will preside.

After all evidence has been completed McDonald will submit his report and recommendations to Judge Philip L. Sullivan of U. S. District Court.

Chaplin Will Produce Two Features Yearly

Hollywood, Feb. 4.—Charles Chaplin's original tramp comedy characterization will be resumed in one of another-of-his future films, his studio says. Under Chaplin's plans to produce two features annually beginning this fall after his return from a European visit, which he will make after the release of "Monsieur Verdoux." The first film after "Verdoux," entitled, is described as "adult satire."

Has Good Word for 'Abie's Irish Rose'

Ralph Max Nussbaum of Los Angeles has urged members of his condominium to see the film if only to confirm his opinion that it realizes its intention of promoting racial tolerance. United Artists reports here that a request by M-G-M to the varnisher, Dr. Nussbaum was quoted as paying tribute to the film's producer, Bing Crosby, in his record service to Jewish and minority causes.

PERSONAL MENTION

ERIC A. JOHNSTON, president of the Motion Picture Association, re-elected president of the Motion Picture Relief Home, Alhany, N. Y., director of public relations, will return to Washington today from New York.

ROBERT TAYLOR, BARBARA STAN- WYCK, OLIVER HARDY, and Mrs. STANLEY LAUREL, and British actor-producer IVOR NOVELLO were among passengers on the S.S. Queen Elizabeth when the steamer left New York for England yesterday.

KATE SMITH will be presented with the "Share Your Knowledge" award of the Philadelphia Club of Printing House Craftsmen in Philadelphia on Saturday.

C. GILLETTE, Jr., manager of the Savoy Theatre, Bronx, and Mrs. GI- LETTO, are parents of twin girls, born recently at Manhattan General Hospital, here.

Joe Roberts Eastern publicity manager of Vaughan is celebrating his birthday today.

William B. ZOLLNER, M-G-M re- prints-importations chief, has returned to New York from the Midwest.

JOSEPH PASSERNAK, M-G-M pro- duces is visiting Canada from New York.

Ralph Wheelwright, of M-G- M's studio publicity department, will leave Washington for the Coast today.


E. M. RUFF, Paramount's Albany, N. Y., manager, is recovering following an operation.

ARTHUR HORN, M-G-M salesman at Albany, N. Y., is recuperating after a recent operation.

 Abram H. VAN DEUSEN, RKO Radio manager, has been named to under- go an operation.

VERA CASHBY, from writer and author, is due to arrive here by plane from the Coast today.

Morey Goldstein, Monogram general sales manager, was in New Haven yesterday.

Harry K. McCWILLIAMS, Columbia exploitation manager, is on a trip to Toronto.

ARTHUR DENT, British film executive, will sail from New York for England on the American Line.

Benu SHERLIN, United Artists manager in Colombia, has arrived in New York from Bogota.

Lion BAMBERGER, RKO Radio ex- position relations chief, has returned to New York from Washington.

CLAUDE JARMIN, Jr., child actor, is in New York from Hollywood.

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Cen- tury-Fox Central sales manager, has returned to the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., for the past week, will undergo an ulcer operation on Friday.

Louis ROBURNSHA, Muscle Shoals, Alabama, theatre executive, has con- tributed $25,000 to help construct and equip a modern library for Florence and Lauderdale counties.

Ivan ACKERMAN, owner of the Hill and Stage Door theatres, Sun- Francisco, was one of selected members of the board of directors of the California Theatres Association.

Alfred CROWN, Samuel Goldwyn Productions' foreign sales manager, has returned to New York from Mexico.

MORT SPRING, vice-president of Loew's International, has gone to the French Riviera for a vacation. He will return in a month.

RUSK KING, former manager of the Norwood, Birmingham, is the new manager of Wilby's Booth Theatre, Knoxville.

Oscar A. MORGAN, Paramount short subject sales head, left New York for Pittsburgh yesterday.

Oscar A. DADD, Loew's theatre ex- ecutive, and Miss Dook have left New York for the Coast.

JACOB WALK, Eastern production manager for Warners, is in Hollywood from New York.

FRANK J. DURKER, owner of the Durkee Circuit, Baltimore, is spending several weeks' vacation in Florida.

JOSPEH YOUNG, Universal sales representative in Baltimore, has left for a Florida vacation.

H. D. HEARS, of Exhibitor's Ser- vice, returned to Hollywood, N. C., is visiting in Florida.

Harry ROSENQUEST, of the Warner Circuits film buying office, is in Chicago from New York.

NAT D. FELMAN, Warner Thea- tres executive, is in Cleveland from New York.

JOHN J. GYLLN, vice-president of Warner-International, has left New York for Colombia, S. A.

DON HASSLER, Astor Pictures' special representative, is in Wilmington, N. C., from Atlantic City.

LOUIS J. KAUFMAN, Warner Thea- tres executive, is visiting Cleveland and Pittsburgh from New York.

Cobey WILSEY, 20th-Fox advertising manager, returned to New York from the Coast yesterday.

DONNA REED is in Hollywood from New York.

Newsreel Parade

EMBARKATION of England's royal family for South Africa, toasts in the Midwest and South, a big fire in Tacoma, the fall of a Nazi "temple" and the Méretorens are all highlighted in circuit newreels. Full contents follow:

MOVIEGONE NEWS, No. 46—Eng- land's royal family off to South Africa. Record their visit to the Midland Counties, attended by 100,000 people. The fall of a Nazi "temple," surrounded by 10,000 people.


All Rose Films to Be Made in U.S.

David Rose will make all of his proposed independent productions in this country, he declared here yesterday, in answer to the report of SS. Queen Elizabeth for Eng- land, where he will discontinue previ- ous arrangements with the J. Arthur Rank Organization for the filming of one per year done on British soil.

The change of plans, Rose indicated, was brought about at least in port by his disagreement with Mason, British actor who was to have appeared in two films annually for his new company. The producer still hopes, however, that he and Mason may eventually become associated, pointing out that he has a contract calling for the player to make two pic- tures per year for him and to accept a "loan-out" arrangement. This matter now is being litigatedated.

Rose will leave England for Amer- ica, according to the studio press release on Feb. 27 and by the time he arrives he expects that all details for his align- ment with Rank's independent producer will have been ironed out.

Although dropping his British pro- duction plans, Rose hopes to be able to make the films abroad for distribution in this country.

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"Long lines sure to continue for many weeks... Metro holds the Music Hall records which should be surpassed... one of the finest pictures of all time."

—QUINN, Mirror

"May very well come in as winner of the Academy Award... something not to be missed."

—MISHKIN, Telegraph

"One of the year's smash hits... stands as one of Hollywood's most impressive achievements."

—PELSWICK, Journal-American

"Hit the bullseye of popular taste."

—WINSTEN, Post

"Irresistible appeal... among the fine achievements of the cinema."

—BARNES, Herald Tribune

"A movie that will be remembered and loved for years... one of the best pictures I've ever seen."

—CREELMAN, Sun

"We've got to hand it to Metro... wealth of satisfaction few pictures ever attain."

—CROWTHER, Times

"Going to be a favorite with moviegoers for many weeks to come... a grand picture."

—COHN, Brooklyn Eagle
**Estimates of Key City Grosses**

**FOLLOWING are estimated picture receipts for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.**

**LOS ANGELES**

Walt Disney's "Song of the South" was the leader among new pictures in a week during which advanced-admission shows and holdovers predominated at first-run theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 6 were $35,000.

**MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY** (Col.) and **THE JOURNEY** (20th-Fox) — WILMONT (1,600) (38c-6c-8c-11c) 7 days, Gross: $1,500. (Average: $215.)

**GROSS MY HEART** (Para) and **ROLLING HOME** (Screen Gold) — PARA MOUNT (1,185) (36c-8c-11c-14c) $1,000 7 days, Gross: $1,500. (Average: $215.)

**THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES** (RKO Radio) — FOX-BEVERLY (1,250) (50c-6c-8c-11c) 7 days 6th week, Gross: $1,150. (Average: $165.)

**THE YEARLING** (M-G-M) — CARTILAY CIRCLE (1,250) ($1.25-$1.25) 7 days, Gross: $1,200. (Average: $165.)


**SITTING IN THE SUN** (RKO) — VOGUE (500) (36c-8c-11c) 7 days 5th week, Gross: $1,100. (Average: $157.)


**SWELL GUY** (U) — GUILD (665) (36c-8c-11c) 7 days, Gross: $1,300. (Average: $186.)

**CHICAGO**

Despite unusually cold weather, a number of films in the Loop are doing good business, with "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim." "The Jolson Story" and "The Best Years of Our Lives" setting the pace for receipts for the week ending Feb. 6.

**GROSS THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM** (20th-Fox) — CHASE (1,504) (70c-95c) 4th week, Gross: $1,700. (Average: $267.)

**THE JOLSON STORY** (Col.) — APOLLO (2,300) (50c-95c) 5th week, Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286.)

**THE PEOPLE** (M-G-M) — SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) (CHICAGO) (50c) (550c-95c) with stage show starring Drury Lane, Gross: $1,000. (Average: $143.)

**THE VERDICT** (WB) — GARCIA (1,000) (70c-95c) 2nd week, Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286.)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) — Rino PIANO (1,200) (70c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week, Gross: $1,100. (Average: $157.)

**THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM** (20th-Fox) — CHASE (1,504) (70c-95c) 4th week, Gross: $1,700. (Average: $267.)

**GENIUS AT WORK** (RKO Radio) — PALACE (1,400) (50c-95c) 7 days 3rd week, Gross: $1,200. (Average: $171.)

**CAPTAIN CAUTION** (Favorite Films) and **CAPTAIN PURY** (Favorite Films) — MALOY (1,400) (50c-95c) Gross: $1,000. (Average: $143.)

**THE SPINE OF THE WHALE** (M-G-M) — ROOSEVELT (1,000) (55c-95c) 7th week, Gross: $1,000. (Average: $143.)

**SITTING IN THE SUN** (RKO) — WOODS (1,200) (50c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week, Gross: $1,200. (Average: $171.)

**MINNESOTA**

Theatre patrons buckled cold weather and Loop business to well above average level. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 6:

**BLUE SKIES** (Para) — CENTURY (1,600) (50c-95c) 3rd week, Gross: $1,500. (Average: $215.)

**THICK STICKS** (WB) — GOFERER (1,000) (45c-50c) 7 days, Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286.)

**STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE** (20th-Fox — Premiere) — 1300 (50c-95c) 7 days, Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286.)

**THE MIGHTY MCGURK** (M-G-M) — GOLDEN GATE (2,150) (6c-11c) 7 days. With vaudeville, Gross: $7,500. (Average: $1,097.)

**THE MIGHTY McGUIRK** (M-G-M) — GOLDEN GATE (2,150) (6c-11c) 7 days. With vaudeville, Gross: $7,500. (Average: $1,097.)

**SAN DIEGO**

Groses have been only moderate here this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 6:

**SIOUX CITY** (Col.) — ORTHUM (2,140) (36c-85c) 7th week, Gross: $1,150. (Average: $165.)

**THE SHOW-OFF** (M-G-M) and **THE MIGHTY MCGURK** (M-G-M) — CHASE (2,273) (50c-95c) 7 days, Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286.)

**HUMORESQUE** (WB) — ST. LOUIS (4,650) (50c-85c) 7th week, Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286.)

**THE MIGHTY McGUIRK** (M-G-M) — GOLDEN GATE (2,150) (6c-11c) 7 days. With vaudeville, Gross: $7,500. (Average: $1,097.)

**HUMORESQUE** (WB) — CARFIELD (2,672) (45c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week, Gross: $2,700. (Average: $429.)

**ATLANTA**

Business has been only fair, the weather mild. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 6:

**THE END OF TIME** (RKO Radio) — FOX (4,600) (36c-6c) 2nd week, Gross: $1,100. (Average: $165.)

**WHITE TIE AND TAILS** (Para) — GETTYSBURG (2,250) (50c-95c) and **THE REVENGE OF HEAVEN** (RKO Radio) — ROXY (2,460) (50c-6c) 7th week, Gross: $6,000. (Average: $857.)

**IT ALL CAME TRUE** (WB reissue) and **TRAFFIC IN CRIME** (Rep.) — CAPITAL (4,150) (50c-95c) 7th week, Gross: $2,000. (Average: $429.)

**THE SECRET HEART** (M-G-M) — GRAND'S (2,525) (35c-6c) 2nd week, Gross: $1,120. (Average: $165.)

**DENVER**

Severe cold weather hurt theatres the first of the week, but business snapped back over the weekend. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 5:

**THE STRANGE WOMAN** (UA) and **THE WILD GOOSE** (20th-Fox) — DENHAN (1,350) (36c-7c) 7th week, Gross: $700. (Average: $100.)

**CROSS MY HEART** (Para) — DENHAN (1,350) (36c-7c) 7th week, Gross: $700. (Average: $100.)

**HUMORESQUE** (WB) and **RENEGADE** (M-G-M) — DENHAN (1,350) (36c-7c) 7 days, Gross: $1,000. (Average: $143.)

**HUMORESQUE** (WB) and **RENEGADE** (M-G-M) — DENHAN (1,350) (36c-7c) 7 days, Gross: $1,000. (Average: $143.)

**THE VENOMDELE AND FISH** and **INVISIBLE INFORMER** (Rep.) — FOX (4,600) (50c-85c) 7th week, Gross: $2,100. (Average: $357.)

**THE VENOMDELE AND FISH** and **INVISIBLE INFORMER** (Rep.) — FOX (4,600) (50c-85c) 7th week, Gross: $2,100. (Average: $357.)

**THE MIGHTY McGUIRK** (M-G-M) — GOLDEN GATE (2,150) (6c-11c) 7 days. With vaudeville, Gross: $7,500. (Average: $1,097.)

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Los Angeles, Feb. 4.—The four territorial organizations comprising the Pacific Coast Theatre Owners have come to a belated innovation in their war on crime: Poole, leader of the West Coast independent owners, recently went to New York to confer with the members of the independent theatre organization there and the New York Federal Court decree when OL jones effective, as proposed by the vice-president of the organization at their recent meeting in Portland.

The primary function of the committees, according to Robert Poole, chairman of the PACTO executives, is to detect inequities, if any, in the application of the decree and to bring them to the attention of the proper parties for rectification. The committees will also concern themselves with "policing" compliance with the decree.

Poole said designation of the committees and their purposes do not constitute an innovation or departure from precedent, recalling that PACTO followed the same procedure with respect to the defunct industry consent decree. Acting then on a resolution passed at its convention here in 1941, the PACTO members appointed and proved "valuable service" to exhibitors and distributors alike on a voluntary basis, on the necessary adjustments to new trade practices by swiftly uncovering and bringing to attention inequities which would otherwise remain in effect much longer with increasingly detrimental effect, Poole said.

"This was done on a cooperative step," he said, "although an important function of the committees is substantially to observe and report on the changes ordered by the court that can be implemented with a minimum of confusion and delay in order to test the new practices as rapidly as possible.

"With new industry machinery being set up, this is the time for all exhibitors everywhere to work in concert with their exhibitor organization," Poole added.

Electrical Workers Withdraw from CSU

Hollywood, Feb. 4.—International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local No. 40, one of the strongest locals on strike, withdrew from CSU headquarters, following the incursion of local officers by the international, but it declared that its members would continue to honor contracts.

IATSE President Walsh arrived over the weekend from Seattle, reportedly to see if the two IATSE locals can yet negotiate.

UK Business Good

Dave Coopan, UA's general manager in Britain, who has arrived from London for a home office visit, reported that business there is "very good," having experienced only a five to six per cent decline from wartime: peaks. He said that the "slowing down" of production of UA pictures in England will depend upon discussions with Gradwell Seaza, UA vice-president in charge of domestic distribution.

Lust's 10th Ready

Washington, Feb. 4.—The 10th addition to the long growing list of suburban theatres will open on Thursday. It is the new Chevery Theatre on Defense Highway, near Bladensburg, Md.

$200,000 Theatre Suit

Indianapolis, Feb. 4.—A suit for damages totaling $200,000 has been filed in Federal Court here against Vern Young of Gary, Garry R. Young, Marc Wolf and Albert R. Berger of Indianapolis, officers and directors of Fityller, Inc., the Montgomery Theatre Corp. and the Y. and W. Management Corp., respectively.

The suit, brought by three California stockholders of Fityller, charges the lease of a combined theatre, store and service club, which cost them annually $20,000 less than a "just rate." It asks appointment of a receiver, partition of profits and liquidate and distribute proceeds among stockholders.

Australian Quota Looms

Australian authorities are considering recommending a 20 per cent reduction in the importation of American pictures, according to press dispatches received here last night.

Heard Hughes Bid Today

Hearing arguments on a motion by Howard Hughes, producer of "The Uninvited," for a judgment in the suit by the motion picture division of the Securities and Exchange Commission against him, the court was to hold this coming Monday in New York Supreme Court before Judge Shentag. The hearing, originally scheduled for February 3, has been continued because the judge "is tied up with other cases."

S$310,000 for Novel

Richard Sherman's new novel, "Not So Long Ago," has been bought for $310,000 by 20th Century-Fox, the largest novel negotiations were completed by Darryl F. Zanuck, president, vice-president in charge of production, who assigned William Perlberg to produce the film with a tentative starting date for late this year.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 4.—Deals by the three Warner brothers highlighted film financing transactions according to the latest SEC report for the month ending Jan. 30. Jack Warner in New York, the only one of the three common to the Jewish Welfare Federation, leaving his holdings at 420,000 shares, has added 90,000, making a total of 1,300,000. Harry Warner's trust acquired an additional 2,600 shares and reported personal holdings of 300,000, making a total of 3,900 shares, bringing his total to 430,000. His trust acquired 7,400 shares for the year.

Warrants for purchase of common stock in Universal Pictures were acquired by the following company officials: Charles D. Pitzman, 2,950; William A. Scully, 3,000, and Joseph H. Seidelman, 3,000.

In a related report, Barney Balaban reported selling 300 shares of Paramount common. He also reported as of October, 1941, that he was holding 2,000,000 conversion notes calling for 25½ per cent.

Nicholas M. Schonck sold 1,000 shares of Loew's, Inc., making his total 21,349.

Erector Rubin sold 100 Loew's shares in Columbia Pictures.

The following were also reported: Jack Cohn of New York sold 550 shares of UA, giving him 1,700 shares to charity and Abraham Schneider disposed of 14 shares.

Bally's in Los Angeles, where the Roy Del Ruth production was shown. Among Monogram-Allied Artists executives at the event were Ed Morey, vice-president and assistant to president Steve Brody, and Norton Ritchey, president of Monogram International.

Hersh Now Independent

Hollywood, Feb. 4.—Ben Hersh, president of "The Philadelphia Story," has resigned to re-enter independent production. He will also continue producing the "Hollywood Alber" series, distributed by RKO Radio.

Robinson on Series

Earl Robinson, composer of "Bal- tics," is expected to complete the series of "The Roosevelt Story," which is being produced by Tola Productions.

5th Columbus Station

COLUMBUS, Ga., Feb. 4.—Columbus will soon have its fifth radio station, according to William K. Jenkins, Atlanta's president of the Chattahoochee Broadcasting Co. and circuit head.
"'SWELL GUY' gets top rating from New York Daily News, which says: — "'Swell Guy' has tremendous appeal. The picture is a daring production."

"'SWELL GUY' is interesting, fresh, tough and masculine. It deserves applause," says PM.

"'SWELL GUY' has atmosphere, suspense and considerable emotional strength. 'Swell Guy' is a sounder and more powerful entertainment than the average motion picture problem drama," says the New York Herald Tribune.

"'SWELL GUY' is bitterly, uncompromisingly ironic. It's a full-size portrait of a heel. Don't miss this one." — New York Journal-American.

"'SWELL GUY' is an honest picture," says the New York Sun.

IN NEW YORK

IN CHICAGO

"'SWELL GUY' is a swell picture."
— Chicago Herald-American

"'SWELL GUY' is interesting and unusual. You'll like the performances and its air of realism."
— Chicago Times

"'SWELL GUY' is a movie that's unusual. The film will hold your interest by its very difference."
— Chicago Tribune

"'SWELL GUY' is above the average movie."
— Chicago News

"'SWELL GUY' has the same realistic characterizations which marked 'The Killers.' All performers rate high."
— Chicago Sun
IN LOS ANGELES

"SWELL GUY" should do all right with the fans. It is an interesting picture... well made and played."
—Los Angeles Herald-Express

"SWELL GUY" is a mental jolt. Only a smart guy like Mark Hellinger, who knows that the public is considerably more mature than most producers believe, would have had the courage to make 'Swell Guy'"
—Los Angeles Examiner

"SWELL GUY" is interesting and mature."
—Los Angeles Daily News

"SWELL GUY" is a hard-hitting dramatic story."
—Hollywood Citizen-News

IN CINCINNATI

"SWELL GUY" is an adult movie... daring by screen standards... another good one to the credit of producer Hellinger."
—Cincinnati Post

"Mark Hellinger who produced 'The Killers' has rung the bell again."
—Cincinnati Times Star
1946 Radio Poll Winners Receive Scrolls

RED ALLEN, Champion of Champions in the 11th Annual Radio Poll for Fame Magazine, receives scroll from Gene Arneel of Motion Picture Daily.

JACK BENNY presents scroll for Best Announcer to Don Wilson.

Bing Crosby, voted Best Male Vocalist, Popular, and Best "M.C.", makes sure it's official.

H. V. Kaltenborn, Best News Commentator, presented scroll by Gene Arneel.

Best Comedienne Joan Davis receives scroll from Eddie Cantor.

Dinah Shore, Best Female Popular Vocalist, is presented winner's scroll in Hollywood.

Robert Mitchum, William Keighley and Laraine Day accept for Lux Theatre.

Bill Stern, Best Sportscaster, is presented scroll by Gene Arneel as widow of Graham MacNamee looks on.
STEP UP the Quality of Your Picture!

Successful exhibitors know that movie-goers appreciate top-quality high-intensity carbon arc projection. For it makes the picture brighter, sharper in detail—with perfectly balanced color. It brings customers back to your theatre again and again.

So...no matter how good it is now...you'll find it pays to step up the quality of your projection...and here's how it can be done!

For Smaller Theatres—

With One-Kilowatt High Intensity Projection, clear-cut black-and-white images and true color reproduction are yours at the cost of only a couple of admissions a day.

For Medium-Sized Theatres—

Larger screens and longer throws require “Suprex” Carbon High Intensity Projection for proper screen brightness and color. Ideal for medium-sized houses, this type of projection is definitely economical.

For the Largest Theatres—

Super High Intensity—the finest projection available. Greater depth, sharper definition, higher screen brightness and full richer color are the qualities that set this projection apart from all others.

For more details on stepping up the quality of your projection, get in touch with National Carbon Company, Inc.—Dept. M.P.
Allied Will Support ‘Brotherhood’ Drive

Allied States Association has endorsed “American Brotherhood Week,” Feb. 16-23, and the motion picture appeal drive of the United Brotherhood of Greece, a one-month drive to begin on March 8 in honor of Spyros P. Skouras, national Allied president Jack Kirsch announces.

Fred Wahlenberg, president of the Motion Picture Arbitrators’ Gamble, chairman of the American Theatre Association, are co-chairmen, with Skouras and Kirsch, of the brotherhood campaign. Ed E. Deiner, president of the Fabian operators and Jack Cohn are co-chairmen of the Greek War Orphan Drive.

Keefe and Wise Draw Up Cincinnati Campaign

CINCINNATI, Feb. 4.—Jim Keefe, 20th Century-Fox field executive, and Nathan Wise, RKO Theatres advertising manager, here, have drawn up an advertising-publicity campaign to promote “American Brotherhood Week” in Cincinnati. Street car cards, signs for department store advertising, and window displays and radio spot announcements are included in the campaign.

Verdict Is Upheld In Paolillo Case

The appeal board of the Motion Picture Arbitrators’ Tribunals has affirmed the decision denying Antonio and Ciro Paolillo, operators of the Paradise Theatre, Brooklyn, their application to eliminate clearance at Paramount and Loew’s Product between the Paradise and Gavan Amusement’s Avon. The two film company defendants were said to impose a seven-day clearance in favor of the Avon. The ruling set the clearance over the Paradise at a three-day maximum. Costs were assessed against each of the four parties equally.

New Board Named

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 4.—The new editorial board of the Hollywood Quarterly includes John Collier, James F. Ely, Irving Pichel and Abraham Polonsky, representing the Writers’ Mobilization, and Samuel Farquar, Dr. Franklin Pearse, Dr. Franklin Rolfe and Kenneth MacGowan, representing the University of California.

Adrian E. Ford, 71

NORTHIC, N. Y., Feb. 4.—Adrian E. Ford, former theatre operator, died here Sunday night at his home after several years of failing health.

Bogus and Lupino In Joint Production

Hollywood, Feb. 4.—Benedict Bogus and Ida Lupino have formed Arcadia Productions to make one film yearly for three years, all starring Miss Lupino, for United Artists. The first will be “The Queen’s Necklace.” This will be apart from the activities of Benedict Bogus Productions, also releasing through United Artists.

Appeal Filings (Continued from page 1)

DAILY on Jan. 23, Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, is grooming the Supreme Court’s No. 52-B, an appeal of the Attorney General’s appeal for a March 1 filing. Under the Supreme Court’s Rule No. 52-B, the court issued a written order that the four briefs be submitted to the court, to determine whether the court would grant the defendants leave to appeal the District Court’s refusal on paper to grant the defendants leave to appeal the District Court’s refusal on paper.

This view, it developed yesterday, also is shared by at least some of the counsel for the theatre-owning defendants. Two of whom declare that they will certain all defense appeals will be filed on or before March 1, Thomas Turner, Cook, Universal counsel, reiterated his intention of playing safe likewise. And Columbia, as previously reported, is planning to appeal to the court by attorney Louis Frehlich, the court.

Although Paramount, M-G-M, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners have not formally stated whether they will appeal, a spokesman for them has indicated that they will carry the appeal to the Supreme Court at a highly probable.

Final Draft (Continued from page 1)

to establish funds for research, educational and scientific work—has been observed, in fact, in the giving, of the survey of by-laws of many existing foundations of a similar nature in order to embrace the broad scope of the proposed organization.


Plans are now being drafted for field organizational meetings in the spring.

AFL ‘Assures’ SAG

Hollywood, Feb. 4.—The Screen Actors’ Guild, which last week telegraphed to the United States President his statement to Labor Executive Council urging adoption of its resolution calling for permanence in the field, has this week received a telegram from AFL President William Green, who assured the Guild that its plan is being given careful and critical attention to suggestion submitted in your message.

Intervenors Appeal Clearances

An appeal for a clearance award by the Hollywood tribunals of the American Arbitration Association has been filed with the appeal board in New York. The appeal is on behalf of the State Operating Co. of Nashua and Manchester, N. H., respectively, in a complaint filed against M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO Radio and Warner Brothers by Latchis Theatres of New York.

In his award, Raymond C. Baldes, the arbitrator, held that maximum clearance granted the Coleopters in Nashua should be 26 days and no more than 34 days after territorial release date. He held, furthermore, that no clearance "in the form of priority of running or otherwise should be granted the plaintiffs until the arbitrators to the Manchester theatre of State Operating Co., "except on pictures not shown at the Nashua theatre and as such pictures, the maximum clearance should be 26 days, but no more in any event, than 34 days after territorial release date."

M-G-M Cancels Trips

(Continued from page 1)

absent from their posts for four weeks.

The 14 film representatives were scheduled to meet in New York on February 8th. They will meet, in addition, with John P. Byrne, Eastern sales manager, as host. From New York, the men were scheduled to go to Chicago, New Orleans and Los Angeles where local sales managers would conduct a series of meetings.

With "The Yearling," "Till the Clouds Roll By," "The Beginning of the End," and "Sea of Grass" topping the list of new features Benjamin Niles was busy for marketing, in addition to "The Arnelto Affair," "It Happened in Hollywood," "High Sierra," "Cynthia’s Secret," M-G-M says it is prepared to offer a steady flow of product for the next few months.

In lieu of the planned five-city tour, the men have been rewarded with bonuses, it was added.

Slated to make the tour were John S. Allen, district manager with headquarters in Washington; Saul Gottlieb, Pittsburgh; L. C. Wingham, San Francisco; D. C. Kennedy, Des Moines; Ben Rosenwald, Charlotte; Louis Formato, Philadelphia; Jack B. Munchuck, Buffalo, all managers; Irvin Jacobs, Pittsfield; Edward Dunn, Des Moines; Ray Ervin, Char- lotte; Frank Jelenko, Philadelphia; Arthur Anderson, New York; and salesmen; Joseph Krohnbach, Washington office manager; Max Shabason, Pittsburgh branch.

Vice-President Rodgers left here tonight for the Coast to spend the next few weeks looking at new product for the specialty field. M-G-M executives also left tonight for their respective headquarters, including Ed- ward M. Saunders and R. H. Aarons, assistant sales managers, New York; Rudolph Berger, Southern managers, New Orleans; John M. Maley, Central sales head, Pitts- burgh; John P. Byrne, Eastern, New York.

During the meetings here, Rodgers

To Negotiate Deal For Veterans’ Films

Washington, Feb. 4.—A new deal for setting terms to Veterans Administration Faciliti- ties will be arranged at a meeting of VA representa- tives, the Motion Picture Association, and distributors at the Hotel Pennsylvania New York on the 12th. Contracts also be formulated for the lease of pictures to veterans.

Veterans Administration officials to meet with the distributors will be: A. S. Mason, assistant to special services; C. Bream, Jr., acting director of recreation; J. C. Cassity, chief of the motion picture division and Palfreyman of the MP.

Reciprocal Trade (Continued from page 1)

Johnston has given considerable time to a study of the overall situation, it was said, with the aim of pre- senting his argument when he testi- fies for the Reciprocity Committee, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. Johnston is de- scribed to be a bitter foe of reci- procity arrangements.

Results of the Washington hearing will have a bearing on the Geneva Trade Conferences, beginning April 8 in which 18 key countries will partici- pate. At this, the U. S. will be represented by William G. Nye, Assistant Secretary of State, and aids. Russia has yet to answer the bid to attend.

Knutson, Sen. Hugh Butler and other Congressmen have contested the continuation on the grounds that the ratification of trade agreements on a reciprocal basis would lower living standards in this country, Knutson took the traditional stand when he was House Minority Leader.

Butler told the Senate last week that the State Department is consid- ering 1250 films. Close to 800 briefs already have been filed with the Committee on Reciprocity.

Johnston’s position, and he is said not to be alone, is one strongly sup- porting freer trade among nations with the elimination, wherever possible, of barriers. In an address to the Rochester Chamber of Commerce last week, he called upon the Republican Party to lend its support to this pro- gram.

Crouch Film for Astor

Producer William Crouch yesterday completed production of a three-reeler, "Experiments in Film." Craft, Studio in the Bronx, for Bob Savin’s Astor Pictures, state-righter.

outlined plans for the new product devised for release in the next four months.

Only three persons not associated with M-G-M were guests of the company at the luncheon at the Drake Hotel here today. They were Harry Balkman, of Harry and Elmer Bala- man, Edward Cook, independent theatre owner, and Hal Tate of Motion Picture Daily’s Chicago bureau.
TWELFTH ANNUAL EDITION IS NOW IN CIRCULATION

THE INTERNATIONAL INDEX TO PRODUCTION, TALENT AND TECHNICAL VALUES IN THE WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT . . .

SCREEN • CONCERT • RADIO

One Dollar the Copy
EDITED BY TERRY RAMSAYE

QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS
ROCKEFELLER CENTER, NEW YORK (20)
One person had his. Recognition following, Miss Hayward realizes her need to pursue the bottle is ended.

The cross-current, romantically, involves Marsha Hunt, Bowman's secretary and girl Friday. While she loves him, he loves Miss Hayward who, in this critical moment, understands the only answer is to take another alcoholic "binge." In this, it is only one of a series of standoffs which disintegrate their marriage until the dramatic turn arrives and the domestic situation again clammers toward its initial happiness and understanding.

Miss Hayward's role is difficult, but she acquits herself admirably through-out. Since she is the pivot, other principals never mean much, although it is Miss Miller's unadulterated talent that insisted upon converting Bowman into the wishy-washy, colorless individual he is made to appear here. Miss Hunt, attractive to look at, has one very effective scene (Hollywood all know Madame Bovary). As friend and counselor, does a quiet, but sound, job. Competent, too, are Carl Esmond, Charles D. Brown and others in support. Historically, however, "Smash-Up" is mostly Hayward, a yard wide and with lots of wood. Hollywood may be expected to vibrate with its usual excitement when the word about her gets around.

Aside from background music, there are five vocal alternatives sung by Miss Hayward and Bowman. Thematically, the key number is "Life Can Be Beautiful," a sentimental ballad which already has made "The Hit Parade."

Stuart Heisler's direction deserves commendation. Walter Wanger produced with Martin Javel, "Let the Chips Fall." Jeanne Cran has had her 20th Century-Fox contract extended.

"That's Life," the story of a professor of serious music who becomes involved in an academic analysis of jazz, will be Danny Kaye's next starring vehicle for Samuel Goldwyn. Kaye's executive producer on Paramount, has been signed to develop the story. Kaye plans to produce and direct "Counter-Spy," with Charles Drake and Lynne Roberts in leading roles.

Melton Spering is back from Sun Valley, with an ambitious undertaking in mind as his next production for Warner Bros. Titled "Nothing but the Night," it will attempt to combine a study of sociological trends in California with a fast-moving murder mystery... Mark Hellingler, has signed Charles Bickford to star in his next production for U-I, "Brute Force." Adolph Menjou, dapper character actor, has turned his talent to a new medium. He is writing a book about his experiences while making some 200 films for which he claims to rack up a 16mm. record of which M-G-M's "The Hucksters."... Charles Laughton is set for a stellar role as Napoleon, in which British veteran, screen veteran Michael Redgrave will produce and direct "Brute Force," directed by Farrow direct for Paramount.

Edgar Kennedy, who has been with RKO-Radio for 15 years, and Leon Errol, who has been there for 16 years, have been signed to new contracts covering for six two-reeler each for 1947. ... Five-year-old Marcia Anne Northrop has been engaged by Samuel Goldwyn for a key role in "The Bishop's Wife," which goes into production this month with Cary Grant, David Niven and Teresa Wright in top roles.

Maureen O'Hara will star in RKO's Technicolor feature, "Out of All Time," Laid in post-war England, it is a period story, with the title role played by Maureen O'Hara. herbs to food. Harry Everett Horton has been signed for an important part in "The Matinée Comedians," a comedy written with Miss Hayward, a yard wide and with lots of wood. Hollywood may be expected to vibrate with its usual excitement when the word about her gets around.

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Allied High Court Move Waits Appeal

Myers Says Scope of Brief Undetermined Now

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5—Allied States will play the role of "watch dog" to see what arguments the appeal papers of the defendants and the government will contain before preparing an amicus curiae brief for the U.S. Supreme Court in the industry anti-trust suit, Abram F. Myers, general counsel for that organization, said here today.

Myers said that it will be difficult for the Justice Department to argue in opposition to the relief given by the lower court, meaning competitive bid.

(Continued on page 6)

Attendance Equal To 1946: Rodgers

CHICAGO, Feb. 5—Actual theatre attendance, along with gross receipts, as holding up to the level of last year throughout the country, according to William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, who now is en route to the Coast following the company's sales meeting here this week.

Rodgers' conclusion, reached after discussion with his sales lieutenants from widely scattered areas, is at variance with recent widely-expressed opinions to the effect that increased admission prices have boosted grosses but that the number of patrons attending films has diminished.

Another spokesman for M-G-M de-

(Continued on page 7)

20th Drops Budget To Gain Flexibility

Hollywood, Feb. 5—In a plan designed to leave production costs adaptable to the scope of each individual story, the 20th Century-Fox studio will operate without an over-all budget for the coming year, the company announced here today following conferences by Syplos P. Skouras, president; David B. Zanuck, vice-president, and Joseph M. Schenck, executive head of production.

The new plan will be applied to some 20 large-scale dramas and musicals scheduled to be made during the year, the announcement said.

U.A. Will Launch 'Modernized' Sales

Meet This Month

United Artists' "modernized" sales meetings, announced in December by Gladwell L. Sears, will be launched in Buffalo, Feb. 22 to 25 with subsequent meetings at Pittsburgh and El Paso, Feb. 27 to March 2, and Chicago, March 6 to 9. J. J. Unger, U.A. general sales manager, announced yesterday.

At each meeting, all available UA product will be shown to the company's sales staff. Unger, together with Sears and UA president Edward C. Rafferty, will be on hand for at least one session of the meetings.

(Continued on page 6)

Grinieff in Deal

For 40 UA Reissues

Jacques Grinieff, president of U. S. Film Export Corp., will acquire from United Artists 40 films, in some instances, about five years in age in a reported deal said to be in the final stages of negotiation.

The package arrangement is said to be on a global basis, with Grinieff, formerly a French producer, to dis-

(Continued on page 7)

"Angel and the Badman"

[Republic]

With segments of Hollywood apparently concentrating on efforts to rescue the Western film from the stereotyped formula, it is not surprising that Republic, long regarded as a nestling place of skilled technicians when it comes to quality "horse operas," should step forward with a "super" Western of three-dimensional caliber. "Angel and the Badman," starring John Wayne in his initial venture in production, is just such a product, tempering, without surrendering, action and gun-play in favor of character development and moral conflict. It will undoubtedly attract the large masses of Western fans throughout the world and, in addition, win a lot of new ones from that large segment of theatre patrons who seek protein along with cake, in their celluloid diet.

Ample stocked with names," Gail Russell is cast as the "angel" of the title to Wayne's "badman," with supporting roles portrayed by

(Continued on page 7)

Truman Wants 100% Trade Plan Support

Washington, Feb. 5—President Truman, in his first report to Congress on the United States' participation in the United Nations, today called for "genuinely national bi-partisan" support of the Administration's foreign trade program.

The report coincided with increasing Republican opposition to the Administration's reciprocal trade program, which is endorsed by Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, and other industry leaders.

Para. Theatre Split

Is Raibourn's Guess

Paul Raibourn, economist for Paramount and president of its subsidiary, Television Productions, said here yesterday it is his guess that Paramount will split the number of partially-owned theatres with its partners in the event the New York decree decision is sustained.

Rumors to this effect have been current in the trade for some time. However, Raibourn emphasized that the company has yet to set down any plans for complying with the decision, from which it will take an appeal and, consequently, others, including himself, can only offer conjecture. The decision outlaws holdings of between five and 96 percent in theatre interests by the distributors.

Approximately 1,200 of Paramount's 1,500 theatres are affected by

(Continued on page 6)

First Case in Arbitration

Since Decree

Albany Filing Extends Life of Board There

The first arbitration complaint to be filed since the New York Federal District court handed down its decree in the industry anti-trust suit on Dec. 31, providing for the termination of industry arbitration, was filed in the New York court on Dec. 31 except for a few tribunals where cases were pending prior to that date, was entered at the Albany Federal District court.

The filing of the complaint automatically gives the Albany tribunal a new lease on life, since no other cases were pend-

(Continued on page 2)

British Production

For Allied Artists

Hollywood, Feb. 5—Allied Artists will produce three features annually in England in association with Pathé, British distributor of AA and Monogram products, with details to be worked out in London during April, the company announced here today.

Steve Brody, Monogram and AA president; W. F. Broidy, chairman of the board of directors, and Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International, are scheduled to leave here for London on April 9 to finalize plans for the project. Negotiations with Pathé were instituted by Brody during his recent trip abroad.

MPA Luncheon for Ambassador Gardner

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, was host at a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here yesterday for O. Max Gardner, who will leave for London today to assume his duties as U. S. Ambassador to Great Britain.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M's vice-president and general sales manager, is due to arrive in Hollywood from Chicago today, said President and Chief Executive OFFICERS, EDWIN W. AARON, JOHN P. BYRNE and JAY EISENBERG will return to New York today from Chicago.

HAROLD LASER, Department of Justice attorney, here is in Washington for conferences with ROBERT L. WRIGHT, special assistant to U. S. Attorney General CLARENCE McANAGA in connection with the industry anti-trust suit.

A. W. SCHWARZDE, Eagle-Lion vice-president and general sales manager, and MAX E. YOUNGSTEN, vice-president in charge of the company, will leave New York tomorrow for Toronto.

LEN LITTON, Monogram's advertising-publicity chief, who contracted influenza, was on a promotional trip to Hollywood from New York recently, is back at his desk again.

LOUIS LAZAR, general manager of Paramount International's Continental Europe theatre department, will sail from his Port Arthur headquarters on the S. S. America today.

GEORGE PAL, Paramount Puppetoons producer, arrived in New York from the Coast yesterday.

CARL LESERMAN has left Hollywood by plane for New York.

Economy Factor in Pascal Shift to US

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 5.—Producer Gabriel Pascal's move from London to Hollywood, which was predicted in connection with Artists Alliance, the new Mary Pickford-Lester Cowan company, in the filming of a number of Bernard Shaw plays, was prompted by the belief that he can make better pictures more economically here, Pascal declares. The present lack of studio facilities in Britain also entered into the decision, he explains.

Pascal points out that British quota will be increased but that the restrictions will be helpful to both countries. The producer may make a picture within two or three years in Dublin, where he has become a stockholder in a new production group. First of his American pictures will be Shaw's "The Devil's Disciple," in which Jean Simmons, British actress, will star. She is scheduled to arrive in June here.

UNOBTRUSIVELY incorporated in Tuesday's Motion Picture Daily was this paragraph on the annual conference of MPTO of Virginia in Washington:

Morton Thalhimer, president of Neighborhood Theatres, pointed out to the group that every time the Government comes to the rescue of the exhibitor in court, the theatremen have come off worse than before. Yet too [Inc.,] Department of Justice] in the discussion virtually admitted this was true.

Comment becomes redundant, unnecessary and irrelevant.

A Abram F. Myers' annual report to his board ratifies the years-old Allied postulate that theatre divesture "not only to relieve the exhibitors against booking difficulties and high rentals, but also in many ways the may be opened for new producers and distributors with new ideas and methods to come in." For, he continues, it cannot be assumed that the changes will be forthcoming for such new enterprises until it is assured of fair access to the lucrative first run markets.

What he does not observe, however, is that there may be a flood of new capital also pouring into new theatres provided competitive bidding is sustained by the Supreme Court. New ideas and methods, if they are new, won't change the front yard of production and distribution without altering the same area in exhibition.

Since the established company has lost all standing in the eyes of the court, the lucrative first run territory to which he refers ultimately may attract a lot of new combers to the bandwagon—those well heeled by war profits, but not necessarily now in exhibition or in any other phase of the industry for that matter.

The theatre operator, now regarded as regularly constituted because he happens to have been in the running before these court decisions and decrees were handed down, therefore, is left to compete along with the other two principal branches of the industry. Exemptions may be comforting, but too often than not they can be disappointing.

Compounding an editorial on announced plans of the House Committee on Un-American Activities to go probing for the first time under Republican auspices, the New York Daily News blesses three phases of the program. One is the searching spotlight on Hollywood again.

"Some of our friends go, "the columnist has, "are inclined to guffaw at the notion of $1,000-a-week Hollywood Communists but they are nevertheless a menace. These people can manage to dip an occasional party line finger into the pocket for millions of Americans who prefer straight entertainment without dy propagandia."

"Always the generality with its glitter. Never the who, what, when and where."

In a difficult, if not impossible, cause perhaps. But Jean Her- sholt, president of the Academy, at least is on to it. He is not only an expert on that and studio policies influence the voting, I am sending you this personal letter to urge that when you receive your ballot you will see that you have a responsible Academy. The Academy is for the best achievement of our fellow-craftsmen rests in your hand.

"What is reasonable and unreasonable clearance?"

His answer: "Reasonable is what I would have if I were an exhibitor. Unreasonable is what the other fellows have."

SO-YOU-THINK-IT'S-Tough DEPARTMENT: Arthur Dent, veteran British film man, has been receiving by wire now explaining what the current decree was about. The question frequently thrown at him was:

"What is reasonable and unreasonable clearance?"

"This," he says, "is what I would have if I were a British exhibitor. Unreasonable is what our fellow-countrymen have in this country."

At the Academy's annual dinner at the Ambassador Hotel, Arthur Dent is one of the guests. He is a member of the British delegation and a fellow member of the British film industry.

Columbia's low-budget, product, is leaving that studio on Mar. 15. His future plans are unknown.

The studio is adopting a new system whereby low-budget product will be made coordinated with the main department. Included in the front office. Sam Katzman, Rudolph Flothow and Wallace Macdonald head three of the units, and Ted Rymill will take charge of Columbia's fourth. John Haggott, currently producing under Zeidman, will be promoted to high-budget pictures.

AMPA Lunch Today Will Honor Edison

The Thomas A. Edison Centennial will be observed at today's luncheon meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at the Town Hall Club.

George Wever, Life promotion director, and Terry Ramsaye, editor of Motion Picture Herald are among the speakers. Vice-president of the company, Rutgers Nielson will officiate, and vice-president Phil Williams will make a report. "Myra Commins, "Adeline Edison Sloane, daughter of the inventor, will be among the guests.

Public Votes on Ending

An audience vote, to be taken at the first showings of Eagle-Lion's "Bedelia" at the Victoria Theatre here tomorrow, will determine which of two endings will be permanently used on the picture. Since the MPA code ruled out suicide as the killer's "way out," the studio shot a new ending showing Bedelia, the killer, giving herself up.

50c CBS Dividend

The Board of Directors of Columbia Broadcasting last Thursday declared a cash dividend of ninetysix cents on Class A and B stock of $2.50 par value, payable Mar. 7 to stockholders of record at the close of business on Feb. 21.
WORDS CAN'T DESCRIBE THE POWER OF

"Pursued"

SHOWINGS FOR THE TRADE FEB. 17th
The New York Film Critics awarded it the honor of being "the best picture of the year."

The New York Newspaper Guild gave it its page one award as "the best film of the year."

All of the Boston newspapers called it "the best picture of the year."

All of the Chicago newspapers called it "the best picture of the year."

All of the Miami newspapers called it "the best picture of the year."

LOUELLA PARSONS, in Cosmopolitan, says: "one of the best pictures I've ever seen."

HEDDA HOPPER says, "best picture of the year."

"The new movie entitled 'The Best Years Of Our Lives,' produced by Samuel Goldwyn, is absorbing entertainment (for close to three hours) and continues to stir the emotions and provoke thought long after one has left the theatre."

SAMUEL GOLDWYN

The BEST Year

starring MYRNA LOY • FREDRIC MARCH • DANA ANDREW

Directed by WILLIAM WYLER • Screenplay by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD

Released thru
JIMMIE FIDLER says, "pic of the pictures."

LOOK says, "one of the greatest of all time."

TIME says "first on everyone's list."

LEADING EDITORIAL in the New York Times says, "a poignant drama of real life...important...enriching."

The LEADING EDITORIAL in Collier's says, "a highly significant and important motion picture drama."

MOVIE OF THE MONTH Award from Scholastic Magazine.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH Award from Parents' Magazine.

LIBERTY says, "A superb movie which all America can claim as its own..."

LIFE says "an honest, adult and absorbing film."

For Veterans: American Legion National Commander Paul H. Griffith wrote: "My sincere congratulations to Mr. Samuel Goldwyn for an outstanding picture." General Omar Bradley wrote: "I cannot thank you too much for bringing this story to the American people."

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS acclaimed it as "the best picture of the month."

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE (Mrs. William S. Kilborne) wrote: "You should feel great satisfaction to have produced a picture of such constructive value."

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR refers to it as "the best movie of the year."

COMMONWEAL, the National Catholic Weekly, says: "A magnificent job...a fine film...a really good motion picture."

MODERN SCREEN, in April, will say, "It's true...but you couldn't know how true! An excellent entertainment."

DR. RALPH SOCKMAN, reviewing a film on NBC's "National Radio Pulpit" for the first time in history, said, "I cannot refrain from confessing how deeply I was moved."

VOX POP, over 142 stations of the CBS network, devoted 30 minutes to practically unrestrained praise of "The Best Years of Our Lives."

...AND BOX-OFFICE HONORS!...Variety reports: "Los Angeles—Among holdover roadshows, inauguration of downtown Palace for day-date (with Beverly) showcasing of 'Best Years' is proving SOCKO... Boston—Esquire holding up on fifth week... Chicago—'Best Years' best bet at Woods... New York—Astor business solid, continues indefinitely."

...YN'S...
Would Group Film Appeals on Docket

Thursday, February 6, 1947

N. Y. Supreme Court Justice Martin L. Shientag yesterday reserved decision on a motion by Howard Hughes, producer of "The Outlaw," to disqualify Judge Preusse in his suit against City Line radio broadcaster Benjamin Fielding and Police Commissioner Arthur Wallander to prevent the suspension of the film's release. Hughes' suit for a declaratory judgment to restrain the city officials to issue a license to show the film, said Hughes, "is conclusive on the subject of decency, and that the city officials have no right to revoke or threaten to revoke the license of an exhibitor on the strength of the decency or immorality of a film.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Charles F. Preusse and Daniel Rosen, attorneys for the city, it is understood, contended that the issuance of a license does not carry with it immunity from prosecution under state laws.

Scheduled for "The Outlaw" was thwarted at the end of last year by the Supreme Court, which indicated they would shut down the Republic, Gotham and Rialto.

Book Berlin Song for 'Brotherhood Week'

As a special feature for American Broadcasting Company. From Feb. 18 to 24, metropolitan theaters will show a song trailer of Irving Berlin's "Help Me To Help My Neighbor," the official "Brotherhood Week" film of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The Century Circuit and other metropolitan houses are making plans to feature the subject.

Lloyd Opening Set

Hollywood, Feb. 5,—Howard Hughes has set the world premiere of Harold Lloyd's new comedy, "The Sin of Harold Diddlebob," for Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the Lincoln theatre in Miami. Lloyd has personally invited Miami for, Miami to attend a meeting of national officers of the Shriners and the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Pergament Gets Film

"The Timelobby," by Hans Christian Andersen, produced in Denmark in a full-length, color cartoon, has been licensed by Harvey Pergament, for distribution in the United States and other territories.

'Henry V' Record

The biggest opening day gross for "Henry V" engagements has been registered at the $3,500-seat Eastman Auditorium in Rochester, with $6,783 counted, UA reports.
Red Cross Chapter Rejects PCC Check

Hollywood, Feb. 5—The Los Angeles chapter of the American Red Cross today rejected the $260,000 allocation for the Permanent Charities Committee Check for $100,000 preferred as first payment on the $250,000 voted by the Los Angeles chapter. The PCC sent a $200,000 check to the Community Chest as first payment on a $150,000,000 equalization of the Los Angeles quota.

The chairman of the Permanent Committee, who has been published newspaper advertisements containing offers to the public to be wrong be and misleadingly workers in our industry. We are, as you know, committed bitter, the entire industry and by or resolution of all unions, guilds and other organizations to conduct only one charitable allocation annually. Obviously we cannot permit misstatements or advertisements to deter us from carrying out our obligation to the Public to which we represent.

In a press release announcing rejection of the PCC donation, William T. Sisson, president of the Los Angeles chapter of the Red Cross, said that the action was taken "with regret" and under instructions from Washington headquarters. He also said that newspaper advertisements had been published without clearing them through the Los Angeles chapter.

Solon Spurs Probe Of Radio 'Crime'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5—The House will be asked to authorize a congressional investigation of radio programs, with particular reference to crime broadcasting, with the bill said to have been warned of crime and suspicion programs coming over national networks.

Honors for 'Arsenic'

BRUSSELS, Feb. 5—Walters' "Arsenic and Old Lace" has been selected as the best motion picture shown in Belgium in 1946, WB has received the International Film Cup.

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<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>MONO</th>
<th>PARA</th>
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<th>REPUBLIC</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>THE JOLSON STORY (Color)</td>
<td>M—126 mins.</td>
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<td>LIGHOUSE MAN</td>
<td>John Litel</td>
<td>June Lang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>THE MIGHTY MIKE</td>
<td>(Feb. Release)</td>
<td>DEAD RECKONING</td>
<td>D—100 mins.</td>
<td>(Mar. 1)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>WILD COUNTRY</td>
<td>Eddie Dean</td>
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<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>SOUTH OF CHISHOLM TRAIL</td>
<td>Chas. Starrett</td>
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<td>(Feb. Releases)</td>
<td>VACATION DAYS</td>
<td>Freddie Stewart</td>
<td>June Preisner</td>
<td>M—611</td>
<td>THE PERFECT MARRIAGE</td>
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<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>CIGARETTE GIRL</td>
<td>M—62 mins.</td>
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<td>(Rev. 12/21/46)</td>
<td>BOOMTOWN (Reprint)</td>
<td>FALL GUYS</td>
<td>Robert Armstrong</td>
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<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>Roy Milford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>THE GUILTY</td>
<td>Bonita Granville</td>
<td></td>
<td>(March Releases)</td>
<td>THE YEARLING</td>
<td>Gregory Peck</td>
<td>Jane Wyman</td>
<td>D—114 mins.</td>
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<td>Mar. 8</td>
<td>BEGINNING OF THE END</td>
<td>Brian Donlevy</td>
<td>Robert Walker</td>
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<td>EASY COME, EASY GO</td>
<td>Sonny Tufts</td>
<td>Diana Lynn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 15</td>
<td>S UDDENLY IT'S SPRING</td>
<td>Fred MacMurray</td>
<td>Paulette Goddard</td>
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<td>THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE</td>
<td>Warren Douglas</td>
<td>C—74 mins.</td>
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<td>Mar. 22</td>
<td>PHILO VANCE'S VICTORY</td>
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<td>THE LOCKET</td>
<td>Laura Holt</td>
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Notes: Based on National Release Schedules and are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) = (M) = Musical. (C) = Comedy. (O) = Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review. (ma)
**Trade Pacts Vital to U.S. Films: MPA**

**Johnston States Views At Reciprocity Hearing**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. — The American motion picture industry frankly recognizes that the best way of securing relief from the restrictions imposed on its product by foreign government is through the system of reciprocal bargaining provided for in the trade agreement,” Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, told the Committee on Reciprocity Information at a hearing here today.

Johnston unqualifiedly en— (Continued on page 6)

**Cite Film Barriers For Geneva Meeting**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. — A document outlining industry objections to barriers imposed upon American films in 11 of the 15 countries to meet at the Geneva Trade Conference will be presented to the Department of State by the Motion Picture Association, Eric Johnston, MPA president, said today.

This will be the first time the industry has compiled an analysis of trade barriers and submitted it to— (Continued on page 6)

**Ambassador Gardner Stricken Suddenly**

O. Max Gardner, 61, recently appointed United States Ambassador to Britain, died suddenly yesterday morning in the St. Regis Hotel here on the eve of his departure for London to assume his new post. Death was due to coronary thrombosis. Gardner had been guest of honor at a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria on Wednesday at which Eric Johnston was host and which was attended by top executives of all major motion picture companies.

**PRODUCE OWN ALL OUTLETS NOW**

Producers Releasing Corp. has purchased from Lloyd V. Lamb, what were the company’s two remaining franchise-owned exchanges in Seattle and Portland, thereby becoming sole owner of its 11 domestic exchanges. Harry H. Thomas, PRC president, announced yesterday. Completion of the deal with Lamb, Thomas said, fulfills the plan of Pathé Industries, PRC’s parent company, which is controlled by Robert K. Young.

Wally Rocker and Ralph Amacher, who formerly represented M-G-M in the Northwest, have been named branch managers of PRC’s Portland exchanges, respectively. Although Lamb’s future plans are as yet undisclosed, many of the original film exhibitors have remained with PRC in executive capacities.

PRC said yesterday that it will plan to enter distribution in Latin America, the Philippines, and the Fars.

Lloyd L. Lind, vice-president of Producers Releasing Corp., left New York last night for a business trip to Canada, where PRC product is handled by franchise holders.

**Australians Seek Strict Censorship**

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, Feb. 1 (By Airmail)—Adoption of measures for stricter film censorship in Australia, as a result of mounting demands by various social organizations, has led to the calling of the first Commonwealth conference of this country’s independents for this month.

Proposed by the Queensland Exhibitors’ Association, the conference will consider such problems as the controversy arising over the question of whether film rentals are a matter for— (Continued on page 6)

**Crouch, Others Are Promoted by Loew’s**

Orville Crouch, manager of Loew’s State, St. Louis, has been named assistant to Carter Barron in Loew’s Eastern division by Joseph R. Vogt, vice-president in charge of Loew theatres. Crouch succeeds Martin Burnett, who becomes midwestern division manager.

The St. Louis post will be assumed by Russ Royer, now manager of Loew’s Midland, Kansas City, Howard Turbett of Loew’s State, Cleveland, will move to the Kansas City spot. He will be succeeded by Maurice Drucker, now manager of Loew’s Ohio, Cleveland.

**SENIATE BODY VOTES EXCISE EXTENSION**

Washington, Feb. 6. — The Senate Finance Committee today approved the extension of wartime excise taxes, including the Federal admission tax, for an indefinite period. The measure, requested by President Truman, already has been passed by the House. Proposals for modification of the taxes were not accepted by the Finance Committee, but they may be considered on the floor of the Senate if they can be worked out in a manner acceptable to the Treasury, according to Sen. Robert Taft (Ohio), member of the Committee.

**AFL Chiefs Adopt SAG’s Arbitration**

MIAMI, Feb. 6. — The American Federation of Labor Executive Council, at the final session of its meeting here, placed itself squarely behind the Screen Guild’s arbitration tribunal plan to eliminate intra-union jurisdictional strikes, with the expressed determination to apply the SAG proposal to other industries.

The SAG’s plan had been put forth at the October AFL convention and as the meeting here got under way last week SAG president Robert Montgomery by wire strongly urged William Green and the other executive council members to set the plan in motion.

The initial move in this connection calls for Green to contact every national and international AFL union to enlist its efforts to set up arbitration tribunals in their industries along the lines announced by President Truman last Saturday for the building and construction industry.

The absence of arbitration tribunal operations has been one of the principal obstacles to the solution of the present Hollywood jurisdictional strike.

**William Fadiman Is Named Scharfy’s Aide**

Hollywood, Feb. 6. — William Fadiman, who recently resigned as M-G-M story department head, will join RKO as special assistant to Dore Schary, newly-named vice-president in charge of production, on March 1. Fadiman’s executive duties will include his having charge of all story writers.

**First Decree Appeal Filed By Columbia**

Single Sales Hit, Bidding Claimed Unconstitutional

By TOM LOY

First appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit was filed in Federal District Court here yesterday by Columbia, through attorney Louis Frohlich of the firm of Schwartz and Frohlich.

Columbia’s appeal is limited to the third paragraph of Section II of the decree: Paragraph 7, which enjoins a distributor from offering to license a franchise for one feature upon the licensee’s taking one or more other features; Paragraph 8, which prohibits a system of competitive bidding, and Paragraph 9, which bars “arbitrarily refusing to license a feature on a run selected by an exhibitor instead of licensing it to a competitor on such run.

Asking that these provisions of the— (Continued on page 7)

**Ramsaye, Wever Address AMPA**

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers yesterday paid tribute to the centenary of Thomas Alva Edison, whose centenary will be observed next Tuesday.

Terry Ramsaye, editor of Motion Picture Herald and of Photo, spoke briefly of his association with Edison and the products of his genius, and related anecdotes by way of pointing out that “for all his greatness, he was a— (Continued on page 7)

**Rank’s ‘Expectations’ Goes to Music Hall**

J. Arthur Rank’s Cinemag production of the Charles Dickens novel, “Great Expectations,” has been booked by Radio City Music Hall, G. S. Eysell, president and managing director of the Hall, announced yesterday.

The film, distributed here by Universal-International, is the first Rank film to receive a Music Hall booking. The opening, some time in the late spring, will be the American premiere of the picture.
Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

E. D. SCOFIELD and Sam Taylor have formed "Four Leaf Clover Pictures," in Hollywood, and in so doing, and after a long period of the legislation with the regulations, which they have addressed to "Motion pictures," producing and executive and other advertising, so that they say, "Whereas the screen is a living thing and have all organic life, requires new cells to promote growth, and Whereas the advertisers have the utmost respect for many of the older producers, and Whereas the best people have kept step, but merely to move over a bit and make room for some new blood, and Whereas the undersigned believe that a good story is worth more than marble stairs, sparkling chandeliers, and other glittering impediments, and Whereas despite the skill of the studio background painters, the undersigned believe that God is still the greatest scenic designer and that wherever possible the major portion of photography should be filmed on or against authentic locale and background in reality, etc., etc.

We suppose that film companies, like the rest of us, have a characteristic quality that should entitle them to be referred to in the feminine gender. RKO lawyer William J. Donovan thinks so anyway.

Appearing, the other day, in behalf of the company at a New York Federal Court, was brought in a motion to ease the theatre-expansion ban in the consent decree. General Donovan told the three presiding judges that RKO may be painted green except military autos, and none may be painted while except hospital vehicles.

Aside to Hollywood studio research authenticators: The Chinese Minister of National Defense has just decreed that all Chinese film producers who may be painted green except military autos, and none may be painted while except hospital vehicles.

A Federal Courthouse reporter covering the case involving Benjamin Brodie and the New York Miami Theatre, on charges of showing "Guilty Parents," telephoned the story to his news desk and, apparently misunderstanding, reported the title of the picture as "Filthy Parents!"

Hope was a-bounded near the broads of those of the Fourth Estate from this week's issuance of a directive to members of the Catholic Laymen's Movement in America that they start praying for the press! Editors and newspapermen were mentioned especially.

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Press to Inspect Plant

A. E. Meyer, sales manager of International Printing Presses, will be host to representatives of the press on Monday afternoon, Feb. 17, during an inspection of International's new plant in Bloomfield, N. J.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE YEARLING"
GREGORY PECK - JANIS WYMAN
CLAUDE JARMAN, JR.
In Technicolor
AN M-G-M Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

PALACE
DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR.
MAUREEN O'HARA - WALTER SLEZAK
SINBAD THE SAILOR
In Technicolor

ON SCREEN
BING CROSBY
FRED ASTAIRE
JOHN CAVENDISH
Irving Berlin's
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor

IN PERSON
WILLIAM EVANS
Pietro D'ANGELO & YARA
Co-Ents
JESSE BLOCK
WITH ELLY SULVEY

"THE BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR"
- N.Y. FILM CRITICS

Continued Performances
ASTOR
9 W. 39th St.
9:30 P.M.

"CALIFORNIA"
IN TECHNOCOLOR
A Paramount Picture Starring
RAY BARRETT
BARREY FITZGERALD
RIVOLI THEATER
Doors Open B'way & 49th St.
9:30 A.M.

"13 RUE MADELEINE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
PLUS ON STAGE - GREGORY FIELD
Extra Arthur Blake
ROXY
7th Ave. & 42nd St.
9:30 P.M.
Hyman Favors Less Elaborate 1st-Runs

The unanimity in many instances of principal first-run outlets is mini-
mized as a problem for the independent producer by Louis Hyman, vice-

president and general sales manager of Sol Lesser Productions, who points to the smaller "showcase" houses as the place of some additional removal and pres-

"s for a film of merit.

Back from London, where he laid the groundwork for "The Red House" negotiations, Hyman reasons that in a theatre such as New York's Roxy, the film opens in mid-

tion, since it has the support of a stage show, thus cutting a producer's reve-

ue, he states.

In contrast to this is the less-establishment Globe, a smaller house without vaudeville, where, Hyman asserts, product costs more in prestige since it alone sells tickets. Furthermore, he adds, the run of a film is based solely on its own drawing power and the distributor's income can scale up to 75 per cent.

Hyman recalled one booking in Montreal of "Stage Door Canteen," which he set forth as evidence sup-

porting his views. Here the film played for 12 years, a long run, as did the theatrical, with the distributor netting $28,000. If the film had played a larg-

er per theatre, the distributor, he feels, the run probably would have only been a few weeks, with a $5,000 rental. Hy-

man will leave for the Coast next week.

Winston-Salem Votes For Sunday Pictures

Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 6—Voters here have approved a proposi-
tion to amend the "blue" laws of this city to allow motion pictures and at-
tletic games on Sunday.

The board of aldermen reported that it will be bound by the results of the election, and the Mayor George D. Lentz said the board probably will take up the ques-
tion of amending the laws on Feb. 18.

Continue 'Polio' Drive

Kansas City, Feb. 6—The campa-

ign for funds for the Italian Par-
alysis Foundation, in Jackson County, in which Harry Vanduesen and Bessie Vandue-

sen, in Wyandotte, Kan., containing Kansas City, Kan., has been continued for another week because the goal has not been reached.

New Film Importer

Duke International Corp., new import-export organization, here, says it has established liaison with French producers, and will include in its operations the distribution of foreign films in the U. S. The company is to be known as "Voyage Surprise," a French comedy.

Randoffe Ups Alper

Murray Alper, who has been man-
ger of the Times Co.'s 'The Mero-
eor Theatre, Brooklyn, has been pro-
moted to district manager of the cir-
cuit's Richmond Hill district, function-
ing from his present post as manager Harry Davie, it was an-
nounced yesterday by Emanuel Frisch.

John La Barbara, Jefferson Theatre manager, will replace Alper at the Mero-
eor.

U. A. Will Screen 10 At Sales Meetings

United Artists salesmen will view 10 foreign pictures at the four forthcoming sales conferences in Buffalo, Pittsburgh, El Paso and Chicago which were reported yester-
day.

The 10 productions and their pro-
ducers are: "Carnegie Hall," United Fel-
dee, director, Edward Gugliemini; "Deadly Be-

gent Hall, director, J. H. Tour-

ck; California Pictures; "New-


Universal Meeting In Chicago Today

Chicago, Feb. 6—The second in a series of Universal-International sales meetings will open here tomor-

row, concentrating on selling plans for "The Eggs and I," and "The Trojan Horse" which was held in San Francisco last week.

W. A. Scully, Universal vice-presi-
dent, will arrive here today to ex-
pected to announce "Egg" distribution details at the third meeting, to be held in New York later.

2nd Bill Introduced On Public Assemblies

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 6—Assembly-

man Wadlin, Albany, is introducing a compa-
nion bill to Senator William Condon's amending the labor law re-

resenting labor unions. Both are chairman of committees to which the measure referred.

"X" of public as-

semby" to include: A theatre, mov-
ing picture house, any structure, en-

closure, floor or portion of any struc-
ture, which is held by 100 or more persons may be used for such purpose as amuse-

ment, recreation, "dining, drinking of-

ancing."

Stars Will Feature Photo Ball Tonight

Scores of screen, stage and radio-

stars have promised to be on hand for the 18th annual entertainment and dinner of the Press Photographers As-

sociation of New York, being held tonight at the Waldorf-Astoria.

New Laffmovie House

Berk and Krumgold, theatre reality spokesmen here, have signed a long-term lease for the Vogue Thea-

tre, Baltimore, The Vogue Theatre, 5120-12th Ave., Men-

hants of New York, headed by James Magee, and the policy of the theatre has been changed to conform to the "Laffmovie" policy which the leased are now operating in a number of key cities throughout the East. Substan-

tial alterations and a betterment of them in progress.

Kohan in New Post

Omaha, Feb. 6—Allan Kohan, for-

mer executive for William Brothers Theatres, has been appointed general man-
ger of advertising, publicity and ex-

ploitation for R. D. Goldberg Theatres in this city. Donald Walker, of Kan-

sas City, has been shifted to Omaha to succeed Kohan.

MMPTA to Aid in 'Brotherhood' Drive

Through exhibition of David O. Selznick's featurette on brotherhood as part of newreels, and a song trailer featuring Irving Berlin's "Help Me to Be a 'Veggie,"

MMPTA members are participating in the Metropolitan Motion Pic-

ture Theatres Association have pledged themselves to participate in this year's campaign for "American Brotherhood Week," Feb. 16-23, spon-

sored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Fred J. Schwartz, MMPTA president, an-

nounced.

The Berlin song trailer is being made available by National Screen Service, which also is handing distribution of pledge blanks to be circu-

lated among theatre staff members and patrons.

Expanding the scope of the drive, a committee headed by Harry Green-

man plans to enlist Broadway theatres in the campaign. Others on the com-

mittee are: G. E. Issell, Bob Wei-

man, Monty Salmon, A. J. Balaban, E. Epstein and Irving Lesser.

The motion picture division of the "Brotherhood" campaign is headed by Syllos P. Skoras, national chairman, joined by Fred Hecken, Fred Wehrenber, co-chairman. Tom Comors is chairman of the distribu-

tion committee, and Ernest Coyne is national campaign director.

Denver Meeting to Launch Allied Unit

Denver, Feb. 6—John M. Wolf-

berg of the Broadway Theatre here, and the leading exhibitors of the Rocky Mountain area, to be held at the Brown Palace Hotel, March 25-26, to consider the advisability of organizing an exhibi-

tor unit to be affiliated with Allied States.

Wolberg has made arrangements for the attendance at the meeting of H. A. Cole, Dallas; Sidney E. Sam-

mson, Philadelphia, and Robert Re-

Kenneth Indiana, all of national Allied.

Burkhardt Transferred

Cleveland, Feb. 6—Howard Bur-

khardt, now manager of Loew's Cin-

ema, has been transferred to the New York office.

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Frank Capra and Jimmy
Word-of-mouth raves, enthusiastic newspaper editorials, radio tributes and top audience enjoyment are zooming grosses for long runs everywhere on "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE"... 7th week in New York; 6th week Chicago and Minneapolis; 5th week Kansas City, Los Angeles (2 houses) and St. Paul; 4th week Detroit, San Francisco, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Milwaukee! ... ALL early engagements PROVE that here is THE BIG SHOW FOR EXTENDED PLAYING TIME!
Hollywood

By THALLA BELL

Hollywood, Feb. 6—The motion picture industry is a world industry—an international industry. It is one industry which has transcended the barrier of its existence in the areas of political cooperation.

"An expanding world trade with a minimum of governmental interference is essential to our system of competitive capitalism," Johnston said.

"We must recognize that trade is endangered by the trend toward the socialistic concept."

Referring specifically to the interest of the American film industry in the reciprocal trade program, Johnston said:

"There is a sharp rise in the nationalistic trend in film production in other countries. This will be met by new formal and informal methods of restricting trade. Some nations have nationalized their industries. Others are making it more difficult for American pictures to be shown in foreign countries. Thus, at a time when the United States, in the interest of world recovery, is trying to unblock the international markets, we find an opposite tendency abroad."

The Geneva Conference and America's hopes for expanded private trade will be impaired if this trend continues.

"I wish to underscore that our motion picture industry and all others," Johnston concluded.

US hits Letters
To AFL Locals

Hollywood, Feb. 6—In a statement commenting on the letters sent to all American Federation of Labor locals in this country yesterday by the executive councils of eight of the nation's unions, the Conference of Studio Unions said today that it was "inter- ested to note" that the letters which had been locked-out studio workers speak up at a time when public pressure is being severely felt by producers. Film workers at the tables in Paris are preparing for an American film and Mexican film workers are mobilizing against the press of Hollywood producers\

The CSU statement added that the "presence of a voice that comes through the World Federation of Trade Unions inspires Hollywood producers to speak up through the medium of unions whose leadership they influence or wholly control."

Navy Cites Columbia

A Navy "Certificate of Achievement" will be awarded Columbia Pictures today at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Nita Naldi, actress, will accept the award the latter's contract, to be made by Rear Admiral F. E. M. Whiting, Commandant, U. S. Naval Base, here. The award is for the Navy Motion Picture Service throughout the war.

$250,000 Title Suit

COLUMBUS, Feb. 6—Mrs. Fay Ehler, wife of M. H. Ehler, Chilicothe and Columbus in Chicago, has filed a suit in the Circuit Court of Common Pleas here for $250,000 against Leo M. Kupper, alleging that the title of the company's "Undercurrent" belongs to her by virtue of her one-act play of the same name which has been produced in the U. S. and Canada.

Tradeshow for 'Daughter'

RKO Radio has scheduled trade screenings of "The Farmer's Daughter" for Tuesday, Feb. 18 in 28 exchange projectionists. It will show the picture at the Rhodes Theatre, Atlanta, and the Up- town, Des Moines, on Feb. 19. A New Orleans screening will take place in the A. P. Circle Theatre on Monday, Feb. 24.

Plunkett Gets Post

CHICAGO, Feb. 6—Matt Plunkett, formerly assistant manager of the Palace Theatre, who has been temporarily filling the post of publicity director for the Palace and RKO's Grand, following the resignation of Milton Woodward several months ago, has had his own business. It has been officially appointed to the publicity post for both theatres.

Mccarrett in New Garden

George Mccarrett has joined Fonte Cone and Belding to handle radio operations on the Lucky Strike account. Mccarrett had been with the radio department of the American Artists, Inc., as a radio director-producer, production supervisor, program manager, and recently as an account executive.

Minsky Leaves 20th-Fox

Hollywood—Minsky has resigned from 20th Century-Fox as manager of the theatre. Following his resignation, George Kupper, general sales manager, has appointed William A. Graham as acting manager.

Trade Pacts Vital: MPA

(Continued from page 1)

dorsed the State Department's reciprocal trade pacts program, asserting it would be disastrous to the nation's future interna- tional role and to its domestic economy "to abandon it or whittle it down." These federal and state statements reflect the official position of the organized indus- try on the subject.

"I hope," Johnston said, "we approach this Conference in the same spirit of non- partisanship which has guided our work in the areas of political cooperation."

"An expanding world trade with a minimum of governmental interference is essential to our system of competitive capitalism," Johnston continued. We must recognize that free trade is endangered by the trend toward the socialistic concept."

Referring specifically to the interest of the American film industry in the reciprocal trade program, Johnston said:

"There is a sharp rise in the nationalistic trend in film production in other countries. This will be met by new formal and informal methods of restricting trade. Some nations have nationalized their industries. Others are making it more difficult for American pictures to be shown in foreign countries. Thus, at a time when the United States, in the interest of world recovery, is trying to unblock the international markets, we find an opposite tendency abroad."

The Geneva Conference and America's hopes for expanded private trade will be impaired if this trend continues.

"I wish to underscore that our motion picture industry and all others," Johnston concluded.

American motion picture is perhaps the fastest growing export item. It is an important part of the American economy today. It is one more of the goods which help to create a market for American goods and it con- tributes to American ideas and ideals. It is an export of profit— also, and cannot be considered sel-

By J. Arthur Rank's "Henry V" is scheduled for a two-a-day showing at the WRVA Radio Theatre here, starting on Feb. 12. The theatre, formerly known as the Lyric, will also serve to revive the house as a motion picture theatre.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY Friday, February 7, 1947
New Theatres

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 6.—Neighborhood Theatres, Inc., will build an 800-car drive-in theatre about a mile from this city. Plans are being drawn by architect A. O. Budina call for a number of seats for pedestrians installed in the area. A summer opening is anticipated.

Also, an early opening is slated for the new Elton Theatre in Norfolk. Seating over 950 people, it will be operated on a sub-run policy by Levine Theatres, present operators of the Elton, Rosen and Roselle.

$125,000 Remodeling Job

For Newark, Ohio, House

NEWARK, O. Feb. 6.—Shea’s Auditorium Theatre, opened in mid-Victorian days as this town’s opera house, will be closed for 90 days, starting April 15, for remodeling at a cost of $125,000. The galleries and balcony will be removed, the lobby altered, new stage and booth equipment installed and the seating capacity will be increased from 1,600 to 2,000. A new marquee will be erected. E. C. Grainger, president of the circuit, was here recently from New York for conference with his managers and Tysinger, manager of the Auditorium and Midland.

In Manhattan, a 750-car drive-in theatre is being built at a cost of $90,000 by Central Drive-In Theatres, Inc., of which Adolph Ochs is general manager.

The West Theatre, a new 750-seat house, is being constructed by the Solvent Theatre Co. in Barberton, O. A June opening is anticipated. The new 600-seat Chaver at Edgerton, O., opened recently.

Permits for Three Theatres

In Massachusetts Cities

PITTSFIELD, Mass., Feb. 6.—The local office of the United States Maritime Commission has granted a permit for Harry Lazarus to operate a drive-in theatre in Accomack county, Va.

John Georges of Lowell has obtained a drive-in theatre permit from the planning board and city council there.

In Newton Center, Allston Theatre, Inc., has received a permit to build a theatre on the Boston-Worcester highway.

Remodeled Tivoli Opens as
The ‘Rogers’ in Alabama

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 6.—Former Rogers has opened the old Tivoli Theatre here under the name of the Rogers. An extensive remodeling job has been done.

In Gadsden, Ala., the Coosa Theatre has been remodeled by Ward Wright. A fourth house now is being constructed there by the Alga Theatre Corp. of Chicago, Ga., at a cost of $150,000; it will seat 1,000.

New Coast House Features
90 Rock Music Scene

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 6.—San Levin, head of San Francisco Theatres, presented his new Ritz Theatre here in a demo showing on January 29. The house will seat 1,400, with half the seats rocking chair logs. Levin also will establish a new television service.

For West Coast is building a 1,000-seater in Azusa, according to John Nyleen, manager of the Lyric and Monrovia.

India Will Double
Its 1,700 Theatres

The people of India, despite their poverty and lack of opportunity, have become more film-minded because of the war, said C. N. Kapadia and S. N. Kotwal, executives of Evergreen Pictures, Ltd., Bombay. They said, in interviews here, explaining their estimate that the country’s 1,700 theatres, only half of which are in good condition, will double in number when construction materials become available.

Kapadia and Kotwal are here for the promotion of their business-pleasure tour during which they hope to buy a large variety of theatre and film equipment. Evergreen Pictures, they point out, is the parent organization of several companies covering a wide latitude from Prakash Pictures, which provide imports to the industry, sale and installation of equipment.

The visitors said that India maintains no quota system on playing time because the low economic status of the Indian people has made the present quota system largely unenforceable. However, Kotwal said they are interested in buying prints of all kinds from foreign and local United Artists films for Indian exhibition and that they are negotiating here with a major booking company in the United States for the distribution of three Indian pictures which will be dubbed here. Viju Bhat, director, and one of the partners of Prakash Pictures, will be here in a month with prints of the films.

Isolated from any countries in which color processes are utilized, Indian moviegoers can use their imagination having prints hand-painted. Kapadia revealed. Emphasizing that this is a unique process which will have a great deal of time and labor, Kotwal said that it has become a practice to color photographs sequences in black-and-white films.

Kapadia and Kotwal will remain in New York about four weeks before returning to U. S., with a visit to Hollywood.

Circuits Leave CITOA

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 6.—Resignation of Golden State Theatres, T. and R. Productions, Westside Theatres, and Nasser Brothers from the California Independent Theatre Owners Association was made known. Directors of the independent circuits would make no statement, but declared they would retain membership in the California Theatre Association.

New RKO Exchange

ATLANTA, Feb. 6.—RKO Radio has moved into its new exchange here. The building, which has all important facilities and the largest building which has all important facilities and the largest air-conditioning, was designed under the supervision of Hubert M. Lyons, exchange manager.

WGBS, Miami, to CBS

WGBS, Miami, will join Columbia Broadcasting on June 15, it is announced by Herbert V. Ackerberg, vice president in charge of station relations.

Lewis Blumberg Named

Lewis Blumberg, son of Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president, has been named a general sales manager of Prestige Pictures.

decree be reversed and that the case be remanded for such relief as the Supreme Court may deem fit and proper; the Columbia petition contends that the court’s order remitting the case to the Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright is not justified by the Sherman Act and the amendment makes the company of property without due process of law, thus violating the fifth amendment of the Constitution.

Columbia contends that the booking, which is known in the industry as the "licensing of pictures in groups upon a share of the box office," is the beginning of the new practice of the "front office" and that the defendant, Columbia, has "in the past and at the present time been remanded to the Court of the 2.500-seat House, has been commencing a campaign of such a character as to become a threat to the industry and that the defendants, in the circumstances, have no right to refuse to accept it."

Claim Supported

Columbia’s claim that the judgment voided by the Supreme Court of the United States is supported by the statement that the decree "virtually transfers its operation to all other business contacts and to all other business contacts and public utilities. There was no challenge to the petition declares, that the defendants were engaged in a business affected with a public interest, nor was there any finding to that effect. Public utilities may be told to sell their property for the benefit of the public, even Congress could not constitutionally impose the restrictions set forth in this decree." The petition also questions whether the District Court has the right to impose upon the appellants’ copywrights and the exclusive rights that are granted by the law. The final decree restricts copyrights already existing of which the appellants have the exclusive right to use and the right to sell or license features of motion pictures of which the appellants may in the future become proprietors, Columbia declares.

In general, the petition states that the judges who issued the decree were not authorized to act as the law would have authorized them to act if the judges had not been remanded.

AMP Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

most unprententious fellow.” Madeleine Slone, daughter of the minister, recalled, early the days of motion pictures when they were made in the old Edison studio on the Edison Co. An experimental picture was produced in part on her front lawn, she said.

Deviating from the Edison theme, George D. Weyer, promotion manager of Life Magazine, expressed considerable concern about a lack of knowledge of markets, how they should be approached through advertising, and the part the salesmen play in the field of promotion. "We have no knowledge of demonstrating that some markets are covered and some are not. A better approach would cause an even lower clatter of quarters at box-oftices and a usle of checks in magazine advertising and sales departments.

Weyer subsequently drew attention to the readership of Life, declaring, "We feel that the Life Audience Group is 22-30,000 people each week."

Roger Neilon, AMPA president, opened the meeting. Phil Williams, vice-president, as master of cere- monies, said the theme was "Sales promotion in advertising," and cited the "sales promotion impact its advertising pages carry in launching new ideas and new proce- dures; that they cannot choose their customers, that they cannot even make their own terms for licensing their product. We believe this to be dele- terious to the industry and, in the long run, will cost the enterprise, place it within the power of the District Court to take over and control the business according to its own conception and lights."

Red Cross Official
Wants PCC Pact

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 6.—Commenting on Hollywood’s decision to offer Los Angeles Red Cross to accept a donation from the Permanent Charities Com- mittee, William J. Jeffers, volunteer Red Cross official, said today that “material is being prepared that will be presented to national chairman of the Permanent Charities Committee, pointing out to them why in our opinion some arrangements must be reached with the PCC regarding future financing of the organization.”

Jeffers also said that, “Personally, I feel that the Red Cross should have accepted the donation.”

The PCC annual campaign today raised the total to $16,626 in number of contributors, according to chairman M. C. Levee, with 20,155 contributors having pledged $1,219,616.64 to date.

Leases Boston Theatre

Walter Bito, president of Excelsior Pictures, here, has leased the Fine Arts Theatre, Boston, for exhibition of foreign films. Devoted to such films for past 15 years, the house has been closed recently because of a shortage of foreign films.

Mr. Turtle’s Film Box

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 6.—Terry Turtle, new Walt Disney character, will make his film debut in the forthcoming "Dumbo: House," which will be released through RKO Radio.
Maker of dreams . . .

• To make dreams like this convincing . . . to show them with the smoothness that brings life and reality . . . that is the job of the optical-effects man.

Yet it is only one of his many contributions to modern pictures. By his skill with the optical printer . . . his production of fades and wipes, of dissolves and laps . . . he plays an important part in giving American movies their high standard of technical excellence.

If the optical-effects man is to play this part to the full, he must use dependable film of superior quality. That’s why he usually prefers to work with the large and well-known family of Eastman motion picture films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
Seek No Stay In Pressing First Appeal

Columbia Out for Test Prior to Bidding Date

Columbia, which last Thursday filed the first appeal from the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, has decided, at least tentatively, against asking the U. S. Supreme Court for a stay in the July 1 effective date of competitive bidding and single sales, Louis Froehlich, Columbia counsel, said at the weekend. The New York Federal District Court, recently denied motions for clarification of the final decree making the case operative 90 days after the high tribunal rules.

Although Judge Augustus N. Hand, at the Jan. 22 hearing on the motions, commented that the defendants could “go down to Washington” to seek a stay, Froehlich now feels this may be unnecessary because he sees a chance of the Columbia appeal being argued during the present Supreme Court session, which ends late in May.

Columbia’s proponent, identifying (Continued on page 10)

CSA Groups Weigh High Court Appeal

With a number of the exhibitor groups comprising the Confederacy of Southern Associations already having indicated their desire to appeal to the Supreme Court from the New York Federal District Court’s denial of CSA’s petition to intervene in the industry anti-trust suit, attorneys for the association are awaiting the “green light” from St. Augustine, Fla., where (Continued on page 10)

Selznick Revises ‘Duel in the Sun’

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Responding to public reaction to “Duel in the Sun” since its opening in Los Angeles, David O. Selznick has made several revisions in the picture. A revised print has been shipped to New York, where it is scheduled for screen examination by previewing groups. The revised picture is booked for engagements over the Fox West Coast Cities, (Continued on page 10)

Exhibitor May Make Pictures But Must Offer Them to All

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Justice Department officials who have reviewed the principle of organized exhibitors sponsoring or engaging indirectly in motion picture production have concluded that such an activity would not be in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act but that, under the New York court decision, resultant pictures would have to be placed on the open market for all exhibitors who wished to play them.

Allied States, for some time past, has been studying arrangements for production of 12 features by an independent producer, which would be underwritten to the extent of a certain sum, and guaranteed playing time in Allied member theaters.

The Justice Department, on the other hand, has endeavored to discourage the combination of two or (Continued on page 10)

Buenos Aires Levies Censorship Fees

Buenos Aires, Feb. 4 (By airmail)—Municipal authorities have levied a new tax on every picture that must undergo inspection by the censor board. Rates range from 55 pesos ($12.25) for films running up to 15 minutes, to 400 pesos ($98) for films running over 90 minutes. This is a severe blow to distributors and it will be easy to judge the results once the authorities of every other city in the country likewise start decreeing similar taxes, as expected. The law is retrospective to Jan. 1.

City authorities are also considering a new tax on admissions.

Of the 191 houses operating in the capital, 59 have improved the percentage of showings of national product; 24 of the 12 houses which were not showing national product, six have now begun to do so; the number of houses complying with the decree has increased from 28 to 69.

Writing Final N. Y. Chapter Today In Long Industry Anti-Trust Suit

Except for actions connected with appeals, the final chapter in the film industry’s anti-trust suit, so far as the New York Federal District Court is concerned, will be written this morning when Harold Lasser, special U. S. attorney, appears before Judges Augustus N. Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright to enter a formal order in conformance with their rulings on defense petition for clarification of the final decree. The case has been in litigation since the autumn of 1938.

Today’s action will formalize the extension, from March 1 to July 1, of the time granted to the theatre-owning defendants in which to dissolve existing pools and house-leasing arrangements between themselves and independent exhibitors. The defendants have been given notice of the hour of the ceremony and, theoretically, could attend to present a necessary clarification. This, however, is not expected, Lasser said at the weekend, since the language to be added to the decree follows the court’s ruling in detail.

May Hasten End of Building Controls

Washington, Feb. 9.—Joseph Martin, Speaker of the House, indicated on Friday that Republicans wish to continue the veteran’s housing program and that commercial building would be curtailed “to some extent” for several months. However, the GOP will see that controls are removed from other construction as quickly as possible.

Present construction restrictions prohibit the building of new homes, but the committee recommends that these restrictions be lessened (Continued on page 10)

Would Outlaw Mergers in Same Industry

Small Business Group Asks Congress for Law

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Legislation to outlaw the merger of corporations doing business in one field of business, such as the combination of two film companies, was recommended by the outgoing chairman of the Senate Small Business Committee in a report on Friday.

Chairman James E. Murray told the Senate that several laws should be passed to protect the independent businessman. He objected to the lawmakers drafts of legislation which the committee recommended.

The proposed anti-merger law (Continued on page 6)

Enterprise Leasing

Several NY Houses

Enterprise is closing deals to lease several New York theatres, including one large Broadway house, for adoptions. Besides “Wolf of Wall Street,” the firm is negotiating for “Arch of Triumph” prior to general release, a spokesman for the company disclosed here at the weekend. Formalization of the deals is expected this week.

The leasing plan, which the company considers extending throughout the country, is similar to that recently announced by Samuel Goldwyn for his “Best Years of Our Lives.” It enables producers, who are not subject to injunctions of the industry anti-trust suit, to obtain necessary revenue from high-cost films without violating the final decree’s ban against price fixing, according to proponents of the plan.

“Arch of Triumph” will be ready for showing in April, the Enterprise spokesman said.

In This Issue

“Suddenly It’s Spring” and “Madame du Barry” are reviewed on page 3; “Vigilantes of Boomtown” and “The Thirteenth Hour” are reviewed on page 6; “Raiders of the South” and “Lighthouse” are reviewed on page 7.
E X H I B I T O R discussion of plans for the establishment of a voluntary system of industry arbitration will command the attention of the national meeting of independent exhibitors to be held here March 10 and 11.

The meeting was called by Fred Wrehnen, president of the National Theater Owners of America, to develop plans for organization of a motion picture forum.

At the meeting of the Virginia State motion picture association in Washington last week, Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, announced that his organization will propose the adoption by independent exhibitors of an arbitration system at the forum meeting in New York.

The two subjects are closely related and properly should be considered together.

There is an increasing awareness among exhibitors as the full implications of the federal court decision in the New York Federal Court decree in the industry anti-trust suit come into sharper focus that some system of arbitration will be of far more value to the exhibitor in the future than it was in the past. Within the area of competitive bidding alone, which is but one of the New York court decree’s provisions, there is the all too apparent suggestion of countless differences.

Without an industry arbitration system, those differences, which are inevitably will become law suits. Hundreds of exhibitors who could afford arbitration, could not afford litigation.

From the distribution side, the single decree provision, among others, which places the burden of proof of equitable clearance upon the distributor invites endless legal difficulties. It is not only costly but it is time-consuming. Arbitration of clearance disputes under that decree provision should be far more desirable to distributor and exhibitor alike than litigation. Incidentally, this may be demonstrated so forcefully in the near future that even Columbia, United Artists and Universal may eventually reverse their position and submit to arbitration.

In its amicus curiae brief filed with the New York Federal Court last week, MPTOA recommended the continuance of the present physical arbitration tri-bunal setup within the industry but with certain changes in its operation and procedures.

The MPTOA views on the subject are of interest now not only because they are certain to be aired more fully at the March forum meeting in New York but also because they explain the change in the national organization’s attitude from one of critical and doubt toward the future. In addition, arbitration as it was practiced under the defunct industry consent decree to a recognition of a changed form of arbitration as being vital to exhibitors in their future operations under the New York court decree.

While MPTOA has consistently advocated arbitration and conciliation of industry disputes in preference to litigation, it has been critical of the operation of arbitration under the old consent decree for reasons which it has stated to be entirely curiae brief presents what MPTOA believes would correct the failings it perceived in industry arbitration heretofore.

It asks that arbitrators be selected to hear complaints who have background and experience in the industry and first-hand knowledge of it. In addition, MPTOA asks for simplification of arbitrating rules and procedures with a view to further expediting the determination of complaints. It asks that arbitration be made less expensive to complainants but that the costs of maintenance of the system be shared by all branches of the industry, not just the producing companies, and that exhibitors be given a voice in the determination of all details of the system. Comments supplemented by those of numerous other exhibitor organization representatives who will attend the New York meeting next month, are sure to receive serious exhibitor consideration.

The national exhibitor interest in arbitration does not supplant nor conflict with plans for a motion picture forum. They supplement each other.

There are numerous exhibitor distributor grievances that are not complaint. Exhibitor complaints of the use of local checkers, of unfair film rentals, of preferred playing time demands and many other grievances cannot be arbitrated. The only hope of keeping such matters from being aired at the conference table, such as at that which a motion picture forum would sit.
**Coming Events**

Today—Meeting of the Confederate Association of Southern Associations, St. Augustine, Fla.


**Tomorrow**—Motion Picture Association meeting with the Veterans Administration on films for veterans’ activities, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Feb. 15-Mar. 15—Drive for Greek orphans.

Feb. 16—American Brotherhood Week begins.


Feb. 19—Meeting of the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.


Mar. 3-6—Institute of Radio Engineers convention, at the Hotel Commodore and Grand Central Palace, New York.

**Lang to Enlighten Officials on Films**

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Mayor Fletcher Bowron and other Los Angeles officials will be the first of a series of municipal, state, and national government groups who will be invited to visit the sets during the filming of Fritz Lang’s forthcoming Diana Production for Universal-International.

“The Secret Beyond the Door,” Lang is adopting this policy as a means of acquainting officials with the problems of production. Lang’s move launches a personal campaign that will cross studio lines through which the producer-director expects to make public dignitaries better informed on the complex subject of film-making in future legislation and government decisions affecting the industry.

**N. J. Skouras Circuit Boosts ‘Brotherhood’**

Eight Jersey City theaters of the Skouras circuit have joined with Hudson County schools in sponsoring a city-wide essay contest on the subject of tolerance in connection with the motion picture industry observance of “American Brotherhood Week,” Feb. 16-23. Students will compete for prize money awards which will be awarded next Friday from the stage of the State Theatre, Jersey City.

**Skouras Flying Here**

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Spyros P. Skouras, head of Fox-P予以 president and Len Jones, his assistant, are flying to New York tomorrow, following a convention call in Chicago. Francis Schellen. Vice-president Darryl F. Zanuck and Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity, took a train over the weekend.

**Reviews**

**“Suddenly It’s Spring”**

(Paramount)

PAULETTE GODDARD, dressed to exciting advantage, and Fred Mac- Murray, who can make any good comedy situation seem funnier, combine to excellent theatrical advantage in “Suddenly It’s Spring.” In expert hands the dialogue might not have gotten its necessary crispness and the story might have tumbled as often as the heroine.”

As it stands, the picture is something of a joy-entertainment-wise for the audience and should be box-office-wise for the exhibitor. Where it touches on marriage it does so amusingly and in a fashion that could hardly be termed too sophisticated. Arlene Whelan and MacDonald Carey in featured roles are also definite assets.

Chade Binyon’s production has MacMurray waiting at the dock for his new wife, Miss Goddard, with divorce papers. In the Darwin of the DEE, or fame as a counselor on communal difficulties, MacMurray wants his freedom and, subsequently, Miss Whelan, Carey, as client to lawyer MacMurray, tries to rush the divorce so he might have Miss Goddard. What follows is an assortment of humorous situations leading to a divorce suit involving his company, upon his return to the U. S. to win Miss Brooks.

But despite generates its own momentum, and MacMurray and Brooks become embroiled in a confusing mix-up which lands him in jail on charges of assault. This is the only weakness in the picture. The character actors and the whole cast have done an excellent job.

**“Cigarette Girl”**

(Columbia)

*ALWAYS* a handy mold when material of substance is wanting, the Cinderella theme is the subject of “Cigarette Girl,” which offers Leslie Brooks in the role of a night-club employee who assumes a singer’s identity and reputation in order to impress her friend, Jimmy Lloyd. Lloyd, in the execution of an elaborate ruse to make his wife (announced as reporter for the U. S. S. to win Miss Brooks. But deceit generates its own momentum, and MacMurray and Brooks become embroiled in a confusing mix-up which lands him in jail on charges of assault. This is the only weakness in the picture. The character actors and the whole cast have done an excellent job.

**Cites Television as Aid to Democracy**

Bosquey, Feb. 9.—The potentialities of television as a means of extending the effectiveness of democracy in the classroom were indicated recently by Dr. V. K. Zworykin, director of RCA’s Electronic Research Laboratory and inventor of the iconoscope, in an address before an alumni meeting of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. During the meeting the audience witnessed a television demonstration of the company’s field pickup equipment’s performance.

Zworykin pointed to recent telecasts of Congress in action as being an effective means of bringing the people in touch with that body.

**Springer Makes Five Changes in Circuit**

Five assistant managerial changes in Century Theaters’ staff have been made by J. R. Springer, general manager.

W. Parks, assistant at the Lybrook, has been transferred to the Franklin; A. Gunderson, assistant at the Franklin, transfers to the Lybrook; A. Peck, assistant at the Freeport; G. Pratt, assistant at the Freeport, was transferred to the Fantasy; Leo Schramm is the new assistant at the Linden.

**Red Cross and Press To Discuss Drive**

Harvey D. Gibson, national fund chairman of the American Red Cross, and Lewis Cooper, public relations director, will discuss plans for motion picture participation in the campaign for financial support of the Red Cross at a luncheon to be given tomorrow to members of the trade press.

“The forthcoming campaign of the Red Cross is counting on the continuous cooperation of motion picture theatres in its 1947 drive, which has been so generously given in previous years,” declared Howard Bonham, ARC executive, at headquarters in Washington.

**ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 9.—**Head- ing the annual fund campaign of Rochester Chapter, American Red Cross, this year is Edward P. (Ted) Curtis, Eastman Kodak vice-president.

**Linet Urges Quality Films By Promotion**

With the industry "requiring 60 cents out of every dollar spent by the public on entertainment, to maintain its present high calibre of production," it is going to be increasingly difficult to sustain this level without added selling stimuli now that other types of industry are vying for the pre-war positions, Henry A. Linet, Universal-International’s advertising manager, said Friday in initiating a series of lectures on motion picture advertising and publicity at the New School for Social Research here.

Linet explained that the job of selling the motion picture theatre calls for the resumption of “that type of approach which the industry has been capable of delivering when the chips are down.”

**Ohio Tax Would Be Raised a Million**

COLUMBUS, Feb. 9,—C. Emery Glan- der, state tax commission, has recommen- ded to the General Assembly that it abandon the $2,000,000 annual excise ad- mission tax and substitute an admis- sion tax of $3,000,000 annually.

A hastily survey indicates a lack of unanimous approval on account of a variation of the possible amount of the tax in various situations according to conditions of local treasuries.

Rep. John Caldwell introduced the measure to let the present the present three per cent retail sales tax and replace it with a tax on gross receipts similar to the franchise tax. The Senate has a measure to reduce the sales tax from three to two per cent.

**Ruth Brunner to Coast**

Sackett and Prince Television Produc- tion, Inc., has offered a contract to be rep- resented on the Coast beginning Feb. 17 by Mrs. Ruth Brunner, who was associated with WABC in New York. She will be in charge of local station WLIB, and assistant to Ted Cott, pro- gram director of WNEW in New York.

**Johnston to Meet Press**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Eric John- ston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, will meet with news- press representatives at a buffet lunch- ion on Thursday, Feb. 13. It will be held in the board room at the MPA offices here.

**Full Page**

75 West 40th St., New York 18, N. Y.

PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

*MOTION PICTURE DAILY*
business was above average!
audiences enjoyed the picture!
favorable comments and the reaction was very good!
we have dated this picture in every one of our theatres!
Mr. Edward M. Schnitzer  
United Artists Corporation  
729 Seventh Avenue  
New York N Y  

Dear Eddie:—

It will interest you to know that we played ABIE'S IRISH ROSE in Patchogue and Bay Shore. Business was above average. The audiences, both afternoon and evening, enjoyed the picture.

We received many voluntary favorable comments and the reaction was very good.

In fact, as a consequence thereof, we have dated this picture in everyone of our theatres.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Seider

January 29, 1947

AND SO IS UNITED ARTISTS!
**Reviews**

"Vigilantes of Boomtown"

(Republic)

"VIGILANTES OF BOOMTOWN," No. 3 in Republic's current Red Ryder series, is a pace-setter. Exhibiting a number of debt directorial and acting efforts along with some fresh story twists, it is bound to have a "bullish" effect on the stock of these Allen Lane starrers in terms of critic satisfaction. In addition to Lane, Martha Wentworth, Roy Barcroft, Peggy Stewart and Bobby Blake, the cast includes Roscoe Karns, George Turner, Eddie Lou Simms, Bobby Barber and a generous supply of lesser players.

Earle Snel's original screenplay has to do with the Carson City heavy-weight championship bout between George "Kid" Corbett and Bob Fitzsimmons. Lane and his friends provide a ranch training site for the bout and offer him moral support. Miss Stewart, however, detects fighting and leads a band of vigilantes with the avowed purpose of preventing the bout from taking place. She would have succeeded, perhaps, had it not been for the fact that a band of desperadoes, enemies of Lane, arrive in town to swindle a citizenry preoccupied with the forthcoming boxing match. When she sees that the, ring is about to get away with the townpeople's funds, she sides with Lane whose crack marksmanship and newly-developed flare for boxing, as taught by "Corbett" defeat the heavies. R. G. Springsteen directed with verve. Reitold Sydney Picker served as associate producer.


CHARLES L. FRANKE

"The Thirteenth Hour"

(Columbia)

A NOTHER of "The Whistler" tales out of Columbia's hopper, "The Thirteenth Hour" provides a new twist in the series in having Richard Dix emerge as top man, contrary to the usual plot which has Dix dodged by an infernal forfeitable fate. Produced by Raoul Walsh, C. Flothow, this picture will in all likelihood please followers of the series.

Dix, engaged to Karen Morley who operates a diner with the aid of her 12-year-old son, Mark Dennis, runs a trucking business which has become a threat to the monopoly previously enjoyed by Jim Danna. Morley is seen drunk and reckless driving by motorcycle cop Regis Toomey, rival for Miss Morley's hand. Dix has his driver's license suspended for six months. He agrees to take his truck out because he cannot get another driver. A masked assassin knocks Dix unconscious and uses the truck to kill Toomey, with the result that Dix becomes a fugitive. In the course of underwring scheming aided by his mechanic, John Kellogg, Dix becomes entangled in a complex plot involving stolen diamonds, but with the aid of Miss Morley and her son he succeeds in clearing himself and bringing the culprit to justice.

Directed by Robert E. Sherrick wrote the scenario from a story by Leslie Edgley. William Clemens handled the direction, with assistance from Carter DeHaven.


Zabin Joins Posner

Posner Advertising Agency has changed its name to Zabin-Posner. Zabin, formerly vice-president of the agency, prior to that with Grey Advertising Agency, Buchanan & Company, and General Cinema Circuit, joins Jack Posner as a partner.

Radiant Names Nerheim

CHICAGO, Feb. 9.—Geovil Nerheim, with the Blackstone Amusement Corp., makers of projection screens.

Sack Gets Three Films

DALLAS, Feb. 9.—Three Chesterfield features have been purchased by producer-director Jack Sack, for release in both 35mm. and 16mm. The films, acquired from George Batcheller, are; "Glimpse Girl," "House of Secrets" and "Red Light Ahead."

**WABD Suspends**

Television station WABD, here, has temporarily ceased its telecasts pending construction of a "bat-wing" antenna. The station expects to be back on the air in about 30 days.

**New Export Company**

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 9.—American Film Export Corp. has been chartered here to deal in motion pictures. Monroe E. Stein, New York, was incorporating attorney.
**Reviews**

**“Raiders of the South”**

"Monogram’s Western accounts should find this newest Johnny Mack Brown adventure particularly satisfying, more so than usual because of its interesting and somewhat different story material. The yarn is punctuated by beautiful photography and a few picturesque settings.

Evelyn Brent and Raymond Hatton work nicely with Brown in the presentation of an original screenplay by J. Benton Cheney. Lambert Hillyer directed and made a fine setting of this tale of Texas during the Civil War. It takes into account a new war, one against the intruders from the North. Brown is a Federal agent assigned to break up the group, headed by Miss Brent, which firmly believes the carpetbaggers are a menace to the welfare of Texas. He eventually convinces Miss Brent and her aides of their errors and peace is restored.


**G.A.**

**“Lighthouse”**

ALTHOUGH this modest film is quite undistinguished in acting, direction and dialogue, its familiar, straight-line story is held nicely within the bounds of probabilities, and the characterization rings true.

Taking the lonely life of a lighthouse keeper, John Litel, as a thematic springboard, Robert Churchill’s screenplay, from an original by Don Martin, tells how this aging guardian of the seacoast finds a young wife when June Land paddles out in a rowboat to check up on her boy friend, Don Castle, and discovers that she is being “two-timed” in a high-handed fashion. Although Litel had told his young wife her early indifference to him gradually ripens into love, which infiltrates the younger man, who must stand by and see it happen. Finally he gears a rock, Litel slips on it and gets badly hurt, but recovers in time to make his home life secure in a first-flying climax. Martin Martin and Charles Wagenheim lend spice to the small cast. Frank Gilbert produced, and Frank Wisbar directed.

Running time, 62 minutes. General audience classification. Tom Low

**Senate Republicans Pledge Trade Aid**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Two Republican Senate leaders late last week pledged support for the State Department’s reciprocal trade program, but were critical of some Government practices in drawing up the treaties. They were Sen. Vandenberg, Foreign Relations Committee chairman, and Sen. Millikin, Finance Committee chairman.

Major point of criticism made by the Senators was that the State Department should not neglect its plans in secrecy. Other suggestions were made for adoption when the Reciprocal Trade Act expires in June, 1948.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman David M. 23, Stuart (D. C.) in his introductory statement told the Senate, "The Administration must authorize the U. S. Tariff Commission to review contemplated tariff reductions and make proposals of its own." He also pointed out that the Government might modify any tariff reduction or concession if in practice it develops that such reduction or concession has impaired any domestic interest.

Vigorous enforcement of trade pacts was urged by the two Senators. Every effort should be made to police the agreements, we make, "they said. "There are entirely too many barriers now being imposed upon American goods and services abroad and in many cases these barriers are in violation of existing pacts and treaties," Sen. Vandenberg concluded.

**Many Visiting Indio**

*Los Angeles Feb. 9.—Current and recent visitors at this desert resort include Mr. and Mrs. Oscar A. Doob and Mr. and Mrs. Mort Spring of Loscoe’s; Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO; dressing the Ex-maj. Fontaine; William Scully and Maurice Bergman, Universal, who were here on their way to Chicago; David Lowen will arrive Thursday; John Balaban, Chicago circuit operator, will arrive with his wife this week.

**Folsom on Council**

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Marion B. Folsom, treasurer of Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N. Y., has been named a member of the Business Advisory Council of the Department of Commerce, by Averell Harriman, Secretary of Commerce.

**Approve Neuman Station**

*New Haven, Feb. 9.—The New Haven Broadcasting Co. has been authorized by the Federal Communication Commission to erect a new station.

**RKO RADIO Pictures, Inc.**

**EWW HAVEN TRADE SHOWING OF “CODE OF THE WEST” WILL BE HELD AT THE FOX PROJ. 40 WHITING ST., NEW HAVEN, TUESDAY, FEB. 11, AT 10:30 A. M. AND NOT ON THURS., FEB. 20, AS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED.**

**Motion Picture Daily**

**Production at New Low Level, Falling to 27**

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Production has reached its lowest level in many months as the shooting index fell to 27 from the previous week’s 34. Only two pictures went before cameras during the week, whereas nine were completed. The production scene follows:

Columbia
Completed: "Broadway Baby."

**Monogram**

**‘The Lady from Shanghai’**

**M-G-M**

**“Song of the Thin Man”**

**“The Hucksters”**

**Paramount**

**“Son of Love”**

**Variety Girl**

**“Road to Rio”**

**“The Parachute Man”**

**20th Century-Fox**

**“The Ghost and Mrs. Muir”**

**Seligson**

**“The Paradise Case”**

**United Artists**

**“Stork Bites Man”**

**Selznick**

**“The IMDb”**

**Warners**

**“Deep Valley”**

**“The Unfaithful”**

**‘Dorsey’s Opens Feb. 26**

**Wayne World premiere of Charles R. Rogers’ "The Fabulous Dorsey’s," released through United Artists, will be held at Loew’s Regent Theatre, Harrisburg, on Feb. 26, in conjunction with a state-wide opening of the film in 46 Pennsylvania situations.

**‘Bagdad to Victoria’**

Film Classics’ re-presentation of "Thief of Bagdad," in Technicolor, produced by Alexander Korda, has been set to follow "Bedelia," now current at the Victoria, here.
BUILDS! BUILDS! BUILDS!
TO LONG RUNS EVERYWHERE!*

* Four smash weeks at Keith’s WASHINGTON!
* Now in 4th potent week at United Artists’ DETROIT . . . and no let-up!
* First picture ever to play 2nd week at the Utah, SALT LAKE CITY!
* Now marathoning in 4th big week at MILWAUKEE’s Riverside!
* Now in 12th BIRMINGHAM week — 4 weeks at the Empire; 8th week at the Capitol!
* Six thrilling CINCINNATI weeks — 2 each at the Grand, the Shubert, the Lyric!
* After all-time record run at the Fox — three move-over weeks in 1st-run Paramount, ATLANTA!
* Second week tops most 1st weeks at the Orpheum, DENVER!
* In CHATTANOOGA (normal 4-day town), one whole week at the Tivoli, 5 more days at the State!
* Three solid weeks in TOLEDO — 1 each at Rivoli, Pantheon, Palace!
* Fourteen full days at the Georgia Theatre, COLUMBUS — where 4 days is normal run!
* Two outstanding weeks at Orpheum, MINNEAPOLIS and Orpheum, ST. PAUL!
* Three precedent-breaking weeks at the State, OKLAHOMA CITY!
* Now in 2nd record week at the Palace, MEMPHIS, and full steam ahead!
* Three packed weeks at the Knickerbocker, NASHVILLE!
* Fifteen crowded days at the Orpheum, DES MOINES!

— So double your playing time and play safe!
WALT DISNEY'S GREATEST AND HAPPIEST PRODUCTION

SONG OF THE SOUTH

Based on the Famous Tales of UNCLE REMUS and BRER RABBIT

NOW ON THE "HIT PARADE"
"ZIP-A-DEE DOO DAH"
"SOONER OR LATER"
—and the others moving right in!

Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
Motion Picture Daily

Monday, February 10, 1947

Short Subjects . . .

"Kentucky Basketeers" (RKO Radio)
Baseball devotees will get an inside view of the game as the "Sportscope" follows the "Wildcats" of the University of Kentucky at Lexington through their races in the development of cohesive teamwork. Running time, eight minutes.

"A Really Important Person"
(M-G-M)
Young Billy Reilly, enacting by Dean Stockwell, wanted to win a contest's essay by writing the best essay on "A Really Important Person." Not in the history books, but in the least likely place—his own home—does he find the subject for his composition. Running time, nine minutes.

"The Luckiest Guy in the World"
(M-G-M)
Charlie Vurn, in this two-reel special, was thought the luckiest guy in the world. But when his wife died in an accident, fate made it look like murder. He tried to clear his own name. The ironic play of the cards dealt him the final blow. Running time, 21 minutes.

"Battle of Champions"
(Warner Brothers)
Leading athletes in a number of fields use their own special skills and their imaginations to create a play game of golf. Lou Novikoff uses his baseball bat, Dick Miller his rod and reel, Chasen utilizes his singlet and Howard Hill his bow and arrow. Together they match puts with Johnny Dawson, the outstanding amateur golfer. In Technicolor. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Popular Science" (Paramount)
Fascinating subjects presented in this issue of the "Popular Science" series are a 110-ton "Tourmaline" which carries concrete houses to the ease of an assembly line, an isolated mountain-top weather station and salmon-fishing. Running time, 11 minutes.

Exhibitor May Make 'Duel in the Sun'

(Continued from page 1)

The Chicago Tribune in its editorial of the day before, said: "The public has been conditioned to expect a higher production in this film that the audience will recognize in the film that the audience will recognize after the final denouement." As for the final denouement, the film is expected to end with a dream sequence in which the central character dies in the arms of another character. The sequences will be in Technicolor, and the entire film will be shown in the exhibition of the Chicago Film Festival, which begins this week. The Festival is sponsored by the Chicago Film Society, and it will be the first time that a film of this nature has been shown in Chicago. The society is a group of motion picture enthusiasts who meet regularly to discuss and review films. The Festival is expected to attract a large audience of film lovers, and it is hoped that the event will help to promote the art of film making in Chicago. The Festival will be held at the University of Chicago's Film Center, and it will run for two weeks. The programs will include a wide variety of films, ranging from classics to contemporary works. In addition to the main event, there will be several special events, such as a screening of a documentary on the history of film, and a panel discussion on the future of the film industry. The Festival is a great opportunity for film lovers to come together and enjoy a celebration of cinema.
This week the best showmen in America are reading

FAME

A Quigley Publication
When there's a story to be TOLD... about "What's Coming"... to your theatre... and patrons to be SOLD... on the idea of returning to your theatre... you KNOW you can count on The PRIZE BABY... to do a "telling" job... at "point-of-contact"... week in and week out... with TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES!

He's well cut-out... for this Big Job... of serving TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES... with the "show-must-go-on" type of SERVICE... so essential to your business... BECAUSE... he delivers the SHOWMAN'S kind of Advertising... from a Single Source... that saves Time and Effort for YOU!

It's no secret... that he's still "The PRIZE BABY of the Industry"... BECAUSE... he's been making his mark in the motion picture industry... for Twenty-Seven years... by Carving A Reputation... at your BOX OFFICE!

American Brotherhood Week
Feb. 16-23

NATIONAL Screen Service
FIRST BODY OF THE INDUSTRY
Skyrocketing NY Realty Tax Faces Industry

Distributors, Exhibitors May Protest New Rates

With a substantial portion of New York City's $1,141,146,406 tentative increase in real estate assessments for 1947-48 levied upon motion picture properties, the industry here is considering action against the threat of a mounting real estate tax burden. Whether the present real estate tax rates of $2.86 per $100 in Manhattan will also be increased for 1947-48 will not be determined until June 30, the Tax Commissioners' office reports.

The Paramount Theatre and office building at Times Square is assessed on a valuation of $11,100,000 ($220,000 more than in 1946-47) and is de-

(Continued on page 6)

Allied Legislative Unit Set to Start

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Abram P. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, said today that his organization's clearing house for exhibitor information to combat theatre taxation and legislation will start exchanging information among Allied regions at once.

"It is important that all exhibitors (Continued on page 6)

Raibourn Opposes Color Television

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Licensing color television on a rotating disc basis to color motion picture processes, tried years ago and discarded, Paul Raibourn, vice-president of Paramount and president of its subsidiary, Television Productions, today submitted to the Federal Communications Com-

(Continued on page 6)

N. Paper Tomorrow

Motion Picture Daily will not be published tomorrow, Lincoln's Birthday, a legal holiday.

18 Laboratories in East Faced With Strike on March 10

Strike action has been voted by employees of 18 Eastern film laboratories, members of Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians, Local No. 702, IATSE, who seek wage parity with West Coast technicians, John J. Francault, president of the local, said here yesterday. The Western laboratories recently were hard hit by a strike of workers there.

The Coast rate, Francault said, was raised last November to a point some 40 per cent higher than Eastern pay scales and now ranges from $1.40 to $2.10 per hour. Local 702's contract with the 18 companies expires on March 10, he added, explaining that the strike vote was taken at this time to clear the way for a walkout.

Loew International Gets 6 Runs Abroad

With the acquisition of five theatres in Europe and one in Australia, Loew's International Corp., headed by Arthur M. Loew, now has 42 show-cases overseas, highest in the company's history.

Latest to join the M-G-M international circuit are: the Plaza, in Lionel, France; Forum, Liege, Belgium; Scala, Antwerp; Rialto, Geneva; Capitole, Lausanne, Switzerland; Regal, Sydney.

Both the Plaza and Forum were Metro houses before the war, and now after the untangling of legalities returned to that company. During hostilities, the Forum was damaged, as was the newly purchased Scala in Antwerp, one of the largest in Belgium.

Final U' Meeting Here Feb. 14-16

The third and final Universal-International regional sales meeting at which plans for distribution of the company's product for the next six months, in-cluding "The Egg and I," will be dis-

(Continued on page 6)

Edison Centennial

Thomas A. Edison
Born, February 11, 1847
Inventor of the Motion Picture

HALT BRITISH LABS IN GRAVE FUEL CRISIS

2,604 Theatres Now on Part Time or Closed

BY PETER BURNUP

London, Feb. 10.—British laboratories today were forbidden to continue film processing or printing as the nation's fuel crisis developed into the grave pattern of a national emergency. Already, approximately 2,604 theatres have been affected to the extent of being forbidden to open until four P.M. and many are not opening at all due to their inability to provide satisfactory heating during the existing cold wave here.

Industry leaders are bewildered by the rapidly changing emergency which brings new

(Continued on page 6)

Casey Gets CSU Request for Confab

Hollywood, Feb. 10.—Conference of Studio Unions has telegraphed Pat Casey, studio labor liaison here, advising him that "Complete authority has been granted to local representatives of most international unions involved in the current studio labor dispute to act for their internationals on all matters concerning the Hollywood

(Continued on page 7)

Ontario Tightening 'Adult' Gradients

TORONTO, Feb. 10.—Word from legislative circles is that the Ontario government will put through an amendment to the Theatres and Cinematograph Act at the forthcoming session of the legislature which would ban the shipment of films by distributors to any theatre whose proprietor

(Continued on page 6)

CSA Vote Favors Intervention Appeal

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., Feb. 10.—The Conference of Southern Associations at their meeting today voted to direct counsel to take an appeal from the decision of the Conference's petition to intercede in the industry anti-trust suit. The step will be in CSA's attempts to bring its objections to the New York court decree before the U. S. Supreme Court. Col. Robert T. Barton, CSA counsel, addressed the directors at the meeting, and will initiate the appeal action.

(Continued on page 6)

In This Issue

"Michigan Kid" and "Millie's Daughter" are reviewed on page 7; key city grosses are given on page 4.
Personal Mention

William A. Scully, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager; A. J.
O'Keefe, assistant general manager, and John Joseph, director of advertising publicity, arrived in New York yesterday from Chicago.


Maurice A. Bergman, Universal-International advertising publicity director, who is still nursing injuries sustained in San Francisco 10 days ago, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast but will not return to his office until next Monday.

Stanley Hodes, Brandon Films' publicist and son of Hal Hodes, Commissioner of the Department Headed by Key West, Fla., at the end of the month to recuperate from an illness for which he has been hospitalized in New York.

Hamilton McCfadden of the U. S. State Department's motion picture division, has arrived in Washington from the Coast, and is expected to return to his New York office this week.

James R. Grainger, Republic vice-president and general sales manager, and Walter Titus, also a vice-president, were in Atlanta yesterday, leaving New York for Miami.

Morris Goodman, former Motion Picture Export Association executive of New York, will leave London on Feb. 13 aboard the Queen Elizabeth for New York.

Al Hoffman, Rose Lesher Cotes and Gladys Zucker of M-G-M's home office, have returned to New York from Miami vacations.

William Richardson, president of Astor Pictures of Georgia, returned to his Atlanta office following a brief illness.

Don Hassler, special representative for Astor Pictures of Georgia, has returned to Atlanta from Wilming- ton, N. C.

Arthur B. Kilm, Eagle-Lion president, is due here from the Coast tomorrow.

Dwight Rawson of M-G-M's home office publicity department, has returned here from Washington.

Pat O'Brien is due in New York from the Coast on Thursday for a 12-day stay.

Warrren Low of Hal Wallis Productions arrived here from the Coast yesterday.

Irving Rapper, Warner director, arrived here from the Coast yesterday.

Karl MacDonald, vice-president of Warner International, has returned to New York from Mexico City.

Roy Haines, Warners Western division manager, will leave here tonight for Detroit en route to Chicago.

Jules Lapidus, Eastern division manager, left here last night for Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager, will leave here for a Western tour in a few days.

Max Cohen, Universal-International Cleveland branch manager, in the conclusion of the company's conference here, 14-12 meeting will go to Washington to visit his son, Richard, who, at that time, will announce his engagement to Lois Zulin of Washington.

Russell Holman, Paramount Eastern production head; Alan Jackson, Republic executive, and Frank Gellerman, Warners' British production representative, arrived here from the Coast yesterday.

Robert Marienhe, former manager of the Maryland Theatre, Baltimore, now serving in the same capacity at the Hiway Theatre, Middle River, Md.

John G. Volz, former captain in Army public relations, has been named manager of the Little Theatre, Baltimore, as manager of the Hippodrome there.

Roeley Collins, manager of the Stanley, Baltimore, celebrated his 22nd wedding anniversary last weekend.

Jimmy Glassman, traffic manager of ScreenCraft Pictures, here, will be married today to Ray Nader of Brooklyn.

Ray Dressell, Minneapolis RKO Radio branch manager, is back at work following a recent major operation.

Leo Abrams, National Screen Service's Albany district manager, has returned from Buffalo.

Don Swartz, Minneapolis independent distributor, has returned here from New York.

Mrs. Nazera Ziegler, Lorain, O., theatre owner, is vacationing in Florida.

Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's, will leave here for the Coast tomorrow.

Maurice Goldstein, general sales manager of Monogram, has returned to New York from New York.

Evert Rose of Paramount International's eastern department has left New York for Havana.

Irvig Greenfield, Loew attorney, is back in town from Miami.

Petition Congress

On Red Cross Case

Hollywood, Feb. 10.—Petitions calling on Congress to investigate the Red Cross's refusal to accept the industry's $201,250 donation were circulated today by Motion Picture unions, comprising 8,010 contributors to the gift proffered by the Permanent Committee for the Red Cross.

Speaking for the group, Ralph H. Clare, of the teamsters local, said, "The Red Cross is a quasi-official agency of the government, a governmental corporation. The President of the United States automatically becomes its president and he appoints a chairman of the board. The latter appoints a chairman of the Red Cross national central committee. We have no quarrel with the Los Angeles chapter of the Red Cross, which favored acceptance of the contribution. Our difference is with the national central committee, headed by Basil O'Connor. There is a similarity in the action of the Red Cross to that of the National Federation of Labor, a labor organization, which also refused a gift. O'Connor is president of the latter group and undoubtedly influences policies of both organizations. As he is presidential appointee, we are using the petition to call his attention to the actions of Congress and Mr. Truman."
OPEN THE DOOR SHOWMEN!

and let the crowds come in to M.G.M's Top-of-the Industry Hits!

M-G-M's

"THE YEARLING"
Technicolor
Second week-end tops first as M-G-M's Prize Picture packs Radio City Music Hall, acclaimed with rave reviews. Continuing BIG in its 7th Week, Los Angeles, Twice Daily!

M-G-M's

"TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"
Technicolor
After 7 record weeks at Radio City Music Hall, it is delighting the nation and rolling up the biggest grosses of the year! A screenful of Stars in a grand box-office hit!

M-G-M's

"LADY IN THE LAKE"

As predicted by Collier's, Time and many other publications and writers, M-G-M's uniquely told murder mystery is a smash hit! Capitol, N. Y. World Premiere beats the biggest attractions in months. Sure-fire!

M-G-M's

"THE BEGINNING OR THE END"

Launched with International Previews, including Washington, D. C. and New York City. The Scoop of the Century, the human drama behind the creation of the Atom bomb!
Cold Hits New York 1st Runs; Bedelia, ‘Quentin’ Are Big

Severe cold accompanied by snow presented a major box-office handicap to New York first-runs with total receipts for the current week amounting to $17,300, a figure which will conclude its third and final week with $7,000, which is about average. At the John Golden Theatre, however, we gathered a gross of about $11,000 in its 24th week of a movorman's

Estimates of Key City Grosses

**FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.**

**CHICAGO**

Grosses held up well here despite sub-zero weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 13-14:

- **RUE MADELEINE** (20th-Fox) — $34,700
- **PANTHER’S EDGE** (UA) — $21,000
- **WICKED LADY** (U.-GARRICK) — $11,000
- **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (RKO Radio) — $11,000
- **THE STRANGE WOMAN** (UA) — $8,000
- **THE LADY DUKES** (RKO Radio) — $8,000

- **GROSS: $111,000**

**Baltimore**

Holdovers are holding down the current week's box-office figures as the cold snow and bitter cold weather has not tamped off sufficiently. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 13:

- **RUE MADELEINE** (20th-Fox) — $8,000
- **THE LADY DUKES** (RKO Radio) — $8,000
- **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (RKO Radio) — $8,000
- **THE STRANGE WOMAN** (UA) — $7,000
- **THE MAN I LOVE** (WB) — $7,000
- **THE LADY DUKES** (RKO Radio) — $7,000

- **GROSS: $38,000**

**Pittsburgh**

Extremely cold weather, heavy snow and hazardous traveling dampered receipts for the week ending Feb. 13:

- **TEMPTATION** (Fujol) — $7,500
- **PANTHER'S EDGE** (UA) — $6,500
- **WICKED LADY** (RKO) — $6,000
- **THE STRANGE WOMAN** (UA) — $6,000
- **THE LADY DUKES** (RKO Radio) — $6,000
- **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (RKO Radio) — $6,000
- **POLICE WOMAN** (RKO) — $6,000
- **GROSS: $27,000**

**Philadelphia**

Despite the unusual cold wave, movie business continues good here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 11-13:

- **TEMPTATION** (U. — Fujol) — $7,000
- **PANTHER’S EDGE** (UA) — $6,500
- **WICKED LADY** (RKO) — $6,000
- **THE STRANGE WOMAN** (UA) — $6,000
- **THE LADY DUKES** (RKO Radio) — $6,000
- **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (RKO Radio) — $6,000
- **GROSS: $27,000**

**Minneapolis**

Grosses are clinging to near-average levels despite bitter weather and a heavy schedule of sports attractions. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 13:

- **THE WICKED LADY** (U. — Century) — $8,000
- **WIFE WANTED** (Monro-Gofer) — $7,000
- **LIVINGSTON AND LIVINGSTONE** (20th-Fox) — $7,000
- **GROSS: $20,000**

**Cincinnati**

Business on all fronts retarded by several days of near-zero temperatures and snow. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 11-14:

- **THE PERFECT MARRIAGE** (Para) — $8,000
- **TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY** (M-G-M) — $8,000
- **TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY** (M-G-M) — $8,000
- **GROSS: $12,000**

**Toronto**

All but one Toronto first-run had a new week. The Indian Summer, a British import, and a British feature played simultaneously at two of the Famous Players houses. The weather was cold, but the mercury was low. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 12-13:

- **EXPLOITATION** (Eglin) — $13,000
- **TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY** (M-G-M) — $12,000
- **GROSS: $12,000**

**Atlanta**

Grosses have been moderate only, the weather very cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 12:

- **WHISPERING SONG** (M-G-M) — $7,000
- **THE FARE WARD** (Fox) — $7,000
- **GROSS: $7,000**

**Chicago**

Motion Picture Business in the Magic City. The gross of $77,000 Thursday through Sunday, indicating $130,000 for a third week, was considerably below what was expected even though representing a marked drop under last week.

'Years' Also Off

Similarly, "The Best Years of Our Lives" fell off some 30 per cent of the $31,000 won. This is big for the house but still short of previous weeks' totals.

"Rue Madeleine" with Gracie Fields on the stage, provided the Roxy with only $50,000 in the five days. It was expected that receipts would cover the damage done by the weather. The show played a day short of three weeks with "This Kiss" going in today. Peter Lorre, Evelyn Knight and Gil Lamb will be on the stage.

"Ladie in the Lake" with Tex Beneke's orchestra is holding up well at the Capitol where $27,000 is looked for in a third week. The third week of "Dead Reckoning," appears good for $26,000 at the Criterion. "Smiling Through" grossed $25,000 through Sunday at the Palace indicating $38,500 for a third week, which is good. "It's A Wonderful Life" and "The Glove" which expects $21,000 for an eighth week. "Strange Woman" will follow on Feb. 22 with "The Silver Chalice."
RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTON
ETHEL BARRYMORE

in "The Farmer's Daughter"

with CHARLES BICKFORD
ROSE HOBART • TOM POWERS
DORE SCHARY PRODUCTION
Directed by H. C. POTTER
Written by ALLEN RIVKIN and LAURA KERR

NORMANDIE THEATRE
51 East 53rd Street, at Park Ave., New York, N.Y.
TUESDAY, FEB. 18
AT 10:30 A.M. SHARP
Motion Picture Daily
Tuesday, February 11, 1947

Halt British

(Continued from page 1)

development known as hourly since government instructions are amended as rapidly as new con
ferences can be held. A possible but unlikely strike may be given for definition of governmental in
structions could come at the conclusion of the House of Commons debate late tonight.

Today's newsreel issues were dispatched from the laboratories but it is unlikely that any more issues will be permitted as a precaution against any emergency that has ended. Transportation is continuing, making possible film service to the
aters for as long as the present sup
ply of prints lasts.

Trade showings and special press
previews are forbidden except in the presence of ordinary theatre customers from 4:00 p.m. on.

Distributors' Wardour Street offices are operating on strike and in the hope that essential services to theatres may be continued. All ex
ceptional sales services have been virtu-
ally abandoned. Some distributors, including Americans of lesser prominence, planned to hold trade showings in public screenings, thinking thereby to get by the government's restrictions, but these have been sev-
erely curtailed.

Laboratories

(Continued from page 1)

on that date unless the union's de
mands are granted before then. Under Federal law, 30 days' notice of a particular strike is required.

Along with the pay increase, Local 702 seeks to cut the Eastern techni
icians' work from 40 to 35 hours, to increase paid vacation from two to three weeks annually and to obtain a five per cent health and accident fund, plus additional holidays. The strike action was accompanied by a vote to assess each member one dol
lar per week as a strike fund.

Negotiations, which began Jan. 29, will be resumed on Thursday after
noon at the Fraternal Clubhouse here.

Marino Producing Carolina Newsreel

CHARLOTTE, Feb. 10—Establishment here of the Town Topics Film Corp.,
which will produce a monthly news
reel of the Carolinas, is announced by Sam Marino, who will produce.

Three camera crews of two men each are already traveling over the Carolinas. Aiding this unit and associated with Marino will be William Laslie, former salesman for Par
amount here.

Mexico Maps Film Tariff Program

Mexican film interests, hard pressed since the end of the war, are now at
work mapping out a program of trade agreements in order to guarantee rec
ognition of Mexican product, Miguel Conde, secretary of the Mexican Foreign
minister, said recently, and director, revealed here yesterday on the eve of his scheduled departure for New York, where he will film a new
narrative of Hernando Cortez for His
piano Continental Films, joint Span
ish-Mexican operation.

Spurred by the war to produce for home consumption, the Mexican in
dustry has experienced a hall now that a

increase, but the strike was reportedly feeding the popular demand for "light entertainment instead of heavy war

time subjects," he continued. While there is no quota in operation at pres
ent, he added, Mexican picture interes
ts are urging the adoption of positive
itive tariffs to discourage nations which refuse to accept Mexican films in exchange for admission of theirs to Mexico.

NY Realty Tax

(Continued from page 1)

scribed as the most highly priced thea
tre property in the city. Only two Broadway area film theatres, accordin
g to the report submitted to Mayor O'Dwyer by Harry B. Chambers, president of the City Tax Commissi
on, have competed with unassessed assesse
valuations. They are the Ambassa
dor, held to its previous $470,000
valuation, and the Winter Garden, again listed at $2,210,000.

In the office building category, 20th Century-Fox's 'Medium
West Side, including the home office and studio buildings, are valued at
$305,000 over the present fiscal year's $1,545,000, while the Loew of home office building, houses Loew's State Theatre, jumped in valu
ation from $3,900,000 to $5,250,000.

Warner Bros.' West Side office prop
erties, comprising four parcels, are valued at a reassessment of $1,270,000 compared with a 1946-47 as
essment of $1,194,000.

Reverting to theatre properties, it is said that the Astor has risen from $1,700,000 to $1,810,
000; the Capitol's valuation has been boosted from $2,275,000 to $2,300,
000; the building housing the Criterion has been newly listed at $6,700,000, compared with the 1946-47 valuation of $6,575,000.

The comparative figures for other theatres or the buildings which house them are: Loew's from $980,000 to $1,150,000; Hollywood, from $1,000,000 to $1,050,000; Palace, $1,240,000 to $1,250,000; Rialto, $2,850
000 to $3,000,000; Rivoli, $1,450,000 to $1,475,000; Strand, $3,125,000 to
$3,265,000.

The Roxy Theatre, 20th-Fox's New York showcase, previously assessed at $4,350,000, was valued at $4,500,000. Radio City Music Hall, a unit of Rockefeller Center, is not individ
dually listed. The city regards the entire center as being worth $68-
600,000.

The increased real estate assess
ments in New York, despite the inc
erease in New York boroughs, and theatre proper

ties generally at locations other than

in Manhattan are said to have also been assessed at amounts considerably above those established for 1946-47.

Edison Centennial

(Continued from page 1)

Fox president, who, along with Miss Pickford, is a member of both the Centennial Committee and the Thomas Alva Edison Foundation, is not ex
pected to be able to get to New York next week. He will attend a dinner, but will be represented by exec
utives of his company. The Founda

tion has announced a $2,500,000 cam
aign to raise funds for outstanding scientific projects during the next 10 years.

Donald E. Hyndman, past president of the Society of Motion Picture En

ingineers, will attend tonight's dinner as head of a committee representing that body. Other SMPE members expected to be present are E. A. Bertram, J. A. Maurer, D. J. Joy and E. L. Sponable. Eric Johnston, Motion Picture's editor, also on the Centennial Committee, but the pressure of busi
ness is expected to keep him in Wash
ington.

Others representing the industry at today's luncheon will be Glendon Alli
vine, president of the Eastern Public Information Committee, and Joel Swenson of Warner Bros. The majority participation of Edison in the Centennial began last week when the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers honored the inventor at a luncheon at the Town Hall Club and awarded him an emeritus contribution to the Centennial Committee.

Edison's inventions which are basic to the industry are the Kinetoscope, electric light, phonograph, television, radio, recording and amplifying tube. The last of his film productions was "The Unbeliev
ers," in 1916.

Allied

(Continued from page 1)

be given the advantage of techniques used in situations where local regula
tion has been prevented or eliminated,"

Myers said. In an illustration, he said that he will send the Allied membership a de
tailed report on how local admission taxes were avoided by theatres in two

years. "I will reveal the names of the players involved," he said.

"All exhibitors want to know what methods of regulation and control, such as censorship and age limits," Myers said. "When these cases develop and the exhibitor knows the reasons the regulation was imposed, we will dis
tribute that information to Allied re

dential," he concluded.

Myers said that the bulletins will be kept confidential. "This is necessary because we don't want to broadcast our methods of combating regulation," he said.

3-Day Promotion For 'Best Years'

DENVER, Feb. 10—Today through Wednesday are "Virginia Mayo Days" in Denver. The Samuel Goldwyn star arrived today and was met at the sta

tion by a band and representatives of civic organizations. During the three days, Mayo will be the center of attention at luncheons, dinners and cocktail parties, and serving as Mr. Goldwyn's repre
sentative at the screening of "The Best Years of Our Lives" for local dignitaries and press representatives.

Price to Ad Group: Promote Free Trade

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 10—Advertising's top management are convening here to appearing to promote the film industry. The group, which includes the nation's leading advertising executives, will hold an executive luncheon tomorrow at which the group's program and plans will be presented.

"It is only in free countries that advertis
flourishes," Price will say. "In a totalitarian country there is no point in presenting to the people the merits of individual products. The people simply have to take what the government provides and be satisfied with it.

Other nations have their own na

ional concepts, as is their right, but here in the United States we are de
voted to free enterprise. Being so
devoted, either we must give up free enterprise or we must defend it."

Price will describe prophylactic tar
diffs, and patents and par

cel of an obsolete doctrine of isola

tion and will say they have no place in the new order dedicated to free as


ciation and world unity.

Raiibourn

(Continued from page 1)

mission a statement objecting to the immediate establishment of transmis
sion standards for color television as proposed by Columbia Broadcasting System.

In a statement to the Los Angeles Daily News, Raibourn points to the expec

tation that program content is "muchi

more" than a business proposition. This is the conclusion he draws from the fact, as he puts it, that "after 40 years of development of color processes, the motion picture industry, because of production difficulties and costs inher
ent in connection with color, finds only about 10 percent of its feature pro
duction in color."

Numerous hearings on the CBS re

challenges to its color television on a commercial basis have been conducted
 both here and in New York.

Ontario Tightening

(Continued from page 1)

or manager had neglected to advertise a graded picture as "adult entertain

ment."

The advertised classification of a feature, as designated by the Ontario Board of Censors, will be made compul
sory in another amendment, to be

enacted this year following a one-year's trial on the voluntary segreg
ation of films by exhibitors.

"I want to get that statute so that the legislature will consider the rev

ival of the 10-cent amusement tax, which was abrogated by a pre

vious government. This would be on top of a Federal 20-cent excise tax on the production of motion pictures which ap

plies to theatres throughout the Dominion.

Cinema Stamp Meet

The next meeting of the Cinema Stamp Society will be held tonight at the New York Museum of Science and Industry in the RCA Building. All stamp collectors identified with the industry are invited to attend. Nat Cohn is president.
Include British as Award Candidates

Hollywood, Feb. 10.—Titles of pictures and names of persons nominated by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for the annual awards to be made on March 13 in the Shrine Auditorium include four placements for England for the first time. Jean Hersholt, Academy pres- 

Reviews

“Michigan Kid” (Universal)

RUGGED ACTION and an almost uninterrupted current of backing guns and hard-and-fast riding are skillfully integrated into “Michigan Kid” to make it an exciting picture with strong entertainment value and equally strong dramatic potentialities. Calamity Jane, the familiar face of familiar faces smartly and effectively displaying the qualities of deft handling in all phases, the picture, which is in Cinecolor, was produced by Howard Welsch and directed by Ray Taylor, with a direction by Roy B. Chanslor.

Josu Hall, enacting the title role, leaves the U. S. Cavalry after completing a hitch in the campaign against the Sioux Indians to settle down on the frontier for some farming, but is sidetracked when he breaks up an attempted cattle robbery. A wealthy frontiersman, conveying a small box of money, is mortally wounded in the fray, buries his treasure and enlists Hall to see that Rila Johnson, the dying man’s niece, gets the money. Several attempts are made on his life, by the new owner of the box and Miss Johnson and the hero end up in jail on a murder charge for a short spell before Andy Devine, a hitherto peaceful, warm-hearted stage driver, unmasks himself as the “brains” of the robbers. Hall and Miss Johnson, who has succeeded in digging up the thieves, finish in a clinch. Others in the cast are Milburn Stone, William Broods and Leonard East, as Hall’s Army buddies who respond to his call for help, and Stanley Andrews, as the sheriff. The sequence and story are well handled by Roy Chanslor, with additional dialogue by Robert Presnell, Sr., from a story suggested by Rex Beach’s “Michigan Kid.” Running time, 69 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

IVING KAPLAN

“Millie’s Daughter” (Columbia)

A FAIRLY substantial story concerning an 18-year-old girl forced to choose between the adherence to the customary religious observances and the more colorful but haphazard existence which she would find with her mother is given adequate presentation in “Millie’s Daughter.” Gladys George, Gay Nelson, Paul Cavanagh and Ruth Donnelly are the principal performers in the sufficiently effective drama.

Edward Huesbich’s screenplay, based on the novel by Donald Henderson Clarke, opens in Boston where Miss Nelson in the title role decides to escape the religious observances of her mother, Miss George, by taking a trip to Florida, thus forgoing a huge inheritance which she would receive in three years.

Miss George, engaged in promoting social affairs for the benefit of herself and wealthy clients trying to join the exclusive set, welcomes her daughter at the outset but soon comes to realize that her place is rightly in Boston. Campbell’s chore is to induce Miss Nelson to return to protect her financial interests. They fall in love of course but complications set in when one of Miss George’s promoting schemes backfires. Her client’s check is returned as worthless and the bills are piling up. Although she might have avoided it, she moves her offices here and emboldened chairman in order to force her daughter back to Boston.

Under Sidney Sallowy’s direction, the story is told directly and well, except for a few instances of unseasoned dramatics. William Bowers and Gladys George, in the cast are Norma Varden, Arthur Space, Nana Bryant, Harry Hayden, Paul Maxey and Robert Emmett Keane. Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

Mack Gets Chambers As Advertising Head

CHICAGO, Feb. 10.—Don Chambers, associated with Paramount theatre affiliates for 19 years, has been ap- pointed advertising-publicity director for Filmrow, Inc., and Mac-Max Pictures, the picture sales head. Chambers succeeds Harold Pearlman, who has been appointed sales representative for Filmrow in Wisconsin.

Chambers was advertising manager for Western Massachusetts Theatres, the Chicago circuit of United Artists, Chicago manager, and advertising head with headquarters in Springfield, Mass., also district advertising man- agers of P. T. Theatres, and circuit advertising manager for Minnesota Amusement Co.

Chambers was announced the appoint- ment of Robert Griffith as assistant to Chambers. Griffith, recently dis- charged from the Army, was formerly stage coach driver. He is now with the bigger Chamber firm.

DeMille En Route Here

Hollywood, Feb. 10.—Cecil B. DeMille is on his way to New York by train to address school children on “The Bill of Rights” by radio.

Casey Gets Request

(Casey Gets Request (Continued from page 1)

strike situation. We demand a con- 
ference for the purpose of negotiating contracts with a view to arriving at a spirit of cooperation and end the labor controversy,” the C. S. U. 

Bekeris, Nebel Get U. A. Latin Posts

Sam Bekeris, United Artists’ gen- 
eral manager in Argentina, has been appointed supervisor for Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil, Chile, Peru and Bolivia, by Walter Goud, foreign manager here. Leon Nebel, assistant foreign manager in Peru, has been named manager, replacing Victor Schocet, who has resigned from that post.

Isaac Seldner, 81

Funeral services will be held at Riv- 

Cerise Memorial Chapel, here, this afternoon for Isaac Seldner, former 

manager of Loew’s Mayfair Theater, who died on Sunday of a heart attack at his home. He was among the ol- 

cest active managers of the Loew Met- 

ropolitan circuit.

Committee Named for Costly Vegetable Variety

San Francisco, Feb. 10.—Plans for a variety club here are being formu- 

lated by Rosus Harvey, chairman, and a committee composed of Ollie Wat- 

son, Jack Mack and Leslie Jacobs. The advisory committee includes Abe 

Blumenfeld, Blumenfeld Theatres; Harry Cooper, Golden State theatres; and Neal East of Paramount Pictures. The possibility of securing a night club in the Tivoli Theatre Building is being considered. The club site is being investigated. It is now owned by Blumenfeld.

Phila. Promotion

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 10.—A campa- 

ign to foster “American Brotherhood Week” will be under way. The campaign is being set up by the motion picture division of that city, according to Mike Weiss, manager of the district office. The drive locally. Arrangements have been made to have the mayor start Feb. 16, with a proclama- 

tion urging all citizens to participate in the campaign against intolerance of minorities.

Covered are special cards on 

all trolley cars and busses announc- 

ing the National Conference of Chris- 

tians and Jews’ program. The PTC’s 

Traveler, circulated in street cars, 

busses and subways, will devote its 

front cover to the drive. All branch 

managers in exchanges are being urged to have their salesman contact 

theatre’s set up plans for securing a minimum of 10 pledges in each 

theatre. All theatres will show the special feature produced by David 

O. Selznick, which will be tacked on to all news reels during the week of Feb. 16-23.

Conners Releases Schedule

On ‘Brotherhood’ Reels

A complete schedule of newsreel is 

issues covering the message of “Am- 

erican Brotherhood Week” will be an- 

nounced here today by Tom Con- 

ners, chairman of the distributors’ com- 

mittee for the drive. This is the first time that newsreels released dur- 

ing a single period have given blanket 

coverage to such a subject. Both first 

and subsequent runs of every news- 

reel released will feature the special trailer produced by David Selznick for the one-week drive against intolerance.

‘Brotherhood Week’

Chillicothe, O., Feb. 10.—Plans for inaugura- 

tion of the “American Brother- 

hood Theatre here will be upset if the city 


gains control of what is known as 

“old normal land,” for which the 


city council has submitted a bid. Nat 

Watt, Warner zone manager, with 

headquarters in Cleveland, declared 

here.

The theatre represents an invest- 

ment of between $50,000 and $200-

0, Watt said.

Monte Carlo

“PREVIEW ROOM

... will really SELL

your picture.

Fully equipped for 35MM, 16MM, and Slide Projection.

Cocktail parties, luncheons and dinners served in this very
comfortable and modern gay spot for a favorable reaction to your film.

MADISON AVENUE at 54th St. New York, N. Y.
Tel. 1: PL 5-5400 PAUL GREEN, Mgr.
Gunnin' for new highs
in ACTION MUSICAL
entertainment!

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
OVER THE SANTA FE TRAIL

with
THE HOOSIER HOTSHOTS
(Hezzie, Ken, Gil and Gabe)
KEN CURTIS · JENNIFER HOLT · GUY KIBBEE
GUINN "BIG BOY" WILLIAMS · DE CASTRO SISTERS
ART WEST AND HIS SUNSET RIDERS

Screenplay by Louise Rousseau
Directed by RAY NAZARRO · Produced by COLBERT CLARK
Para. to Meet
On Splitting;
Bidding Starts

Raibourn Sees Split of
Partly Owned Houses

Paramount officials and the company's theatre partners will meet in Florida next week to consider ways and means of complying with the New York trust suit decision, particularly that part of it which declares illegal a film company's ownership of between five and 95 per cent of a theatre.

The New York decree allows a maximum of two years for the diversification of such holdings, Paul Raibourn, Paramount vice-president, stated last week that a decision has yet to be reached on the procedure to be followed, adding, however, it is his "guess" that the company would split the theatres it holds in partnership on a numerical basis, Paramount, for example, taking 10 theatres of a 20-house circuit in which it holds a 50 per cent interest.

Both Barney Balaban, Paramount

Ask Theatre Aid on
Red Cross Drive

National theatre participation in the 1947 drive of the American Red Cross, which will be under way throughout the month of March, was requested yesterday by Harvey D. Gibson, national fund chairman, and other Red Cross and industry officials at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here yesterday attended by trade press representatives.

Theatres will be asked only to run

Optics an Issue at
FCC Video Hearing

Washington, Feb. 12.—The function of the human eye became the subject of bitter disagreement as it relates to color television when the Federal Communications Commission continued hearings yesterday on the Columbia Broadcasting System's petition for use high frequency standards for its color television system.

Appearing in behalf of CBS, Dr.

UA Directors
Vote Appeal

United Artists' board of directors on Tuesday approved plans to appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from the New York Federal District Court's final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, it was announced by Edward C. Rafferty, president. Indications are that the company's appeal will be filed prior to March 1. Rafferty, who represented UA as counsel at the trial of the case, told the court that he expected to appeal from the decree's ban on the fixing of minimum admission prices, which prevents road-showing of the numerous high-budget pictures made by UA's producers.

In addition, UA has indicated that it will appeal from the system of competitive bidding set up by the court and from the decree provision which places the proof of "reasonable" clearance upon the distributor.

Universal Plans to
Appeal Next Week

Universal's appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit will be filed in Federal District Court here next week or, at the latest, the early part of the week following, according to Thomas Turner Cooke, special counsel for the company. Columbia's appeal filed on Feb. 6, is the only one so far on record.

ATT’s Appeal
Plan Claims
Bidding Illegal

System Is Beyond Even Congress Power: Arnold

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—That the proposed competitive bidding system is illegal "even beyond the authority of Congress to prescribe," will be the keynote of an appeal from the lower court's denial to intervene in the New York industry anti-trust suit, it will be submitted to the U. S. Supreme Court next week by Thurman Arnold, counsel for the American Theatres Association.

In an interview here, Arnold scoffed at the idea that exhibitors will suffer as a result of intervention. He said: "The exhibitor is bound by the final litigation anyway. Why shouldn’t he have his say before the court?"

ATA claims that the system of bidding will drastically affect the exhibitors’ access to films necessary to

WB Quarterly Net
Is $7,203,000

Net profit of $7,203,000, equivalent to 97 cents a share on the $7,402,180 shares of common stock outstanding, was reported by Warner Brothers and subsidiaries for the three months ending Nov. 30, 1946. This compares with a net profit of $4,367,000, or 59

New Variety Tent
For New Haven

A group in the amusement business in and around New Haven have petitioned the national tent for a charter. R. J. O'Donnell, national chief Barker, reports. All tents in the organization are now voting on the application. C. J. Latta, second assistant national

In This Issue

"Sea of Grass" is reviewed on page 4. Key city grosses are given on pages 4 and 5.
Personal Mention

MALCOLM KINGSBERG, president of RKO Theatres, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

LYNN FARNOL, Samuel Goldwyn Productions publicist, will be in Philadelphia and Washington at various times this week. Ben Winter, who will be in Baltimore and Washington, Bill Rider will be in Pittsburgh, and Miss Llewellyn Miller will spend next week in Minneapolis. All head-quarter in New York.

FAY FITZBROHN, daughter of E. G. Fitzbrohn, Paramount exploitation head in Chicago, will be married tomorrow to Page Outlaw, Aurora, Ill., realtor, at the First Presbyterian Church, Aurora.

HILLER INNES, executive assistant to Russell Holman, Paramount's Eastern production head, left New York yesterday for a West Indies vacation.

LOUIS HYMAN, executive vice-president of Sol Lesser Productions, will return to the Coast from New York today.


CLIFFORD JAPES, director of the J. Arthur Rank British Pictorial Productions and Film Laboratories, is in Rochester from New York.

JOHN J. JONES, Screen Guild president, boarded the Super Chief for Chicago, en route to New York yesterday.

Mrs. H. Russell, Millersburg, O., theatre owner, is enrolling at University Hospital, Columbus, after an operation.

ARTHUR DICKINSON, Motion Picture Association executive, has been confined to his home by illness.

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager for Warners, is in Buffalo from New York.


CECIL BARBER, special assistant to David O. Selznick, is en route to New York from the Coast.

Ralph McCoy, special representative for Eagle-Lion, has returned to Atlanta from Memphis.

Harry Paul, Wil-Kin Theatre Supply, Atlanta, is a Miami visitor.

NASH WEIL, Wil-Kin Theatre Supply vice-president, has returned to Atlanta from Texas.

Jack L. Warner will leave New York for the Coast over the weekend.

Insider's Outlook

T. P. TAYLOR, who owns the property occupied by the Vogue theatre in suburban Louisville, is plaintiff in a lawsuit against William Rosenthal of Rosenthal Theatre Enterprises, Indiana, which operates the house. Taylor contends the lease entitles him, as landlord, to a minimum rent, or 12 per cent of the gross receipts, whichever is larger, and charges Rosenthal, as operator, has failed to include candy sales in those receipts. He claims he is seeking an accounting.

In the recent past, there have been scattered references by one national circuit executive and one distributor executive, at least, to the relationship between grosses and candy and/or popcorn sales. The Louisville action, however, provides the first time a landlord has stepped into the situation, propelled by his apparent conviction and his specific allegation that the two amount to the same thing.

No one, restrained by caution, can foretell the outcome of this action or what precedents at law may be established. Exhibitor and distributor executives, who will keep an eye peeled on this twist because of its potential application to their continuing business dealings, no one, moreover, should get the idea this is piddling stuff. It isn't.

Millions of dollars in candy bars, etc., are sold annually in theatres throughout the broad reaches of this country. Considered in opinion in circles where snap judgments are permanently made, yesterday suggested there are those situations where grosses from candy and assorted by-products run as high as 25 per cent of the total take. Whether the distributor playing, percentage, may be declined in on this phase of a theatre's overall receipts is likely to become a topic of increasing interest as time goes by.

Meanwhile, a peer into the unpredictable future might well incorporate the possibility that distributors will be confronted with the need to write a different kind of contract. Maybe "Andy Hardy" will have to be sold, less O. Henry. Or three at 40 per cent, maybe Snickers, percentages per cent, plus Milky Ways. Perhaps it will be a split figure above 680 bags [of popcorn, that is].

But whatever it is, distributors will be compelled to remember U. S. versus Paramount. Price-fixing is out. That goes for admissions. It may go for candy and popcorn, too.

Already reported have been partial highlights of the preferential distribution deal originally entered between Vanguard and United Artists. The action for so-called "sellers' agreement—me, too" basis would be a rare bird, indeed.

Here is what UA got, or what Selznick got. "On gross receipts in the United States up to $800,000, a fee equal to 25 per cent of said receipts.

"On gross receipts in the United States in excess of $800,000, a fee equal to 10 per cent of the amount of sales receipts in excess of $800,000, or on gross receipts in Canada up to $50,000, a fee equal to 25 per cent of said receipts.

"On gross receipts in Canada in excess of $50,000, a fee equal to 10 per cent of the amount of said receipts in excess of $50,000.

"On gross receipts in England up to $90,000 per month, a fee equal to 25 per cent of said receipts.

"On gross receipts in England in excess of $90,000 pounds per month, a fee equal to 10 per cent of the amount of said receipts in excess of $90,000 pounds sterling."

Selznick's multi-million suit, incidentally, occasions the remark his action must have been predicated on portal-to-portal pay.

Forty-three percent of Universal's total gross in its last fiscal year came from overseas. Having a partner like J. Arthur Rank with almost 1,000 theatres there, and everywhere seems to be paying off.

Boriss Morros to Paul N. Lazarus, Jr.: "How are you, darling? Come on, give right away, will you? I want you to pace the floor with me."
This is the man she loves...

WORDS CAN'T DESCRIBE THE POWER OF

"Pursued"

SHOWINGS FOR THE TRADE FEB. 17th
Key City Grooses

Following are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

LOS ANGELES

Of three new pictures at first-runs, "San Quentin" did the best business. War pictures are extremely popular at this time. Estimated receipts for the week ended Feb. 12:

SAN QUENTIN (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY VS. CUEBALL (RKO Radio) — BELMONT (1,600) ($6.00-8.00-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $1,857.14)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (UA) — FOX-GRIS (700) ($3.00-$1.00-$1.00) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,428.57)

Te-F. YEARLING (M-G-M) — CARThAY CIRCUIT — HOUSTON 3 (6,000) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $1,857.14)

D RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox) — CHIN-TOWN (2,000) ($2.00-4.00-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) — EL CAPITAN (1,000) (45c-65c) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $3,750)

SAN QUENTIN (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY VS. CUEBALL (RKO Radio) — REY (600) ($5.00-8.00-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $2,285.71)

DANCES WITH SUN (SRO) — FAIRFAX (1,500) ($1.20-$1.30-$1.30) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,142.86)

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I) — FOURSEASONS (900) ($5.00-7.00-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,285.71)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) — FOX-WILSHIRE (2,500) ($3.00-6.00-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $9,000)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) — HURRICANE (2,500) ($2.25-$2.50-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,142.86)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio) — THE MEETING HOUSE (1,500) ($1.25-$1.50-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,142.86)

13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) ($6.00-8.00-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,142.86)

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) — LOS ANGELES (2,060) ($6.00-8.00-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,642.86)

13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox) — LLOYD (1,350) ($5.00-6.00-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,285.71)

THE CHASE UA — MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (500) ($6.00-7.00-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,285.71)

THE CHASE UA — MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (300) ($6.00-7.00-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $1,071.43)

THE CHASE UA — MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (1,000) ($5.00-6.00-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $1,071.43)

SAN QUENTIN (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY VS. CUEBALL (RKO Radio) — ORPHEUM (2,210) ($5.00-6.00-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,142.86)

Review

"Sea of Grass" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

PRODUCED with painstaking deliberation and on the grand scale by Pandro S. Berman, and with Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Robert Walker and Melvyn Douglas heading a marquee cast including such dependables as Harry Carey, Edgar Buchanan, Margaret Sullavan, Audrey Christie, Larry Keating and Warren Hymer, this is a fitting climax to the director's 10-year-old novel of infidelity and bastardy, set in the New Mexico of 1880, is strong entertainment in both means of the terms. In common with so many other well made films dealing with the subject it is re-told on the screen, this one possesses great narrative power and emotional impact. Unlike most others, it does not sensationalize the moral lapse which is the root of the principal plot interest, but dwells rather upon its far-reaching, all consuming effect upon the characters involved. Tracy, as the lonely old husband, is handled as such by Marguerite Roberts and Vincent Lawrence in their script and by Elia Kazan in his highly effective direction. That it will do big business may be set down as a foregone conclusion.

The picture opens with Miss Hepburn, a St. Louis socialist, going to New Mexico to marry Tracy, a cattle baron defending his million acres of grass (Totila). He has made his living through the years by selling land to little farmers, mostly just giving it away to keep his tenants happy. Their friendship turns into love, and they decide to go to Mexico where they have a son. Melvyn Douglas' character is the boy's stepfather. Tracy finds his son a tender and loving friend. However, he is kept by most people in his life, and Tracy is forced to make a decision about his future.

SALT LAKE CITY

Moderated weather was a boon to lightly patronized "Sea of Grass." The same story broke all records in its first week here, and "The Jolson Story" broke the holdover average with receipts for the week ending Feb. 13:

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U-I) and NEERA (U-I) — WARNER (750) ($2.50-$3.00-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $3,000)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U-I) and NEERA (U-I) — WARNER (750) ($2.50-$3.00-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $3,000)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U-I) and NEERA (U-I) — WARNER (750) ($2.50-$3.00-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $3,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

Grosses, held back by cold and snowy weather, were below par at two of four first-runs. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 12-13:

HER SHIRER'S SECRET (RKO Radio) and THE TRUTH ABOUT MURDER (RKO Radio) — JULIAH (2,000) ($5.00-$6.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,142.86)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M release) and O'SULLIVAN'S MURDER (M-G-M) — THE PALACE (3,000) ($5.00-$6.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,142.86)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (U-A) and THE STRANGE WOMAN (U-A) — PARAMOUNT (1,100) ($5.00-$6.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,142.86)

OMAHA

Grosses, held back by cold and snowy weather, were below par at two of four first-runs. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 12-13:

ESTIMATES received for the week ending Feb. 11-13:

THE SHOCKING PILL (20th-Fox) — SHARED PARADES (2,000) ($3.00-$4.00-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,285.71)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — FAIRWAY (700) ($4.50-$6.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,285.71)

THE SHOCKING PILL (20th-Fox) — SHARED PARADES (2,000) ($3.00-$4.00-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,285.71)

KANSAS CITY

Cold, windy weather late last week cut business, which, however, improved over last. Competition from musical and sports events was keen. "Song of the South" and "Philadelphia Story" are doing well.

DENVER

Beautiful weather gave first-runs good to big business for the most part. "It's a Wonderful Life" broke the average here as well as in the Esquire and will hold. Estimated receipts for the week ended Feb. 12:

HIDGEWYCK (SRO) (742) ($2.30-$3.00-$1.00) 7 days, after week at Denver. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000)

CROSS MY HEART (Paras.) — DENHAM (3,750) (3.75c-6.00c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000)

THE SHOCKING PILL (20th-Fox) — UPTOWN (2,000) ($3.50-$4.50) 7 days, Stage-date show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000)

Continued on page 5
**Key City Grosses**

(Continued from page 4)

**SAN FRANCISCO**

"The Angel and the Badman," in its world premiere at the Fox, was the leader here, equaling the house average, while all other films fell below. Estimated receipts for the week ended Feb. 12:

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<th>THE MIGHTY MCGURK (M-G-M)</th>
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<td>(Average: $2,500) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000.</td>
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<tr>
<th>ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)</th>
<th>CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.)</th>
<th>LOEW'S</th>
<th>THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)</th>
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<td>(Average: $3,000) 5 days, 1st week. Gross: $12,500.</td>
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<td>(Average: $3,500) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000.</td>
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<th>THE MIGHTY MCGURK (M-G-M)</th>
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<td>(Average: $2,500) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000.</td>
<td>(Average: $3,000) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500.</td>
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**ST. LOUIS**

"The Jolson Story" broke the Sunday record at Loew's State and has wound up the week impressively. Estimated receipts for the week ended Feb. 12:

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<tr>
<th>MAGNIFICENT DOLL (M-G-M)</th>
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<td>(Average: $3,000) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000.</td>
<td>(Average: $2,500) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500.</td>
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<th>RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)</th>
<th>DICK TRACY VS. GUELL (20th-Fox)</th>
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<td>(Average: $3,500) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000.</td>
<td>(Average: $3,000) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500.</td>
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**GROSSES**

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<td>(Average: $3,000) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000.</td>
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**San FRANCISCO**

**THE GOLDEN CALENDAR**

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<th>NATIONS</th>
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<td>(Average: $3,000) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000.</td>
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**Angel**

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<th>INFORMER (Rep.)</th>
<th>STATE</th>
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<td>(Average: $3,000) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500.</td>
<td>(Average: $3,500) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000.</td>
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</table>

**THE ADVENTURESS**

The next great box-office hit from the Entertainment Leader of the Industry!
Insists That Houses Pay 650% Tax Rate

Dalton, Ga., Feb. 12.—“Put up your license fees or lock up by March 1,” was the mayor and city council’s response to a suit by the Motion Picture Theatres of Dalton that the city’s license fee is too high, according to a 650% rate per year.

In January meeting of the council, the fee for each theatre in Dalton was raised from the current $180 to a sliding scale, based on admission charged, which would cost local theatres $730 yearly.

Refund Ordered on Screen Excise Tax

Los Angeles, Feb. 12.—Deciding a test case that is likely to be followed by suits filed by other studios, Judge Leon Yankwich has ordered the Government to refund $7,530 in excise taxes paid on screen process collected from Warner Brothers in the past five years.

The judge ruled that the tax, which was collected from cameras and other photographic equipment, cannot be collected on screens, which, he said, are properly classified as studio equipment in common with sets and props.

Eagle-Lion Sues for Use of Word ‘Eagle’

Hollywood, Feb. 12.—Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., has filed suit in Superior Court, asking an injunction against American Eagle Films to bar further use of the word “Eagle” in its company name. The complaint states that Eagle-Lion’s world-wide prestige is damaged by the similarity in names, setting forth it has spent $160,000 equipment in preparation last May 5th. American Eagle Films was formed last October by Samuel Howard and associates for independent production.

Authors Seek Status With United Nations

A bid for authors to be given equal status with press, radio and films in the information work of the United Nations will be registered with the UN department of public information by P.E.N., the international association of writers, editors and publishers through its vice-president, Manuel Komroff, at a department of information conference being held this week at Lake Success.

ATA’s Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

ATA and CSA Attorneys to Meet on Unified Appeal

Col. Robert T. Barton of Richmond, Va., The Supreme Court will be urged to let the independent exhibitor, through ATA, express his viewpoint when the case is heard on final argument.

ATA’s Appeal (Continued from page 1)

ATA’s appeal, “The court at- tends to applications for retrial of the Supreme Court of Appeal.” ATA is seeking a decision to appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeal.

Funds for the appeal will be heard on final argument.

Cops in Film Houses, Now Want Firemen

Springfield, Mass., Feb. 12.—The City Council here has pre- sented an ordinance calling for the presence of a fireman at all places where films are being shown, during all showings with theatres paying the expense. Currently, policemen must also be on duty, with the theatres paying the cost.

WB Zone Managers Meet Here Today

Harry M. Kalmie, general manager of Warner Bros. Theatres, will preside at a meeting of zone managers today at the hotel office.

Among those attending will be James E. Coston, Chicago; Nat Wolf, Cleveland; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; Frank Darn, Newark; C. J. Latta, Albany; Tom Schlanger, Phila- delphia; Col. A. S. Schmidt, Atlanta; John J. Patey, Washington.


Regulations to End German Film Cartels

Washington, Feb. 12.—Anti-cartel regulations being applied by Ger- many will prevent efforts made in that country before the war to control theater and film developments, the U.S. Commerce Department reports. The most recent alleged cartel agreement was to prevent the use of the AGFA German color film process, now in the hands of the Alien Prop- erty Custodian here. Also, advances in the production of the AGFA projection equipment in Germany were held from the world market.

Video Hearing (Continued from page 1)

Selig Hetch, 1941 winner of the Freder- ick Ives Medal for work in optics, made the “clearer irrelevance” testimony given Monday by Paul Raibourn which purported to show that CBS color television would result in copyright protection when viewed in the home.

Raibourn declared that a part of the test, only black and white, while the colors are used for color vision with the result that they can- not be used in view, television picture pic- tures. Hetch also fired back with the observation that when the brightness of moonlight is exceeded color cannot be the result. Following Hetch’s testimony, Raibourn questioned the value of statements made by George Leiden, “anyone who has viewed color tele- vision during a one-day private demon- stration in a CBS laboratory and who has been asked to cooper- ation conducted for the benefit of the PCC and those in the television industry, many who have video receivers in their own homes would best be qualified to pass judgment.

Red Cross Drive

(Continued from page 1)

cents a share, for the period ending Dec. 1, 1945.

Film rentals, theatre admissions and sales from eliminating intercompany transactions for the period, amounted to $42,635,000, compared with $37, 096,000 for the corresponding three months of 1945.

Federal income taxes in the 1946 period amounted to $4,400,000, while the ‘45 income taxes for the quar- ter were $4,300,000.

Para, to Meet

(Continued from page 1)

Red Cross Drive (Continued from page 1)

the seven-minute appeal film, “Call to Action,” produced by March of Time, during a presentation at public school on Feb. 25. Audience collections will not be requested but booths or donation boxes may be kept up during the drive by exhibitors who elect to do so.

The Red Cross, it was stated, re- ceived the advisory committee on its past drives on screens of the nation’s the- atres as the most valuable contribu- tion that cooperation continued its primary method of direct solic- itation.

Louis C. Boochever, national direc- tor of public relations for the Red Cross, estimated the publicity value of the nation’s screen time to the Red Cross at $50,000,000. He said that 2,000 prints of the special appeal sub- ject will be made available to the- atres for use beginning Feb. 25. All national and most regional exhibitors are being asked to cooper- ate.

Other speakers at yesterday’s lunch- en who urged industry assistance for the drive were Ardath Mayer, Broad- way theatre operator who has handled numerous foreign missions for the Red Cross, and Robert Coyle, executi- ve director of the Motion Picture Association, Joe Weil, identified with the industry for many years, is handling publicity for the drive.

WB Profit (Continued from page 1)
Fight Intervention On Ground of Delay

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The Justice Department will tell the U. S. Supreme Court that the American Theatres Association should not be permitted to intervene in the industry anti-trust suit because if one exhibitor organization is permitted to do so, others would have the same right and the door would be opened for "unnecessary" delay.

In addition, the Department will say that the ATA is not a "true" association, so it could not be an independent exhibitor, it was stated.

Robert L. Wright, Government counsel, has been fighting intervention arguments since the ATA first announced its intention to seek a voice in the suit. Wright believes that any group, in which the exhibitor will have a conflict between the exhibitor and the court. As for the ATA belief that the Government "does not speak for the exhibitor," Wright contends that the Justice Department has done everything to protect the independent theatre.

In the opinion of having the revolutionary competitive bidding plan suddenly injected as an issue before the Government, Wright's recent statement to the New York Federal District Court that the workings of the bidding plan is questionable is pointed out by the Department as an example of its interest in the subject.

Upstate Auto Accident

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 12.—Halbrook Bissell and Charles Charles, of Advertisers Distributing Company, sellers of screen publications, were reported in a serious condition in a Cooperstown, N. Y., hospital, following a highway accident near Chevin with another while driving to Buffalo. Bissell is a former Columbia manager in Albany and Charles is a former Ross Federal Service manager.

Peggy O'Neil Dead

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 12.—Peggy O'Neil, 29, died in the RKO Golden Gate Theatre and widow of Archie M. Bowles, former Fox West Coast manager, died here last Friday following a prolonged illness.

Mrs. Alexander Sabo, 51

ELIZABETH, N. J., Feb. 12.—Mrs. Pauline Kish Sabo, 31, wife of Alexander J. Sabo, owner of the Woodbridge Theatre, Woodbridge, N. J., died on Sunday following intestinal, Rahway, after a brief illness. A son and a daughter also survive.

John Pfeifer, 87

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 12.—John Pfeifer, 87-year-old founder and president of the Pfeifer Show Print Co., with many friends in show business, is dead following a five-week illness.

'Flu' Keeps Pickford From Edison Dinner

Mary Pickford, who came to New York a few days ago to represent her industry as a speaker at the Thomas A. Edison Centennial dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel Tuesday night, and to attend a meeting of the United Artists board of directors, was unable to attend either because of an attack of influenza. Mrs. Pickford went to her suite at the Plaza Hotel. She sent a message to the dinner, eulogizing Edison and the exhibitions on which motion pictures are based.

20th Century-Fox was represented by A. and Mrs. Harry Mersay and Mr. and Mrs. S. Barash.

Glendon Allwine, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Information Committee, and Joel Swenson of Warners represented the industry at the Edison Pioneers luncheon at the Hotel Astor on Tuesday.

Northwest Attacks 'Horror' Pictures

Minneapolis, Feb. 12.—Starting on a neighborhood-to-neighborhood basis, Minneapolis Central Council of Parents, Pupils and Teachers has launched a drive against crime and horror pictures, comics and radio programs. The campaign was placed high on the council's "a major and important project," following a report of an investigation of County Court of Special Edu., and is special committee under Hugh E. Flynn. Flynn said it is not planned to confine this battle to theaters which show horror films or drug stores which sell objectionable comics.

Czech Short Screening

"Czechoslovakian Comes Back," two-reeler, is being shown by the National Relief for Czechoslovakia, Inc., of which Brackett Lewis is executive director. The footage was taken from Czechoslovakian government and U. S. Army Signal Corps documentaries, and will be shown tonight at the Plaza after a 7:30 showing at the Museum of Modern Art, here.

Ask Single Collection

The immediate establishment of a labor-management committee to work out plans for a one-year collection of a minimum fee for film rentals and relief organizations has been requested by the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local No. 109, United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, in a letter sent to the heads of motion picture companies here.

Universal Appeal (Continued from page 1)

Cooe said the Universal appeal will attack the decree in a "comprehensive" fashion and, in general, will follow the lines of the motion with the court here on Jan. 10, seeking modification of the decree. Ex- tend the appeal to all companies, ban the franchise deals, contend that such agreements between the company and independent exhibitors hinder the new theatre to show a product and give the distributor an assured outlet without which the exhibitor's show-case house would be necessary.

Universal also is on record in opposition to competitive bidding and is expected to attack the decree as an impairment upon its copyrights.

VA Film Division In Meeting Here

Distribution difficulties and implementation of its division of the Veterans Administration at a meeting held at the Hotel Pennsylvania here yesterday and today, with David Pal- freyman, director of theatre service and trade relations for the Motion Picture Association, slated to attend.

Eric A. Johnston, MPA president, is expected to decline an invitation due to the pressure of other work.

John Cassidy, chief of the VA motion picture division, presided over yesterday's conference. Gas Mason, executive assistant director of special services, and William J. Jones, Jr., previewing and booking director, sat in along with heads of the 13 VA regional film offices around the country.

The Administration obtains product from independent film companies under one-year contracts signed with each last July.

Vog Head to Seek New Film Abroad

B. L. Garner, head of Vog Films, Inc., has left for a foreign-language films in America, will be in London for a three-month trip to France to examine available product and attend trade meetings in Paris which will interests. Garner said that he hopes to acquire about 20 films for distribution here.

Ned Meadows, his associate, will take charge of Vog affairs here during Garner's absence.

Children's Films Get Wide Detroit Support

Detroit, Feb. 12.—Greater Detroit Motion Picture Council members re- port that cooperation of theatres in showing the 28 specially selected films from the MPAA's Children's Film Library is excellent, and that the well-supported showings are receiving top promotional support, as well as publicity through schools.

New Variety Tent (Continued from page 1)

chief barker, has met with the charter membership group in New Haven on several occasions. Bill McCraw, national executive director, visited the proposed tent. Clubs rooms have been arranged for in the Taft Hotel.

Names of the original crew members follow: chief barker, Barney Pit- totny, chairman; treasurer, J. D. Pfeifer; financial manager, Warner Brothers; first assistant chief barker, Jacob B. Fish- man, Fishman Theatres; second as- sistant, Henry Germain, has been brought by George Wilkinson, Wil- lkinson Theatre: property master, Ar- thur D. C. Reynolds; director of publicity, Mrs. C. J. Sabin; editor, Jerome Schlesinger, member; Herman Levy, MPTOA; Max Alderman, Allied Exhibitors; John V. Pennington, manager; Harry F. Show; Losc's Poli; Lou Brown, Losc's Poli.

As soon as its charter has been granted, the new tent will set a date for its official induction into the national organization through an inau- guration banquet and dedication of the club rooms.

Century Using Radio For 'Brotherhood'

With theatre circuits over the country using their own local radio shows to broadcast the message of American Brotherhood during the drive period, Feb. 16-23, New York's Century Circuit will open its drive on Sunday by devoting a portion of its program "Show Business" heard over station WNEW in New York to the membership in the Brotherhood campaign.

Fred J. Schwartz, Century's vice-president, will discuss the role motion pictures have played in combating bigotry throughout the world.

Rosener Buys Into Two More Houses

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 12.—Herbert Rosener, owner of the Clay and Lar- kin theatres in San Francisco and four houses in Los Angeles has pur- chased the interests of Oliver Grover and Max de Hes in the Stage Door and New Theatre.

In conjunction with Irving Ack- man, who retains his interests in the two latter theatres, Rosener will play a fortune of foreign films in the Nob Hill and Stage Door.

May Alter 'Blue' Law

ATLANTA, Feb. 12.—A bill to permit Sunday pictures, except between the hours of eight A.M. and two P.M. and six P.M. and nine, was introduced in the House of Representatives by the Boyd and Spalding County dele- gates.

Existing laws prohibit Sunday films in most of Georgia. Permanent in- junctions against Sunday pictures are in effect in Rome and Hogansville. Theaters operate on Sunday in At- lanta.

Powers incorporates

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 12.—Powers Corp. has been incorporated to conduct a motion picture business in New York. Incorporators are: E. J. Godwin, William Rosener, and A. Bertrand Chamoun, all of New York City.

Jurow Joins Saphier

Martin Jurow has joined the James L. Saphier Agency as partner in charge of motion picture and theatrical activities. He was formerly with Music Corp. of America, Warner Brothers, Hal Walis and Enterprise.

E. Levy Opens Rink

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 12.—"Skate- land at the Beach," having cost- ing $250,000, has opened here with Ellis Levy, head of the Felucen Theatre, as president.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Columbia</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>Monogram</th>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>Republic</th>
<th>RKO</th>
<th>20th-Fox</th>
<th>U.A.</th>
<th>Universal-International</th>
<th>Warners</th>
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<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>THE JOLSON STORY</td>
<td>RAIDERS OF THE SOUTH</td>
<td>WILD COUNTRY</td>
<td>TRAIL TO SAN ANTONIO</td>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>IT'S A JOKE</td>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>SINEAD THE SAILOR</td>
<td>SWELL GUY</td>
<td>(Jan. Releases)</td>
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<td>(Color)</td>
<td>Johnny Mack Brown</td>
<td>Eddie Dean</td>
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<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>DEAD RECKONING</td>
<td>VACATION DAYS</td>
<td>THE PERFECT MARRIAGE</td>
<td>TRAIL TO SAN ANTONIO</td>
<td>LADIES' MAN</td>
<td>ANGEL AND THE BADMAN</td>
<td>LOST IN THE FOREST</td>
<td>THE BALLENGER</td>
<td>YOUNG LADY</td>
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<td>(Color)</td>
<td>Fredric March</td>
<td>Lorena Young</td>
<td>Laura La Plante</td>
<td>Eddie Braconnier</td>
<td>John Wayne</td>
<td>Russell Mesko</td>
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<td>William Bendix</td>
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<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>SOUTH OF CHISHOLM TRAIL</td>
<td>my brother talks to horses</td>
<td>BOOMTOWN</td>
<td>APACHE ROSE</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>DICK TRACY</td>
<td>ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND</td>
<td>HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY</td>
<td>THE WICKED LADY</td>
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<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>BLIND SPOT</td>
<td>LIGHTS OVER THE ROCKIES</td>
<td>LAW OF THE LASH</td>
<td>THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE</td>
<td>VIOLENTES OF BOOMTOWN</td>
<td>VACATION IN RENO</td>
<td>HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY</td>
<td>HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY</td>
<td>THE RED HOUSE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Color)</td>
<td>Mickey Rooney</td>
<td>Ray Milland</td>
<td>Tom Conway</td>
<td>Alonzo Lane</td>
<td>Jack Halsey</td>
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<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>CIGARETTE GIRL</td>
<td>FALL GUY</td>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>THAT'S MY GAL</td>
<td>THE MAGNIFICENT RUG</td>
<td>THE LOCKET</td>
<td>THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF MEL AM</td>
<td>HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY</td>
<td>THE RED HOUSE</td>
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<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>THE SPECIAL</td>
<td>THE PHANTOM</td>
<td>HIGH CONQUEST</td>
<td>THE GHOST GOES WILD</td>
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<td>Anna Lee</td>
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<td>Mar. 8</td>
<td>BEGINNING OR THE END</td>
<td>TRAILING DANGER</td>
<td>EASY COME, EASY GO</td>
<td>EASY COME, EASY GO</td>
<td>THE LITTLE CASINO</td>
<td>THE LITTLE CASINO</td>
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U.S. Considers Arbitration by Government
Justice Department May Ask for Legislation

By JIM H. BRADY
WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The Justice Department may propose to the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee that a government authority be established by legislation to handle the settlement and enforcement of disputes and practices resulting from final court litigation in the industry anti-trust suit, it is reported here.

There is definite opposition within the Government to any system of "voluntary" arbitration, such as the one to be suggested at the industry exhibitor forum in New York, March 10-11.

Questions have arisen regarding the legality of a court establishing a system of arbitration, Robert L. Wright, Government counsel, expressed the belief that a court cannot establish a compulsory arbitration system to carry (Continued on page 7)

U. S. Will Appeal Decision Next Week

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The Government will file its appeal from the New York Court's final judgment in the industry anti-trust suit next week, Robert L. Wright, counsel for the Justice Department, said today.

Wright stated that the Government (Continued on page 7)

Rank to Reorganize Gaumont-British Co.

London, Feb. 13.—Gaumont-British Picture House, which is capitalized at £2,800,000, 10,000 shares of common stock and 400,000 shares of seven and one-half per cent preferred, is expected to offer two shares of Gaumont-British common for each Associated Provincial share in that class.

Para. Survey Of Product at Florida Meet

A general canvass of current product and theatre problems will be undertaken at the meeting of Paramount home office officials with theatre partners and associates, which will open at the Ponce de Leon Hotel, St. Augustine, Fla., Monday and continue throughout the week.

Barney Balaban, Paramount president, who has returned to Florida following a trip from there to the Coast, will be present at the sessions, as will William J. O'Leary, general counsel, who has been recuperating from an illness at Belle Glade, Fla. Attorney Louis Phillips and Walter Gross will attend from New York, assisting in a general discussion of the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit and the problems to be confronted in operating under it.

While the talks are expected to (Continued on page 6)

Astor Selected for Meeting on Forum

The March 10-11 meeting of independent exhibitors called by Fred W. Heeren, MPPTA president, to discuss formation of a motion picture forum and voluntary arbitration will be held at the Hotel Astor here.

Representatives of the American Theatres Association and the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York already have accepted invitations to attend, and S. H. Fabian, ATA president, is understood to have approached Abram Myers, national Allied's board chairman (Continued on page 11)

Brotherhood Drive Starts on Sunday

The nation's motion picture theatre (Continued on page 7)

Cites RKO Deal in Atlas Profit Report

The Atlas Corporation's sales of stock of Radio-Keith-Orpheum were largely responsible for the company's profits of $26,592,242 on security sales for 1946, according to Floyd E. Oldham, president, who announced yesterday that the common stock of the investment corporation has been placed on a quarterly basis rather than on the semi-annual basis heretofore in force.

Concurrently with the issuance of (Continued on page 6)

Increases Are Out in UK Under Dollar Export Ban

London, Feb. 13.—American distributors, beset with difficulties in retaining increased admission prices for high-cost films in their own country because of a Federal Court ruling, are facing a similar problem in England because of the government's ban against boosting the number of dollars exported.

The issue, brought up quietly when William Ebb, British general sales manager for the Selznick Releasing Organization, made inquiry regarding advanced terms for "Duel in the Sun," was brought into the open yesterday at a meeting of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, where W. R. Fuller, CEA general secretary, read a cable exchanged between himself and Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, relevant to "Duel" book- (Continued on page 6)

US Court Sets Aside Momand Case Damages

Reverses Boston Jury's Award of $966,000

Boston, Feb. 13.—Reversing the Jan. 22 jury decision which awarded $966,000 to A. B. Momand, former Oklahoma exhibitor, in his 13-year-old reorganization suit against eight distributors, Judge Charles Wysinski today entered a judgment in favor of the defendants in Federal District Court here.

Following five years of litigation and appeals in Oklahoma, the case was brought to Boston in 1937 after Momand established residence here. During the course of the trail, the plaintiff contended he was forced to relinquish his theatre because of inability to obtain product. His homes were located in Shawnee, Waywaya, Holdenville, Clinton, Alva and Pawhuska, all in Oklahoma.

Defendants were Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, Warners, Loew's, RKO Radio, Columbia, United Artists and (Continued on page 7)

"U" Sales Meeting Opens Here Today

Universal-International will open its third and final regional sales meeting at the Hotel Astor here this morning with sales representatives from the Eastern district and home office executives attending.

Highlighting the agenda will be (Continued on page 7)

CBS Television Is Again Under Attack

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Columbia Broadcasting System's color television again was attacked here today as the Federal Communications Commission concluded its hearing on the CBS petition to put its method in operation on a commercial basis.

Color television as proposed by (Continued on page 7)

Reviewed Today

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUMMINGS

The Prague film industry stands high in commendation from citations heaped upon it by the Czechoslovakian government, following efforts in behalf of these trying days of postwar reconstruction. Workers of Prague theatre have turned in 1,100 times work-hours to the Republic—gardening in Prague parks!

Warner Brothers' Toronto office formally announces to the press of the world its great satisfaction over the fact that the company has been made clear for the return to the screen of the infanticiling Warner star, Bette Davis. Seems Joe (Moose Man) LaFlamme, famous Canadian trainer of wild animals, has shipped a papoose-like bundle of young fangs to carry her child, to Betty, and with it, says Warners, Joe sent a note to the effect that he expected the gift would allow her to resume her acting career at an earlier date than would normally be possible, "with-out fear of any separation of mother and child."

To his note Joe appended a cheeky little lawyer's statement saying that the board had carried the 23 children of the present Chief of the Ojibway Indian Nation. ▼

Hollywood bigwigs—talent and executives—scrambled over Ciro's Hollywood on the night that pick up the priceless jewels accidentally spilled by the gold-embroidered and satiny-headed Czar of the Prince of Arabia, who was departing with his large entourage after enjoying the compliments of the hosting management.

But the solicitations of the film colony learned later, with great disappointments, that the priceless diamonds, emeralds and rubies left by the Prince were but pieces of glass, dropped by the Prince's domesticated butterfly, Hollywood actor Jim Moran.

Sixteen-year-old RKO Radio actress Carlotta Jelm of Beverly Hills, Cal, currently appearing in "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer," will star in a racing stable which has won her over a quarter of a million dollars. The giddy-up girl. ▼

Twentieth Century-Fox's Roger Furse concludes that sentiment is the kind of not changing the things we know we can't have.

Absolutely No Commend Department: Trubee Time-Saver Products, Brooklyn, N. Y., contemplates lining up follow-up stories and radio stations for a Perfect Housewife Contest. ▼

Much has been appearing in public prints in recent days about Benjamin Franklin's New York City License Department and motion picture rentals. The department licenses pool parlors, pawnshops, sightseeing "hawkers," massage operators. ▼

Personal Mention

Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox International, and Ben Geetz, M.G-M. executive, are aboard the Queen Elizabeth in route to New York from England. ▼

Raymond Powers, Warner's Albany, N. Y., exchange office manager and head booker, is convalescing at home after injuries sustained in an automobile accident while riding with Alfred Marchetti, Universal's head booker, who was escaped. ▼

Lita Warner, daughter of the late Sam Warner and adopted daughter of Mrs. Harry V. Warner, will be married next Tuesday to Dr. Nathan Hatt at the Beverly Hills Hotel, Beverly Hills. ▼

Edmund G. Grainger, She Tha- teer's executive, and Mrs. Grainger, are celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary in the Pocono Mountains where they are on vacation from New York. ▼

Norman D. Olsen, export manager of the DeVooy Company, Chicago, will leave here Feb. 22, for the tours of the West Indies and South America. ▼

Ben Kalpmerson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Bros., has returned to New York from a Southern tour. ▼

Norman Aved, Warner Southern's head sales manager, is due back in New York on Monday from Oklahoma City.

Talent Guilds May Seek Reissuance Pay

Hollywood, Feb. 13.—A plan for modifying talent contracts to compel producers to grant special remuneration to writers, actors and directors for copies, in contrast with re-issued pictures will be discussed Monday night by committees representing writers, producers, Actors' Guild and the Screen Directors' Guild. The committees, which are instructed to canvass possibilities as a preliminary step, are to report back to their respective guild boards.

As advanced by the SWG, which invites Guilds to the conference, the proposal contemplates working out a formula acceptable to producers under which talent would receive pay, on a diminishing scale, throughout their entire careers on all pictures.

Testifies for US Strike Control

Washington, D. C., March 13.—Rep. A. L. Miller (Neb.) today testified before the House education and labor committee in favor of his bill which would extend the Senate's War powers in foreign commerce by sympathy or jurisdictional strikes. "There is no measure of more importance than the passage of this bill to rebuild and tie up a whole community or industry because of a quarrel with its employer rather than some other matter," he said.

Johnston to White House on Trade Pact

Washington, Feb. 13.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, today called on President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall in consultation on new trade possibilities in the framework of the State Department's reciprocal trade program.

Johnston said both the President and Secretary Marshall that international relations must be kept "strictly on a non-partisan basis." He outlined the value of motion pictures abroad in terms of bridging together the peoples of all nations, emphasizing the serious work being done confronting the industry abroad.

Newsmen on Bus Junket

Representatives of the trade press and daily newspapers will occupy the thirty-air-conditioned double-deck New York Fifth Avenue buses which will leave here for Philadelphia Sunday on the first leg of a 3,600-mile trip to California in the promotion of the company's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue." The newsmen will return here by train.

Women' Tradeshows

That Way with Women' Bargain Director, shown on Monday, March 10. Picture will open a pre-release engagement at the New York Strand on Friday.

Blue Law Appeal

Montpelier, Vt., Feb. 13.—A bill prohibiting Sunday pictures after two p.m. two hours earlier than now allowed, has been filed with the legislature by Rep. Francis W. Billado, The current Sunday amusement law, adopted in 1939 after considerable controversy, permits local option on Sunday films, but restricts them to after six P.M.

New York Theatres

Radio City Music Hall

Rockefeller Center

"The Yearling"

Gregory Peck — Jane Wyman

Claude Jarman, Jr.

In Touchdown! — As M. K. / Spectacular Stage Presentation

The Palace

B'way and 84th St.

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

Maureen O'Hara — Walter Slezak

Sinbad the Sailor

In gorgeous Technicolor

On Screen

MGM's Technicolor Hit

'Till the Clouds Roll By'

In Person

Jackie Gleason

Extra! Harrison & Fischer

Barry Fitzgerald

Dinah Shore

Easy Come, Easy Go

Paramount

"The Best Picture of the Year"

—N. Y. FILM CRITICS

"The Best Years of Our Lives"

Continued

ASTOR

"California"

In Technicolor

A Paramount Picture Starring

Barbara Stanwyck

Millard Stanswyck

Fitzgerald

Rivoli Theater

Doors Open

B'way & 49th St.

9:30 A. M.

Betty Grable — Dick Haymes

"The Shocking Miss Pilgrim"

A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor

At Stadium — Peter Lorre

Lana Turner — Evelyn Knight

Roxy

7th Ave. & 30th St. X 345-S

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Friday, February 14, 1947

Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Charles W. Ross, Managing Editor; James R. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Flett, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Robert Buys, Postal Union Life Bldg., William W. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 824 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden St., London W1, Hope Burnup, Management, Editor, International Motion Picture Almanac, Farm. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.
"13 RUE MADELEINE"
SMASHES ALL 'HOUSE' RECORDS!

20th's NEW BOXOFFICE SENSATION TOPS ALL THE SKY-HIGH GROSSES OF "THE HOUSE ON 92nd ST." IN NEW YORK LOS ANGELES • CLEVELAND • BOSTON BALTIMORE • PITTSBURGH • DETROIT SAN FRANCISCO • PHILADELPHIA DES MOINES • ST. LOUIS • EVERYWHERE!

No company has so many hits playing and on the way as Century-Fox

"THE RAZOR'S EDGE" • "THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM" In Technicolor • "BOOMERANG!" • "CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA" In Technicolor • "THE LATE GEORGE APLEY" • "THE HOMESTRETCH" In Technicolor
Reviews

“The Arnello Affair” (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

CARVED with the verbal economy and emotional momentum of a radio drama, in a field which Arch Oboler, the director-scenario writer of this picture, has achieved a respected mark, “The Arnello Affair” is a magnetically-paced film. Fundamentally an adult story since the love affair which provides the situation is one which Judy Bresler production will doubtless find its warmest reception among the female patrons, yet remains strong enough in entertainment and excitement value to satisfy all adult themes.

Combined with Oboler’s deft handling of his own material, based on a story by Jane Burr, the film is endowed with added box-office drawing power by a cast which includes John Hodiak, Frances Gifford, George Murphy, Dean Jagger, and Constance Bennett. It is clearly Miss Gifford’s picture all the way, with Hodiak and Murphy elbowed into the shadows as she registers the inner strength that besets her when she becomes implicated in a murder which she fears to be scandalous to her lawyer-husband’s career and endanger her son’s upbringing.

Cranking romance and excitement which husband, played by Murphy, has little time to lavish upon her because he is too wrapped up in his work. Miss Gifford becomes fascinated by one of her husband’s clients, John Hodiak, a tough, unpolished night-club owner who has moved over from “the other side of the tracks.” A brief love affair, with intimations of an inevitable seduction, becomes a alarming when one of his former mistresses shows up. Miss Gifford, fearing the loss of that he has been murdered, and Petri, to bind Miss Gifford to him, has collected ambiguous scraps of circumstantial evidence which could be interpreted to indicate her complicity.

But Anderson, her husband, placates her. Anderson, Murphy undertakes some sleuthing to hang or vindicate his wife, and is told by Hodiak that she is guilty. But Anderson, her guilt, massages the thin edge of Hodiak’s conscience until Hodiak, in a heroic ges- ture, steps up and undertakes an alternative of dragging her name through the mud. At the same time, Murphy learns through a friend, Eve Arden, that his wife could not have been responsible for the slaying. He arrives home in time for a reconciliation, after an unsuccessful attempt at suicide.

Running time, 86 minutes. Adult classification. Release date not set.

Irving Kaplan

“That Way with Women” (Warner Brothers)

Hollywood, Feb. 13

APART from whatever marquee strength may be exerted in a given situation by the names of Dane Clark, Sydney Greenstreet and Martha Vick- ers, this production, by Charles Hoffman, of a story by Earl L. Biggers, has to have been fashioned for use on days when the customers attend habitually. It is a comedy, the familiar one in which the grumpy old millionai- re makes a monkey out of his doctor by throwing away his pills and getting the place to have taken seriously. It has a slight, intelligent humor, a chance to handle in whole is without sparkle.

Greenstreet plays a retired automobile manufacturer whose doctor and family have overcome his resistance to the idea of accepting the things he likes to do. When Clark, a young man allergic to people with money but ambitious to make some for himself, buys a half interest in a gas station, Greenstreet, under an assumed name, buys the other half. Their lives are made of the same ingredients, mostly for purposes of humor, before all the facts come out in the open and everybody is made happy. The cast includes Alan Hale, Craig Stevens, Barbara Brown, Don McLean, John Ridgely, Dick Erman, Herbert Anderson, and Howard Freeman.

Direction is by Frederick de Cordova and Leo Townsend wrote the screenplay.


William R. Weaver

Bonafield Named Pathe Editor

Harold Bonafield has been named managing editor of Pathe News by Walter Ament, general manager. Bonafield has been assistant editor for the past several years.

All new top position lie in front of him; he will undertake all full-make-up operations under Alfred Butterfield, editor-in-chief.

Goldfarb Promoted

Robert Goldfarb, United Artists personnel and office manager, has been appointed to the sales department in an executive capacity, J. J. Unger, general sales manager, announced on Thursday. Goldfarb’s successor was not made known immediately.

2 Para. Men Move Up

MEMPHIS, Feb. 13—Robert Klig- gore, former Paramount head booker here, has been named a salesman, re- placed by Dick Setton, who has re- signed. Fred Curd, former booker, succeeds Kligore as head booker.

Sherman to U-I

Hollywood, Feb. 13—George Sherm- an, former Columbia producer-director, has joined Universal-International as a director.

42% Revenue Rise Boosts Mono, Net

Hollywood, Feb. 13—Citing a 42% per cent increase in revenue in both foreign and domestic fields for the 26 weeks ending last Dec. 28 over the corresponding 1945 period, Steve Brody, president, reports that the company had net profits of $444,973 for the 13 weeks, an increase of $201,999 in the last half of 1945. Net profits, after federal taxes, amounted to $183,692 for the 1945 period.

Brody also announced that from the date of the last annual report, issued June 29, 1946, management options for a total of $1,900 shares of stock were exercised by their holders, leaving a remainder of 22,200 shares reserved for the exercise of options still outstanding.

Stressing Monogram’s current schedule of high-budget productions by Allied Artists, new subsidiary which will distribute through Monogram pictures costing about $1,000,000 each, Brody pointed out that Allied’s first release is “It Happened on Fifth Avenue,” and another product slated for Allied includes “Tragic Symphony,” “The Garter,” “Smart Woman,” and “Gun Crazy.” The report also drew attention to several high-budget films which will be released under the Monogram trade-mark, including “Black Gold,” “High Conquest,” “The Guilty” and “Violence.”

Assure Veterans of Film Cooperation

At the first meeting of the film division of the Veterans Administration concluded at the Hotel Pennsylvania here yesterday with C. J. Scollard, undersecretary of the Department of the Army, and Theodore Smith, assistant to Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association of America, there was decided upon industry cooperation in the VA motion picture program.

Representatives of the 13 VA film offices around the country addressed the sessions, the purpose of which was to match notes on distributing prints to artists’ home offices, effective immediately. He will assume duties previously handled by Robert Goldfarb, who has transferred to the sales department.

Shays Named to UA Personnel Post

Philip R. Shays has been appointed personnel and office manager of United Artists’ home office, effective immediately. He will assume duties previously handled by Robert Goldfarb, who has transferred to the sales department.

Shays recently served as director of the office of the Henry Kaiser plant in Brattle, Pa.

McGregor Is Transferred

CLEVELAND, Feb. 13—RKO explo- iter, Don McGregor will come to Cleveland from Portland, Ore., replacing Peter Batory who replaces McGregor in Portland.
To BOB O’DONNELL

General Manager,
Interstate Circuit.

Dear Bob,

This is probably the first time in history that a producer-distributor has ever told an exhibitor that he feels the latter has given him a wonderful deal on a picture. But I’d be less than honest, Bob, if I didn’t tell you that the contract you signed for the Interstate Circuit to play Roy Del Ruth’s "IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE" is one of the happiest deals I’ve ever been connected with. You couldn’t have given us better terms if we were United Artists, MGM, Warners or any of the majors.

There’s an extra something to this deal, however, that is especially important to all of us at Allied Artists — and that’s your glowing praise of the picture as being the kind of entertainment you’re proud to show in Interstate Theatres. I want you to know that the encouragement given to independents by showmen like yourself has been an important factor in making possible so big an undertaking as "IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE."

Allied Artists is proud that Interstate will be among the first to play its initial presentation, and we hope you’ll find our succeeding pictures equally fine.

Best regards to our friends in the Lone Star State.

Cordially,

Steve Broidy
President,
Allied Artists Productions, Inc.
Paramount Appeal is Off the Press

Copies of Paramount's appeal from the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, scheduled to be filed in New York Federal District Court probably before March 1, were received from the printer yesterday by counsel for the company and now are being checked at the home office.

As of yesterday, M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Warners and RKO were reported to be still undecided on whether they will file appeals. Columbia is on file and is scheduled to be followed by appeals from United Artists, Universal and the Department of Justice, as well as Paramount.

Paramount Meet

(Continued from page 1)

phasize competitive-bidding procedures, it appears that theatre divorce will be only a secondary topic, inasmuch as Paramount believes nothing definite can be decided about compliance with the New York Federal District Court's partial-livestream order until the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled on the company's appeal.

Leonard H. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatre Service Corp., will be among the home office executives leaving here on Sunday for the meeting and is expected to lead the discussion of the general trend of product coming from the studio, with special emphasis on costs.

KWYER BROS.

TRADE SHOW

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TERRITORIES ONLY

"THAT WAY WITH WOMEN"

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20th
2:30 P.M.

HOME OFFICE SCREENING ROOM

321 West 44th St.

NEW YORK CITY

Review

"Calendar Girl"

(Republic)

A THEATRICAL boarding house in Greenwich Village, as it was in 1900, is the scene of much merriment and melody, a little romance and, all together, a good carefree time for an audience. "Calendar Girl" really has a wealth of infectious gaiety.

Jane Frazee, Gail Patrick, Kenny Baker, William Marshall, Irene Vic, Victor McLaglen, James Ellison and Franklin Pangborn are the principals. The picture has promotional possibilities galore, particularly in a contest for the title of "Calendar Girl." Republic is due to open on this on a nationwide basis.

Additionally, the musical score by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson may be relied upon to assist in the selling, for at least a couple of the tunes seem destined for the big time. The song "A Nice Place to Visit," "I'm Telling You Now," "Let's Have Some Prezels and Beer," "A Bluebird Is Singing in Me" and "A Lovely Night to Go Dancing." Allan Dwan's direction smoothly interwork the abundance of musical material with bits of comedy and plot. The screenplay, by Mary Lois, Richard Sale and Lee Loeb, from an original by Loeb, brings Marshall and Ellison from Boston to a room at Miss Frazee's refuge for struggling artists, including poet Baker and a host of other characters. Miss Frazee, daughter of fireman McLaglen, lives next door. The title stems from a painting of Miss Frazee done by Ellisson which wins a calendar contest.

Baker, who is terrific, and Marshall do most of the vocals. After much hullabaloo about Miss Frazee's romantic preference, Marshall's compositions and McLaglen's rivalry with another fire company, the picture come to a tuneful close. Dwan also was associate producer.


GENE ARNELL

Cites RKO Deal

(Continued from page 1)

Atlas' annual report, dated Dec. 31, 1946, Odlum announced also that the first-quarter dividend of outstanding common stock had been declared for payment on March 30 to shareholders of record as of Feb. 28. He told stockholders that the indicated asset value of the company's common stock as of Dec. 31, rose to approximately $36.66 a share from $34.14 a year earlier. At the year-end, he reported, the company has had a capital surplus of nearly $22,000,000, as well as an unrealized appreciation in securities aggregating approximately $22,000,000.

In reporting on the company's sale in August of 400,000 shares of RKO common, Odlum pointed out that Atlas had sold the largest stockholder of RKO and continues to be actively identified with affairs of that company. Theatre attendance remained at peak levels and the company again enjoyed a profitable year, with earnings substantially ahead of 1945, the year the company's public offering was made, Odlum said.

The annual report listed the corporation's portfolio ownership of the following film companies' common stock: 2,000 shares of Loew's, listed at $31,250 as of Dec. 31; 93,000 shares of Paramount Pictures, at $3,023,500; 92,000 of Radio-Kethe-Orpheum, at $14,399,810; 32,812 of Radio-Kethe-Orpheum Corp. option warrants, $1,000,000; 10,000 20th Century-Fox, $330,000; 91,700 Walt Disney Productions, $12,650; 500 Warner Brothers, $812,500.

20th Retires 4,487 Preferred Shares

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 13.—Twentieth Century-Fox has reduced its capital stock 4,487 shares, from 4,692,850 to 4,688,363. This is a routine move in line with the company's preferred retirement program. The reduction is based on 1945 earnings.

Mrs. Nelson Burial

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 13.—Final rites for Mrs. Donald M. Nelson, wife of the owner of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, who died yesterday, will be held here tomorrow morning in the Church of the Eternal Life. Burials will be at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Toler Rites Tomorrow

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 13.—Funeral services for actor Sidney Toler, who died yesterday at his home here, will be held tomorrow at the Pierce Brothers mortuary.

UK Export Ban

(Continued from page 1)

ish exhibitors, has become even more so with their pattern of view of the fact that government critics are "continually harping" on the outlook for dollars for U. S. pictures.

Stating that the effect of the Selznick proposal would be bad politically and embarrassing to the industry in general, the writer advises: "As the first episode from Amicid is regarded as a cynical commentary, he is advised to lay off." Johnston's reply was noted that Neil Agnew, SRO president, had authorized the price-increase proposals as being merely a misunderstanding that British policy in the matter was unsettled. The CEA chairman stressed that Britain had emphasized that under no circumstances would a policy of increased prices be tolerated.

Several exhibitors at the meeting expressed annoyance at what they described as Fuller's endeavor to "have it all" at Erib's expense after the original impact of the made, especially in view of the fact that Erib acted immediately after his arrival in this country while he was still inexperienced in the British field.

A spokesman for Neil Agnew, Selznick Releasing Organization president, said here yesterday that the company's admission price policy for "The Red, White and Blue" in England remained to be decided. SRO still would like to have the prices raised, he said, but added that failure to obtain higher rates would necessitate delay exhibition of the picture in that country.

SRO Seeks House

For N. Y. 'Duel' Run

The Selznick Releasing Organization is in the market for a Broadway show window to David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun," Neil Agnew, SRO president, declared yesterday after indicating that the current deal with the Astor Theatre would not be the company's only line of attack. Explaining that the long-running "The Best Years of Our Lives" would probably keep "Duel" out of the Astor within the terms of the contract, Agnew said that the Selznick Organization has already begun oustanding several house managements on availability.

Two British Studios Will Reopen Today

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The Gainborough and Islington studios, closed because of the national fuel crisis, will reopen tomorrow and operate on the power made by three carnival-ground generators.

The newsreels, permitted by the government to use public power only to process films for overseas distribution, resort to these makeshift arrangements to get out their midweek domestic issues. An oil-burning Diesel generator was brought from Coventry News, Gaumont-British used J. Arthur Rank's Denham studio, which has a reactor that obtained electricity from generator vans.

Harry Musgrave Dead

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 13.—Harry Musgrave, owner of the Ritz Theatre, Minneapolis, and the Kansas and Columbian, Wamego, Kan., died last Monday.
United Artists Will Appeal Next Week

"Ower the Santa Fe Trail" (Columbia)

A MATTER of music practically all the way, with Ken Curtis, a rather combative horse hero, offering the spurs-and-sole type of ballads, with the Hoop-Skoe Shots' going through their paces and with Jennifer Holt, Noel Neill, the DeCastra Sisters and Art West and his Sunset Riders also contributing to the songfest.

The distribution, as directed by Ray Nazarro, gives the music the upper hand to such an extent that the conventional outdoor action plot is virtually rendered incidental.

Some view, however, from a story by Eileen Gary, considers the plight of a medicine-show troop beset by a band of outlaws swooping down from the hills to relieve the group of its assets after every performance. Strange enough, each town they hit is troubled by a bank robbery, Curtis digging down to the roots of the crime, Gunnig Big Boy Williams, Holmes Herbert and others are in the cast.


"A Yank in Rome" (Lux-Worlde Wide)

BEGLURING simplicity and naturalness pervade this Italian-made film about a fun-loving American soldier who, while on a furlough in Rome during World War II, falls in love with an eighteen-year-old Italian maiden, has an affair with her, and leaves his comrades in being able to speak Italian fluently. The maiden with whom he falls in love is visiting Rome to hsten a shipment of relief supplies to her destitute and homeless mother. The picture takes particular pains to evade the forced feeding, however, following a series of gay times, largely produced by chance circumstances which suit the maiden's intentions and allow her to fall in love for him. Some of the action transpires in and near St. Peter's Cathedral, providing a glimpse of a Papal ceremony and the architectural magnificence of the edifice. In the film's final scene, which embodies a poignant tribute to Italy's American friendship, the soldier departs for the front promising to return to the girl.

Valentina Cortese and Leo Dale, in the principal roles, top a competent cast capably directed by Luigi Zampe. World Wide Film Corp., has here an interpretation that is both pleasant entertainment and a strong booster for international brotherhood.

Running time, 110 minutes. General audience classification.

Charles L. Franke

U. S. Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

out a final law decree. The Justice Department itself, however, proposed the arbitration system be given the go-ahead by the court under the 1940 industry concen decree.

On the other hand, the framework and organization of an arbitration system, with administrative personnel working on the Government payroll, could only be approved by a special Act of Congress, it is said.

The Government's future action in the matter, however, may depend upon the outcome of Supreme Court appeals. Sen. Wallace H. White (Maine), chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee, commented that he has previously been in opposition to the enactment of legislation which "regiments" industry but "a setup to handle internal disputes might not be regeneration," he said.

Sen. White pointed out that he has previously opposed the theatre divorce and anti-block booking bill proposed by the Commerce Committee. The situation may have changed from that date and, of course, if any legislation which will deal with the picture industry comes to the Senate floor, I will consider it," White commented.

One of the glaring dangers of the new jurisdictional jurisdiction situation, however, is the absence of arbitration. On the other hand, the Justice Department's proposed federal industry arbitration under the American Arbitration Association, Wright said, however, that the Government's proposal is supported by legislation for a "legal and sound" court order.

The legal question which may bring the entire arbitration matter before the Supreme Court is that the Government and that the Supreme Court is that the Government and not the right to impose compulsory arbitration to enforce a decree in the industry anti-trust case.

U. S. Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

is opposed to "voluntary" arbitration as a means of enforcement of the decree. Also, he said, the defendants should not be permitted to determine clearance for films. Wright refused to comment on the Government's stance in the competitive bidding plan. The Government, he believed, would make little mention or issue of the bidding plan in its appeal inasmuch as that practice was given as relief in the case. The Government, of course, will appeal for complete theatre divorce.

Attorney General Tom Clark has already looked over proposed arguments in the appeal and has approved it.

"U.Sales Meeting"

(Continued from page 1)

discussion of selling and advertising plans of "The Egg and I," and other U-1 product to be released during the next six months, William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, will preside at the two-day meeting. John Joseph, national public head, will discuss promotion.


Gould Re-shuffles So. American Staff

Promotion of Jorge Suarez, United Artists' manager of the company's operations in Argentina, and appointment of A. W. Katz, the company's manager of the office in China and Japan, to the post of management inspector, succeeding Fred S. Gullbraasen, resigned, was announced here yesterday by Walter W. Douglas of United Artists. Suarez assumes the post made vacant by the appointment of Sam Bekker, former Argentine head, to UA supervisor of the southern tier of Latin-American countries.

Arnoldo Einder, former assistant to Suarez in Argentina, has been promoted to acting manager in that territory. Juan Camara, manager of the Valparaíso branch in Chile, has been named assistant manager and has been replaced as manager in Valparaíso by Edgardo Hartley, former Santiago booker.

Ritchey of Monogram Sets Brazil Company

Monogram Pictures of Brazil, Inc., has been organized by Monogram International with offices in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo by Anthony Gregori, Curithila and Recife, Norton R. Ritchey, Monogram International president, has announced.

H. Alfredo Steiner, the former Monogram representative in Brazil, has been appointed general manager of the new company.

Television

(Continued from page 1)

CBS is not only far from being ready for a television network, but also has basic limitations so that it cannot render a satisfactory commercial service to the public, E. W. Engstrom, vice-president in charge of research for RCA Laboratories, testified.

F. J. Bingley, chief television engineer of Philco Corp., again raised the point of limited reception to determine the value of color television. He said that in seven out of eight test locations, Philco had found the station's signal in New York a color picture could not be seen even when elaborate automatic selection by Mr. Good was used. The average home owner, he reported, was not, able to see or hear the signals at any more than 25 miles away.

Momand Case

(Continued from page 1)

Universal, Griffith Amusement also was named in the original action, which the Oklahoma City Federal District Court dismissed in February. A case was tried to the Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver and there was a change of venue to Denver, thus allowing a renewal of the suit after technical changes in the petition.

Earlier, in a separate action, the Oklahoma Court of Appeals rendered a judgment against Paramount, and one of $6,900 against Griffith.

An appeal was twice to trial here Jan. 6 after many proceedings concerning the validity of the claim.

The case against the distributors is pending in Buffalo Federal District Court.
To our darling Valentine

ANN SHERIDAN

Congrats on your socky performance!

"Nora Prentiss" has opened in Philly in the face of a blizzard and topped "Mildred Pierce"!

We'll be seeing wonderful you next Friday at the N.Y. Hollywood!

Warners
20th-Fox In NY Sales Meet Enterprise

The first postwar national sales conference of 20th Century-Fox will open here today at the Hotel Astor with Tom J. Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, presiding. The conference will continue through Wednesday during which time discussions will cover new sales procedures and other plans for the company's 1947 product. In addition to the divisional sales managers, district and branch managers and office executives headed by Syros P. Skouras, president, today's meeting will center about discussions of the general operation of the company in the light of the recent court decree, and plans will be

Warner Looks for US-UK Agreement

Hollywood, Feb. 16.—Optimistic over future international trade relations in the motion picture field, Jack L. Warner, production head of Warner Bros., is here from a New York visit and spent more than two months surveying conditions and concluding a number of deals for his company in England and in Europe. He predicts a new British-American film trade

U-I Sets $850,000 Ad Budget on "Egg"

An advertising budget of approximately $850,000 has been allocated for Universal-International's "The Egg and I," John Joseph, U-I director of advertising, and publicity, told a regional sales meeting of the company's Eastern and Canadian executives at the Hotel Astor here Friday. The ad budget is the biggest to be set by the company for a single picture.

Chicago 1st-Run Prices Now at an All-Time High

Chicago, Feb. 16.—Gradually and without fanfare all Loop theatres have been raising admission prices until today admission are at the highest peak they have ever been in the history of the local motion picture business. A survey disclosed that the increase for the most part has taken effect in day-time prices. Whereas, only a few months ago adult admission prices at B and K, houses during the morning were 55 cents with 65-cent prices going into effect at noon or at the P.M. today every single B and K, Loop house is charging a straight 95 cents from opening until closing.

The only Loop theatre still charging the 65-cent day-time price is the RKO-Palace. This price is adhered to until five P.M. at which time 95 cents goes into effect. All prices quoted include the tax.
Personal Mention

Charles D. Prutzman, Universal vice-president and general counsel, will leave today from Atlanta, where they spent the weekend on Children's Film Library business.

Sidney G. Alexander, film account executive of the Brissacher, Van Norden and Staff advertising agency, is due to return here from the Coast either tomorrow or Wednesday.

Alton Cook, World-Telegram motion picture critic, and Isadora Goldsmith, British producer, will discuss "Is Hollywood Losing Leadership to British Films?" over CBS tonight.

Cresson E. Smith, personal representative of Production Reels, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign operations, left for South Africa at the weekend.

Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager of RKO Radio, has returned to New York from Toronto.

Jack L. Warner, Warner Brothers' production vice-president, left New York for the Coast on Friday by plane.

George Berger, treasurer of the W. S. Butterfield Theatres, Detroit, was married in Chicago yesterday to Phyllis Wall.

Joseph J. Deitch, Paramount theatre executive, will leave New York today for a two-week tour of the Mid- West.


Wall H. Hays will be at his Hidden Valley ranch in California until April.

Bert Sanford, Alte-Lansing sales manager, has been in Atlanta from New York.

Irving Rapier, Warner director, has returned to the Coast from New York.

Jules Liney, United Artists producer, has left New York for New Orleans.

Harvey Day, Eastern representative of Levity, has left by train for Hollywood.

Harry H. Thomas, president and general sales manager of Producers Releasing Corp., has arrived from the Coast.

Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Attorney General in charge of prosecution of the anti-trust suit against the industry, told Motion Picture Daily's Washington correspondent late last week that the Department, which presumably means Wright, is opposed to voluntary arbitration.

The New York Federal court has retained jurisdiction of the dispute. Ordinarily, it would intervene in the suit, were it opposed by the Department in that effort and, fantastically enough, could, therefore, make the Department adequately represented in the case.

Next, a large segment of exhibition, realizing the controversy, will demand that there be a constitutional award with application of the New York decree, essay an attempt to improve industry arbitration to a degree which would offer some comfort in keeping live pictures in the courts throughout the length and breadth of the land.

The Department makes known in this case, Mr. Justice's opposition to voluntary arbitration wanted by many exhibitors, and, let it be known that it has given some thought, instead, to asking Congress for legislation that would make arbitration compulsory under a Government bureau.

That, certainly, is something no exhibitor has asked for and, coddling no exhibitor in his right mind would welcome.

Theoretically, it is true that the Department of Justice representa- tion of the exhibitor's side of the industry suit. Unfortunately, there are many kinds of representation, as all who have observed the workings of Government agree.

This week the industry in all its branches will be contributing its vital and always effective services to the observance of American Brotherhood. Week. The production community has contributed an eloquent film which distribution will supply to theatres. Screening of the film and obtaining pledges to observe the spirit and the letter of American Brotherhood are the contributions of exhibitors. It is, of course, through the theatres that the public is reached. Any other media, that public consience and of support for the splendid aims of the National Organization. Children's Crusade, will be enlarged in time to the point at which there no longer will be need for a brotherhood week.

opposed to competitive bidding for films as ordered under the New York court decree. The Department, fully aware of that opposition, did absolutely nothing to put the exhibitor viewpoint before the court or to have the order modified, deprived of the Department's full awareness of the facts.

In desperation, the exhibitors brought their own pleadings to the court. Some of them were mocked and disparaged by the Department.

Others, however, are looking to intervene in the suit, were it opposed by the Department in that effort and, fantastically enough, could, therefore, make the Department adequately represented in the exhibit- case.

Newsreel Parade

CANTINE jockeys and sports de- votees, as well as students of current events in general, will find a new and instructive item in the current newsreel. The election of Hiram Talmadge is legal governor. President Tru- man gets a Greek decoration. Commission under S. U. c. s. Churchill's mission to the Persian Gulf region. Tru- man being honored by Greek Arch- Bishop Alcmenas, and sundry other interesting items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 49—"Task Force Froot" tests U. S. Army winter uniform. "Sea-son" was done by Herman Talmadge is legal governor. President Tru- man gets a Greek decoration. Commission under S. U. c. s. Churchill's mission to the Persian Gulf region. Tru- man being honored by Greek Arch- Bishop Alcmenas, and sundry other interesting items. Complete contents follow:

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 247—British start Palestine evacuations. Churchill's daughter, the Earl of Sandwich, is leaving for Palestine. Talmadge is legal governor. President Truman gets a Greek decoration. Commission under S. U. c. s. Churchill's mission to the Persian Gulf region. Tru- man being honored by Greek Arch- Bishop Alcmenas, and sundry other interesting items. Complete contents follow:

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 59—World's biggest dog show at Madison Square Gar- dens. Mr. Maclean, vice-president, New York, was honored in a number of ceremonies. New world record for canine, 20, is set. Madison Square Garden dog show. Continental and Canadian.

NY, Washington M.P.A. Staff Meet Here

The New York and Washington staffs of the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc., are coordinating the functions of both offices. The Washington group included Eric A. Abramson, assistant to the executive president; Kenneth Clark, director of public relations, and Johnston's special assistants, Edward T. Chelte, Jack Bry- son and Joyce O'Hara, Francis Har- mon, New York vice-president, is now vacationing in Palm Springs.

Loss Leaves Cinemacolored

Hollywood, Feb. 16—William Loss, who became vice-president of Cinecolor two months ago, announced his resignation on Friday. He success- ful, and it is expected he will return to New York soon.

Colby to Paramount

Hollywood, Feb. 16—Anita Colby, recently, belles of major enterprises, will join Paramount shortly as a member of vice-president Henry Gimp- berg's executive staff.

Motion Picture Daily
Extends British Ban On Film Showings

London, Feb. 16.—The British government’s fuel ban, brought about by the nation’s coal shortage, has been extended to forbid children’s matinees shows before four P.M., with 3:30 now stipulated as the time for remote areas, including Scotland. Here tofore a similar ban applied only to adult theaters. Illegally operated usages of theatre organs, electrically operated curtains, decorative lighting, etc., has been included.

Concurrently with issuance of the new ban, the government had admonished the industry that unless the most stringent precautions were taken to prevent fires in the event of the crisis, even present concessions will be cancelled.

Excerpt for West End matinee theaters and houses in snowbound areas, exhibitors generally report a slight falling off in business, but they have discovered in many instances that people who normally attend races, now completely banned, are turning to motion pictures. Tributes have been widely paid to the transport arrangements which, despite ice- and snowbound conditions, have brought films to the theaters.

Nevertheless, behind the scenes there is considerable apprehension as to how the future, in view of the closing of laboratories.

Myers Attacks C. & O. ‘Theatre on Wheels’

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16—Aram F. Myers, Allied States council, charged here on Friday that the new “Theatre on Wheels,” established by the Chesapeake-Ohio Utilities Company, is “possibly illegal” and a matter which may interest the Interstate Commerce Commission. Myers says that he will bring the matter to the attention of the ICC.

Myers adds that this is the first time that a major film company “actively connived” in putting pictures in a premier or genuine theater. The prescience of the companies during the depression were criticized for giving away dishes in order to stimulate attendance. The C. & O. offers a moving bus in order to promote travel, Myers asserted.

Universal home office officials declined to comment on Abram Myers’ attack on the “Theatre on Wheels.”

2 More Sentenced In Army Film Case

Ace Robert Goldstein has been sentenced to do time on a $300 fine on his charge of guilty to the Grand Jury indictment charging him and four other defendants with having taken and conspired in the taking of stock pictures and with intent to steal, United States property from the Army’s Photographic Center at Long Island City. The defendants were the motion picture “Cinderella Jones.” Melvin Maurice Baker was fined $100 on his plea of guilty to the same count, but received a suspended sentence and was put on a year’s probation.

New E-L Radio Manager

Patreece Snyder has been named radio manager for Eagle-Lion Films, by Max E. Youngstein, director of studio public relations. She has been serving as special assistant to Youngstein since joining Eagle-Lion four years ago. A native of Spokane, Washington, she entered the film industry three years ago as a member of 20th Century-Fox’s exploitation department.

Favor More D.C. Theatres

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Fifty-one per cent of Washington area residents in a poll believe there are not sufficient places of entertainment in the city, while 39 per cent responding of construction of more film houses.

De Mille Urges U.S. Ban on Closed Shop

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Cecil B. De Mille voiced opposition to the Senate labor and public welfare committee on Friday. He charged that the studios are employing non-union men, they are keeping fresh and needed talent from the screen.

Cecil B. De Mille will be Paramount’s guest at a trade press luncheon on Wednesday at the 21 Club here.

Coast Unit to Build Drive-In Circuit

Hollywood, Feb. 16.—United States Drive-In Theatres has been formed to operate theatres within a 3-mile radius of Los Angeles under the Hollingshead patent owned by Park-In Theatres, Inc., of New Tork, N. J., an affiliated company.

Charles A. Cahallero is president, William R. Forman and Gus C. Diamond are vice-presidents, and John H. Tingle is treasurer of the new company.

Name Peterson Aide To Scarry at RKO

Edgar Peterson has been signed to a five-year contract by RKO Radio as executive assistant to Dore Scarry, vice-president in charge of production, the home office informed her at the weekend.

For two years Peterson was associated with Scarry at Vanguard Production, now RKO Radio when Scarry produced four.

US-UK. Agreement (Continued from page 1) agreement will be made this spring. Warner said, “It seems likely some restrictive quota will be placed on Hollywood product, but I am satisfied that the entire international film relations—not alone with England—is in the hands of hundreds of men who understand themselves. "Entertainment cannot be created by legislation. It can be excluded or curtailed by quotas, license requirements, and other controls, but only with consequent loss to both sides. It is only in the two great nations to set up artificial barriers that there is an interchange of creative art and constructive films which can work importantly for better international understanding and strengthening of world peace. The only basis for consideration should be the methods by which there is a welcome for it everywhere. If it is had, no amount of protective action can make it acceptable to film seekers in its own or any other country.”
THE RECORDS NOW BEING BROKEN BY THESE GREAT HITS FROM 20TH CENTURY-FOX
WILL NEXT BE TOPPED BY THESE GREAT HITS ON THE WAY FROM 20th CENTURY-FOX
There never was a promotion like it!
Girl

Nation-wide contest to select America's Calendar Girl.

1. $1,000 in cash prizes—Awards with sock femme appeal.

2. Special local angles with great audience participation.

3. Tremendous local newspaper tie-in appeal.

4. Big merchant cooperative tie-ins.

5. Sock Calendar Girl contest aids for sock grosses.

6. 800 Brown & Bigelow salesmen working with you.

7. Newspaper mats, music promotion, local tie-ups keyed to your playdate.

8. See your Republic branch manager for complete details of this wonderful seat-selling promotion.
**Bidding**

(Continued from page 1)

end that his company definitely would offer no pictures on the biddingialis has protected while attorney Louis Frohlich said Columbia will wait as long as possible, pending the outcome of his appeal from the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, which already has been decided.

These companies, which were not parties to the consent decree, have been selling their year’s product in mid-April, according to the beginning of each season. They desire to continue doing so. A shift to competitive sales, picture by picture, at this time would be a radical and difficult change in their method of doing business, they point out.

United Artists, although selling films singly for its independent producers, likewise is opposed to competitive bidding and will appeal from the provision. The Society of Independent M. P. Producers, including many releasing through UA, are on record before the New York court as wishing to preserve the right to choose their customers. UA has received some 200 requests from theatres wanting to bid for its product, a company spokesman said at the weekend, but none of these have been considered as yet.

Two of the companies which have operated under the consent decree, M. P. W., and RKO Radio, already have entered into formal competitive bidding in a number of situations where requests have been received. "Competitive negotiations," which involve sending salesmen to houses asking to become a customer, have been started by 20th Century-Fox and have resulted in some new accounts, Paramount is understood to be planning bidding sales in the near future, except to its "partner" group of theatres. Warners has made no competitive sales for the past year and does not plan to do so until required by law. Warner theatres, however, will enter bids where necessary in order to obtain product, it was reported following discussion of the subject at a meeting of zone managers here last week.

There then follows the order in which the court’s bidding order goes into effect, however, even those distributors which were not parties to the anti-trust suit may be affected, in the opinion of some industry attorneys. Accordingly, PRC and Monogram are making a study of the subject. Edward Morey, Monogram vice-president, said his company may adopt the plan. PRC is awaiting the recommendation of counsel, according to vice-president Lloyd Lind.

No statement on Republic’s policy was available at the weekend. The absence of vice-president J. Grainger.

**H. Mayer Named WB Talent Head in N.Y.**

Harry Mayer has been appointed Warner talent director in charge of all New York talent activities out of New York. Mayer will also continue his present duties as head of the talent booking department for Warner Theatres, and in addition will take over supervision of scouting operations for new talent in the U. S., Canada, England and Europe.

**SCTOA Accepts**

(Continued from page 1)

SCTOA executive secretary, was designated to represent the organization at the meeting. He will be accompanied by Harry Volffen, member of the SCTOA board.

The Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatres Owners, following the Allied States "party line," declined an invitation to attend the New York meeting.

The SCTOA, in accepting the invitation, urged that "a united exhibitor front" be presented at the meeting to plan and build constructively for the future.

**M. P. Foundation**

(Continued from page 1)

for each area. It is hoped, he said, that these meetings will be held in March, with all details completed by mid-April so that by mid-May a meeting of the national trustees can be held preliminary to putting the foundation into full operation. By the time May is held, Goldenson said, the Foundation’s goal of $10,000,000 for use in the industry welfare purposes, is expected to be reached and perhaps be considerably augmented by special guests.

**20th-Fox Meeting**

(Continued from page 1)

formulated for future sales operation under it.

Tuesday’s meeting will be devoted to sales procedure and a report by Shouras on his recent studio conferences with Darryl F. Zanuck and Joseph M. Schenck on forthcoming pictures.

During the three-day sessions there will be addresses by Conors, John F. Caskey, counsel, general sales manager William J. Kupper, division sales managers Herman Wohler, Harry Ballance and Andrew W. Smith, Jr. W. C. Gehring, central division sales manager, who is valuable from a recent operation at the Mayo Clinic, in the absence of the absent manager, will not be able to attend the meetings.

**SchaefertoEnterprise**

(Continued from page 1)

immediately upon his return to that city.

Schaefert started a series of conferences here Friday at Enterprise Studios, climaxmed by a dinner Sat-

day night in his honor, with Enterprise stars and producers attending, including Charles Boyer, John Garfield, Joel McCrea, Ginger Rogers, Norma Shearer, Cordelia Sany-


He will confer with Ingrid Bergman immediately upon his arrival in New York and will go into a series of meetings with distribution executives of Loew’s International, through whose foreign exchanges Enterprise will release outside of the U. S. and Canada. At the same time he will plan meetings with distribution heads of United Artists, which will release Enterprise product domestically.

**New RKO Division**

(Continued from page 1)

signed to New York to replace Boas- ber as Metropolitan district manag-

er.

With the new division RKO Radio will have three major sales divi-
sions: Western, headed by Walter E. Branson; Eastern, under Nat Levy, and the newly-created one in Chicago, headed by Warner, who joined RKO in 1931 as salesman in Buffalo, was advanced until, in April, 1944, he was the Metropolitan manager. Reuben Green-
berg, who began his association with RKO in 1934 as Minneapolis branch salesmanship, is captain of the 1947 "Ned Peck Detective Drive."

Under the re-divisioning, the South-

eastern district, now part of the added division, is headed by David Princ-

e in Atlanta, and the Southwestern di-

stric is headed by Ben Y. Cammack in Dallas, Phil Hodes is manager of the New York exchange, while Leo M. Devaney continues as Can-
dian district manager.

14 Univ. Directors**

(Continued from page 1)

berg, Paul G. Brown, J. Cheever Codman, Preston Davis, Matthew Fox, William J. German, John J. O’Connor, Ottavio Prochet, Charles D. Prutzman, J. Airh Bubble, Bud Rogers, Daniel M. Sheafer and G. I. Woodham-Smith. Benjamin and Woodham-Smith were elected to the board during the meeting.

F. Collins, W. H. Taylor, Jr., and Cliff Work retired from the board during the year.

**Fire Destroys Theatre**

ATLANTA, Feb 16.—Fire of undeter-
mined origin has destroyed the Martin and Thompson Princess The-

tre and the circuit’s headquarters at Hawkinsville. All home office records were destroyed, which caused damages estimated at $125,000.

SCREENCRAFT PICTURES, INC. 241 West 44th St., N. Y. C. 18

35MM—Distributors of —14MM FEATURES, WESTERNS, COMEDIES and SHORTS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY Monday, February 17, 1947

DON'T SIGN until you first learn about Filmack's New Prevue Trailer Service—ready NOW! Write, wire, phone Filmack. 1321 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill.
RKO Reports Progress in Ending Pools

4 With Majors Already Dissolved: Kingsberg

By TOM LOY

Having completed termination of its four pools with other distributor-owned theatre circuits, RKO Theatres now is in the process of ending the few pools it has with independent exhibitors and anticipates no difficulty in completing the latter task by the July 1 deadline which the Federal District Court has set, in the New York case, according to Malcolm Kingsberg, president of the company, who has returned here following a month's vacation and business trip to the Coast.

(Continued on page 10)

Berge Will Keep Swinging Till End

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Wendell Berge, whose resignation as head of the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice will take effect on May 1, will map Government strategy in connection with its own and defense appeals to the U. S. Supreme Court in the industry anti-trust suit, prior to his departure from

(Continued on page 10)

Marshall, Clayton To Aid Film Pacts

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Undersecretary of State William Clayton has pledged his complete support to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, in the effort to eliminate trade barriers imposed upon films abroad. Clayton in particular promised to support MPA efforts

(Continued on page 10)

20th-Fox Will Not Appeal Court Decision

That 20th Century-Fox will not appeal the decision in the New York Federal Court case became apparent yesterday during the opening sessions of the first annual sales meeting since the war, being held through tomorrow, at the Hotel Astor here.

Distribution methods under the industry anti-trust decree was the focal point of the discussions yesterday, as divisional sales, district and branch managers convened to smooth out company policy on such points as clearances and competitive negotiations on Licensing.

With 20th-Fox apparently prepared to adopt competitive bidding practices after July 1, the date set by the New

(Continued on page 11)

Grainger Presides At Dallas Meeting

DALLAS, Feb. 17.—James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, presided today at the opening session of a three-day sales meeting and introduced Walter L. Titus, Jr., in his new capacity as Southern division sales manager.

The meetings are being attended by Southwestern district sales manager Norman J. Colquhoun, branch managers Thomas Burton Kirk, Dallas; Nat Wyse, Memphis, and David Hunt, Oklahoma City, as well as by the Dallas sales force.

(Continued on page 11)

"My Favorite Brunette"

[Paramount]—Hope Clicks Again

YOU might call this a companion piece to one Bob Hope made in 1942. Madeleine Carroll was his opposite number in the early one which was titled "My Favorite Blonde." Dorothy Lamour is the feminine lure this time, which, no doubt, explains why it's "My Favorite Brunette." More to the point is the fact that this is an attraction tailored astutely for Hope and the Hopan talents, and a perfectly swell hunk of box-office merchandise.

Bob tells his story in the death cell block at San Quentin where he is about to enter the gas chamber, convicted for the murder of Richard Denny. In retrospect to reporters, he tells how he got that way. This is how:

A baby photographer, and like practically everybody else, Hope wants

(Continued on page 7)

Senate Passes Bill To Keep Excise Tax

Washington, Feb. 17.—A bill to retain excise taxes, including the 20 per cent levy on admissions, at wartime levels was adopted today by the Senate. Because of amendments differing from the legislation passed by the House last month, the two bills will now go to a conference committee comprising members of both houses.

Cohn Without Col. Contract Since '45, Stockholders Told

Harry Cohn, Columbia Pictures president, has been working without a contract since June 30, 1945, when his last pact with the company expired. It is revealed in letters to stockholders of the company signed by Charles Schwartz, secretary.

Simultaneously, notice is given to stockholders that a meeting will be held at the home office on March 11, in lieu of the annual meeting of stockholders, at which time seven directors will be elected and shareholders will be asked to approved new employment contracts with Jack Cohn, executive vice-president, and Abe Mann, vice-president, and Abe Montague, executive vice-president, and Abe Montague.

Relation that Harry Cohn's present salary, $188,000 a year, is the same as it was in 1942, the letter to stockholders says: "Our directors feel that it is important that a new contract be made with Mr. Cohn assuring the

(Continued on page 11)

Industry Bars Some Export Films Itself

MPEA Acts to Silence Critics Here and Abroad

By JIM H. BRADY

Washington, Feb. 17.—The industry is increasingly importing voluntary censorship over pictures sent abroad and the Motion Picture Export Association is making an effort to eliminate those which do not portray the true American way of life, it was brought out here today during an informal luncheon attended by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and trade press representatives.

Several films have been banned by M.P.E.A., it was learned. Pictures such as "Tobacco Road" or "Week-end at the Waldorf," go to extremes, it is said. The Association, through

(Continued on page 10)

Need All Box Office Potential: Schaefer

Hollywood, Feb. 27.—"Getting the ultimate ten per cent of a picture's potential gross without adding to a company's financial welfare than exceeding its production budget by that figure," George Schaefer said today on

(Continued on page 11)

Assembly Approves Obscene Ad Bill

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 17.—The amended Wilson Bill permitting the Education Department of the Motion Picture Division to revoke the license of a film where any of its advertising is obscene, indecent or immoral, etc., passed the Assembly tonight without

(Continued on page 11)

Reviewed Inside


Rex city grosses, Page 8.
Schnitzer to Line Up Sales Meetings

The exodus of United Artists sales executives from the home office in preparation for the company's regional meetings will begin tomorrow with the departure of all of Schnitzer, eastern and Canadian sales manager, who will leave for Buffalo to conduct the first of the four-day sessions to be held throughout the country. The Buffalo meetings will start on Feb. 22.

Attending will be district and branch managers and salesmen from the New York, New Haven, Buffalo, Boston, Montreal, Toronto, Chicago, Detroit, St. John and Winnipeg branches. Edward C. Kaftry, president of United Artists, eastern area sales manager, and Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising-publicity director, will leave today and be present Monday. They will attend the following the day's session on Tuesday when they will address the delegates on matters of sales policy and forthcoming production and ad-publicity plans.

Unger is scheduled to address the Pittsburgh meeting on Feb. 27, preceding from there to El Paso on Feb. 28; then to Chicago for the four-day Chicago meeting, starting March 6.

David Chatkin to be Buried in Chicago

Hollywood, Feb. 17—The body of David Chatkin, head of the Melvyn Levy-G-M-G music department who died of heart trouble here at the weekend, will be flown Wednesday to Chicago for burial. Funeral services were held in Beverly Hills on Sunday. Chatkin, who was 38, is survived by his wife, three brothers and a son. Next Monday.

One of Chatkin's earliest posts in the motion picture industry was that of general sales manager of the old Educational Pictures, which later became an executive of Paramount's Publicity Theaters Corp. at the inception of that organization.

He left Lubin in late 1932, and in association with Milton H. Feld and Harry Katz, formed Monarch Theaters, Inc., operating theaters in Ohio and Indiana with headquarters in New York.

Charles Schueren, 67

Charles F. Schueren, industry veteran, died last week at his 67th birthday. He was associated with the old Essanay Amusement Corp. He later joined Grand National Pictures, First National, Metro-Goldwyn Distributing Corp., and Columbia, among others. He is survived by his widow and a son, Jules Victor.

Charles E. Esterley

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 17—Charles E. Esterley, cover editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch here for five years as a time director of sound equipment, died Sunday morning at his home. He is survived by his wife and daughter. Funeral services will be held Tuesday afternoon.

PERSONAL MENTION

J. O. Joseph, Universal advertising-publicity director, will leave here for the Coast today after conferences with various officials.

Y. F. Freeman, Paramount assistant manager and Frank Harris, former owner of the Harris Drive-In Theatres at Atlanta, while en route to the Paramount meeting in St. Augustine.

New Clark, RK-O-Radio Latin-American Division manager, has returned here after visiting the company's offices in the Caribbean area and South America.

Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox and Inter-America, will return today after his visit to Queen Elizabeth from a month's visit to London and Paris.

Norman Elson, vice-president of the Trans-Lux Theatres, left New York last night for a two-week stay in Mexico City.

Hal Carleton, M-G-M advertising chief for Australia and New Zealand, has returned here by air from Sydney.

Mike Spector, Universal-International's Eastern talent representative, is the father of a son born last Friday.

William Israel, manager of the Earle Theatre, Philadelphia, is in Miami.

Bill Hrogenoth, assistant manager of the Fox Theatre, Atlanta, is the father of a baby girl.

Richard Setton has left Paramount's sales staff in Memphis to join Universal.

Dewey Hopper, 20th Century-Fox, Memphis, is the father of a new son.

Myron Meyerson, Malco, Inc., executive, has married Mary Dean Nix, Memphis actress.

Bernard R. Goodman, Warner exchange supervisor, is back here from a four-week tour of branch offices.

MMPTA Sets Up Date Registration Bureau

The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theaters Association here has established a data regulation bureau designed to prevent conflicting theatre association meetings and affairs. The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theaters Association has a similar service for distributor member companies.

Edward Kempner, 72

BUFFALO, Feb. 17—Edward M. Kempner, 72, retired salesman for Paramount Pictures, died here recently after an illness lasting four years.

S&G to Release 1 to 3 Fortune Features

Hollywood, Feb. 17—Screen Guild Productions will release from one to three Fortune Features, as features annually formed by PRL-Fortune Films, independent producing unit recently formed by Bert N. Stearns, PRL franchise holder in Pittsburgh, and Harry Handel, Pittsburgh exhibitor. Maurice Cohn is in charge of production.

U'Gives to Runyon Fund

Universal has contributed $2,000 to the Damon Runyon Memorial Fund to aid cancer victims.

UA's Beno Slesin Was S.A. Aircraft Victim

Beno Slesin, United Artists manager for Colombia, was one of the 82 passengers who were killed aboard the Colombia Aviana airliner which crashed last Saturday on a flight from Barranquilla to Bogota, according to word received at the UA home office here. Slesin left New York Thursday by the plane for Barranquilla for a brief stopover at the company's recently-opened exchange there before proceeding to his headquarters in Bogota. He is survived by his widow, Niuta Ena Slesin, a daughter and a son, a sister in New York and a brother in Germany.

In accordance with the wishes of Mr. Slesin, arrangements are being made by UA for burial here.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

"THE YEARLING"

GREGORY PECK  -  JANE WYMANN

CLAUDE JARMAK, JR.

IN TECHNICOLOR

ON SCREEN NO'S: G-THEATRE SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

"TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR.

MAURICE O'HARA  -  WALTER SLEZAK

SINBAD THE SAILOR

IN COLORFUL TECHNICOLOR

ON SCREEN NO'S: G-THEATRE SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

THE MADAME BUTTERFLY STORY

IN TECHNICOLOR

ON SCREEN NO'S: C-THEATRE SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

"THE BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR"

- N. Y. FILM CRITICS

"THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES"

ASTOR "WAY and "EASY COME, EASY GO" "WAT and "EASY COME, EASY GO"

"THE BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR"

- N. Y. FILM CRITICS

"CALIFORNIA"

IN TECHNICOLOR

A PERSONAL PICTURE SERIES

RAY BARBARA

BARRY MILLAND

STANWYCK

FITZGERALD

RIVOLI THEATER

Doors Open

"EASY WAY" & "49TH ST.

9:30 A. M.
Opening to the BIGGEST FANFARE in the history of the West!

In conjunction with THE UTAH CENTENNIAL

The World Premiere of A PICTURE YOU WILL WANT TO SHOW—for grosses that will show you what you want!
In a year of high-budget, high-big as the biggest

PRESTON FOSTER • ARLEEN WHelan • CHARLIE RUGGLES

Screenplay by Jack Molfitt, Graham Baker and Cecile Kramer • From the Novel and Saturday Evening Post Serial by Luke Short • Music by Victor Young
ENTERPRISE presents
JOEL McCREA
VERONICA LAKE
DONALD CRISP
DON DeFORE
in
MROD

directed by ANDRE deTOTH • A HARRY SHERMAN Production ENTERPRISE Releases thru UA
**Hollywood**

**New Theatres**

**PORTLAND, ORE., Feb. 17—** Oregon Drive-In, Portland, built by Tel R. and Willard Gamble and Albert and William Forman, is planning construction of four additional drive-ins—thefirst in the Portland metropolitan area and one in Eugene, Ore.—with two more tenta-

**SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 17—** The J. E. Enterprises, Inc., has purchased 16 lots in Loddi, Calif., for the construction of a new theatre and shop-

**Plans Prize Awards**

**EGYPTIAN FILM PLANS**

**By JACQUES PASCAL**

**CAIRO, Feb. 10—** The Egyptian motion picture industry will have its own "Academy Award"-in this case a "Prize of the Egyptian Cinema." The decision to award prizes—

**Short Subjects**

**"Fashion Means Business"**

**By IRAHIM ZEIN**

**JERUSALEM, Feb. 17—** Among the many films shown in Palestine during the past year, "A Song to Re-

**"Abusement Park"**

**By PETE SMITH-M-G-M**

**PALERMO, Feb. 17—** Pete Smith turns his inquisitive mind on some brain-teasing questions on various sports, including swimming, wrestling, midget auto racing and tennis. He also comes up with the answers. Running time, nine minutes.

**"Flicker Flashbacks"**

**By ERIC HODGINS**

**RKO Radio**

**The camera again turns back to see what another day to get laughs out of what was taken seriously then. The dramas presented are "A Plot Against the Crown" and "The Curse of Drink." Running time, 10 minutes.
Court Hits Momand Arbitration Charge

Boston, Feb. 17.—Distributor defendants in the A. B. Momand antitrust suit did not conspire to use the industry arbitration machinery to forestall suit brought by Judge D. J. Wyzanski of the Massachusetts Circuit Court here following his reversal of a $460,000 jury verdict for Momand here.

"Because of estoppel of judgment, the statute of limitations and failure of proof of other conspiracies, the plaintiff in this trial was driven to relying for the recovery solely on the arbitration and credit conspiracies," Judge Wyzanski pointed out. The case was tried in Boston last May, and was reheard in Oklahoma prior to being brought to Boston in 1937 after Momand established residence here.

The judge stated that the jury did not understand the case. He said they had been subject to "hour-long written explanations" which he had been able to understand only after hours of careful study. He said the confusion in the court had been obvious to all, he declared, adding that the jurors did not comply with the court's instructions, thus vitiating "the part of the verdict which deals with the amount of the principal recoverable."

A jury, said Judge Wyzanski, "easily found that the defendants had used arbitration claims with the intent of procuring from the plaintiffs their assent to fresh obligations prejudicial to those companies," nor that Momand's alleged losses were "in a reasonable effort to avert claims of arbitration and threats thereof," nor that "the defendants' unlawful acts were the most substantial known cause of damages complained of."

Judge Wyzanski's entry of judgment for the eight defendants—Paramount, Columbia, Bluebird, Goldwyn, Loew's, RKO Radio, Columbia, United Artists and Universal—brings a series of motions started on Jan. 20 at least to a temporary halt. Also, he has ruled against a plaintiffs' motion for interest, five per cent from the date of the assignment of the causes of action, on verdicts denied.

Name Shreiber Chief Of Cleveland Variety

Cleveland, Feb. 17.—Harry Shreiber, RKO Theatres district manager, is the new head of the Cleveland RKO Loew's, according to Win R. Bergman. Serving with Shreiber will be, first assistant, Harold Reiss; second assistant, Jack Lebowitz; cashier, Victor Lach; treasurer, L. J. Schmertz, and secretary, E. Stutz. A new board of directors was named. It consists of Ted Shreiber, Jack Barach, Jerry Wescsher, Gilbert Lefon, Oscar Kanor and John Urbansky, Sr. Urbansky was also named chairman of a committee to secure new quarters.

Initial action of the newly organized Cleveland Variety Club is to be held at the Palace Theatre, proceeds to be turned in to the Variety Heart Fund.

"My Favorite Brunette" (Continued from page 1)

Hollywood pictures will continue to be more popular world-wide than British films and will continue to make better showings at box-offices in friendly countries. Dilbert Goldsmith, New York World-Telegram motion picture critic, who last night shared a dinner with Hubert H. Bancroft, the President of the Goldsmith Company, a 15-minute discussion following a subject, "Is Hollywood Losing Leadership to British Films," over the Columbia Broadcasting System, will科创 by. From New York, Goldsmith from Hollywood.

Goldsmith held that Hollywood's presentation of the audience untrammelled by the British because, primarily, the United States' buying power is 10 times greater than England's. He said Britain's limited home market and restricted foreign market are "great, insurmountable handicaps," and declared that British competitors and competition between British and American films in world markets "clearly impossible."

Cook said he believes the American industry's tendency to over-ballyhoo pictures that do not come up to public expectations is to some extent responsible for the swelling losses in some quarters that British films pose a threat. Frequently, he held, U. S. pictures that rate strong promotion do not get as much as do pictures that are less deserving.

Canadian Auditor Cites Grierson

Ottawa, Feb. 17.—Auditor-general Watson Sellars of the Dominion government has reported to the Canadian Parliament that John Grierson had been provided with trans-Atlantic airplane fare by the London office of the National Film Board almost three months after he had ceased to be employed by the Canadian board in Oct., 1945. The report said the $342 fare ought to have been charged to the United Kingdom to Montreal. There was no immediate discussion of the item in the Commons here.

Silverstone, Goetz Due Here Today

Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox International, and Ben Goetz, M-G-M managing director, are due here today. None of the picture executives who are slated to arrive in New York this afternoon aboard the Queen Elizabeth have been heard from. Also among the passengers are: E. E. Blake, chairman of Kodak, Ltd.; Leon Silver, president of the Ford Eastman Kodak, and Leslie Mitchell, publicity chief of Alexander Korda's London Films.
Fair Income at NY

Top $121,000

New York first-run gross business in the main is about fair. One big exception is the smash combination at the Roxy, "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim" featuring Peter Lorre, Gil Lamb and Evelyn Knight, with business for the first week of roughly $141,000 plenty high.

"Bedelia," which wound up its first week at the Victoria with $24,000, continued its $22,000 run for the second week. At the Gotham, "San Quentin" also is doing nicely with $19,500 seen for the second week, after an initial week's take of $25,000.

"That Way With Women," along with Alan Hale, Martha Vickers and Claude Thornhill's orchestra on the stage, had a mild opening at the Strand, which is moderate at the estimated $56,000. At the Paramount, "Easy Come, Easy Go," with Ella Fitzgerald, which opened with the stage, drew a fairly substantial $70,000 in a second week.

"Yearling" Still High

"The Yearling," with a stage presentation at the Music Hall, still is in the big money; the fourth week figures to bring in $120,000. The theatre incidentally is considering putting the picture after the fifth week, bringing in "Sea of Grass" for five weeks. Thus the way would be cleared for an East Coast booking of "The Late George Apley."

"The Best Years of Our Lives" is probably the most amazing box-office performance film film company ever to see the Astor with about $1,500 in its 13th week. Business has yet to fall below $50,000.

At the Globe, "It's a Wonderful Life" fell off a little more, with indications pointing to a $185,000 gross for the fifth week, since "Woman" will go in Feb. 23. "Swell Guy," at the Winter Garden also is showing signs of weakness, with a $15,000 loss for the fifth week, and a possible $13,000 gross for the final six days. "I'll Be Yours" will follow on Friday.

"SREDIT THE SAILOR" is still drawing good money at the Palace where the fourth week's take looks like $35,000. The eighth week of "Hamletusque" at the Hollywood is a fair one, estimating at $17,500; "Nora Prentiss" will bow in there on Thursday.

"California" Moderate

"California" is headed for a $27,000 fifth week at the Rivoli; it continues. "Two Smart People" went over in undistinguished fashion in a first week at the Rialto, with an estimated $7,500; "Michigan Kid" runs next, starting Friday.

"Dead Reckoning" is good for about $24,000 as a fourth week at the Car- terion. "Beginning or the End" will make its debut at the Capitol on Fri- day, succeeding "Lady in the Lake." The latest big hit orchestra on the stage will wind up its fourth and final week with about $80,000.

"Stairway to Heaven" is losing a little ground at the Park, with $13,000 apparent for the current week, the eighth. An Italian film, "Before Here All Rome Trembles," will open at the Republic on Friday.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

**Baltimore**

Only the new and important attractions are worthwhile grosses. Holdovers apparently have worn-out their welcome, and regular program pictures are not drawing the crowds. This is largely a final-booking week, receipts for the week ending Feb. 19:

**The Chase** (UA) — CENTURY (300) Gross: $14,000; (Average: $47,000)

**RUE MADELEINE** (20th-Fox) — RKO ALBRECHT (5,000) Gross: $10,000; (Average: $40,000)

**HUMOREBUS** (WB) — STANLEY (1,260) Gross: $7,000; (Average: $55,500)

**MARGIE** (20th-Fox) — I'M DUE TODAY! (2,406) Gross: $6,000; (Average: $25,000)

**BEDELIA** (British) — VICTORIA (1,240) Gross: $4,000; (Average: $17,000)

Business has been somewhat better this week than last. The weather has been good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 19:

**RILEY THE RED** (RKO) — FOXTROT (2,074) Gross: $7,000; (Average: $35,000)

**MIDNIGHT** (10th-Fox) — INNER CIRCLE (Rep.-Capital) (2,440) Gross: $4,000; (Average: $17,000)

**THE MIGHTY MCGURK** (M-G-M) Gross: $150; (Average: $550)

**MINNEAPOLIS**

A return of mild weather helped grosses in a better average level with "The Jolson Story" and "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim" having good first weeks. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 20:

**ABE'S IRISH ROSE** (UA-Century) (3,100) Gross: $10,000; (Average: $33,000)

**DANGEROUS MILLIONS** (20th-Fox) — SINFUL STREET (Rep.-Capitol) (5,000) Gross: $5,000; (Average: $20,000)

**THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM** (RKO Radio) — RADIO CITY (4,000) Gross: $10,000; (Average: $40,000)

**MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY** (RKO Radio) — 25TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW (Rep.) (3,000) Gross: $7,000; (Average: $28,000)

**BUFFALO**

This has been a run-of-mine theatre week, with attendance balancing out to about average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 22;

**ON THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and PARAMOUNT** (2,406) Gross: $7,000; (Average: $28,000)

**THE RAZOR'S EDGE** (Fox-Great) (2,700) Gross: $6,000; (Average: $22,000)

**SLENDER MAN** (Film Classics) (1,000) Gross: $3,000; (Average: $12,000)

**SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) and VACATION IN RENO (RKO Radio)** (2,700) Gross: $2,000; (Average: $8,000)

**OMAHA**

Downtown theatres are doing about average but the bread and butter picture is mild for February. Estimated receipts for week ending Feb. 19:

**THE DEADLINE** (M-G-M) — OMMAHA (2,000) Gross: $3,000; (Average: $12,000)

**NOTURNE (RKO Radio) — BRAN- DES (1,000) Gross: $3,000; (Average: $12,000)

**B & K. Closes Over Union-Matinee Tilt**

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—A Balaban and Katz neighborhood theatre, the Ad- miral, located on the northwest side, is closed completely during the week, the union reported. The sitting dispute between the circuit and the local projectionists' union over reduction in the present scale of fees employed due to the desire of B. and K. to discontinue matinees at the Admiral.

B. and K. recently announced that because of a lack of matinee business they would discontinue further the daily show and to discontinue day-time showings. The union countered that if the circuit wanted to discontinue matinées, the projectionists dismissed as a result of the move would have to be absorbed elsewhere in the circuit. This the circuit has refused to do, and, as a result, the Admiral is now completely dark. B. and K. also recently announced that again the union requested that projectionists dismissed as a result of this move be absorbed in other Chicago theatres. B. and K. also refused to do so. At present, matinees have been abandoned at the Drake and projectionists there who work the night shift are refusing to accept their pay pending final settlement of the dispute.

**Five RKO Tradeshows**

RKO's "The Farmer's Daughter" will be trade-screened at the Nor- mandie Theatre this morning. "Trail Street" and "Beat the Band" will be shown on Wednesday, at the RKO Film Exchange, and "Code of the West" and "The Devil Thumbs Ride" will be shown on Thursday, also at the exchange.
Production in Hollywood Rises 4, to 31

Hollywood, Feb. 17.—Production activity has increased somewhat, as 94,063 admissions, 8476 rooms and 751 theaters reached shooting stages. The index rose to 31 from its previous level of 27. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Shooting; “Major Denning’s Trust Estates” (Lynwood) (Reno Shanghaj), “Assigned to Treasury” (Kennedy-Buchman); “Three Were Thoroughbreds” (Cavalier).

Eagle-Lion

Shooting; "Repeat Performance." (M-G-M)

Monogram


Republic

Shooting; "Tragic Symphony." (Paramount)

Finished; “I Walk Alone” (Warners).

Road to Rio,” “Albquerque” (Clarrion).

UGC


Shooting; “Step-Child.”

Selznick

Shooting; "The Paradine Case." (20th Century-Fox)

 Finished; “Moss Rose.”

Shooting; “The Ghost and Mrs. Mair,” with Captain from Castle, “Freedom of the Air,” “Miracle on 34th Street.”

United Artists

Started; “Atlantis” (Nero) with Maria Montez, Jean Pierre Aumont, Shooting; “Body and Soul” (Enterprise) (Vendome-California).

Universal-International

Finished; “Ivy” (Interwood).

Started; “Secret Beyond the Door,” (Diana), with Michael Redgrave, Joan Bennett, Natalie Schaefer, Rosa Rey.

Warners

Finished; “The Woman in White.”


Shooting; “The Unfaithful,” "The Unsuspected” (Curtiz).

Argentine Film to MGM

World rights to “Donde Mueren Las Palabras” (When Words Fail), Argentina’s first film, have been acquired by M-G-M International Films, Arthur M. Loew, company president, announced. The film was directed by Fregone for Associated Artists Studios of Buenos Aires.

Reviews

"Seven Were Saved" (Paramount)

Hollywood Feb. 17

FIVE days adrift in an open boat is, by its very nature, an experience. The sun beats down by night, the stars chill at night, the privation and the lack of privacy get on the voyagers’ nerves, and they in turn get on each other’s nerves. Outside of that, nothing much happens: there is nothing of a thrilling character, and the coasting group is rescued after five wearisome days by Russell Hayden and Don Castle.

Although Maxwell Shane and Julian Harmon, who wrote the story which Shane adapted to the screen, have tried to inject suspense by such incidents as a fight aboard the boat, an attack by a man-eating shark and a sudden shower of rain, the picture remains in the trough of the waves throughout. William Paine and William Thomas produced, with the former also as associate producer. Country music, playing on a piano, is a little too much, and almost as much is the inconsideration of the camera which, instead of frequently using a medium shot, is more frequently a wide-angle shot. Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

"The Shop at Syl Corner" (George King-British Lion)

DEPRESSED from a stage play of the same name which earned considerable dividends, has George King’s piece—first offering from Korda’s new British-Lion setup—is turning in successfully at every orthodox box-office target. It has kindliness, ample if not over-abundant wit, skill in the telling, some wistsome sentimentality, a theatrical touch of melodrama, a bit of a sentimental, father. But behind Heiss’ polite facade there is an ugly secret. His fashionable warmth derives not so much from his ostensible trade as from that of a receiver of stolen property. In justification of his wrong-doing, the story’s audience plead that his experiences in France’s penal settlement at Devil’s Island had given him a twisted outlook on life.

The Heiss secret is discovered by his assistant—a nasty, sniveling, rat of a man—who blackmails his master. From there on, the patent knows, to an extent, what will occur. It does. Old Heiss Heiss daily despatches the blackmailer by strangling; is pursued by the police; dies at his Syl Corner Shop and the care of his motherless, violin-playing daughter.

To the world he presents himself as a happy, loving family man, a new man, as he would have it be. Kenneth Griffith infects the part of the blackmailer with a quite remarkable degree of detestability. Muriel Pavlo and Derek Farr play a couple of young lovers.


Coll. Artist: Peter Burnum

French Production Exceeds Expections

The number of top-bracket French films produced in 1946 surpassed expectations in spite of technical difficulties, according to the New York office of the Franco London Film Export Corp. In 1946, the company distributed, 102 films were produced in France, after 65 in 1945. In 1936, 116 were produced.

Wiley Padan Funeral

Funeral services for Wiley Padan, 45, associate art director for Loew’s Theaters advertising department, here, were held yesterday morning at Forest Home, Long Island. Padan, who died last Thursday in Flushing Hospital, is survived by his widow and a 12-year-old son. He was also creator of "It’s True," a cartoon panel published in 165 newspapers.

$100,000 U. S. Film Equipment to Bolivar

Bolivar Films, Venezuela producer-distributor, has purchased over $100,000 worth of film and sound equipment from Reeves Sound Studios, Reeves International, Mitchell Co., and Bell and Howell. G. Vilegas, president of Bolivar, disclosed this yesterday. Included in the equipment are units for reducing 35mm. film to 16mm, making prints from 16mm. According to Vilegas, the exhibition of 16mm. films in Venezuela for the first time.

Burnt F-P House Reopens

TORONTO, Feb. 17.—The Algoma Theatre, which had a fire two months ago, has been reopened by Famous Players following rebuilding of the house. At Hartshorn has been re-

Reds an Influence On Austrian Films

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

VIENNA, Feb. 12 (By Airmail)—Russian influence on new Austrian film production is probably due to the fact that the largest and best equipped studios, Rosenhuelogel, have been transferred to the Town Theatre in the same capacity; M. Specter, assistant of the Town, has been transferred to the Blis; G. McDonald, assistant of the Blis, has been transferred to the 43rd Street Theatre.

Building Program Is On in Uruguay

By PAUL BODO

MONTevideo, Feb. 12 (By Airmail).—A major building program is under way here. A new company, Companhia Cinematografica Central, reports it will build six theatres in the city, beginning with a 2,800-seat house and a 1,200-seat newsreel theatre. The site for the latter was purchased at a record price of $418,000.

Bemardo Glucksman is carrying on with his plans for the next two months, and plans for the construction of the Ciné Roosevelt, with a capacity of 2,300, as well as two more theatres with 1,800 seats each. The three will be the biggest ones in the provinces. However, rapid realization of these and other projects is hampered by the scarcity of some building materials, rising wages and difficulty in purchasing imported materials.

Projectors, electrical and air conditioning equipment, screens and carpeting are purchased always from abroad, mostly from the U. S.

Lately, many exhibitors in the important provincial towns have modernized and rebuilt their theatres.

Century Makes Four New Staff Changes

Four staff changes have been made by J. R. Springer, general manager of the Century Circuit, as follows: J. M. Loew, is now assistant manager at the Community Theatre; H. Cherney, assistant manager of the 2nd Street, has been transferred to the Town Theatre in the same capacity; M. Specter, assistant of the Town, has been transferred to the Blis; G. McDonald, assistant of the Blis, has been transferred to the 43rd Street Theatre.

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Industry Bars

(Continued from page 1)

Francis Harmon, vice-president, makes an effort to select films which will be understood and appreciated by the audiences in United States, Europe, and elsewhere. The voluntary export censorship is very much like the machinery of the production code in the motion picture industry. When a film is said to be undesirable, the company in question is informed and asked to withdraw the film from circulation for the 13-nation market where the Export Association operates.

Pictures in the unobjectionable for export list include "Spring Green Years," and "Abraham Lincoln in Illinois." M. P. A. has initiated this program to convince members of the House and Senate foreign relations committees that internal voluntary restraints are better than government enforcement to see that the right films go to political hotbeds of Europe.

Germans are said to have engaged in the production of motion pictures, Johnston said.

"We feel that private industry should not be required to do work that we do not want the government running newspapers or the radio. Neither do we want government to enter the field of films," Johnston explained. He said M. P. A., however, does not object to a government unit to handle liaison with the industry.

Johnston disclosed that Frank McCarthy, new M. P. A. representative in Paris, will represent the industry at the forthcoming trade conference at Geneva, April 8, and that M. P. A. has retained Allen Dulles and John F. Dulles, well-known international experts, to be on hand at the Geneva reciprocal trade meeting.

Johnston said he plans to be in Eu- rope when the conference is in pro- gress because he is going to Geneva if his presence is required.

Asked about the alleged "giveaway showings of pictures on trains, Johnston replied that the people who see films are about the more people who see films the more who will become regular patrons. He pointed out the millions of films shown by Abraham F. Myers, Allies States coun- sel, there should be no more objection to train shows than to free the- matics on transit lines.

Regarding the proposed industry- wide forum, Johnston asserted that it would be better to wait until final action has been taken by the Supreme Court before acting. He said he still has not received an official bid to participate in the forthcoming exhibitor conference to be held in New York.

Johnston declined to discuss a New York hearing ordered by the Supreme Court of Appeals which is about to be heard by the Court. He said he does not know whether or not it will have anything to say until final action is taken by the Supreme Court, he said.

Commenting on quota restrictions on American pictures which are being planned in Britain, Johnston said that it is not his business to criticize the association to keep present low quota restrictions in force. He said the British will reap the rewards more business- men in America than this country is expected to reap in 1946. He estimated the net profit of British films in America at $10,000,000.

British films grossed approximately $3,700,000 in this country last year, netting about $1,300,000.

Reviews

"Pursued" (Warner Brothers)

Hollywood, Feb. 17

With Teresa Wright, Robert Mitchum, Judith Anderson, Dean Jagger and Allan Dwan. New York State Pictures production of an original (in both meanings) screenplay by Niven Busch appears assured of an impressive box-office career. Superficially a Western, it is in the New York Pictures tradition of a story with psychological overtones and predicated on the revenge motive, which in turn is predicated—although this is not divulged until the end—on an illicit love affair. Although some of the foreground incidents are of familiar melodramatic pattern, most of them are not, and as directed by Ronald Walsh all of them register strongly. It is an unusual attraction, essentially adult as to subject matter and treatment, and generates powerful impact.

The story opens when a judge of an abandoned hot-house home from an unnamed pursuer intent upon killing him. Miss Wright, who turns out to be his wife, urges him to flee the country, but he says he knows this is useless, and tells why he believes so. In flashback, then, it is revealed, from early childhood to the moment the judge took him into his family, to live as her and her brother's brother. Throughout his boyhood, and afterward, he has been the target of attempts upon his life, for reasons unknown to him. Miss Wright, who holds various official offices in the community, is responsible for the events which Mitchum cannot comprehend. In one episode Mitchum kills his brother-in-law in self-defense. In another he kills a young man in love with Miss Wright, also in self-defense. For these reasons, Miss Wright marries Mitchum, intending to kill him on their wedding night, at which time she decides not to. Later that night, Jagger and a band of men surround the house, and Miss Mitchum, who escapes to the house where the picture opens. When they arrive and close in on him, he gives himself up to them, but as they are about to lynch him Judith Anderson, the mother who has raised Mitchum as his own son, intervenes. She exonerates Mitchum and his wife. In this last and fast sequence it is also made clear that Jagger's determination to bring about Mitchum's death has root in the fact that Miss Anderson had been unfaithful to him in a shooting match. That deception, for which reason Jagger had vowed to eliminate all of his brother's betrayer's issue. (It is at least that complicated, but doesn't seem so much while the picture is going on.)

Others in the cast are: John Roden, Harry Carey, Jr., Clifton Young, Ernest Severs, Charles Bates, Peggy Miller, Norman Jolley, Lane Chandler, Elmer Ellsworth, Jack Montgomery and Jack MacDonald. Running time 101 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

William R. Weaver

"Big Town" (Paramount)

Hollywood, Feb. 17

PONTIPL REED and Hillary Brooks are the top names in the cast of a fairly-middling melodrama, first of a projected series. Reed plays the fast-talking, flip city editor familiar to audiences of the airshow, "Big Town," and Miss Brooke portrays "Lorel," the idealistic blonde reporter.

Survivors of the series of these two are opposed from the start, for "Lorel" envisions the power of the press as a giant battling for the right, whereas the aspirations of her editor are no higher than yellow journalism at its lowest. With the table set, the narrative is straightforward, though wrongly charged with murder does he realize the error of his ways. After confessing his moral guilt, he resigns his post. The paper's publisher, fortunately, does a complete about-face on his previous editorial policy, and Reed, uncompromised, weeps to the tearful music of the master. Robert Lowery, Byron Barr, Veda Ann Borg, Nana Bryant and Charles Arm complete the cast. William Pine and William Thomas produced, with the latter directing. The screenplay is credited to George Humes and Max- well Shane.

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

Traila Bell

GB-Kalee Designs All-Closed Projector

LONDON, Feb. 17.—G. B-Kalee, J. Arthur Rank's equipment organiza- tion, has a new projector in which a sound head, lamp and spool boxes are completely encased.

Called the "211," it has been placed in only one theatre thus far, but it is anticipated that 60 will be available this year. Under the gov- ernment directive affecting all motion pictures, however, the greater proportion must be sent abroad.

Cross Is Promoted

J. F. Crossin, director of sales for Olympic Radio and Television, Inc., has been named a vice-president of the company.

Marshall, Clayton

(Continued from page 1)

from the evening papers have been quoted in support of this bill but there is no evidence that it will have the effect claimed.

Clayton is watching the French sit- uation to the extent that the French treaty drafted in the form of a loan to France would result if restrictions are placed on American films there.

Variety to Honor Ezell

DALLAS, Feb. 17.—Clarence C. Ezell, founder of the Texas Variety Club, will be honored at a dinner March 3.
20th Not to Appeal

(Continued from page 1)
York Federal Court decision, Tom J. Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, who presided at the sessions, declared, "Indications are that 20th-Fox will lose.

The company has already been entertaining competitive bidding under the distribution contract with "The Long Branch." This contract places all exhibitors, including 20th-Fox exhibitors, in competition with exhibitors in one town. John P. Caskie, counsel, also guided the day's discussion from the podium.

Said Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity, will follow him today. Over 20th-Fox president, who will preside at yesterday's session, will be one of the principal speakers in a review of the company's 20 features for this year.

Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity, will follow him today. Over 20th-Fox president, who will preside at yesterday's session, will be one of the principal speakers in a review of the company's 20 features for this year.

Reviews

"Dangerous Venture"
(Hopalong Cassidy Productions-United Artists)

A's guardian angels for an archaeology expedition seeking Indian relics which have great monetary value, William Boyd as "Happy" and his two pals, Audy Clyde and Rand Brooks find themselves with plenty of work but no real treasure. It is in "Journey of the Moon" that Boyd and partners find themselves in real trouble. "Journey of the Moon" is one of the most picturesque and exciting of the Hopalong Cassidy series, laggs noticeably behind its predecessors. Irregular and lacking in its pace, it is in average Western hampered by too much verbiage and a deficiency in action.

Headed by Betty Alexander and Douglas Evans, the expedition runs into trouble when rustlers, masquerading as Indians, are confronted with the unexpected return of the original bandits who inspired the story. Proving himself more interested in the monetary value of the relics than in science, places himself in league with the rustlers, led by Stephen McNally and Frankie Arliss. They are instrumental in bringing justice and fair play to the Indians, vindicating the expedition of suspicions that its purpose is to loot the Indian burial grounds. Fritz Leiber appears as chief of the Indian tribe. True to his promise, and George Archainbaud directed, from a screenplay by Doris Schroeber.


"Renegade Girl"
(Screen Guild Prod.)

The court wilds during the closing days of the Civil War sets the backdrop of this aptly-titled outdoor drama which concerns itself principally with a latter feud between a predatory Indian leader and an attractive lady outlaw who heads a band of Southern guerrillas. Leaning heavily on豪放野性, the story and direction of the picture by Pat O'Malley and his assistant, Edmund Reck Peck, Richard Terry de Rochonmont. William Whitaker, Lem Jones, Jack Bloom, Edwin H. Collins, Martin Moskowitz, Peter Levathes, W. J. Kupper, Jr., Sam Fishman and Rodney Bush. Also appearing are: Murray Chisholky, Frank Carroll, Morris Caplan, Roger Ferri, Frank Bryan, Harry Gourley, Gary S., Robert A. Roberts, Eugene McDonald, William Huston, Robert Lorson, R. Stephenson, Mo Grassgreen, Seymour Cohen, L. Inclain, Clarence A. Hill, and multiple others.


US Said to Approve WB's Foreign Plans

Hollywood, Feb. 17.—Widespread enterprise vice-president and David Loew, chairman of the board, are the "two most sales-conscious men in Hollywood." Expressing confidence in the company's future, and declaring the Enterprise vice-president will eventually be built for the future by establishing entities in pictures they make for us. The fact that stars have been signed in advance is explained as a way to help improve the morale in every phase, from shooting to selling. This is a young, ambitious, progressive Enterprise, "Enterprise is going up fast, and I'm going with it," he added.

Schaefer went on to say that he was the "spanner" in the "Rancho" premiere going on to El Paso, Texas, for a UA western sales meeting on the 20th.

21st Without (Continued from page 1)

company of his services for a number of reasons. Child's relations during the past year and our directors are anxious to find a contract basis mutually acceptable. The Rockefellers believes that Jack Cohn, also, has been without an employment contract with the company since July 1, 1945. The new contract, if Rockefellers' approval is sought, is for seven years from last Jan, at a salary of $2,500 weekly and an allowance of $300 weekly, compared with $2,000 weekly and $200 expense allowance formerly. The new contract with Montague, if approved for Rockefellers' approval, is for seven years from June 10, 1946, at a weekly salary of $2,500, compared with $1,500 weekly for his proposed option is for 10,000 shares of common at $32 per share. The option is an additional share for each of 20,000 shares. The option to Roth, lawyer and former California Superior Court judge, is for 5,000 shares of common, exercisable on July 1, 1949, to Dec. 31, 1951, at $27.50 per share. Roth is employed as an executive in studio operation and management at $1,500 weekly.

The option to Brickin is for 3,500 shares of common, exercisable at $27.50 per share from April 14, 1949, to Oct. 14, 1954. His present contract expires Dec. 31, 1951, and provides for a salary of $1,500 weekly as a director. The option to Rackett is for 1,000 shares at $22.50, exercisable from July 1, 1950, to Dec. 31, 1951. Rackett will supervise the studio's general laboratory at a salary of $1,200 weekly on a contract extending from Jan. 2, 1947, to Dec. 31, 1951.

Obscene Ads (Continued from page 1)

objection or debate. Assemblyman Kaplan, American Labor Party, moved to strike out the exacting clause, and was persuaded to withdraw his objection.

The Wilson-Condon act follows the footsteps of the famous New York License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding's appeal to the remit of "The Outlaw," on the ground of alleged sanguine advertising.
THE RAZOR'S EDGE
13 RUE MADELEINE
THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM
in Technicolor!
BOOMERANG!
THE BRASHER DOUBLOON
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA
in Technicolor!
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR
THE HOMESTRETCH
in Technicolor!
MOSS ROSE
MIRACLE ON 34th STREET

BOB, SON OF BATTLE
KISS OF DEATH
NIGHTMARE ALLEY
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW
in Technicolor!
CALL NORTHSIDE 777
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS
in Technicolor!
THE FOXES OF HARROW
FOREVER AMBER
in Technicolor!
CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE
in Technicolor!

TODAY MORE THAN EVER IS 20TH CENTURY-FOX
Montague, Scully and Lazarus Testimony In Columbia Appeal

Testimony by A. Montague, Columbia's vice-president and general sales manager; William A. Scully, Universal's vice-president and general sales manager; and Paul N. Lazarus, Sr., manager of the United Artists contract department, has been singled out by Louis Frohlich, Columbia counsel, for inclusion in parts of the printed record of the industry anti-trust suit on which he will base arguments at the hearing of his company's appeal before the U.S. Supreme Court from the New York Federal Court decree.

In the testimony referred to by Columbia's counsel, now on file at the Federal District Court here and also with the Department of Justice in Washington, the Columbia and Universal executives described in detail their companies' policies of selling large blocks of pictures in advance, while theUA spokesman elaborated on his company's practice of

(Continued on page 8)

Para. Theatre Men Air Decree Effect

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., Feb. 18.—Discussions of the application of the New York Federal court decree in the industry anti-trust suit to Paramount theatre operations were begun here today at the Prince de Ligne Hotel by home office executives and the company's theatre associations.

Leonard Goldenson, Paramount's vice-president in charge of theatre operations, said that no final decisions have been reached in the case

(Continued on page 8)

Skouras Asks Diligent Sales Under Decree

Calls for Meeting Spirit And Letter of Ruling

Calling upon all members of 20th Century-Fox's distribution department to cooperate "with diligence and consideration" in executing the company's policy of "comforming to the spirit as well as the letter" of the New York Federal Court decree, Spyros P. Skouras, president, accented yesterday the importance of securing extended playing time in all theatres in order to realize box-office returns commensurate with

(Continued on page 8)

Decree Effect Will Vary, Says Krim

While the New York Federal Court's equity decision, if sustained, would interpret the anti-trust laws as applicable to the industry, the mechanics of compliance, such as competitive bidding as dictated by the decree apply only to the eight distributors defendants in the case, in the

(Continued on page 8)

UA Asks Interim Contract Changes

Hollywood, Feb. 18.—A directive from all United Artists producers authorizing the distributing company to disregard any provisions in their releasing contracts which, if observed,

(Continued on page 8)

In This Issue

Key city grosses are given on page 6.
New Device to Stop Box-Office Leaks

The perennial problem of receipt "leakages" between box-office and ticket door has been solved through the development of a new control lock, said to have received the enthusiastic approval of many home office thespian officials. The lock was designed by Randall, Paramount's New York branch manager, who made the invention and will place it in operation at the Gotham Theatre here beginning this morning.

As the Stud Rod Control, the device consists primarily of a small locked box containing a rod which protrudes upward through an opening in the ticket door. The key and a certain number of tickets which are provided with holes for stringing them upon the rod. This box, designed to replace the familiar receptacle attended by the doorman, will spare him from any temptation to collect tickets and return them to the custodian for resale, insomuch as the serial numbers will not appear on the rod in order, Randall said.

For circuit operations, in which it might be desired to bring the theatre manager in on the control also, a series of rods, as many as nine, is provided — thus enabling the tickets to be accumulated day after day until they are checked by a visiting circuit executive.

Each lock is enclosed inside a hollow wire, which can be slipped off, bringing the tickets along out with it, when the box is unlocked. Each wire, two feet long, will resemble a Hawaiian one lei when removed, according to the inventor.

Randall already has the device in Control Corp, which has been formed in production, through the Stud Rod association with J. Dashi. Performance of the equipment required a year and a half of work.

Stuber and Folsom Named EK Directors

ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N. Y., Jan. 19—Adolph Stuber, a vice-president of Eastman Kodak Co., and Raymond W. Folsom, company treasurer, have been elected to the board of directors. Stuber succeeds Herman C. Sievers, former vice-president, and Folsom succeeds Frank L. Lovejoy, former board chairman.

RKO Dividend Declared

The RKO board yesterday declared a 97% annual dividend. Each $1,000 face amount of shares of stock will receive $1.00 dividend, payable April 1 to holders of record on March 20. The dividend will be $1.20 on $1,000 face amount.

52 'Brotherhood' Members

The RKO radio office has enrolled 52 members in the current "Brotherhood of Thieves," a group which now numbers more than doubles the RKO number enrolled last year. Leon J. Bamberger heads the membership.

Newsreel Parade

SNOW figures prominently in current newsreels, with the spotlight on the polar expedition, Canada digging out of drifts, skiing in Norway, and the Dartmouth winter carnival. In a warmer vein, there are scenes of gondolas in Venice and in New Orleans. Completing the reels are reports on Britain's coal crisis, peace treaty, the Lower Mackenzie, personalities as President Truman, Babe Ruth, Sir Malcolm Campbell, and Harold Hardy. Complete on following pages.

Schoenstadt Hearings Postponed to Mar. 6

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Hearings on the Schoenstein Circuit's $675,000 damage anti-trust suit, which were scheduled for this morning before Special Master in Chancery Charles A. McDonald, have been postponed to March 6. Defendants are eight distributors and B. and K. and Warner theatre circuits. McDonald is sole U. S. District Court Judge Philip L. Sullivan to hear evidence in the case.

Some EPA Research Work Shifts to D.C.

Due to lack of office space here, the Motion Picture Association is shifting some equipment, used in its research program from New York to Washington. Robert Chambers, research director, yesterday was in Washington working on the transfer. He will continue to maintain headquarters in New York, however.
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, producers of the screen's mightiest entertainments, reveal FOR THE FIRST TIME on any screen the personal HUMAN drama behind the greatest DRAMA of all time, the ATOMIC BOMB! It is the behind-the-scenes story of THE PEOPLE who made it, a LIFE STORY, a LOVE STORY, a MYSTERY STORY woven into the most fascinating and gripping motion picture you ever saw. A solid year in secret, guarded production and now a spectacular entertainment enacted by a hand-picked cast. No cost was spared to make it memorable!

M-G-M's PICTURE OF PICTURES

STARRING

BRIAN DONLEVY · ROBERT WALKER · TOM DRAKE
BEVERLY TYLER · AUDREY TOTTER · HUME CRONYN

FORECAST!

Launched with widely publicized Global Premiers in leading English-speaking cities of the world! Terrific interest in advance of first engagements, Washington, D.C. and New York City, is prediction of business to come to your theatre!

THEM ARE WAITING FOR IT EAGERLY!
Reach for the sky boys!

Knocks them for a ring premiere at FOX THEATRE ...

Angel and the

starring JOHN WAYNE

...and that ain't all...
Reach for the sky...

BADMAN

and GAIL RUSSELL
tailed loop in World Record, in San Francisco!

GOING
GREAT GUNS
DENVER
BALTIMORE
NEW ORLEANS

WATCH FOR OTHER SMASH OPENINGS!

A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal, for current engagements in key cities or as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

LOS ANGELES

"Lady in the Lake" fared best at the box-office in a week which found holders at most first-run theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 19:

SAN QUINN (RKO) and Dick TRACY VS. CUEBALL (RKO) - $6,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $742.86)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) - CARTHEY CIRCLE (LA) $11,400 (40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days. 4th week. Gross: $3,100. (Average: $442.86)

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM (20th-Fox) - CHINESE (2,000) $4,200 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $2,200. (Average: $314.29)

LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M) - EGYPTIAN (1,000) $2,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $114.29)

SAN QUINN (RKO) and Dick TRACY VS. CUEBALL (RKO) - $1,200 (60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $214.29)

DUEL IN THE SUN (RKO) - FAIRFAX (1,200) $3,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $285.71)

STAGE TO HEAVEN (U) - FOUR STAR (900) $2,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $142.86)

LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M) - FOX (1,400) $3,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $200. (Average: $28.57)

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I) and THE LONE WOLF IN MEXICO (Colo) - GUILD (1,900) $2,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $1,200. (Average: $142.86)

THE FREE PERMARRADE (Para.) - ALMER (900) $1,000 (60c-85c-88c-94c-99c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $285.71)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) - ARCADIA (2,000) $4,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $492.86)

THE LONE WOLF IN MEXICO (Colo) - FOX (1,400) $3,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $200. (Average: $28.57)

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I) and THE LONE WOLF IN MEXICO (Colo) - STUDIO (1,000) $2,000 (60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $185.71)

HUMORESQUE (WB) - MASTBAUM (4-700) (40c-60c-80c-90c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $375.00)

THE DEVIL SET MISTLETOE (RKO) - ALADDIN (1,400) (60c-85c-90c-$1.00) 7 days, after Christmas. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $928.57)

HUMORESQUE (WB) - MASTBAUM (5-700) (50c-60c-80c-90c-100c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $375.00)

HUMORESQUE (WB) - MASTBAUM (6-700) (40c-50c-60c-$1.00) 4 days. Gross: $1,200. (Average: $300.00)

THE DEVIL SET MISTLETOE (RKO) - ALADDIN (1,400) (60c-85c-90c-$1.00) 7 days, after Christmas. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $928.57)

SALT LAKE CITY

Record-breaking warmth and clear skies helped boost all grosses above average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 20:

KING'S ROW (WB reissue) and WILD CALIFORNIA Pictures production, opened last night at the Lincoln Theatre, Miami; "Ramrod," Enterprise-Sherman Pictures production, opened at the Utah Theatre, Salt Lake City, on Friday: "The Fabulous Dorsey," Charles R. Rogers production, will make its premiere at the Capitol, Hastings, Neb., on Feb. 26; "The Private Affairs of Bel Ami," Loeuw-Lewin production, will make its bow at the State, Cleveland, on the following day.

4 UA Showings in 4 States in 10 Days

United Artists has arranged four world premières in four states over a period of 10 days.

"The Sin of Harold Diddlebock," starring John Carradine, will be shown tomorrow night at the Lincoln Theatre, Miami; "Ramrod," Enterprise-Sherman Pictures production, opened at the Utah Theatre, Salt Lake City, on Friday: "The Fabulous Dorsey," Charles R. Rogers production, will make its premiere at the Capitol, Hastings, Neb., on Feb. 26; "The Private Affairs of Bel Ami," Loeuw-Lewin production, will make its bow at the State, Cleveland, on the following day.

"Global" Premiere

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The premiere of M-G-M's "The Beginning or the End" at Loew's Palace Theatre here tomorrow evening will be attended by many military personnel posted in the picture about the atomic project. Ambassadors and ministers from foreign nations have also indicated that they will be present. Regular run of the picture will begin at the Palace Thursday simultaneously with engagements in New York, London, Ottawa and Sydney.
Set Greek Appeal Area Committees

Completion of film exchange area committees for the industry’s Appeal for Greek War Orphans, to run March 8-April 1, began yesterday by the general committee, headed by Jack Cohn, Ned Depinet and S. J. Stone, who today launched “$800-clubs,” each to save the life of one needy orphan, has the responsibility of the “Get Section.”

The drive is sponsored in honor of J. J. Skouras in recognition of his generous gifts.

Exhibitors, film distributors, salesmen, theatre owner groups and home office personnel, as well as Hollywood studio workers, are represented in the committee and officer appointments, as follows:

Chairman: Harry Kalmin; Hollywood chairman; Al Lieberman; home office chairman.

Co-chairman: S. A. Schwartz; assistant chairman; Sam Stein.


Distributors’ committee: Tom Connors, chairman; George Dembrow, Mory Goldstein, Joseph Guttman, William Kopper, Robert Morehouse, Abe Nolte, J. J. Skouras, Harry Adler.

Representatives: Rodgers, William A. Scully, Harry Thomas, Joseph S. Stone.

Co-ordinators: Robert W. Corne, J. E. Shugene.

Published committees: S. Barrett McCormick, Ben Serwico.


The same.

The Oregon, Rev.. R. L. Miller.

New Anti-Billboard Bills

ALBANY, NY., Feb. 18—Four-board billboard control which would limit roadside advertising of motion pictures and programs were introduced in the New York legislature yesterday by Senator Thomas C. Desmond, Newburgh Republican.

“The Beginning or the End?”

(Continued from page 1)

know how.” Yet there appears to be enough resemblance between the film and published accounts to make “The Beginning or the End?” an exciting and compelling motion picture.

Producer Samuel Marx was always aware that he was concerning himself with serious business here, a business so serious that the future of civilization itself is at stake. Consequently, he dead and almost never re- lied on any expertise about what has been given to the world as the circumstances leading to the decision. The handling of the story is masterful.

In the sense that the story is new, the film has little to add. Rather is it a re-enactment of the steps by which the Manhattan Project progressed from laboratory to Oak Ridge to Los Alamos to Hiroshima. Famous figures of history are the heroes of the film. The scientists working in nuclear physics, Albert Einstein’s participation in focusing President Roosevelt’s attention to the successful research. Then, the scientists, as they receive the first American atomic bomb, are turned to the final goal. As the scientists of the Manhattan Project realized, the scientists of the Allied Powers had already anticipated the possibility that if two peaceful workers can build a bomb, they can turn it to恶魔.

The story is the most successful story told in print and if it is handled that way, it is a man of world-wide interest and a man of the story will develop a love affair with the French.

The story, distinguished as the dramatic phases, is a problem, but the dramatic difficulty of this story is the problem and the bomb it grew up to be. Against such an overwhelming and terrifying background, no bit of girl romance could have had a chance.

Crown poses the problem, describing the development of the bomb as the beginning of a new era, the creation of a new world, and the struggle to maintain the old order. The audience will be hard put to speculate if they have accomplished a service or have confronted mankind with its most devastating means of mass destruction. There is no answer, since the answer has yet to be found. But there is the hope that man will use his new knowledge for the good of his brother.

Performances are good throughout, but the awesome flashes of light, the accelerating hum of hidden power and the thunder of the machines dominate. The story is handled by General Norman Taurog, a skillful directorial assignment with considerable promise from an original story by Robert Considine and a script by Frank Wead.


RED KANY

“THE FARMER’S DAUGHTER” (Continued from page 1)

as it should have been received (and is destined to be received by paying customers). The success is the result of whole-hearted enjoyment that spells heavy grosses and pleasant customer contacts for theatre managers.

It is a foregone conclusion that the customers will swarm to see if it is mar- velous, strange, count for anything. Topping a completely winning cast are Loretta Young, Joseph Von Sternberg, and John Farrow, and with whom the story is concern- ing itself, Harper. Miss Young handles a difficult directorial assignment with commendable success from an original story by Robert Considine and a script by Frank Wead.


RED KANY

International Projector

In New J. Plant

Members of the trade press were guests of International Projector Corp., this week at its modernized plant in Bloomingdale, N. J., where production of Super-8 projectors and sound equipment is now completely installed after three decades in New York. The facility, which is now completely equipped, has been successfully operated by Donald B. F. Blum, vice-president, and Martin Blum, general manager. The first story brick building, which formerly was an assembly plant of General Motors, contains 100000 square feet. The second floor is devoted to offices and a cafeteria for employees, who now number 450.

Attending from headquarters in New York were Walter Green, vice-president, and Philip Mayer, sales manager. Other hosts to the trade press were: John F. Campbell, general manager; William Edison, director of engineering; Wally Borgen, assistant to John Eisele, comptroller; Henry Heidegger, supervisor of the repair department.

Would Explore ABPC ‘Duel’ Distribution

LONDON, Feb. 18—Despite a formal denial by the Selznick Releasing Organization of reports that “Duel in the Desert” will be given distribution here through Anglo-American Film Co., which recently was acquired by Associated British Pictures Corp., William Erb, SRO’s British general sales manager, is hoping to get together with Max Miller, managing director, to discuss the potentialities of a deal, it is learned.

British Producer Gets Going on Diesel

LONDON, Feb. 18—Gainsborough’s Shepherds Bush studio resumed operations today following a week’s lie-in because of the fuel crisis. Sydney Box, head of the studio, rented Diesel en- gines for his plants today, thereby enabling 700 workers to resume their jobs.

World Film Festival

In Brussels in June

Member companies of the Motion Picture Association as well as British, French, Russian, Swiss and Belgian producers will take an active part in the World Film Festival during June of this year in Brussels, according to Richard Zondervan, general manager of the Festival’s offices here.
Five Are Reelected To Warner Board

WILMINGTON, Feb. 18—Samuel Guggenheim, Charles S. Schneider and Morris Wolf were reelected to the directorate of the Warner Brothers Pictures for terms of two years at today's annual meeting of company stockholders. Some 5,891,649 shares of the company stock, or 402,428,751 outstanding, were represented at the meeting.

The stockholders were informed that the fourth quarter, which will end March 1, will not be as large as those of the first quarter, yet during the quarter to date, gross receipts and the profit after taxes are larger than those for the corresponding period last year.

Since publication of the company's annual report late in December, the stockholders also were informed, the directors, in the anti-trust suit brought by the Government against eight companies, management pointing out that Columbia Pictures' executives before the Court.

South America Is Booming, Says Cohn

Increased activity both at box-offices and in studios was noted by Jack Cohn in Central and South America, according to the company's executive vice-president who revealed this yesterday following his return to New York after a business tour of Puerto Rico, Trinidad, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, Panama, Brazil and Argentina.

In the latter two countries he was guest at two Columbia International Corp conventions, one held in Rio de Janeiro, the other in Montevideo. Cohn stated that virtually all South American countries have increased domestic production of pictures, and that limited, the war, has now resumed on a large scale.

Postpone Scophony Hearing Until May

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Columbia Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

selling singly for its independent pro-
ducers. Columbia has appealed from the single-sales requirement in the New York judges' final decree, as well as from the competitive-bidding system outlined by the court.

South America Is Booming, Says Cohn

Increased activity both at box-offices and in studios was noted by Jack Cohn in Central and South America, according to the company's executive vice-president who revealed this yesterday following his return to New York after a business tour of Puerto Rico, Trinidad, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, Panama, Brazil and Argentina.

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Skouras, who returned here last week after studio conferences with company executives, addressed the morning session of the company's first postwar sales conference at the Knickerbocker Hotel.

The conference, which opened Monday, will wind up today with a recapitulation of the discussions of the past two days.

Pointing out that seven of the 20 features on the company's program list this fall will be Technicolor, Skouras told the assembled division sales, district and branch managers that 20th Century will continue its policy of producing "best sellers, outdoor pictures in color, musicals in Technicolor and the realistic type of pictures such as "The House on 92nd Street," "13 Rue Madeleine" and "Boomerang." With such records to date, he added, "forever Amber," "Snake Pit," "Captain from Castile," "Britannia Meets," "The Dark Wood," and "The President's Lady" are the most recent of a large number of successful pictures.

He told the conference that "Sky" and "Men Against Men" are such films which will have future profits far beyond their initial box-office value, he assured.

Columbia pictures, director of advertising and publicity, outlined the company's plans to back up each of its pictures with "maximum advertising, publicity and exploitation of every tie-in during the afternoon session. Other speakers were Herman Wold, Eastern division sales manager, who explained the plans to launch the re-release of "Irving Berlin's "Alexander's Ragtime Band," and Henry O'Donnell, treasurer, who spoke on the business outlook for the current year; Richard De Rochemont, general counsel; and Paul Terry, Terry-Toon president, both of whom discussed their respective production for the fall. The new Eastern division sales manager, who spoke on specialized sales plans.

Jason S. Joy, director of public relations at the 20th-Fox studio, who is here from Hollywood, was a visitor to the conference. In addition, member of the company's representative in Washington, also attended the conference.

Krim on Decree

(Continued from page 1)


Krim said he sees the court's decision as setting down the rules of law, adding that "there are certain areas" in which the law may be conformed. Only in the case of the defendants, he said, does the court set down the means of compliance.

He said Eagle-Lion will, of course, comply with any provision of the decree, adding that the distribution activity illegal, such as the conditioning of licensing of one picture upon another, to pass, under the law, a matter of fact, he went on, a policy of single sales was made known in the original announcement of the organization of Eagle-Lion.

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Names in News

(Continued from page 1)

the hosts, together with William K. Hollandier, publicity-advertising director of B. & K., who will leave for Hollywood next week.

Included among those who are expected to attend, in addition to toast- masters, are E. Morrie Schlaifer, Morris Wolf, Joseph, David Lipton, Joseph Kauf- man, Maurice Lipstone, Archie Her- zoff, Dorothy Deere, Janet Lantueil, Joe Lawler and Gene Murphy.

AMPA'S 'Salute' Delayed

The Associated Motion Picture Ad- vertisers' Association's anniversary salute to the leaders of the industry, to be held at the Hotel Astor, here, has been post- poned from March 2 to April 23 so it will not conflict with the holy days.

Lucius Henderson, 86

Lucius J. Henderson, retired actor and director died here yesterday at 86 after a long illness. He was a feature-length film pioneer and helped start Rudolph Valentino's career.
Price Leaves MPA for UN
Byron Price has resigned as vice-president in charge of Coast operations of the Motion Picture Association to accept the post of assistant secretary-general of the United Nations.

Connors Ends 20th-Fox Meet
Chicago, Feb. 19.—Jack Kirsch is expected to be reelected president of Allied Theatres of Illinois when the group holds its annual election at the Continental Hotel here next Tuesday. At a directors' meeting yesterday, presided over by Kirsch, Richard Salkin of the Jackson Park Theatre and former treasurer of the group, was elected to the board. Other action included endorsement and support of “American Brotherhood Week” and the American Red Cross Drive and the Greek War Orphan drive.

GOV'T. UNIVERSAL, UA FILING APPEALS
Admission Taxes To Be Reexamined
Washington, Feb. 19.—Rep. Knutson (Minn.) announced today that the House Ways and Means Committee will "examine the entire excise tax structure, including federal admission taxes, with a view to reducing future levies where there are inequities."

All Three Actions Go to New York Court Today; UA Claims 80 Errors
The Department of Justice today will file its appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, seeking complete divestiture of United Artists and Universal, to enter appeals from all provisions of the final decree which apply to them and will ask that the government's complaints against them be dismissed outright. Already filed is an appeal by Columbia, limited to an attack on the competitive bidding system set up by the local court and the injunctions against conditioning the sale of one film upon the sale of another, as well

Ill. Allied Expected To Reelect Kirsch
(Continued on page 5)

Juddell Organizing Film, Sales Group
Chicago, Feb. 19.—Ben Juddell, long time operator of his own film exchange in Chicago, and now an independent, Hollywood producer, disclosed on his arrival here from the Coast, that, in conjunction with a prominent Eastern exhibitor, he is organizing a nationwide group of independent film exchanges, all of which will participate in film production, and which will be called Co-operative Film Exchanges.

Juddell said that a meeting will be held within the next few weeks probably in New York, to complete details of organization, adding that the new company plans to make six exploitation films annually.

Field Grosses Fail to Keep Pace with '46
But Business Recovers From Year-End Slump
Although theatre business at key first-runs throughout the country has climbed substantially since the seasonal slump at the end of the year, it is running consistently a little below the level of the early part of 1946, according to a tabulation of reports from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents covering some 175 situations.

Average weekly gross per theatre for the five weeks ended Feb. 1 stood at $18,867, which was just below the $15,883 average of December but compared favorably with the $19,257 average of Jan., 1946.

The week ending on Jan. 4, which included New Year's Eve business, (Continued on page 7)

Myers Seeks Trust Law Enforcement
Washington, Feb. 19.—A comprehensive study of means for better enforcement of the Sherman and Clayton anti-trust and Federal Trade acts was suggested today by Abram F. Myers, general counsel of Allied States. He expressed the belief that existing laws are adequate but said the problem is to enforce them properly, although enforcement is better today than ever, he said. He disclosed that no decision has been reached by Allied concerning its participation in the exhibition (Continued on page 4)

80 at Screen Guild Meeting, May 12-16
Hollywood, Feb. 19.—Screen Guild productions' national sales conference and annual board of directors and stockholders meeting will be held here May 12-16, with top company officials staying over for the Variety Club convention on May 16-18.

More than 80 franchise holders, branch managers and home office executives will participate in the four-day conference. (Continued on page 7)

SCHLAIFER TOUR TO PROMOTE PRODUCT
In line with the advertising, publicity, and exploitation procedure adopted for the "Razor's Edge," in maintaining a direct home office liaison with field offices, Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, will leave New York around March 1 for a two-week tour of the company's Southern branches to confer with local promoters and to maintain contacts with friends throughout the industry. First stop will be Atlanta.

See page 5 for full story.

In This Issue
"Trail Street" and "Law of the Lash" are reviewed on page 6. Key city grosses are given on the same page.
Personal Mention

JOSPEH H. MOSKOWITZ, vice-president and Eastern studio representative of 20th Century-Fox, due to return to New York today from the Coast.

MARJORIE M. SWEEGERT, Army nurse and daughter of EARLE W. SWEEGERT, Paramount Milesides sales manager, will be married on March 1 to Capt. HOWARD D. REINERT, Jr., at Fort Myer, Va.

CHARLES J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, left Los Angeles yesterday for Portland, Ore., to attend, and will return to Los Angeles on Feb. 28.

Mr. and Mrs. STANLEY MEYER (she is the former Doris BLUMBERG) are in Florida following a honeymoon trip to South America, and will return to New York next week.

SARAH JANE MOORE, daughter of D. F. (DINTY) MOORE, Warners' Pittsburgh branch manager, will be married tomorrow in that city to ROBERT S. KEANE.

NORMAN AYERS, Southern division sales manager for Warner Brothers, is in Washington today from New York, and will be in Philadelphia tomorrow.

AARON SCHINER has been named assistant manager of Keith's Theatre, Cincinnati, succeeding JACOB DONAGH, who resigned to join Theatre Candy Co.

SARA LYONS DANTO has been elected to the board of governors of the Paramount Pictures Club, succeeding MARGARET QUINN, who has left the company.

PATRICIA LAMBERT of M-G-M's Eastern story department is engaged to marry WILLIAM GREIG WATKINS, Jr., of Boston.

ALBERT WARNER, vice-president of Warner Brothers, will fly from Hollywood to Miami tomorrow, en route here.

ED WOLPIN, general manager of the Famous and Paramount Music Companies, left Hollywood yesterday by train for Chicago, en route to his home.

WILLIAM R. FERGUSON, M-G-M's exploitation chief, left here yesterday for Chicago.

Mirsch resigns as RKO Film Buyer

Harold J. Misich, who has been film buyer for RKO Theatres, since 1942, has resigned, the company disclosed yesterday. Misich, who maintained headquarters at the New York home office, will announce his resignation shortly.


Coming Events

Feb. 22-25—United Artists district sales meeting, Buffalo.
Feb. 27-Mar. 2—United Artists district sales meetings, Pittsburgh and El Paso.
Mar. 6-9—United Artists district sales meeting in Chicago.
Mar. 8-14—industry drive for War Orphans of Greece.
Mar. 10—Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association regional meeting, Abilene, Kan.
Mar. 10-11—Motion Picture Forum meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.
Mar. 11—Inauguration dinner of Toloedo Variety Club.
Mar. 18-19—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio annual convention, Delaware, Columbus.
Mar. 25-26—Rocky Mountain area exhibit, Brown Palace Hotel, Denver.
Mar. 25—Balaban and Katz "alumni" dinner, Beverly-Wilshire Hotel, Beverly Hills, Cal.
Mar. 26—Annual meeting of the Motion Picture Association.

McCarey to Produce Three for Rainbow

Hollywood, Feb. 19—Rainbow Productions' schedule for 1947 includes three top-budget pictures, with Leo McCarey to produce all three and, in addition, to direct one. Two of the three are based on ideas of McCarey's. The third will be made from a novel. McCarey will produce and direct, and is now helping in the writing of his own screen idea, "Adam and Eve." The studio is currently working on the screenplay. It will have only two players. McCarey will also produce "Good Sam," also his idea. John Kruger and Ken England are writing the screenplay. Norman McLeod will direct one of the productions.

Hersch Has a Series On Stephen Foster

CHICAGO, Feb. 19—Henry Elman, head of Capital Film Co., Chicago, who has returned after several months in Hollywood, discloses that in partnership with Sam Hersch he will release 12 two-reel subjects in color, starting in April, in a series called "The Life of Stephen Foster." Released will be 24 weeks.

Elman said that the subjects are already complete in 16mm. and 35mm. negatives.
WORDS CAN'T DESCRIBE THE POWER OF

"Pursued"

Produced by UNITED STATES PICTURES for WARNERS
Ted Gamble Buys Monarch Circuit

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 19.—Ted Gamble has completed a deal with Harry Katz for the purchase of Monarch Theatres, including an interest in the Circle, Indiana and Lyric Theatres here, $5 per cent of which is held by the Fourth Avenue Amusement Co. of Louisville, Ky., Willard Gamble, his brother, disclosed tonight. Legal technicalities which arose fol-

LeRoy J. Furman, assistant treasurer of Monarch Theatres, revealed in New York last night that pur-

Altec and Circuits Renew Service Pacts

Altec Service Corp., has renewed service and parts contracts with Asso-

Si Meyers, Jersey Exhibitor, Dead

Si Meyers, vice-president of North Jersey Exhibitor's Association and legislative representative at Trenton, who died suddenly at Miami Beach, Fla., Monday, will be buried the morrow from the Grover Funeral Parlors, Moorestown, N. J., Myers, who operated the Garden Theatre, Trenton, was 55 years old.

Youngstein to Aid Cancer

Max E. Youngstein, director of ad-

No Camden Paper, Grosses Drop

Philadelphia, Feb. 19.—Although radio, sound tracks and advertisements in weekly papers are being used ex-

MGM Sets Premiere For 'Grass', Feb. 26

Plans have been completed by M-G-M for the world premiere of "Sea of Grass", at the Stuart Theatre, Lincoln, Neb., on Feb. 26. The theatre is operated by the Cooper Foundation.

Theatre Construction Hit

TORONTO, Feb. 19.—M. J. Coldwell, developer of an opposition party in the Canadian House of Commons, has opened fire against the Liberal Gov-

Donoghue at Vanguard

Terry Donoghue, former New York 

Teams to Aid Local Foundation Meets

Exchange area chairmen of the Motion Picture Foundation are being advised by the organization’s steering committee that three-man teams will be available where needed to assist in setting up organizational meetings in April, according to Jerry Zigmund, Paramount theatre executive, who is adding in getting the Foundation started.

DeMille’s Next May Be a Bible Story

Cecil B. DeMille plans to return to the Bible for source material for his next production following "Uncon-

Edward Fay To Be Honored at Dinner

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 19.—Edward Fay, veteran Rhode Island thea-

Pittsfield Tax Boost

PITTSFIELD, Mass., Feb. 19.—A 1947 tax rate of $47.00, seven dollars per thousand higher than the 1946 rate, is ap-

Happened in Harrisburg

One of the Allied Artists’ trio of double-decked Fifth Avenue buses, starting a transcontinental trip to pro-

Rosenthal to Monogram

Janet Rosenthal has succeeded Ralph Smith as head of the print de-

UK Lifts Some Bans, But Not For Films

London, Feb. 19.—Despite Prime Minister Clement At-

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Eastman Plans Color Output in France

Eastman Kodak has plans for producing color film in France. E. D. (Ted) Curtis, EK vice-president, reveals upon his return to New York from a month's business trip to England and France. The company's plant in Vincennes, near Paris, is already turning out more raw stock to keep pre-war days. Plans for the film are being held in abeyance. Also apparently consigned to the "future" is General Eastman's $2,700,000 expansion program in England, which will probably be blocked for a long time because of the tight building situation, although authorization for the reconditioning and expansion of the company's facilities has already been granted by the British government, the Eastman executive added.

The film output in France is adequate for that country's needs, and in England, where the company's plants have been "pretty badly hit" by the power restrictions, production has been curtailed but is managing "to keep its head above water," he asserted over executive requirements in England that a portion of raw stock be exported has handicapped somewhat the ability to supply peace with local needs, Curtis declared.

Stevens, Needelman Join Republic Here

Mary Stephens and Marvin Needelman have been assigned by Republic advertising-publicity manager Steve Edmundo, owners under advertising manager Dennis Carlin. Miss Stephens was formerly with Columbia, United Artists and JRC, in Hollywood, who will assist her, has been a Flori- da and New York newspaperman.

Would Have Houses Screen Floor Plan

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 19.—A bill introduced in the General Assembly would require motion picture theatres to display on the screen at least once each performance a diagram of the seating arrangement of each floor of the theatre, showing the location of each exit. The bill was referred to the Senate judiciary committee.

Fires Destroy Two

Two theatres in Arkansas, the Dixie in Mountain View, and the Bay Theatre, in Bay, were almost completely destroyed by fire. Derrick and McIndoo, owners of the Dixie, are in Memphis to buy new supplies for reconstruction of the house.

Fire Ruins Memphis

MEMPHIS, Feb. 19.—A two-alarm fire has Astronomy destroyed the Memphis Theater on Cooper Street, The Memphis is owned by Capitol Theater Co.

Legion Classifies 18 Additional Pictures

National Legion of Decency has given A-I ratings to 12 films currently reviewed. Four were placed in Class A-II, and two, "Aben- tuer in Grand Hotel," Heinrich George's new production for the Benn reasonable Bel, and "Madmen of Bel Ami," United Artists, were given B ratings. A-I pictures are: "Angel and the Badman," "Calendar Girl," and "Vagi- liantes of Bloomington," all Republic; "Oliver Hardy" and "My Dog Shug," both Screen Guild; "Raiders of the South," "Riding the California Trail," "Vacation Days" and "Valley of Fear," in Eastman"; "South of the Chisholm Trail," Columbia; "That Way With Women," Warners, and "The Ultimate Trail," RKO; A-II pictures are: "Before Him All Rome Trembled," Superfilm (Ital- ian); "Boomerang," 20th Century- Fox; "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," Monogram; "Johnny O'Clock," Co- lumbia; "13 Rue Madeleine," 20th Century-Fox; "The Man from Detroit," we reviewed again by the Legion and re-classified as B; it was originally classified A-I.

Professor Calls 50% Of Films Trash

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 19.—Nearly half the pictures witnessed by theatre patrons last year were "largely trash," but still twice as many persons attended films than churches of all denomina- tions in the country during the year, according to Dr. Fred Eastman, instructor of drama and film at the Federated Theological Faculty at the University of Chicago.

Dr. Eastman said 50 per cent of the pictures produced in 1946 were mediocre and that only five per cent could be classified as excellent. Among the films were "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "Henry V." "Decency in films is not enough," he concluded. "A picture can be decent and still be inane, stupid and worthless."

Goodman Will Confer On Conditions Abroad

Conferences with Irving Maas, vice- president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association, ranked high on Morris Goodman's schedule, the former MPEA head in Berlin, seated here, said. Leaving returned a year-and-a-half abroad for the MPEA, Goodman, who as- serted that the next few months would see distribution in Germany turned over by the Army to the U.S. film industry, said that he would have no further statements to make about his work and observations abroad until he has conferred with Maas.

The former MPEA chief in Berlin, resigned from his post a few months ago.

Sparrow in New Loew Job

ATLANTA, Feb. 19.—Allen Sparrow, recently manager of Loew's Theatres in Ohio and Pennsylvania, has arrived here to set up headquarters for the new Loew Southern division manager, succeeding William A. Fin- nery, who is retiring to live in Florida.

Stage Shows for Palace

Cleveland, Feb. 19.—RKO Palace, committed to a straight picture policy since mid-December, will resume stage shows starting March 6 and continue as long as headliners are available.

Tennessee to Extend Film Censorship

MEMPHIS, Feb. 19.—Censorship of motion pictures and stage shows by a local group here would be extended to Shelby County under a local bill introduced in the legislature by the Shelby County delegation.

After going through the routine process of being passed three times, which it is opposed to as a matter of practice, become law.

ATLANTA, Feb. 19.—Christine Smith, Atlanta censor, has been upheld in the banning of one new film, but over- ruled in her objections to another.

Trustees of the Carnegie Library, official board of review, agrees with Miss Smith's decision in Swell Guy," Universal-International release is objectionable but decided that Warner's "The Beast with Five Fingers," should be approved.

HARTFORD, Feb. 19.—A State Senate bill creating a board of censors to pass on all films intended for children will come up before the Legislature's judiciary committee on Friday for a hearing, to be held in the State Capitol here.

Similar bills are pending elsewhere, to regulate film-fare for youngsters.

Mitchell to Study US Film Publicity

A study of American publicity tech- niques for adaptation to British conditions, with allowances for the "re- gional conditions," is described as the purpose of his visit to the United States by Leslie Mit- chell, minister of the British Legation in Washington, who will arrive in New York for Hollywood Feb. 26, where he will remain for two weeks before heading back to London on March 22.

With parties of "Bonny Prince Charlie," starring David Wayne, who has already shot, production on two further productions, Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband," and Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina," will start April 1 and 15, respectively.

Price Leaves

(Continued from page 1)

splendid thing for the United Nations but it is a tremendous loss to the motion picture industry. He was drafted for the post and had no choice except to heed this call to world public service.

"We regret his leaving but the efforts of the United Nations will be to see that a peaceful world take precedence over the needs of a particular industry. Unless this is given at world cooperation and understanding is suc- cessful, we shall all be the losers."

"Mr. Price by background, tempera- ment and experience is ideally suited for his new duties. He has a broad knowledge of world affairs and a unique appreciation of keeping open the channels of information among people. Mr. Price leaves the motion picture industry with the respect and hearty wishes of all who were associated with him."
**Key City Grosses**

**CHICAGO**

"Sinbad the Sailor" is substantially in the lead, while business is above average in most homes. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 19-20:

**THE JOLSON STORY** (Col.)—APOLLO (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714.

**JOHNNY O'CLOCK** (Col.)—CHICAGO (3500) 86c. on stage. Bob Crosby and orchestra. 2nd week. Gross: $5500. (Average: $1,458.

**THE WICKED LADY** (U-I)—GARRICK (1,000) 96c. 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $1,888.


**THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM** (20th Century-Fox). NEW YORK & CHICAGO (1,000 85c) on stage. Clyde McCoy and orchestra. 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $1,333.

**THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS** (WB)—PALACE (2300) 75c. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,000.

**THE FINEST HOUR** (WB)—RIALTO (1,350) 75c-95c. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,538.

**HUMORESQUE** (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,350) 60c-75c. 3rd week. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $500.


**TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY** (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) 96c 4th week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $500.

**THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES** (Par.)—WOLDS (1,350) 50c-60c $1,400-800 7th week. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $350.

**INDIANAPOLIS**

Grosses are moderate here this week. The weather has been mild. Estimated receipts for the week ended Feb. 12:

**CROSS MY HEART** (Para.) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.)—INDIANA (1,350) 75c. $1,100. (Average: $1,100.

**TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY** (M-G-M)—Rutland—$1,800. (Average: $1,800.

**THE JOLSON STORY** (Col.)—LOEWS (1,200) 60c-75c 7 days. Gross: $1,050. (Average: $143.

**THE ROWER** (Fox reissue) and SUN VALLEY SERENADE (20th-Fox reissue) FOLLY BEACH (40-60c) 7 days. Gross: $600. (Average: $86.

**KANSAS CITY**

Above-average and below-average grosses are about evenly divided. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 18-20:

**TEMPATION (U-I)—ESQUIRE (100c) 60c-75c 7 days. Gross: $600. (Average: $86.

**TEMPATION—U-I—FAIRWAY (100c) 60c-75c 7 days. Gross: $600. (Average: $86.

**THE SECRET HEART** (M-G-M) and **BLONDE'S BIG MOMENT** (Col.)—MIDLAND (85c). $1,100. (Average: $1,571.

**THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL** (WB)—NEWMAN (1,000) 60c-75c 7 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,571.

**SONG OF THE SOUTH** (RKO Radio) and **THE JOLSON STORY** (Col.)—ORTHOM (1500) 60c-75c. $1,100. (Average: $1,571.

**Reviews**

**"Trail Street"** (RKO Radio)

The extent to which a routine Western script can be developed into high theatrical value is demonstrated through a small band of desperadoes. Casting and editing is amply demonstrated in "Trail Street," a razzle-dazzle, shoot-up/cry movie obviously designed to court favor also with the kids. The roles are somewhat more sophisticated than usual, the rank-and-file "horse-operators" established individually and as a group. As far as the rank-and-file themselves are concerned they will go for this one. The heroes and the villains are clearly defined, romance plays second fiddle to blood-and-thunder elements, and the desperadoes pay heavily in the end for their high-handedness and cruelty.

The cast is headed by Randolph Scott, Robert Ryan, Anne Jeffreys and Jean Arthur, a well-chosen Georgette Heyer cast. The film seems to have had the benefit of a good script, an expert director and significant material on which to base. Jack Enright is deft in the drama department, and as certain scenes can be said to have been produced, Nat Holt, executive producer, and Jack Gross, producer, are the ones behind the combination. Running time, 84 minutes. General audience classification. For April release.

**Charles L. Franke**

**"Law of the Lash"** (Producers Releasing)

The Cheyenne Kid (Al J. Ruc) has his hands full in dealing with a gang of bandits in a westernized world that will probably meet requirements of the market.

Al (Fuzzy) St. John is La Rue's comic pal in a yarn which opens with a stagecoach heldup at dawn the morning the curvets are corralled. The original screenplay by William L. Nolte takes its title from the fact that La Rue is a dangerous man with a lash, which he uses immediately against a gun-toting gang man with Madame Meredith, Scott, Ryan and all of the others do very nicely with their assignments, and certainly the same can be said for producer Nat Holt, executive producer Jack Gross, and director Taylor directed and Lee Roberts, Mary Scott, Jack O'Shea, Charles King and Gene Ansley are in the support.


**Gene Ansley**

**Plymouth Curtains**

Plymouth, O., Feb. 19.—The Plymouth curtains will be dark on Tuesday and Wednesday of each week, it has been announced by Ed Bagley, manager. A drop in business presumably is the reason.

6 Millions in New Mexican Capital

**MEXICO, City, Feb. 19.—Producers financial difficulties, which became acute when major banks stopped lending them money, appear to be ended by the organization here of the Mexican Motion Pictures Corporation, which has the backing of the American-Mexican interests, the prime purpose of which is to adequately finance and produce Mexican pictures.

The capitalization is $6,000,000. It was created by Manuel Echeverria, prominent producer and associate in association with such prominent local banks as the Banco Internacional, Banco Mexicano, Banco de Industria and Banco de Industria y Comercio.

Credito's principal stockholders are Theodore Gildred, American studio and theatre operator, Producciones Gervas, producers, and Gen. Abelardo L. Rodriguez, ex-president of Mexico and now governor of Somora State. Board members include Gildred, Jesus Gervas, president of Producciones Gervas, and Renato Pupo, president of Comisiones de la Caja de Crédito del Instituto de Comercio, former minister of finance.

**MEXICO, City, Feb. 19.—Monterrey, Northeastern industrial center, near the Texas border, is to be another center for Mexican feature production. The Mexican government has authorized Acula Films of Monterrey, to import equipment for production, which is to be started this week. Aulac's wage increases of 25 to 60 per cent.

"Campus Boom" by This Is America

The latest film in the This Is America series examines dramatically the problems that confronted the new "I. 1." Joe in his march to higher education.

Focusing attention on Syracuse University, a typical institution in Upstate New York, the camera shows how student housing, which has been pressed into service to ease the shortage of classrooms and dormitories, with gumshells, barracks, dining halls, trailers, providing shelter for the veterans and their families. Running time, 16 minutes.

Ten Premiers for Warners‘ Pursued”

Simultaneous premieres in 10 New England cities have been set by Warners for “Pursued,” United States Pictures production. Included in the pre-release dates, which will precede the New York opening on March 7, are the Capitol, Springfield, Waterbury, Hartford; Warner and Merritt, Bridgeport; State, Waterbury; Garde, New London; New Haven; Norwich; Smoot, Torrington; Palace, Norwich; Smoot, Parkersburg.

Eagle-Lion Changes

Hollywood, Feb. 19.—Arthur B. Johnson, Eagle-Lion assistant secretary-treasurer, has been promoted to chief fiscal officer for the West Coast.
3 Appeals

Field Grosses Below ’46

(Continued from page 1)
as against "arbitrarily refusing" to license a feature which was selected by an exhibitor. Paramount's appeal, probably centering its attack on the decree's partial divestiture clause, is expected to center on the government's, regardless of whether any of the other four theatre-owning defendants were also before the Department of Justice's New York office and attorney Harold Las- er expects to enter it in Federal Court here tomorrow. The docu-

ment, besides seeking full divorce, will probably ask for a ban on cross-licensing during whatever period the high tribunal might grant the producer-distributors in which to dis-

pose of their theatres, should divorce-
ment.

Cooke to File Appeal

The Universal appeal will be filed this morning by Thomas Turner Cooke, special counsel for the company, who previously had entered into a 
collaboration with Charles D. Pruett,
man, general counsel. The UA ap-

peal, prepared by the law firm of O'Brien, Driscoll, Rafter and Law-

ner, will be filed in mid-afternoon. Both companies seek to upset all of the New York court's rulings against them, urging that the jury's finding of a

decree provision except those apply-

ing to the defendants as exhibitors. 

UA in its briefs in the case, claims in the de-

cree, findings of fact and conclusions of law handed down by Judges Augustus N. Hall, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright, will appeal from

nine basic provisions of the court's judgment, including single sales, com-

petitive conditions on distribution agreements on clearance systems, 

clearance between theatres not in substantial competition, distributor burdens, "unreasonable clearance" and the injunctions against 

franchise agreements, formula deals, master trusts, and the so-called "arbi-

trary" refusal of some run.

Comprehensive Attack

Universal, in a similarly comprehen-

sive attack, will claim the court erred, as follows:

1. Universal, combined, or conspired and agreed with the other distributor defendants or any of them, to fix and maintain minimum admission prices and that the com-

pany, by requiring the maintenance as a minimum of current admission prices and by fixing, differentials, ran between the various runs in a competitive area, attempted to give prior-run exhibitors as near a mon-

opoly as possible.

In finding that Universal, in the case of exceptional features, refused to grant them run to exhibitors who raised their current prices. In finding that the company commonly specified clearances in terms of clearances fixed at the box office, and that its purpose in granting clearances was to protect particular runs againstsupplement runs and not to appeal its own revenue from its copyrights in a legal manner.

In finding that Universal acted in concert with other defendants in the granting of runs.

In finding that the company's mass-

6

ing of an excessive or dispro-

portionate price for what they bought.

In decreeing that Universal shall follow a method of competitive bid-

ning which will make the licensor

can't determine the highest bid under pen-
yalty of contempt, yet prescribes a

formula for offers and counter-offers which makes such determination imprac-

tical.

In receiving evidence as against Universal's awards of exhibitors and the decisions of the Appeal Board.

Universal's statement of jurisdic-
tion will contend, with regard to the above, that the court's price-fixing ban that "a distributor, licensing under copyright, without passing title to any tangible object, might properly ob-

tain from the license a covenant against change in position in respect to admission prices.

Philo Appoints Oelkers

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 19.—Appointment of Wilson Oelkers as purchase-

agencies agent for the Philco Corp. was announced here by William MacMurtrie, general pur-

chasing agent. At the same time, George Bruck was named the general purchasing agent and Louis H. Niemann assistant purchasing agent of the radio division.

Lives' Capital Benefit

The Washington Committee for Re-


duction and Physical Medicine, of which Dr. Harry Truman is honorary 

chairman, will sponsor a benefit preview of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" at Washing-

ton's RKO Keith's Theatre, March

11, prior to the picture's Washington premiere on March 12.

RSD-TV Starts with 12

St. Louis, Feb. 19.—Twelve adver-

tising groups have been licensed for St. Louis' first television station, dur-

ing its first week of operation. A total of 51 programs were produced.

Metro News in UK Ass'n

Metro News, M-G-M's international newsreel for distribution outside the U. S. and Canada, has been admitted to membership in the Newsreel Association of Great Britain and Ireland.

Schlaffa Tour

(Continued from page 1)
tion, he said, adding that the amount of time spent in any one place is sub-

ject to local conditions.

Devoted as a method for testing inter-

Theatres promoted in various cities, generally with Song of the South, which was seen at the international and "Y Rock," the major exhibition event of the season, was seen in the home office promotional division in "constant movement throughout the field."

The function is primarily designed to measure the effectiveness of their drives not only through 20th-Fox offices but also through the exhibitor clients Schlaffa explained.

The Western and Northwestern states have been covered since the new year, and the tour is now scheduled to hit the mountain states, and, as of the middle of the month, Schlaffa continued, but those, and the scheduled Southern journey, will not bar future tours of areas visited because the plan, as con-

An appeal by 20th-Fox pictures on which Schlaffa will consult with field men and exhibitors to map advertising publicity approaches from a local angle, is scheduled for "Home Stretch," "The Late George Apley," "Carnival in Costa Rica" and "Bob, Stock & Jane." In the meantime, he will be on hand to direct and outline ideas for plans for future releases, such as "Forever Amber," "In the Days of the Miracle on 34th Street" and others of the 20 films on 20th-Fox's 1947 schedule.

20th-Fox Meet Ends

(Continued from page 1)

return trips, while divisional and dis-

tributor appointments to the New York for further meetings with Selmen, Connors and William J. Kupper, general sales manager.

At yesterday morning's session Andrew W. Smith, Jr., Eastern division sales manager, and Kupper discussed the sale of short subjects. Included in the company's 1947 short subject schedule, Kupper announced, are: 20 Movietone newsreels, "Adven-
tures," seven "Sportsreels" and two Lew Lehr comedies, and in addition, "The 13 March of Time subjects, plus the usual 114 issues of Movietone News.

Roosevelt Films

(Continued from page 1)

of the first picture, are among mat-

ters to be determined, they revealed in a press conference at the Holly-

wood Athletic Club.

Roosevelt, who will not actually be present at the production firm, said, "While we do not believe the time has yet arrived when a full-scale de-


decision can be made, it is a matter that may be told in its total perspective the Roosevelt family has always been willing to help in bringing any dramatic out of his career to the screen."

Screen Guild Meet

(Continued from page 1)

day session, executives attending to include John J. Jones, president; Rob-

ert L. Goldwyn, president; Fran-

chis A. Bateman, general sales man-

ager.

Producers releasing through Screen Guild谁 will address the meeting include Morris Nixom, Screen Arts Pictures; Samuel K. Decker, Hillcrest Productions; J. S. Barlett and Will-

iam Berke.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>PARA.</th>
<th>REPUBLIC</th>
<th>RKO RADIO</th>
<th>20TH-FOX</th>
<th>U. A.</th>
<th>UNIV.-INT'L</th>
<th>WARNERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>(Feb. Release)</td>
<td>DEAD RECKONING</td>
<td>Mr. District Attorney</td>
<td>VACATION</td>
<td>THE PERFECT MARRIAGE</td>
<td>TRAIL TO SAN ANTONIO</td>
<td>(Liberty Special)</td>
<td>THE ILL BE YOURS</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D—100 mins.</td>
<td>(Eagle-Lion)</td>
<td>Loretta Young</td>
<td>(Eagle-Lion)</td>
<td>(Eagle-Lion)</td>
<td>(Rev. 1/19/47)</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/4/46)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11—52 mins.</td>
<td>David Niven</td>
<td>Dona Reed D—62 mins.</td>
<td>Jan Hunter</td>
<td>Jane Wyatt</td>
<td>(Rev. 1/19/47)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>(Feb. Releases)</td>
<td>BLIND SPOT</td>
<td>LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY</td>
<td>RAINBOW OVER THE ROCKIES</td>
<td>LADIES' MAN</td>
<td>SINBAD THE SAILOR</td>
<td>DICK TRACY VS. CUBELLA</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Chester Morris D—73 mins.</td>
<td>Mickey Rooney</td>
<td>Edible Bracken</td>
<td>Jimmy Wakely C—54 mins.</td>
<td>(Color)</td>
<td>(Color)</td>
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<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>(Feb. Releases)</td>
<td>SOUTH OF CHISOLM TRAIL</td>
<td>MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES</td>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>LAW OF THE LASH</td>
<td>ANGEL AND THE BADMAN</td>
<td>THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chas. Starrett</td>
<td>Butch Jenkins</td>
<td>(Color)</td>
<td>Al LaRue</td>
<td>John Wayne</td>
<td>Tom Conway</td>
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<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>(Feb. Releases)</td>
<td>BLIND SPOT</td>
<td>BOOMTOWN</td>
<td>FALL GUY</td>
<td>DEVIL ON WHEELS</td>
<td>LAW OF THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE</td>
<td>HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Primrose Castle</td>
<td>(Reprint)</td>
<td>Robert Armstrong</td>
<td>Noreen Nash</td>
<td>Warren Douglas</td>
<td>(</td>
<td>(Reissue)</td>
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<td>D—119 mins.</td>
<td>Clark Gable</td>
<td>C—54 mins.</td>
<td>D—39 mins.</td>
<td>(Rev. 8/2/46)</td>
<td>(Rev. 10/29/47)</td>
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<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>(Feb. Releases)</td>
<td>THE LONE HAND TEXAN</td>
<td>MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES</td>
<td>THE LONE HAND</td>
<td>THE LONE HAND</td>
<td>THE LONE HAND</td>
<td>HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY</td>
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<td>Charles Starrett</td>
<td>Butch Jenkins</td>
<td>Charles Starrett</td>
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<td>Charles Starrett</td>
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<td>(Rev. 1/29/47)</td>
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<td>D—53 mins.</td>
<td>D—90 mins.</td>
<td>Robert Armstrong</td>
<td>D—36 mins.</td>
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<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>(March Releases)</td>
<td>THE GUILTY</td>
<td>(Special)</td>
<td>HIGH CONQUEST</td>
<td>EASY COME, EASY GO</td>
<td>THAT'S MY GAL</td>
<td>THE LOCKET</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Color)</td>
<td>Anna Lee</td>
<td>Sonny Tufts</td>
<td>Sonny Tufts</td>
<td>Lynn Roberts</td>
<td>Laraine Day</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Warren Douglas</td>
<td>Diana Lynn</td>
<td>C—78 mins.</td>
<td>Don Barry</td>
<td>James Ellison</td>
<td>Brian Aherne</td>
<td>(Rev. 10/11/46)</td>
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<td>Mar. 8</td>
<td>(March Releases)</td>
<td>THE YEARLING</td>
<td>BEGINNING OR THE END</td>
<td>TRAILING DANGER</td>
<td>RANGE BEYOND THE BLUE</td>
<td>THE GHOST GOES WILD</td>
<td>THE BEYOND</td>
<td>(Rev. 11/30/46)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Gregory Peck</td>
<td>Brian Donlevy</td>
<td>Johnny M. Brown</td>
<td>(Eagle-Lion)</td>
<td>James Ellison</td>
<td>(Eagle-Lion)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(Color)</td>
<td>Robert Walker</td>
<td>C—134 mins.</td>
<td>(Rev. 2/13/47)</td>
<td>Anne Gwynne</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/14/47)</td>
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<td>Mar. 15</td>
<td>(March Releases)</td>
<td>BEGINNING OR THE END</td>
<td>SIX GUN SERENADE</td>
<td>SIX GUN SERENADE</td>
<td>SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING</td>
<td>HIT PARADE</td>
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<td>(Rev. 12/30/46)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Brian Donlevy</td>
<td>Jimmy Wakely</td>
<td>C—87 mins.</td>
<td>Fred MacMurray</td>
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<td>(Rev. 12/30/46)</td>
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<td>D—112 mins.</td>
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<td>Mar. 22</td>
<td>(March Releases)</td>
<td>SIX GUN SERENADE</td>
<td>SIX GUN SERENADE</td>
<td>SIX GUN SERENADE</td>
<td>UNTAMED FURY</td>
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<td>Jimmy Wakely</td>
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<td>Mar. 29</td>
<td>(March Releases)</td>
<td>SIX GUN SERENADE</td>
<td>MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE</td>
<td>MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE</td>
<td>PHIL VANCE</td>
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<td>April 5</td>
<td>(March Releases)</td>
<td>THREE ON A TICKET</td>
<td>MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE</td>
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UA, "U" Attack Bidding Order In N.Y. Decree

Court Lacked Authority To Dictate It, They Say

By GENE ARNELL

In separate appeals filed here yesterday, both Universal and United Artists charge that the New York Federal Court lacks the authority to dictate competitive bidding as the basis of distributor-exhibitor sales operations.

They submit that while the Sherman Act provides for injunctions against trade operations found illegal, it does not permit a court to prescribe affirmative ways of doing business. This is a legislative function, not a judicial one, the companies declare.

Both Universal and United Artists ask for complete reversal of all parts of the New York decision which applies to them, thus excluding only those provisions covering theatre operations.

(Continued on page 9)

ATA, CSA Counsel Confer on Appeal

Thurman Arnold of Washington, counsel for the American Theatre Association, and Col. Robert T. Barton of Richmond, Va., counsel for the Confederacy of Southern Associations, have been meeting here this week to finalize plans for an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from the New York Federal District Court's denial of their petitions to intervene in the industry anti-trust suit.

The ATA-CSA appeal, probably to be made in collaboration with the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, which joined in

(Continued on page 7)

Local Theatre Tax Possible In N. Y.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 20.—Governor Dewey is considering asking the Legislature for broader local taxing powers, including the possible imposition of the liquor taxes. The increased revenue would be for school teacher pay increases.

Republic Has Wide Expansion Program For Foreign Lands

Five new offices abroad, in countries still to be disclosed, will be established by Republic Pictures. In addition, the company's pictures may, additionally, soon play in a number of countries in Russian orbit. Also, the company is in the process of acquiring a number of French and Italian films for Latin American distribution. This Republic distribution setup abroad now has its films in all European countries handled by foreign distributors. In England Republic distributes through British-Lion and in France and Belgium Republic films are handled by Layde Lawrence, former sales head for Sir Alexander Korda. The company also has representatives in Greece, Spain, Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, China and the Philippines. It soon will be re- (Continued on page 6)

Industry Protest Of Ad Bill Pends

Indications are that the organized industry will file a brief with New York's Gov. Thomas E. Dewey in protest against the Condon-Wilson advertising bill which has passed both houses of the New York legislature and has been sent to the Governor for signature or veto, it was disclosed here yesterday following a meeting of the Eastern Public Information Committee at which a discussion of the re- (Continued on page 8)

British Theatres Facing Shutdown Within Month

London, Feb. 20.—With the output of raw stock seriously cut down and processing plants in this country reduced to 40 per cent of their normal production by the coal crisis, exhibitors fear a complete shutdown of theatres within a month unless drastic steps are taken to ameliorate the situation.

The gravity of the problem was brought home to the industry today at a special meeting of production, distribution and theatre interests called by the Cenmograph Exhibitors Association. Those present were startled to learn that Eastman Kodak, the largest raw stock producer in England, has been forced to curtail operations drastically for the past two weeks and has little hope of increasing the output until the government releases coal. The Ilford plant and other principal suppliers are in only a slightly better position. Although not producing negative, they have approximately a seven-week backlog of positive on

(Continued on page 7)

US Appeal Is Seen Hitting All Clearance

Actual Filing, However, Is Delayed to Today

By TOM LOY

Contending that the New York Federal District Court erred in finding that "resistant Clarence" is essential to the distribution and exhibition of motion pictures, the Department of Justice today will ask the U. S. Supreme Court to prohibit the eight defendants in the industry anti-trust suit from making any clearance agreements in the future, according to partial information in the papers filed here.

Filing of the department's appeal, originally scheduled for yesterday, was held up through delay in receiving the original copy of the "Statement of Jurisdiction," signed by Acting Solicitor General George F. Washington.

The documents now are expected to be placed on file with the clerk of

(Continued on page 8)

Para. Will Sell Six Films On One Form

Stressing that Paramount will adhere to the principle of the New York Federal Court decision requiring product to be offered and sold picture-by-picture and theatre-by-theatre, Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, yesterday announced adoption by the company of a contract form to cover all six of the Pine-Thomas productions

(Continued on page 8)

AMPP Vote Bans Free Air Interviews

Hollywood, Feb. 20.—The Association of Motion Picture Producers' radio sub-committee unanimously decided at its regular meeting today that hereafter no "big name" motion picture player can be furnished by any major studio for a free radio interview. The decision permits carrying out pending commitments through March 15.

In This Issue "Ramrod" and "Code of the West" are reviewed on page 4.
**Personal Mention**

MARY PICKFORD plans to leave New York for Hollywood tomorrow if she has sufficiently recovered from a cold that has kept her confined to her hotel.

- OSCAR F. NEU, president of Theatre Equipment Supply Manufacturers’ Association, has returned to New York from the Coast, tomorrow he and L. E. Jones of Neameade Products are scheduled to fly to Montreal.

- PAUL ENGEL of Famous Theatres, Birmingham; HAP BARNES of Drive-in Theatres, Montgomery and Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES ROKK, former owners of the Charles Theatre, Montgomery, have been Atlanta visitors.

- HARRY A. BERK, vice-president of the international division of Foot, Cone and Belding Advertising Agency here, is on a trip to England on the Queen Elizabeth.

- MRS. RAY COLLINS, secretary to Universal-International's Atlanta branch manager, who has been with the firm 12 years, has resigned effective March 1.

- THOMAS HYDE, former Gainesville, Fla., theatre manager, is now manager of the Vero Theatre, Vero Beach, Fla.

- JOE ISHENKOWER, manager of the Hamlet Theatre, Hamlet, N. C., is the father of a new-born baby boy.

- MARTIN QUIGLEY is scheduled to arrive in New York today following a three-weeks visit in Hollywood.

- RICHARD MORGAN, Paramount attorney, is scheduled to leave Hollywood for New York on Feb. 28.

**Bernard Lewis Name Assistant to Horne**

Bernard Lewis, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for Screen Patrons, with headquarters here, has been appointed executive assistant to Hal Horne, vice-president in charge of production, in Hollywood. Horne, who will continue to head the local oplry house to see his first film in a quarter-century, his name was flashed into the industry yesterday, when it was revealed that he had struck nearby and he was needed at once. On the screen was Warner's "Night and Day."

We have David (RCA) Sarnoff's word for it that his company's radio gadgets have radar-signaled contacts to the moon and back—a mere 480,000 miles in both directions, taking only two seconds each way. Sarnoff envisions using the ships and planets to mirror television pictures. You can take that vacation trip to Europe this summe. The State Department's travel bureau will expose possession of a guaranteed return passage, hotel reservations or any combination and a guarantee of food while abroad.

**Blaze Tradeshows Here**

Paramount will tradeshows "Blaze of Glory," to New York on Monday, March 3, the day before the film's world premiere at the Rivoli Theatre here. The screening will be at the Normandie Theatre.

**Eight More from Dean**

Hollywood, Feb. 20.—Producer Releasing Corp. has signed Eddie Dean and star in eight picture deals between March 19, 1947 and March 19, 1948. Jerry Thomas will produce. He appeared in eight for the same company in 1926.

**RKO Remodeling**

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—The RKO-Palace Theatre here, 2,500-seat Loop house, will close for remodeling and will be completed early next year at a cost of $250,000. Work is to begin as soon as the theatre remains open.

**Keth in Editorial Post of SMPE**

Clyde R. Keith, New York engineering representative of Western Electric's Electrical Research Product Division, has been elected editorial vice-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers. In the post he will decide on questions of policy in connection with the publication of the Journal of the Society and supervise the work of the papers committee which procures technical papers to be presented at SMPE conventions and eventually to appear in the Journal.

**Eight More from Dean**

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**Motion Picture Daily**

Friday, February 21, 1947

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**Motion Picture Daily**

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PRODUCERS RELEASING CORPORATION
is privileged to bring back these

SCREEN MASTERPIECES

Produced by Edward Small with great stars of current box-office stature . . . magnificent in production . . . celebrated in titles, these nine famed pictures will be made available during the 1947-48 season through the nationwide sales organization of Producers Releasing Corporation.

"KIT CARSON"
starring Dana Andrews, Jon Hall and Lynn Bari

"THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK"
starring Louis Hayward, Joan Bennett, Warren William and Joseph Schildkraut

"THE SON OF MONTE CRISTO"
starring Louis Hayward, Joan Bennett, George Sanders

"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS"
starring Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Ruth Warrick, Akim Tamiroff

"THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO"
starring Robert Donat and Elissa Landi

"INTERNATIONAL LADY"
starring George Brent, Ilona Massey and Basil Rathbone

"THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS"
starring Randolph Scott, Binnie Barnes, Henry Wilcoxon

"MY SON, MY SON"
starring Madeleine Carroll, Brian Aherne, Louis Hayward and Laraine Day

"SOUTH OF PAGO PAGO"
starring Victor McLaglen, Jon Hall, Frances Farmer

"KIT CARSON" AND "THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS"
AVAILABLE FOR BOOKING NOW!
Oklahoma Industry Fears New Taxes

Oklahoma City, Feb. 20.—Industry leaders are fearful of a bill which is expected to be introduced in the Legislature to extend city tax powers in Oklahoma. Advocating the measure in conferences with state lawmakers and Mayor R. E. Bader were Mayor Benjamin Price of Tulsa. Tulsa had a 10 per cent amusement tax up for consideration last year, but it was killed when the measure was drawn up and hopes to have introduced in the assembly might clear the way for such levies. Price said the tax is expected to raise as much as $400,000 to $500,000 in additional tax revenues yearly.

AMPA Nominating Committee Named

A committee of seven was appointed here yesterday to nominate officers of the American Motion Picture Advertisers. The election will be held on April 3. Robert Wile was named chairman of the committee which also includes: David Bader, Leon J. Bamberger, Vincent Trott, Blanche Livington, Chester Friedman and Evelyn Koleman, and L. J. Bader and H. H. Haskaw as alternates. They were chosen at a business meeting presided over by Rutgers Neilson, and were instructed to present a slate at an open meeting on March 6, when editors and publishers of fan magazines will be honored.

In order to allow the incoming officers to be installed on April 25, at the 30th anniversary dinner-dance of AMPA, the organization has voted to advance the annual meeting and election from the fourth Thursday in April to the first, April 3.

Detroit Variety Club Gives to Cancer Fund

Detroit, Feb. 20.—Variety Club totals of $20,000 were reported at the inauguration ceremonies in the Hotel Tuller this week, with Arthur Robinson becoming chief barker. Robert Counce, William McCraw, Mayor Edward J. Jeffreys and Gov. Kim Sigler delivered addresses, and a check for $90,000 was presented to the Southeastern division of the American Cancer Society by retiring chief barker, Arvid Ramor.

Film Classics Gets Its 13th Exchange

Film Classics has acquired its St. Louis franchise from Andy-Dietz, its fourth recent addition. The company now has 13 wholly-owned branches in more than 200 cities.

Samuel N. Wheeler, Film Classics' sales manager, is now en route to St. Louis, from here with Dean Wiener, company comptroller. Wiener will install new organizational policies.

Henry Herbert, 68

British-born actor Henry Herbert, who appeared in one film, "So Big," with Thelma Moore in 1925, died at his home yesterday.

Reviews

"Ramrod"

(Enterprise-United Artists)

E ENTERPRISE takes its bow as a producer with a reliable piece of entertainment — a western. "Ramrod" is as dependable as its type normally is — and this is largely due to the supporting cast.

It has its hero; he's Joel McCrea. His heroism is fetching Arleen Whelan in his heavy, Preston Foster and its feminine menace, Veronica Lake, performing in its accustomed tempo which can get pretty slow. This Harry Joe Smith production with Sam Wanamaker, Richard Widmark and of the right stuff to die so that McCrea, wounded, can get away from Foster and his cowboy-gummen for the time being anyway.

The yarn by Lute Short is about the traditional tussle between cattle men and cattlemen; yet, it is drawn from the usual dramatic variations so to incident. Miss Lake has it in for Foster because he has bullied a former fiancee, bent on sheep, out of the back of a card. He is determined to make his own and thus the seven characters, including the stampeding of her own cattle so that Foster may be blamed and his judgment day hastened, she becomes morally responsible for the death of Donald crisp, the sheriff.

The chain of events let loose by her to the outlaws at reasonable rates; Emmett Lynn, as the town doctor, and Debra Alden, as Harry's daughter and romantic interest for Warren. Robert Clarke is cast as Harry's son who, for a while, is close to the badmen, but has his eyes opened when he is taken to the hanging of one of Burr's men. Produced by Herman Schom, the film was directed by William Berke, from a screen play by Norman Houston.

Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification.

SMITH HEADS 'PHILA. RED CROSS DRIVE

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20.—Dr. W. Smith, Paramount branch manager, has been named chairman of the local motion picture committee for the Red Cross, which will open March 1. Jack Greenberg, of Screen Guild, is co-chairman. Committee heads include: William Mansell, Warners for district 5; Ralph Pries, National Theatre Supply, supplies and equipment; Ted Schlangener and Lester Kreiger, co-chairman, Warners; Sidney Samuelson of Allied, and Lewen Pitzer of the UMPTO, co-chairman for independents.

Thankful for Greek Delicious

Greek Crown Princess Frederica has cast a heartening thanks to the E. Depeint, co-chairman of the motion picture industry appeal for Greek War Veterans, where the organization presented the title of honor of Spyros P. Stouras. She added that a committee of Greeks and Athenians had been formed in Athens to supplement the drive to be staged in this country.

M - G - M Plans 100 'Beginning' Openings

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—M-G-M is planning simultaneous openings of "The Beginning or the End" in 100 situations throughout the country. William R. Ferguson, M-G-M exploitation head, is here discussing arrangements for the Chicago opening with Balaban and Katz executives. He will fly back to New York tomorrow, following today's Mid-West premiere of "The Yearling" at B. and K's State Lake Theatre.

MONO. FILM ON Dope Ready on March 15

Hollywood, Feb. 20.—Monogram's production based on the original story, "Cocaine," by Cornell Woolrich, is ready for release. For the first time under the title "Fall Guy." Picture was announced after the Motion Picture Association of America, headed by the late President E. Toth, ordered the Code to permit filming of stories employing the dope theme. The next in line is Columbia's "Assigned to the Treasury," the film for which the Code was amended.

Would Give Atlanta Censor Full Power

ALANTA, Feb. 20.—A City Council resolution, sponsored by Alderman A. L. Gilliam and approved by Mayor Hartsfield, seeks to give complete censorship power to Chris- M. London, the city's censors, at the time the resolutions are now up for approval of the Carne- Garie Library Board, when appeal.

Last week the board overruled Mr. Smith's ban on Warners' "The Beat with Five Fingers" which Miss Smith had found "too horrible." This was the first such case where the board had not concur with Miss Smith's opinion. Warners had taken an ap- peal.

At the same time it upheld her de- cision to prohibit the showing of Uni- versal's "Swell Guy."

20th - Fox Dividends On Common and Pfd.

A quarterly dividend of $1.125 per share on outstanding preferred stock, payable March 15 to stockholders of record at the close of business on March 3, was declared here yesterday by the board of directors of 20th Century-Fox. Dividends of 37½ cents and 7½ cents a share on outstanding convertible preferred stock and on the common stock, respectively, payable on March 31 to stockholders of record on March 8, were also announced.

Lowes Declares Dividend

Lowes, Inc., has declared a quarter- ly dividend of 50 cents, a share on outstanding common stock, payable on March 31 to stockholders of record at the close of business on March 11.

W. F. Moore Retiring

W. Franklin Moore, vice-president of the United Nations, who is moving to New York, will retire from the agency and the advertising business as of March 31. Moore recently completed 30 years with the agency, the last 25 of which he served as account executive. The agency handles the duPont film manufacturing account, among others.

Byron Price To Join UN in About A Month

Byron Price, who resigned as vice-president in charge of Coast operations of the Motion Picture Association, to succeed John B. Hutson as as- sistant secretary-general of the United Nations for ad- ministrative and financial affairs, is en route to Holly- wood from New York and is expected to return here to take over his new post in about one month.

The new assistant secretary- general, Price will be, in effect, executive director of an organization which now has more than 2200 members. It is understood that he will also be available to Trygve Lie, the United Nations' General Coun- sel, for consultation on matters in- volving public relations.
• To make dreams like this convincing...to show them with the smoothness that brings life and reality...that is the job of the optical-effects man.

Yet it is only one of his many contributions to modern pictures. By his skill with the optical printer...his production of fades and wipes, of dissolves and laps...he plays an important part in giving American movies their high standard of technical excellence.

If the optical-effects man is to play this part to the full, he must use dependable film of superior quality. That's why he usually prefers to work with the large and well-known family of Eastman motion picture films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
Australian Quota Bid Is Unresolved

BY CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, Feb. 13 (By Airmail)—Semi-official statements here have not made clear how a government-considered $15,000 per cent cut in American film imports could be achieved, although one published suggestion is that only cheap, low-grade U. S. films be allowed to enter the Commonwealth.

(On Feb. 5, MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported that Australian officials had been considering recommending the percentage reduction.—Ed.)

The published suggestion is regarded in unofficial quarters as an absurd policy that might cause foreign observers to doubt the Australian public's seriousness in the denizens' intention to be led by recommendations that U. S. film imports be cut—but that could, in the process, empty theatres. On the other hand, it is realized that a cut in footage would not necessarily reduce dollar expenditure.

By reason of Hollywood's reduced feature output, American film imports are certain to be much less than in recent years even without government interference here, and to keep her theatres adequately supplied, Australia was not expected to be able to deliver, Australia, incidentally, is one of the countries pledged to participate in forthcoming international trade agreements conferences.

Since Great Britain is the only sterling area country Australia can call for film, and Britain's total footage represents only 10 per cent of Australia's minimum needs, it is clear that the film industry in that other market could mean serious shortages for exhibitors here. Already, some see this threat to the future picture to which Australia has long been wedged.

Australia Prime Minister Chifley has given assurance to the British government that Australia will make an all-out effort to save dollars. Imports of livestock, wool, and other items will be banned, as will all types of cars and trucks not considered essential for transport requirements. However, according to Mr. Chifley, Australia does not have the industry to supply its own livestock, and cannot cut her American imports very considerably.

By comparison with other imports, films are not a serious drain on the dollar pool, and the Australian government may take this fact into consideration before determining final action.

Fire Law Checkup

Set for Sacramento

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 20.—A survey of fire hazards in theatres and dance halls is being made in an effort to lower the number of which the district attorney will prepare for the Sacramento county board, directed by E. A. Fairbairn, county engineer.

Present regulations which only require that fire walls be declared by Fairbairn to be inadequate and a request for drafting a new ordinance was submitted.

Fire Destroys Ala. House

BIRMINGHAM, Feb. 20.—Fire virtually destroyed the Pinson Theatre at Pinson, 15 miles northwest of here, damage being estimated at $15,000. The theatre was empty at the time.

Short Subjects . . .

“Community Sing” (Columbia)

The Song Singers and Dick Leibert at the organ join forces to present such tunes as “Fugue Are Flying,” “Either It’s Love or It Isn’t,” “There’s Nothing the Matter with Me That’s Not a Last,” “Pity the Poor Lobster” and “Sierra Fell on Alabama. Running time, 9/4 minutes.

“Country Life” (Paramount)

A familiar gathering of not-so-dumb animals again engage in some sharp banter with the narrator in this “Speaking of Animals” issue. Among the “commentators” are cows, hogs, chickens and turkeys. Running time, 10 minutes.

“College Climbers” (RKO Radio)

The natural wonders of the Colorado Rockies provide the proving ground for one of the most unusual college crime stories ever seen on screen climbing. The subject in this “Sportscope” constitutes a vivid catalogue of the foot-educational system and a State College, which is open to any student with a climbing urge. Running time, eight minutes.

“Czechoslovakia Comes Back” (American Relief for Czechoslovakia)

The grim story of the harvest of war, told against the counter background of a great new endeavor to reconstruct the land, is the subject of this factual film written and produced by David Epstein from official Czechoslovak government

and U. S. Signal Corps films. Depicted are the industrial and agricultural rebirth and the telling effect of Nazi domination left on the children. Raymond Massey comments. Running time, 18 minutes.

“Via Margutta” (Superfilm)

Produced in Rome by Incom Productions, “Via Margutta” is a camera tour of that street in the Italian capital which houses the art colony. A highly informative and interesting tour of the painters, composers, sculptors and allied artists, showing them at work. The English narration was arranged by Joe Parker. Running time, 12 minutes.

“Bear Facts” (Universal)

Many kinds of North American wild life are shown in this film. Three little bear cubs are seen getting into all kinds of trouble, and the reactions of fox cubs to other denizens of the woods are encouraged by the camera. Running time, 10 minutes.

“The Etruscan Civilization” (Superfilm)

A film that will present Etruscan civilization of pre-Roman days is brought to the screen through an interesting camera interpretation based on the ruins of cities, works of art, statues and paintings. Produced in Rome and accompanied by an English narration, the film will give the home audience an idea of the life from one of simplicity to one of grotesque symbolism and then, finally, to extinction. Running time, 9/4 minutes.

Mexican Radio City Must Move Buildings

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 20.—Radio City, intended to be a permanent site for radio and television presentations, will have to move, authorities declare, decreed by the Supreme Court, which has held that the building is an innuendo to injure the municipal government, owner of the land, furthest away, according to a court report the syndicate’s plea that the radio city would contribute to culture in Mexico, ruling that it is a private enterprise, and accepted the government’s contention that it needs the land for the establishment of various social services.

Four Lead in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 20.—Mexico’s leading box-office producers last year were Filmex, Producciones Grovas Panamericanas Films and Citas Films Mundiales.

French Reissue Rights

Leo Cohen has acquired Western Hemisphere reissue rights for the French film “Club des Femmes” which stars Danielle Darrieux, Cohen, who distributed “Siroco” and “Paris Frills,” will reports to have “Club” on Broadway soon.

Loew’s Int’l Chiefs Plan Overseas Trips

Loew’s Inernational executives contemplate continued travelling activity, with W. J. Loew, president, head- ing the list with a visit to Paris for a month’s tour of Europe slated for March 18. Also scheduled to go is the New York group, headed by Arthur Pincus, assistant director of advertising-publicity, who will be in France early on April 1. Maurice Silverstein, associate regional director for the Far East, will visit New York for a tour of that territory; by that time Edward F. O’Conner, regional director, will have returned here from Argentina.

Meanwhile, W. N. Burger, regional director for Latin America, is due to leave here shortly for a tour of his territory, Richard J. Brenner, Latin America assistant regional director, is now beginning the final leg of a six months’ visit, and is due to return to New York in May. Morton A. Spring, first vice-president, is due to return to New York from the Coast early in March, and David Lewis, regional director of Continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, will be in London about March 15, having been away six months. Louis Lober, associate regional director, who has been away from New York three months, is due back here this week from Central and South America.

Weening Assigned to Peru by Para.

Siegfried Weening, who joined Para- amount International in December, has been named branch manager for Peru, by A. L. Pratched, Latin American division manager. He will fill the post left by the recent death of Osvaldo Urrutia, who had been the company’s manager there for the past 21 years.

Weening most recently was manager for Republic in Trinidad. He will have his headquarters in Lima, where he will make his head-quarters.

'Stallion' Shown Mar. 17

"Stallion Road," Warner production, will be on nationwide tour on Monday, March 17. The picture is scheduled for release in April.

Republic

(Continued from page 1)

sented in Sweden and has just opened a theatrical run there.

Republic will continue its policy of selling pictures wherever and whenever it is profitably possible, Aitchison stated. However, it is now on with persons in Roumania, Hungary and Yugoslavia and Republic probably will make sale to Panama through Panamericana’s 15 pictures each. Two of the deals will be on an outright-sale basis, while the third will be a part-interest. Republic has sold 35 pictures to Holland and 11 to Czechoslovakia. All of these countries operate under a state monopoly and ordinarily are being, or would be, served by the Motion Picture Export Association.

Republic will be back in town for an extended trip on Feb. 26.
French Firms

(Continued from page 1)

will go to the producers. This means a loss of 500,000,000 francs—about $7,094,000—which is roughly a third of their original investment.

The deficit is all the more serious because of the financial backing which comes from private backers, and it advances made by the banks and the state.

In 1939 the average cost of a feature film was $500,000 francs. TVW, which is 25,000,000 francs.

At its general yearly meeting, the French Film Producers Syndicate issued a report in which it said that the 10,000,000,000 francs of gross receipts from the 5,000 theaters in France for 1945 were transferred to special entertainment taxes while French producers received only 2,000,000,000 francs. The producers are asking for immediate reduction of taxes and suppression of the special "tax de luxe," which is 17 percent on the gross; further, they are asking a premium for exporting French pictures.

Bureaus Being Replaced

The new government cinema office, the National Office of Film, is supplanting the Office Professionnel du Cinéma, the old trade organization that was replaced by Order No. 3 Dec. 28, 1946, and the government's cinema bureau, the Direction Generale de la Cinematographie.

Michel Fourre-Conneray, former head of the Direction Generale, has been appointed manager of the Center. He will be assisted by five managers, appointed by FINA and the exports, and he will be responsible for the transportation and exhibition, technical services and production and social work.

In trade circles here it is generally thought that the future of the French film industry depends upon the war and its eventual aftermath. The French may be brought to very different positions according to the political tendencies which will rule the Center, which is expected to be in full operation at least by the end of February.

Tax Protests Fail

A decree enforced on a general five percent tax on all prices has been applied by the government, although exhibition associations had protested against such a decision.

In the French trade 167 films were released in Paris. There were 109 American films released, 16 British, six Russian, two Belgian, two Swedish, one Italian and one Swiss, in addition to 83 French productions.

Thirty-five of the American films were new.

It is reported that Pathé Cinema and Gaumont, two of France's most important film companies, will merge their properties and include the laboratories. Together they have 11 sound stages. The new company will be called Pathé Gaumont. The French, at present there is no indication that the distribution and exhibition interests of the two companies will be merged.

Davis Named a Director

John Davis, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Ltd., and joint managing director of Odeon Theatres Ltd., has been appointed to the board of directors of Gaumont British Picture Corp., and General Film Distributors, according to word received here from London yesterday by the Rank Organization.

Student Film Plan Gets N.Y.C. Sanction

By virtue of a special ruling by the New York City department of labor, which present statute that forbids children of school age to attend theaters during school hours, Century Circuit will be permitted to operate the 38th Street Theatre in Brooklyn, an experimental grade school visual education program. Some of the programs, which include eight shows every two weeks, will be broadcast to four Brooklyn schools will be escorted by their teachers and students to the theater to see the pictures. The program, which includes the screening of 3,000,000 francs will be presented at the screening to observe the effects of the experiment, which is being conducted under the auspices of the Board of Education. The program, under its tentative structure, calls for one show each month from February through May, to help concretize the impressions derived from the reading of four special literary classics, according to Century.

U.A. Salesmen Here Off to Buffalo Today

United Artists' New York sales force is leaving today for the first of four regional sales conferences. The meeting will be held in the Statler Hotel here, starting Thursday and Friday with Jack Ellis, district manager; Abe Dickstein, assistant to Edward M. Schenck, Eastern and Canadian sales manager; and Pat Marchone, Dave Burkan, Sam Ritkin, William Shutter, Dick Perry and Walter McVeigh from the New York branch.

PCC Total Pushes Ahead of 46 Mark

Hollywood, Feb. 20—Subscriptions to the Permanent Charities Committee's annual appeal now total $1,286,716 from 20,487 contributors, increasing the per capita average to $62.81, campaign chairman M. C. Levee told the ninth report meeting today.

"On the basis of the reduced goals of national and local charities," Levee said, "industry workers have already exceeded last year's efforts. Subscriptions to our campaign so far are 83 percent of last year's.',

'Quentin' Opening in 77 Midwest Theatres

Des Moines, Feb. 20.—Plans have been completed for the Iowa-Nebraska opening of RKO Radio's "San Quentin" in 77 theaters, headed by the Brandsel, Omaha, on March 5. The floor personal are W. J. Bixby, Lawrence Tierney, star of the picture. RKO Radio branch managers Max Roseblatt, Dave McKeen, and John M. Myers, and the personal are RKO Radio.

Cameraman Beaten

New Orleans, Feb. 20.—Cameramen working on a "This Is America" short titled "March Gras" scheduled for RKO Radio April release, were beaten up by thugs while filming the March Gras parade. Cameramen Howard Winner and Fred Mayer were among the men beaten.

British Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

land. A spokesman, however, warned that a two-week gap in the output is inevitable, even if the government should allow the public to start using power immediately.

The laboratory situation is even more grave. Although certain of the plants have been operating on privately-generated power, the George Hurns establishment, by far the largest, has been closed altogether.

At today's meeting, a committee was appointed to work out temporary arrangements for conserving supplies and to impress upon the government the need to give special priority to raw stock factories.

Although the Kinematograph Renters Society has attempted to coordinate information regarding forthcoming releases, with a view to pooling printing resources, several of its members pointed out that features are the life-blood of the exhibitor's business and advocated the complete suspension of work on new reels, short of production rushes. As of today, the printing of rushes has been prohibited by the government, so far as public power is involved.

Carbon is slightly more plentiful than film, but a spokesman for the industry declared that it too is "living day by day." In general, the industry expects a partial resumption of theater programs for at least a year.

Julian Street, 67

LAKEVILLE, CORN., Feb. 20.—Julian Street, 67, novelist and essayist who had been working on a motion picture script, died here yesterday.

ITOA Will Resume Talks with Allied

At a meeting of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, held at the Hotel Astor, here yesterday, it was decided that the organization will resume negotiations with Allied States at a meeting in March on the question of the ITOA's affiliating with Allied.

Additionally, ITOA president Harry Brandt at the meeting appointed a committee to participate in the March 10-11 meeting here of the motion picture forum. The committee includes: John C. Bolte, Rudolph Sanders, Jean Rosenblatt, Robert Goldblatt and Brandt, and the following alternates: Howard Siegel, Max Goldbaum and Dave Mate.

It was disclosed at the meeting yesterday that Max A. Cohen, chairman of the ITOA film committee, will make a trip to the Coast shortly.

Murray Gets a Third

ATLANTA, Feb. 20.—T. Murray, owner of the Rialto and the New Hilian, Atlanta, has taken over the Center, here.

ATA, CSA Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

the original intervention bid, is expected to be filed here on or before the March 1 deadline.

The exhibitor organizations seek to be heard in the case only with regard to the final decree's competitive-bidding provision, which they claim affects their interests. Arnold, however, has told the Federal Court here that ATA also is interested in the property rights involved in the required termination of theatre leases between affiliated circuits and independents.

 Paramount
"BLAZE of NOON"

STARRING

ANNE BAXTER . WILLIAM HOLDEN
SONNY TUFTS . WILLIAM BENDX
STERLING HAYDEN . HOWARD DA SILVA

Produced by Robert Fellows . Directed by John Farrow

MONDAY, MARCH 3rd at 10:30 A.M.
Normanlie Theatre
51 East 53rd Street, N. Y. C.
**UA, 'U' Attack**

(Continued from page 1)

_**Motion Picture Daily**_

atations by the five exhibitor-distributor companies.

UA contends the New York court's conclusion that the company joined with the other defendants in a conspiracy to reinforce its decision that the evidence in the record of the case could feasibly lead to that conclusion.

Further, it adds that there is "no evidence that any exhibitor ever sought a run licensed by UA. Costs of the competing exhibitor or was ever refused a license by United Artists to exhibit any United Artists picture for the run or any other exhibitor who might have sought from United Artists."

UA contends that there is no evidence to prove that any clearance is granted adversely affected the interest of any competing exhibitor. It asserts that no clearance shown to have been granted by UA was proved to have been unreasonable in duration, anywhere; it says there is no evidence given which established that UA discriminated between affiliated and independent theaters in granting clearances over other theaters.

**Lack of Evidence Claimed**

In touching on the restraint-of-trade finding of the New York court, the company's counsel pointed out that no evidence showed that it "acted conceitedly with any other defendant or with any exhibitor to unreasonably restrain the trade of subsequent run theater through the fixing of clearance for picture." UA raises six "substantial" questions which it claims to be involved in the decision. On the point of the fact that there was no evidence that the "undisputed evidence" is that the exhibitor demanded the actual admission price charged at the theater and that from this "no inference should have been drawn that the stipulation of a minimum admission price in a license agreement made the defendants guilty of a conspiracy to fix theatre admission prices."

"Regarding multiple film sales, the appellant declares: "Instead of licensing their product picture by picture and theatre by theatre, wholesale licensing by distributors has been a very general practice in the industry. Such selling permits both buyer and seller to know where they stand at all times."

**Influence Denied**

On the subject of clearance and run, Universal contends that these are not matters on which there can be a conspiracy, as the distributor, granting an insignificant portion of the best-selling pictures, could have any substantial influence. The distributor's action, in respect of admission prices, runs and clearances, to that of the other defendants, is based upon a proper basis upon which to hold it in violation of the anti-trust laws. The District Court held the independent distributors were 'obliged to conform to a fixed scale of clearance, runs and admission prices' heretofore shown upon satisfactory runs."

"Yet Republic Pictures Corporation, one of these 'independents,' raised its price, relative to Universal, than Universal is, relative to the 'big five.'" Republic is not a party to the unlawful scheme.

"Franchises, in which a distributor commits its pictures for periods longer than a year to a single exhibitor, the statement declares, "are considerably less restrictive than the ordinary exclusive agency arrangement, which is one of the most common methods of doing business."

**US Appeal**

(Continued from page 1)

the court here late this morning.

Following the government's intention to appeal within seven weeks, as per the signed agreement by Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, the Department's appeal will ask for the complete enforcement of its jurisdiction and, pending, the orderly disposition of all theaters, for a later hearing under the new franchise agreement. The high tribunal will be told that the New York court erred in failing to make these requirements. It is understood.

In general, the government will contend that Judges Augustus N. Hand, Henry J. Friendly, and the other judges were wrong in finding that Paramount, Loew's, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Bros. had not achieved a monopoly in exhibition.

With regard to the distribution monopoly by the court, the U. S. will claim that the act of the defendants would result in a monopolization of the industry. With regard to the distribution monopoly by the court, the U. S. will claim that the act of the defendants would result in a monopolization of the industry.

"Universal's appeal, highlights of which were reported yesterday in Motion Picture Daily, is supported by a 24-page "Statement as to Jurisdiction," which reviews the background of the case and presents arguments supporting the company's position.

Regarding multiple film sales, the appellant declares: "Instead of licensing their product picture by picture and theatre by theatre, wholesale licensing by distributors has been a very general practice in the industry. Such selling permits both buyer and seller to know where they stand at all times and to plan accordingly."

**Protest on Ad Bill**

(Continued from page 1)

suits of the pending law took place. The Governor has until March 5 to sign.

The new bill would empower the censor division of the State Board of Regents to revoke film licenses because of incessant or immoral advertising in media other than the distributor's own. The bill, it is based upon the new state laws. The new state, the film's questionable newspaper advertising notwithstanding. The Regents then recommended legislation to cover such cases.

**Para. To Sell Six**

(Continued from page 1)

on Paramount's 1946-1947 release schedule in order to simplify sales procedure.

The license for each film will be needed only for one theater, but the statement declares, "are considerably less restrictive than the ordinary exclusive agency arrangement, which is one of the most common methods of doing business."

**Allegen Mexican Dodge Income Tax**

Mexico City, Feb. 20. -- The charge is made by El Nacional, Lindy Manson, and a Mexican government mouthpiece, that certain unnamed film companies and certain unnamed producers are defrauding the government of millions in income taxes. The story says that the players make three contracts for one assignment of a picture. The income tax, the other as a publicity vehicle and the third, as a joke, which can never be found.

"Our cinematographic business is all bluff and publicity," said El Nacional. However, this kind of income tax dodging is not peculiar to Mexico; it is exercised in some other countries, too."

**Dubbing Increasing In German Market**

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

Berlin, Feb. 20. -- The dubbing of foreign pictures (or "synchronization" as it is called here) has always played an important role in the German market and now is picking up again due to the scarcity of film material. The Berlin dubbing studio is already ready to start production at Calm, near Reagenburg, on the Rhine. Two companies will be made in both German and French.

"The American picture "Mark Twain" will soon be shown here in a dubbed version. The M-G-M production "Robert Schumann" will also be dubbed into German. The Tempelhof studios in Berlin intend to dub two American films each month. Almost 20 pictures will be imported from the U. S. every year.

A new studio has been established in Weimar, in Russian-occupied Thueringen. The schedule has not yet been announced.

An association of motion picture producers has been formed in Hamburg, in the British Zone. It is open to all film producers, directors and other executives working in the British zone or the British-occupied sector of Berlin. Another such group, taking in also writers and actors, has been formed in Weimar.

A ranking member of the British Military Government has announced that he has 200 copies of American films which will be imported by the British government in 1947. However, he pointed out that U. S. films will only be permitted to go into the British Zone on an exchange basis.

**Boeges-Thompson Deal**

Hollywood, Feb. 20. -- J. Walter Thompson Co. has been named advertising and trade publicity agent for Boge & Co. by Carl Leserman, executive vice-president of the Boge & Co. Company. Thompson has been employed "Christmas Eve" and "A Miracle Can Happen," both for United Artists release.
Pickford and Chaplin Sole Owners of UA

Producer Partnerships End with Selznick Exit

By SHERWIN KANE

Sole ownership of United Artists was gained by Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, two of the founders of the company, in consequence of the settlement late Friday night of differences between UA and David O. Selznick. The settlement provided for the return to the company of the one-third stock interest in UA held by Selznick's Vanguard Films and the ending of all pending litigation by the company against Selznick and by the latter against United Artists.

The settlement was announced at a meeting of representatives of the principals in the New York law offices of Schwartz & Frohlich, counsel for Chaplin. Immediately following the meeting a special session of the United Artists board of directors was convened and the resignation of Selznick's representatives on the board were tendered and accepted.

Charles Schwartz, senior member of Schwartz & Frohlich, was elected to the UA board as a Chaplin representative, and Arnold Grant, counsel for Miss Pickford, was elected one of her representatives. Other members of the board are Edward C. Rafter, UA president; Edwin Claude Mills and Herbert P. Jacoby, Chaplin representatives, and Franklin Cole and Herman Weisman, Pickford representatives.

The Selznick directors who resigned were Milton Kramer, Phillip Siff and Henry Marx. It is the intention of Miss Pickford and Chaplin, their spokesmen say, to

Storm Cut Gases In East One-Third

The 11½-inch snowstorm which originated in the South and moved up along the Atlantic Seaboard late Thursday blanketing several Eastern states had the obvious adverse effect on theatre business, which was reduced on an average of 30 per cent.

New York exhibitors in the first run area, reporting their incomes cut

Republic's Earnings
$1,097,940 for Period of 48 Weeks

Republic Pictures Corp., and subsidiary companies had consolidated net earnings of $1,097,940, after provision of $735,000 for Federal income taxes, for the 48-week period ended Oct. 26, 1946. It was announced at the weekend by Herbert J. Yates, president. The statement was made in lieu of a 52-week report, inasmuch as the company with Consolidated Film Industries became effective on Nov. 27, 1945.

Yates announced, in a letter to stockholders accompanying the statement, that Republic has abandoned temporarily its plans to raise additional permanent capital "to finance properly" the expansion of the domestic business, particularly in the field of television.

Paramount Theatre Cuts Price Scale

The New York Paramount will reduce weekday opening admission price on Wednesday from the present average of about 75 cents to 55 cents; its Saturday opening price from an average of 90 cents to 75 cents; and its regular opening price from $1.30 to $1.25, all tax-included. Other scales have been changed slightly, upwards and downwards, with the over-all average dropping from 97 cents to 95 cents.

The change was made by Robert M. Weitman, managing director, as a result of a public opinion survey which, he said, demonstrated that the public is shopping for bargains in entertainment.

O'Connor Names 49 For Charity Drive

A goal of $1,000,000, for the 1947 New York Catholic Charities Drive, was announced Monday by John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president, who is chairman of the motion picture committee of the Cardinal's Committee of the Laymen. O'Connor said that solicitations in the industry will begin late this month.

Friedman, Schreiber Attack N.Y. Ad Bill

Stanleigh Friedman, Warner vice-president and member of its legal staff, and Sidney Schreiber, counsel for the Motion Picture Association, today are to formally protest in Albany a bill which would empower the New York State consumer to ban a picture when its advertising copy is found objectionable.

The measure has passed both houses and is awaiting signature.

U.S. SEES BIDDING AS UNENFORCEABLE

Appeal Says System Would Mean Chaos; Hits Most of Decree

The New York Federal Court's decision on the competitive bidding system, already under attack from numerous exhibitor groups throughout the country, as well as from distributor defendants in the industry anti-trust suit, now has lost its heretofore tacit acceptance by the Department of Justice, which, in asking the U. S. Supreme Court to reverse the local tribunal's decree, terms the bidding plan "unenforceable" and says it would "lead to chaos."

The Government's appeal, the fourth to be made out of a possible 10, was placed on record here Friday, more than a week in advance of the March 1 deadline.

Appeal filed in U.S. Supreme Court seeking to have the U.S. District Court's decree in the United Artists anti-trust suit overturned because of its "anti-competitive character." The decree, approved by the Court late last month, is aimed at preserving the competitive bidding system on the East Coast.

Most of the provisions of the decree have been attacked in arguments in New York by O. R. Weeks, counsel for the New York City Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association, and by the producers represented by United Artists.

THE COURT has held that the Federal Trade Commission has no jurisdiction to determine the anti-trust aspects of the case, and that the Court was correct in granting the injunction after the July trial".

Dispel Admission Tax Fear in N.Y.C.

"The mayor and comptroller have stated that they do not favor a city tax on admission tax. This statement was reiterated at the weekend in semi-official quarters of the New York City administration as the industry here focused attention on this bill, introduced in the State Senate, which would authorize cities and incorporated villages to impose local taxes on amusements, which are already subject to a 20 cent per Federal impost.

Supreme Court Hearing in October Or November Expected by Wright

Washington, Feb 28.—The industry anti-trust suit will not be argued before the U. S. Supreme Court until late this year, possibly during October or November, according to Robert L. Wright, Government counsel in the case, who said the appeal may be placed on the High Court docket by spring but must wait its turn.

If Wright's estimate is correct, the Supreme Court would not hand down a decision until sometime in 1948, it is understood. After the high tribunal acts, the defendants will have a right to appeal for a re-hearing and that would prolong the case for another 60 days.

The completion of the case probably will not come until June, 1948. At the very earliest, the suit will not be completed until January or February of next year, it is said.

In This Issue

"Beat the Band" and "Jungle Flight" are reviewed on page 7.
**Tradewise...**

**BY SHERWIN KANE**

The policy of combating legislation inimical to the industry at what recent public pronouncements by industry fire-fighters refer to as the "local level" appears to be in need of extension and adaptation to recent happenings on the far-flung legislative fronts.

One of the most pertinent of such happenings is the sorry experience of the renunciation of the Federal admission tax without a change and, which may prove even more serious, without even a date being set for its intelligently organized protest

try at the moment, that 20 per cent tap may be a permanent fixture for the box-offices of the nation, as much a part of them as a roll of tickets.

There was no organized effort of any kind on the part of the industry to influence a different decision, or to involve any organization in the industry has known for many months that the Federal excise legislation would be among the first measures which would be considered by the present Congress. It is a new Congress and, therefore, amenable to changes.

There can be no explanation of these for another...part of national industry organizations in the fact that the tax legislation was rushed through Congress post-haste and without the holding of public hearings. That did not deter the industry or travel agencies from winning for themselves and with publicity concessions in the new tax legislation. Those concessions, it is learned with some reliability, were not won "at the local level" through direct approaches in Washington.

Just what is a "local level" campaign on legislation? Is it one sponsored by one group of people having no opposition, carefully planned, with telling arguments well marshaled and effectively presented, as any campaign having the remotest chance for success should be? Or is it merely a hit-or-miss matter of sending a telegram or form letter to this or that legislator who may or may not have heard of the petitioner, and who may or may not be a member of one of the strategic committees drafting the legislation for Congress?

Is it a campaign at all, or is it merely a convenient method of passing the buck from the level of national organization to the haphazard efforts of local organization?

Apparently, there was but one determined effort within the industry to combat the continuance of the Federal admission tax on the local level which gained sufficient proportions to merit publicity. That was by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, an affiliate of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, which did not put much emphasis on "local level" campaigns. The Congressional responses to that campaign, according to reports made by Morris Cowen, president, MPTO of Oklahoma president, amounted in the main to "polite brush-offs."

And, insofar as the industry has been informed, that constituted the most organized and the most extensive "local level" campaign against the new Federal tax measure which the industry was capable of producing.

It is the customary good fortune of this amazing industry that it never loses one opportunity that another chance as good, is not offered it. Now comes Representative Harold Knutson, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, with the announcement that the entire structure of the Federal excise taxes will be reviewed by that body with the object of reducing consideration, any levies which are found to exist. That would seem to offer a worthwhile opportunity for the Washington level of the industry, as a direct result of the nation's box offices that, sadly, it appears the local level is not equipped to do.

**SRO Outlets Set This Week: Kusell**

Physical distribution facilities for the product of David O. Selznick, starting with "Duel in the Sun," will be arranged for in a deal to be closed early this week with either a new company, National Film Distributors, or another already-organized entity, according to Milton Kusell, general sales manager of Selznick Releasing Organization.

Only film vaults and inspection and shipping facilities would be contracted for, Kusell said, with the Selznick company handling all selling and promotion.

National Film Distributors firm, in Philadelphia, reports that an agreement with Selznick is virtually closed. The company is headed by James Clark, who is president of the National Film Carriers Association, and by Clint Weyer, secretary. It was said that the 10 member companies of the association would participate in the film handling deal on a franchise basis.

These are located in New Orleans, Memphis, Charlotte, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco. Other outlets will be established, it was reported, in the other exchanges.

The distribution company will operate entirely apart from the carrier, Kusell said. Headquarters, temporarily in Philadelphia, will be in New York.
Work Begins on May Variety Convention

Los Angeles, Feb. 23.—The first full meeting of all committees working on plans for the 11th annual Variety Club's International convention, to be held here May 13-17, was held in the office of the Variety Club headquar-

ters, chairman, George Bowser, chairman; William Serre and Andrew J. Krappman; Convention Committee, chairman, Thornton Sargent and Robert Kesner; Studio Contacts: William Keith and Howard Stubbins, co-chairmen; Bruce Fowler, Victor Adams and Cullen Espy; Publicity: Sherill Corwin, chairman; Seymour Peser, Pete Latais and Earl Adams; Finance: George Topper chairman; Jack Berman.

 Also a short Committee: Dr. Ben Feingold, chairman; Dave Bershon; Ladies: Rhylis Hemmington, chair-

man; Officers: Costume Decorations: Oscar Oldknow, chairman; Dean Hyskell and Ben Ash; Registration: Don Smith; Transportation: W. H. (Bud) Lottier; George Alston and John Lavery; Token and gift; Jack Berman, chairman; Dick Dickson and Lloyd Ormsby.

‘Life’ Gives 3 Pages To Paramount Short

Life magazine will devote three pages to Paramount’s short, “Radio, Take It Away.” This is said to be the first time that maga-

azine has given so much space to a short subject.

The film is a satire on radio audi-

ence participation programs, and it is given feature picture treatment by Paramount’s short subjects publicity department, headed by I. John Phil-

lips.

Raoul Le Mat, 71

Raoul Le Mat, 71, former Olym-

pic athlete and former member of Le Mat-Metro-Goldwyn, which held the Swedish M-G-M franchise for many years, died of a heart attack in Panama City on Feb. 14, accord-

ing to word received here on Friday. In recent years Le Mat was in show business in Washington and else-

where. He retired two years ago.

Monogram Art Displayed

Los Angeles, Feb. 23.—The posters on Monogram’s “Suspense,” illustrated by artist Gene Widhoff, are the only motion picture posters on display at the annual exhibition of the Art Directors Club of Los Angeles.

AVAILABLE

If you need an executive secre-


Altschuler to Europe

On Republic Branches

Richard W. Altschuler, president and general manager of Republic Pictures’ main, New York, and two-day SS America for his departure Wednesday to survey the company’s European branches, will have a look at establishing five new offices abroad and getting Republic product into the Soviet sphere, as reported in Motion Picture Daily last Friday. Uncer-

tain of whether he would gain ad-

mittance to countries under Soviet dominance, Altschuler said that he did not know how long his journey would take.

He also declared that plans for the establishment of Republic’s European operations would probably be completed in June.

MPTOA Will Have 6 Attend March Forum

Lowen Fizor, Philadelphia; Morris Lauf, Chicago; Christy Kyser, East Aurora, N. Y., and J. J. O’Leary, Scranton, have been appoint-

ed by Fred Weihreng, MPTOA executive secretary, to attend the forum scheduled to be held at the Hotel Astor, New York, Sunday, March 14.

Weihreng, of course, is also a delegate, and Herman Levy, New York, will attend as MPTOA counsel.

Toronto Gets 2 More

First-Runs in March

Toronto, Feb. 23.—Two more outlets for top product in Toronto will result from a change in the first-run set-up effective next month. Famous Players Canadian Corp., has arranged for the screening of four theatres, the Shaw and the Imperial and the Victoria and the Capitol. First-runs films will go into all four.

The end of wartime price controls against films should increase admission prices at the Tivoli and Capital.

Arnold on Trust Laws

Thurman Arnold, former Assistant U. S. Attorney General in charge of the anti-trust division, and now counsel for the American Theatre Owners of America, will participate in a 15-

minute radio discussion on “How Far Should a Regulated Industry be Sub-

ject to Anti-Trust Laws,” to be broad-

cast by Mutual tomorrow. Other scheduled speakers are Sen. Clyde M. Reed, Kansas; Sen. Charles W. Tobey, New Hampshire; and W. A. Vogtle, chairman of the Southeast Shippers Conference.

RKO Beats Shell, 47-4

The RKO basketball team now

leads the Rockefeller Center Indus-

trial League, having beaten Shell Oil by the score of 47-44. There will be one more playoff with the winner of the advertising division for the championship. The Rockefeller Center League, Quigley Publications’ fleetly five also was very active in the league, ending its season with a 40-30 victory over the Paramount League.

Age Restriction Bill

Hartford, Feb. 23.—A bill which would require theatre owners to pay 82 a week to the state legislature by Sen. Stapleton.

WB Parley Opens Here on Thursday

Ben Kalminson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Brothers, will conduct a two-day meeting of district managers and home office executives on Feb. 27-28 to discuss sales-matters and forthcoming product, and pre-

sumably including discussions on the effects of the New York Federal Court anti-trust suit decision.

Home office executives also taking part in the sessions will include: Samuel Goldwyn, vice-president; Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity; Roy Haines, Western division sales manager; J. W. Taylor, Eastern division sales manager; Norman Ayers, Southern division sales manager; I. F. Dold, assistant to Kalminson; Ed Hinchy, head of the playdate department; Ber-

nard R. Goodman, supervisor of ex-

changes; Stanley Hatch, manager of publicity-publicity department.

District managers at the meeting will include Sam Levkoff, Eastern; Robert Smeltzer, Mid-Atlantic; Charles Stiles, Central; Al Seid, Midwest; Hal Walsh, Prairie; John F. Kirby, Southeastern; Doak Wheeler, Southern; Henry Her-

bel, West Coast; Haskell Masters, Canadian.

Canadian Pioneers To Meet on Feb. 27

Toronto, Feb. 23.—The Canadian Picture Pioneers will hold its sixth luncheon meeting on Feb. 27 at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, at which new officers will be elected at the afternoon business meeting, fol-

lowed by a dinner at night. The re-

tiring president is L. M. Devaney, general manager of RKO of Can-

ada.

Schwartz Takes Over

RKO Film Buying

Sol Schwartz, vice-president and general manager of RKO Theatres, will, at least for the time being, ab-

sorb the circuit’s film buying duties formerly handled by Harold Emerling, who resigned last Thursday. Eventually, however, Schwartz is ex-

pected to appoint a successor to Emer-

ling.

NCCJ Report Luncheon

The announcements division commit-

tee of the National Convention of Christians and Jews will report on the results of the current campaign at a luncheon to be held on Wednesday at the Hotel Astor here.

‘Eagle’ Suit Extension

Los Angeles, Feb. 23.—The Los Angeles Superior Court has granted American Eagle an extension to March 3 to file an answer to the suit brought by Eagle-Lion, which is also an American Eagle from using the word “Eagle” in its name.

Wheeler Succeeds Day

Hollywood, Feb. 23.—Lyle Wheeler has been named to head 20th-Century-Fox’s art department, following the resignation of Richard Day, who held the post for nine years.

Emerling Calls For

Showmanship Revival

It is essential that theatre managers return to the funda-

mentals of showmanship and train their assistants in the art of picture selling, Ernest Emerling, advertising man-

ager of Loew’s Theatres, declared here Friday as a guest speaker at a series of lectures on advertising and selling being given by Henry A. Linet, Universal-Interna-

tional Eastern advertising manager, at the New School for Social Research.

Emerling pointed out that the producers provide the atmos-

phere among which to sell the pictures, and that theatre managers must make use of these tools if he is to remain in the running with competitors.

Parental Protests

Against Crime Films

San Francisco, Feb. 23.—A wave of parental protest against As-

sociations and educational groups in this vicinity against gangster and crime pictures, have led to solicitations con-

cerning the part of theatre managers here who are endeavoring to pacify them.

Typical is the Alameda County Fed-

eration of Women’s Clubs’ resolution among members linking the rise in juvenile delinquency to the predominance of crime pictures. The resolution stated that while theatres should not be responsible for the problem of young people attending films, theatres should not book so many thrillers and should allow more to the “family” type of pictures.

3 New Staff Shifts

By Century Circuit

Three additional circuit staff changes have been made by J. R. Springer, general manager of Century Circuit.

George E. Fischer is the new as-

sistant manager at the Mayfair The-

atre in Brooklyn; Joseph Jackson, assistant manager of the Midwood, Brooklyn, has been transferred to the Kralio, in Brooklyn, in the same capacity; William White, assistant manager of the Kralio, has been transferred to the Midwood.

Harriet Crouse Promoted

Hollywood, Feb. 23.—Harriet Crouse, West Coast public-

ity for the Mutual-Don Lee Net-

work, has been appointed coordinator having Miss Crouse’s press information at Mutual’s Hol-

lywood office, to expand publicity and exploitation for network shows originating here.

New Denver 1st-Run

Denver, Feb. 23.—The Broadway, long a last-run, will go into the first-

run bracket with “Love Laughs at Andy Hardy,” with prices boosted to 35c-74c, prevailing first-run prices here.

Buys Brooklyn Theatre

David L. Cannold has purchased the 2,200-seat DeKalb Theatre in Brooklyn on an auction bid of $65,000.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Monday, February 24, 1947
"Producer Walter Wagner presents with understanding, intelligence and without preachment or other undue underscoring a narrative portrait of an alcoholic. It is a fine picture, and appears guaranteed to do tremendous business. It rates top time in all situations and figures to set records both as to grosses and satisfied customers.

"There is far reaching power in the theme and impact as well as taste and discrimination in the handling given it."

—WILLIAM R. WEAVER, MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"... a highly interesting and capable job that should do good biz in all situations ... exhibs will capitalize from good word-of-mouth, especially from the distaffs."

—VARIETY

"Walter Wanger has one of the best pictures he has made in recent years with a subject as hot as 'The Lost Weekend.' This must be labeled, unofficially, as a 'Female Lost Weekend,' and the comment will probably be similar, as well as the success of the film."

—THE EXHIBITOR

"Smash-Up is gripping drama!"

—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER
CRITICS CALL IT

TRY OF A **Smash Hit!**

**SHOULD RAKE IN BIG “TAKES”**

“This Wanger production stands to go places all along the line; realistically socks its message across and should rake in big ‘takes’.”

—FILM DAILY

**GOOD FOR SUBSTANTIAL GROSSES**

... a strong, dramatic attraction...

known in the trade as a woman’s picture. The Type is persistently good for substantial grosses, and so is this one.”

—MOTION PICTURE DAILY

**DESTINED FOR TOP GROSSES**

“It appears inescapable that this Walter Wanger production is destined for top grosses!”

—BOXOFFICE

**FOR SMASH BOXOFFICE**

“Smash-Up is gripping dramatization of the story of a female alcoholic.

It will hold an audience, especially feminine contingent—and it looks like a certainty for smash boxoffice.”

—DAILY VARIETY

with CARL ESMOND • CARLETON YOUNG • CHARLES D. BROWN

Screenplay by JOHN HOWARD LAWSON • Additional Dialogue by Lionel Wiggam • Original Story by Dorothy Parker and Frank Cavett • Directed by STUART HEISLER • Associate Producer Martin Gabel • Produced by WALTER WANGER

A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE
Reagan Invites Manz

Paul Manz, winner of last year's New York film critics' best supporting actor award for his role in the Academy Award-winning film "Blaze," has again been invited to be guest host at the world premiere of "Blaze, of Noon" at the Rivoli Theatre on March 4. The veteran actor, best known for his role in the popular stage production " Camelot," will be flying in on "the magic carpet." 

SCREENCRAFT PICTURES, INC.,
341 West 44th St., N. Y. C. 18
35MM — Distributors of — 16MM FEATURES, WESTERN, COMEDIES and SHORTS

French Film Decree
Not Binding on U.S.

Revival of an old French law which earlier had been viewed as a serious threat to the U.S. film industry, the country has yet to have any effects on Hollywood films, according to the latest Paris information received by John Selznick, president of the company, which is head of the MPA international division, discloses.

Selznick said that the decree is apparently directed at countries which were not friendly to the French during the War and that films more than two years old cannot be dubbed and that new films must pass through three government agencies—problem admission to the regular censor.

U.S. companies are now trading under the so-called Blum-Byrnes agreement which provides that French exhibitors set aside at least four of every 13 weeks for French product. This will be raised to five weeks after January 1, and then down to three weeks in 1950.

O'Connor Names 49
(Continued from page 1)

Storm Cut Grosses
(Continued from page 1)

UA—Selznick U.S. Appeal
(Continued from page 1)

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(Continued from page 1)

Storm Cut Grosses
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UA—Selznick U.S. Appeal
(Continued from page 1)

line set for filing appeals.

Although Robert I. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, told Judges Augustus N. Hand and John M.parle in hearing on Jan. 22 that the Department's position, with respect to complaints of MPTA, was "to give a trial in actual operation, the appeal declares that the 1930 would provide that producers, distributors and exhibitors more than it would the major defendants in the case.

The Government's stand on bidding, tied in with its long-anticipated appeal for the divestiture of affiliated theatres, is backed up with the declaration that the basic issue has become "one of judicial power rather than the mere exercise of political discretion," adding, "if the district court is right in its assumption that the untried and unproven competitive bidding reformed the traditional divestiture relief, and complete prohibition of future agreements, both are necessary only that major defendants had not actually achieved a monopoly in exhibition, either singly or collectively, and that all of the defendants had not actually collectively achieved a monopoly of distribution," as well as in failing to prove that defendants had not restrained competition from licensing films in each other's theatres while such relief was effectuated.

Commentary Filed

This commentary filed by Acting Solicitor General George T. Washington, declares, with regard to the defendants' control and ownership of first-run theatres, that the New York court "does nothing to disturb the continuance of this dominance because the evidence did not appear to be unlawful, despite the fact that it has been acquired and maintained by unlawful methods." "The defendants," the commentary continues, "have not competed with each other either in buying or selling films in theatres, that the New York court "does nothing to disturb the continuance of this dominance because the evidence did not appear to be unlawful, despite the fact that it has been acquired and maintained by unlawful methods." 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head of the Department's anti-trust division, along with Wright, his assistant, attacks the New York court's judgment at 25 points, questioning virtually every division of the decision except its official abolition of industry arbitration. The court erred, according to the brief, as follows:

"In concluding that the relief granted—a defense to prove the guilty act that led to the obtaining of a monopoly or restraint competition in the motion picture business in the future."

"In concluding that the major defendants have achieved a monopoly in exhibition, either collectively or singly.

"In not concluding that the defendants had actually achieved a collective monopoly of distribution."

"In failing to prohibit the guilty defendants from making clearance agreements in the future."

"In failing to prohibit the continued use by the major defendants of each other's theatres as exhibition outlets for other films."

**Theatre Holdings**

"In failing to order ultimate divorce of the theatre exhibition businesses of the major defendants from their theatre operations."

"In failing to require the major defendants to divest themselves of all their theatre holdings."

"In failing to prohibit absolutely any further acquisition of theatre interests by the major defendants."

"In failing to prohibit the major defendants from instituting actions to exhibit their own films in their own theatres upon terms which discriminate against their competitors."

"In failing to order them to engage in competitive bidding as appropriate relief in situations where the defendants' theatres were in competition with independent theatres."

"In failing to require that all competition in bids be stated in terms of flat rental."

"In concluding that none of the defendants had attempted to monopolize or conserve film to the两个 parties restraint trade in the business of producing motion pictures."

"In concluding that the factor of print cost would confine exhibition to high-priced theatres unless a system of success protected by clearance is employed."

**Fair Protection**

"In concluding that a grant of clearance when not accompanied by a fixing of admission prices or by an undue extent of area or duration affords a fair protection to the licencee without unreasonably interfering with the public."

"In concluding that the fixing of clearance in license contracts or by other agreements will not constitute a reasonable condition of the motion picture business."

"In concluding that competition can be introduced into the present system of fixing admission prices, clearances, and runs by requiring a defendant-distributor to offer licenses to all exhibitors, to grant the license for each run at a reasonable clearance if such clearance is involved to the highest bidder."

"In concluding that the percentage of features on the market which any of the defendants would be able to play in its own theatres would be so small as in no wise to approximate a monopoly in film exhibition."

"In concluding that the competitive bidding decreed by it would make it impossible for the defendants to discriminate unreasonably in favor of circuit theatres and against independents."

**Outright Dismissal Asked**

"The Government's action on Friday had been preceded by the filing of appeals on behalf of the non-theatre defendants—-Artists and Universal, seeking outright dismissal of the charges against them, while Columbia asks reversal of the single sales, competitive bidding and 'arbitrary refusal' provisions. Among the theatre-owning defendants, Paramount plans to appeal, and Loew's has been working on an appeal document. Twenty-Century-Fox officials have declared that an appeal by their company is unlikely, while RKO and Warner Brothers have not yet revealed their intentions.

The American Theatres Association and the Confectionery, Confectionary South Associations will appeal from the denial of their intervention petitions.

The New York court's decree is scheduled to become effective April 1, except for single sales, competitive bidding and the dissolution of pools and doors between the theatre-owning defendants and independent exhibitors, which have been ordered as of July 1. The partial divestiture clause, for compliance with which is mandatory by Dec. 31, 1948. Some or all of the appellants, however, may ask the Supreme Court for an additional stay of various provisions.

Details of the New York court's final decision were published in Motion Picture Daily on Jan. 2.
F. H. Richardson's
BLUEBOOK of PROJECTION
SEVENTH EDITION — SUPPLEMENTED WITH
SOUND TROUBLE CHARTS and ALPHABETICAL INDEX

Over 700 pages. The only practical guide to good projection and quick trouble-shooting.

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2 of 4 Groups To End Strike In Hollywood

Walsh Sees Full Coast Peace at Early Date

An imminent return to work by members of two of Hollywood's four strikes against studio groups, affiliates of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Building Service Employees International, was predicted here yesterday by Richard F. Walsh, FATSE international president, who has returned from an extended stay on the Coast following the "IA" executive board's mid-winter meeting last month in Seattle.

Walsh is convinced that the prolonged labor disruption at the studios will be cleared up entirely within a short time. The electrical workers, management of whose local has been taken over by international headquarters, and the building service employees will be back on the job as soon as a few details have been ironed out, he said, adding that the two remaining groups, affiliates (Continued on page 6)

Dietz, Blumenstock In NY Ad Bill Fight

Albany, Feb. 24.—Veto of the Wilson-Connolly bill, which would empower the New York State Censors to reject a film advertising material of which is found objectionable was urged on Gov. Thomas Dewey today by a group representing the industry as well as by the American Civil Liberties Union.

A delegation from New York ex- (Continued on page 6)

Pal Enters Feature Production, Sets 3

Hollywood, Feb. 24.—George Pal is entering the feature production field with three budgeted at $1,500,000 each on his schedule and has simultaneously dropped his Puppetoon program in the face of "prohibitive production costs" of those Technicolor short subjects, released through Paramount. Retirement of the Pal Puppetoon characters was announced by the producer on his return from New York where he completed financing details.

Johnston Asks Mediation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The Hollywood jurisdictional strike could have been prevented if an unbiased referee had been appointed to settle the dispute, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, said here today.

Johnston made his statement at a press conference at which a report was issued by the Committee for Economic Development dealing with jurisdictional strikes and calling for an end to the "sky-high" strikes. The report was released at the same time the motion picture industry's pending case was closed.

The organization said that Congress should provide a "sky-high" strikes. The report was released at the same time the motion picture industry's pending case was closed.

New UA Amity Era Wins Chaplin Film

Strong indications that Charles Chaplin will turn over his new production, "Monsieur Verdoux," to United Artists for distribution appear as the first evidence of the new era of harmony in the company resulting from the centering of sole ownership of United Artists in Chaplin and Mary Pickford.

There is no legal compulsion upon Chaplin to deliver the picture, a murder mystery with comedy overtones, to United Artists and other (Continued on page 7)

UA Verbal Pact Replaces Directive

Hollywood, Feb. 24.—A written directive from individual United Artist producers to discontinue General Electric-sponsored good Sears, authorizing sales chiefs to disregard releasing contract clauses incompatible with procedures imposed by the government, was dispensed with today in favor of a verbal understanding pledging the producers' sales representatives to cooperate fully with the distributor in preventing interferences.

The decision came at a closed-door meeting of producers and attorneys with Sears and UA counsel Edward Railey, which followed a meeting attended by the same (Continued on page 7)

Two Tax Proposals In California

Sacramento, Feb. 21.—When the California legislature reconvenes on March 3, theatermen will not only face a daylight saving bill, but also a state admission tax measure. The two bills were presented at the last session and were debated.

Also, the board of supervisors of San Francisco is considering the levying of an admission tax, and theatremen are battling to kill this proposal.

Aid Britain Through More Playing Time

Emphatic in his conviction that England would not draft further restrictive legislation aimed principally at American product, Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox International, yesterday voiced a plea for a drive by the U. S. industry, and more particularly exhibitors, to gain greater playing time here for British product as a source of foreign (U. S.) currency to help (Continued on page 6)

British Import Cut Threatened for '48

London, Feb. 24.—Unless the gap between Britain's aggregate import volume and the country's lagging volume of exports can be closed during the remainder of this year, imports of American motion pictures and tobacco will have to be reduced, it was clearly implied although not expressly stated in the government's "Economic Survey for 1947," issued here at the weekend.

S. of J. Sees US Policing Final Decree

Believes Anti-Trust Unit Should Do Job

Washington, Feb. 24.—It is the opinion of Justice Department anti-trust man that eventual policing of the final decree in the pending New York industry law suit may rest with the Government and possibly the anti-trust section where the case originated.

This was brought out here by Robert M. Murray, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, who asserted that he thinks enforcement in any anti-trust litigation is ultimately left to the Justice Department anti-trust division.

There has been considerable discussion regarding special arbitration boards, or a Federal Trade Commission unit to enforce the final judgment of the U. S. Supreme Court after appeal arguments are heard some time (Continued on page 7)

21 Outlets Ready For Selznick Films

Film depots for physical distribution of David O. Selznick product already have been established in 21 key cities by National Film Distributors, with more to follow if needed. New Agnew president of Selznick Release Organization, announced yesterday.

The deal, which was closed by Milton S. Kusell, general sales manager of SRO, provides Selznick with film vault, inspection and shipping facilities (Continued on page 7)

National Allied Dues To Go Up One-Third

Memphis, Feb. 24.—Stanley D. Kane, executive director of North Central Allied, reporting on his attendance at the recent National Allied board meeting and election in Washington early this month, with NCA president Ben Berger, has disclosed that the national organization's board voted to increase one-third in dues to be paid annually by regional units.

In This Issue

"The Fabulous Dorseys" is reviewed on page 7
Personal Mention

OSCAR DOOB, Loew’s executive, left Hollywood by plane for New York.

ANDREW MAYO, M-G-M studio executive, is due to arrive in Philadelphia shortly from the Coast. He plans to go into business with his brother, William DeMayo, Philadelphia booking agent.

WILLIAM C. GERHART, Central sales manager of the Century-Fox, has returned to New York from Rochester, Minn., where he underwent an operation at the Mayo Clinic.

ADOLPH ZUKOR, Paramount board chairman, will leave on Friday for Tucson, Ariz., for a month’s vacation. He will return here on April 1st.

F. J. A. McCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave New York today for Toronto.

EPIFANIO ARAMAYO, United Artists publicity director in Argentina, arrived here yesterday by plane from Buenos Aires.

WILLIAM R. FERGUSON, M-G-M exploitation director, will leave New York today by plane for Lincoln, Neb.

IKE and HARRY KATZ, executives of Kay Film Exchange, are in New York from Washington and Atlanta.

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion field exploitation manager, is due to arrive in Boston today from New York.

TED MORRIS of M-G-M’s studio publicity department has arrived in New York from Chicago.

CHARLES STERN, Loew’s treasurer, will leave Hollywood for here on March 5.

Broidy Names Porter Sales Contract Head

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 24—William Z. Porter, who has been on the Broidy sales organization for the past six years, has been appointed by president Steve Broidy to head the company’s sales contract department. In addition to his new duties, Porter will continue as auditor of Monogram’s office at Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

Film Classics Opens Kansas City Branch

Film Classics has acquired a new, modernized branch office in Kansas City, Mo., through a branch negotiated by L. F. Durland, Film Classics’ branch manager there. John M. Bunn, formerly franchise holder, has been placed in charge of Film Classics’ recently acquired branches in Portland and Seattle.

Williams Due for ATA Appeal Meeting

Paul Williams, counsel for the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, is expected here shortly, probably tomorrow, from Los Angeles, to confer with Robert Coyne, executive director of the American Theatre Owners of America. Coyle, counsel, on the drafting of both organizations’ joint appeal of the decision in their interest in the New York anti-trust case. Williams will remain here to attend the meeting on the proposed motion picture tax at the Hotel Astor, March 10.

Atlanta Censoring Powers Curtailed

ATLANTA, Feb. 24—Mayor William B. Hartsfield has retaliated and vetoed a council-approved measure to vest him, the Council and the Carnegie Library Board to delegate to the local censors such powers as they deem proper in censoring exhibitions in Atlanta.

Hartsfield said the measure inadvertently was placed in a batch of approved measures and that he had returned it to the Council from City Clerk Joe L. Cunningham. The measure was passed at a council session after having been presented by Ald. Ed. Hartfield. Hartfield said he will write a message to accompany the veto, setting forth his belief that the matter should have more study and that the fact that it had never been considered by the Library Board was headed toward failure in Milam. The board hears appeals on decisions of the censors banning films.

H. Gluckman Forms Theatre Screen Firm

Herman Gluckman has been named president of the recently organized Nu-Screen Corp. with offices in New York.

The appointment marks Gluckman’s return to active work in the industry after a five-year association with the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, of which he served as chief of distribution and later succeeded Arthur Mayer as treasurer, in addition to being manager of the company’s Canadian public pictures in 1935, he acquired franchises for New York and Eastern Pennsylvania, which he relinquished to the company in 1940.

In association with the Sparks-Wirttington Co. of Jackson, Mich., N.Y., Gluckman is the developer, manufacturer, and sole distributor of a new type of screen made of fibre glass.

Eight Universal Reissues

Universal yesterday officially confirmed its plan to reissue eight pictures as follows: The Thin Man, The Great Gatsby, The Green Army Lady Again and “When the Daltons Rode,” Magnificent Obsession and Jolson Sings Again. “The Jazz Singer” and I Stole a Million,” “Frankenstein” and “Dracula.”

New Canadian Unit Will Handle E-L

TORONTO, Feb. 24.—International Film Distributors, Ltd., has been organized here to handle the Hollywood Eagle-Lion interests separately from Eagle-Lion Films of Canada, which will continue to be the distribution arm of the British product from Britain, Australia, and other countries.

The Toronto group associated with 20th Century Theatres, a circuit linked with Famous Players Canadian Corp., recently made a trip to New York to start negotiations for a new organization. The group included N. A. Taylor, president of 20th Century Theatres, Harry S. Sullivan, president of Famous Players, and other enterprises, and Harry J. Allen and David Griesedieck, president and general sales manager, respectively, of Producers Releasing Corp. Taylor is also interested in Canadian PRC.

The Taylor-Allen group organized Anglo-American Film Co. last year, with offices in Toronto, to distribute British Grand National and British product in the Dominion. The 20th Century circuit is made up of 30 theatres in Ontario and operates on a partnership basis with Famous Players.

Australian Studios Open to U.S. Hall

Australian studios will have difficulty increasing production schedules this year due to a considerable shortage of needed equipment which is not expected to be filled before 1948, Kenneth Hall, managing director of Cinemound Studio, Sydney, Australia, reported here yesterday.

Hall is in New York en route to Hollywood for a visit before returning to Australia. He arrived here from England last week following two weeks conferences with J. Arthur Rank and examination of the prospect of equipment deliveries by British manufacturers. Rank’s company in London is in Cinemound studio will have no effect whatever on Australian companies which may wish to go in Australia for monetary quota or government quotas, REPORTED. Production facilities will be available in Australia exactly as they have been in the past, he said.

‘Dimes’ Total Higher

ALLIANCE, O., Feb. 24.—Ray Wallace, president of Tri-State Theatres which operates all of Alliance’s four theatres, the Morrison, Columbia, Strand and Mount Union, reports March collections higher this year than last, for a total of $2,015, against last year’s $1,403.

‘Henry V’ in Albany

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 24.—J. Arthur Rank’s “Henry V” has been booked to play the Colonial here, regularly a subways run, on a double-day reserved seat basis, for one week beginning March 10.

Paramount Officials Back from Florida

Leonard L. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatre Service Corp.; Leon D. Netter, vice-president, and Philip Phillips and Walter Cross of Paramount’s legal department returned to New York yesterday from St. Augustine, Fla., where meetings with the company’s theatre partners were held throughout last week. Barney Balaban, Paramount’s president, is due to arrive today, while Amos K. Keough, general counsel, who took part in the sessions, will remain in Florida until about April 1.

Current theatre problems, especially in light of the industry anti-trust suit, were canvassed at the meeting.

NEW YORK THEATRES

REPUBLIC CITY MUSIC HALL

Rochester Center

“THE YEARLING”

GREGORY PECK – JANE WYMAN

CLAUDE JR., N.Y.

IN TECHNICOLOR

In Technicolor 18 Ak M-G-M Picture SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

THE PALACE

DOUGLAS FAIRBAIRNS, JR.

Maureen O’HARA – WALTER SLEZAK

SINBAD THE SAILOR

IN GORGEOUS TECHNICOLOR

ON SCREEN

HARRY WAGNER

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY

IN PERSON

RICHARD HIBMER AND ORCH.

“THE BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR”

— N.Y. FILM CRITICS

“THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES”

Continued

CALIFORNIA

In Technicolor

RAY BARBARA DICK JR.

BARBARA WARD

S. ROBERT FITZGERALD

RIVOLI THEATER

DOORS OPEN

WBY & 49th St.

9:30 A.M.
The same
GLENN FORD
who tamed
Gilda!

Columbia Pictures
presents

Glenn
FORD
in
FRAMED

with
JANIS CARTER • BARRY SULLIVAN
EDGAR BUCHANAN • KAREN MORLEY • JIM BANNON

Screenplay by Ben Maddow • Directed by RICHARD WALLACE • Produced by JULES SCHERMER
"A joy entertainment-wise for the audience...and box-office-wise for the exhibitor. Goddard and MacMurray give it all the color and ginger it needs."—M. P. Daily

"Laughter will be so loud and continuous that spectators are apt to miss much of the crisp dialog. That should happen to more pictures. Sure to score solidly."—Boxoffice

"One of those extraordinary pictures that turns out just as funny as its makers hoped. Paramount hasn't had as gay and riotous a farce to release in many moons."—Hollywood Reporter

"Socko. Will pay off in all situations. Topnotch script, lusty laughs. Goddard and MacMurray troup to the hilt."—Variety

"A smart piece of showmanship of which Paramount may be proud. Assured high popularity from its opening scene. Gay, rollicking comedy is credit in all departments."—Daily Variety

"A must...light and gay...plenty of comedy. Pace is fast and will provide many a belly-laugh."—The Independent

World Premiere
At the Paramount Tomorrow
And Paramount Will Spring Its Next Great Grosser Nationally On The First Day Of Spring!
Dull Week at NY First Runs

Total grosses for the week at New York's first runs are for the most part good, but an epidemic of the flu kept the box office quiet on Thursday and Friday lopping off much potential income.

"The Strange Woman," however, escaped the effects of the storm with a Saturday opening at the Globe. A strong $16,000 for the first two days indicates a first week's total of $40,000. At the Hollywood, "Nora Prentiss" promises to bring in $35,000 in a first week. This, too, might have been better, the same holds for "I'll Be Yours" at the Winter Garden where only $22,000 is estimated for an opening week.

"The Best Years of Our Lives" fell a little below its usual take with $31,000. 2,400 for three days, in the "Tonight and Tomorrow" yearling in a fifth and final week at the Music Hall should draw $11,000. "The Sea Grass" is to follow on Thursday.

"The Shocking Miss Pilgrim," which took $12,000 in its opening week, is down to an estimated $8,000 for a second week; Peter Lorre, Gil Lamb and Evelyn Knell are in it.

At the Strand, "That Way with Women," with Claude Thornhill's orchestra, Alan Hale and Martha Vickers on the stage is moderate at $40,000 for the second week. The third and final week of "Easy Come, Easy Go" is good for $61,000 at the Paramount; Ella Fitzgerald and the Ink Spots are on the stage. "Suddenly It's Spring," with Mary Lee Todd and Johnny Long's crew, Joan Edwards and Buddy Lester in person.

The south western "Indiana Jones" probably will give the Rivoli a fair $25,000. The Victoria looks for $14,500, Harrison Ford in "Bedelia," which is about average.

"San Quentin" is down to $10,000, estimated, in a third week at the Gotham; "Angel and the Badman" will follow on Mar. 1. "Henry V" grossed an estimated $9,000 in its 26th week, over the New York Fed. at John Golden Theatre.

N.Y. Ad Bill Fight

(Continued from page 1)

pressed objections to the measure, which already has passed both houses of the legislature, in a meeting with Charles B. Bredel, Dewey's counsel, and other attorneys for the Bredel lawyer, Howard Dietz, advertising-publicity chief of M-G-M and a vice-president of the SWP, representing the former president in charge of advertising-publicity; Stanlegh Friedman, Warner vice-president and counsel, and others. The Motion Picture Association, Sidney Shearer, counsel, Glendon Allin, New York director of public relations, and Gordon White, director of the Eastern Advertising Code Administration.

SWG Asks Producers To End Studio Strike

Hollywood, Feb. 24. - In a telegram signed by Screen Writers Guild President Emlyn Emett Laver, the SWG urges producers to "make every effort to end the present strike with striking unions so that their return to work may be arranged without delay." The action follows a SWG membership meeting, at which it was disclosed that the board had been meeting with a producers' committee in an attempt to find means of settling the dispute.

Paramount May Be Alone on Price Cut

Other Broadway theatres do not plan to cut admission prices, a checking up yesterday of the Paramount's weekend announcement that some of its weekday, Saturday and Sunday shows would be cut by $1.25, effective tomorrow, in deference to a public opinion survey which Paramount Vice-President Robert M. Wetman held demonstrated that the public is shopping for bargains in entertainment. In announcing the reduction, the general manager claimed that the effect of an over-all average price drop of about four cents, Wetman forecast a drop in admissions prices. The New York Paramount's action, he said, however, is not being taken by any other theatre in the Paramount circuit.

Yesterday the Paramount gave the news of its new price policy to the public through five columns in 14-inch announcements in the daily newspapers. The advertisements highlighted the theatre's new weekday opening price of 55 cents, compared with a former 70 cents.

The cut in weekday openings admissions brings the average admission cost down to 97 cents for New Year's Day, when the Rivoli price will be quoted in Motion Picture News Daily yesterday, midnight show prices will be lowered 10 cents for weekdays, and 25 cents for Saturdays. For the last part afternoon and evening price scales have been raised and lowered slightly to establish a general equilibrium for the weekday show, making for an over-all average drop from 97 cents to 93 cents.

Maloney, 10 Others Promoted by Para.

Edward Maloney, for 23 years with current exchange, has been named sales manager in that area, by Charles M. Rea-

gan, vice-president in charge of the exchange department.

At the same time Reagan also disclosed 10 other promotions, all of non-

American film interests, to be

of the company's branches, includ-

ing Harold Wycoff, Edward Fitter, Jr., and Joseph Murphy, New Or-

deans; Wendell Clement, Boston; Bert Turgeon, B. W. Smith and Paul Mor-

gan, Atlanta, and Adolph Trilling, Gerald Frankel and Phil Isaac, New York.

Anglican Vicar Asks For Film Liaison

London, Feb. 24. - Creation of a liaison office by the Church of En-

glan for the industry to secure more favorable treatment for its church of-

ficials in American films has been suggested by Rev. Briton in the Aylesbury vicar and chairman of "Bible Films," film production organi-

ization of the Church of England. Mr. Briton, a layman of the diocese of Catholics in America, he criticized U. S. portrayal of Anglican vicars as "a lift of a buffoon.

Para. Tradescreening

Paramount will screen "The Imper-

fect Lady" for the trade in all branch areas on Friday, March 7.

Fathe-PRC in Global Expansion of 16mm.

Fathe Industries will enter the 16mm, field on a worldwide basis. The Motion Picture Sales and Distribution assistant general sales manager of Producers Releasing Corp., has been appointed president of Fathe's Pictorial Films, Inc., and will shortly take over complete charge.

Pictorial has operated on a limited basis, confining its catalogue of 16mm films toPRC releases, and a rest of independent producers. While Pictorial formerly rejected all foreign material, the new program paves the way for a catalogue of 16mm films for family and educational use.

MPEA Names Core Manager for Indies

Charles H. Core, formerly United Artists manager in the Philippines, who has been making an industrial survey of China and the Far East and has been named manager for the Motion Picture Export Association for the Netherlands East Indies, will take over the job tomorrow by Irving Maas, MPEA vice-

and general manager.

"Aid Britain"

(Continued from page 1)

Britain buck its "severe" economic crisis. He urged, furthermore, that Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association head, and other top industry ex-

erts he was slated to talk to, will attend conferences with British government and industry officials, be armed with a mandate to encourage English producers to concentrate on "fewer, but greater" picture through guarantees of wider and longer exhibition in the U. S. Britain's most immediate problem is to get sufficient foreign exchange to enable here to buy basic necessities. Britain reran last week from a month's trip abroad, explained. The U. K. is determined to come up to its obligations to an American film industry, which finds its biggest foreign market in the British Empire, "should do all that it can to help Britain, the British film industry," he continued.

Lightman Trial

(Continued from page 1)

swered in court within 20 days. Lowell Taylor, attorney for Light-
man, who argued that the aver-

average jury will be baffled by the complexity of the case if it is tried jointly. Other than in the motions held that many defendants in the case would find their cause prejudiced by being tried jointly, however, and that the charge that a conspiracy existed in the acquisition of the old Orpheum in New York City, is heard on, "there are no issues of facts involved in either of the two charges that were contained in the joint trial, one involving the Orpheum transaction and the other involving exploitation of films to neighborhood theatres."

Boyd, in making his ruling, de-

clared he was uncertain as to the facts involved in the Orpheum sale would be material and competent.
3 Clearance Awards By Cleveland AAA

With the announcement of three clearance awards, two of which were contested, the Cleveland tribunal of the American Arbitration Association has cleared all cases before it, enabling exhibitors and plaintiffs to proceed to trial or to file complaints under the New York Federal Court de c. f., unless additional complaints are filed before that date.

Launching a complaint against Warner Brothers, the arbitrator in the consolidated award set seven days as the trial date in April. The only case which may be granted in licenses entered into by Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and RKO Radio is for the exhibition of their films at the Mansfield Theatres, first run in Madison, Ohio, over the Ashland and Palace in Ashland, and the Castamba in Shelby. The Ashland and Palace are operated by the Schine Ashland Corp., and the Castamba is operated by the Schine Shelby Corp., both of which are complainants in the cases. Mansfield Operating Corp. was an intervenor.

When recommending clearance in licenses entered into by M-G-M, the arbitrator further held that all clearances for the 1946 credits be waived 21 days after the availability of the Mansfield theatres, whereas the clearance granted by Paramount, 20th-Fox and RKO Radio would be waived 21 days after Cleveland territorial release dates.

In a second award, involving the Crawford Theatre Corp., which operates the Bucyclus and Southern theatres in Bucyrus, Ohio, the arbitrator in controlling complaints, naming Paramount-M-G-M and RKO Radio as defendants, the arbitrator ruled that the Palace and Marion theatres in Waynedale, Ohio, operated by Northio Theatre Corp., intervenor, shall pay ahead of the complainant's houses, which may play Paramount and RKO Radio product immediately following Marion, Ohio, or 21 days after Cleveland territorial release dates, which ever is earlier. In the case of M-G-M product, the award stipulated that the complainant's houses play within 21 days after availability.

UA Oral Pact (Continued from page 1)

people on Feb. 17. It followed the gradual elimination provisions in the directive, originally asked by Sears, to the point where the document was deemed unnecessary.

In an extended discussion of new conditions directing the screen watching, special sales problems, Sears and Rattery pointed out that it will not be possible to maintain rigidly the present standard of simultaneous clearance in certain theatres as first-run, nor to reject arbitrarily exhibition deals on the basis of admission price.

BUFFALO, Feb. 24.—The climax of United Artists' four-day sales meeting, being held in New York this weekend, Saturday morning, will take place tomorrow when Edward C. Rattery, company president, and general sales manager, and Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., director of advertising-publishing, will make their concluding and promotional movements to the delegates in relation to the New York Federal Court decree decision, and otherwise. The three executives left New York City tonight for the meeting. Edward M. Schmitter, Eastern sales manager, was appointed to 21 Selznick Outlets (Continued from page 1)

eties of film carrier companies which have aligned with the new distribution company on a franchise basis.

James Clark, president of the National Film Carriers Association and of Clark Film Distributors, Philadelphia, is president of the company. Clint Weyer is secretary. The firm's headquarters, temporarily in Philadelphia, will be shifted to New York.

The carrier companies participating are located in Atlanta, Dallas, Chicago, Indianapolis, Kansas City, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Denver, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, Buffalo and Boston. Agnew's announcement said.

New UA Amity (Continued from page 1)

companies have made overtures to the producer for its distribution. Now, however, with Chaplin sharing equal ownership of UA with Miss Pickford and the two reportedly having reached broad agreements on company operations, there seems little doubt that UA will distribute the new Chaplin picture.

Survey Clearance Under Decree

Distributor defendants in the Government's New York anti-trust suit, charged by the Federal District Court with the burden of proof of the legality of their clearance provisions, are undertaking surveys in both competitive and non-competitive areas with a view to adjusting any clearance which might violate the terms of the court's final decision.

In a move believed to be typical of the proceeding, one general sales manager has instructed his company's branch managers to consult with their salesmen for each zone to determine whether there is any clearance granted between theatres not in substantial competition inasmuch as such arrangements are flabbily forbidden by the court.

Likewise, the field forces are directed to consider whether any clearance is too long, for the decree provides for a six-months enforcing "any clearance against theatres in substantial competition with the theatre's regularly licensed license for exhibition in excess of what is reasonably necessary to protect the licensee in the run granted."

D. of J. Sees (Continued from page 1)

this year. It is pointed out, however, that in previous trust suits where special trade practices or divergence of interest have been proved by the Justice Department was given the enforcement task.

The policing of the industry judgment, regardless of what form it takes, is scheduled to be a difficult and almost impossible job unless an administrative setup is established, it is said.

This brings up the possibility of setting up a special anti-trust division which might be headed by Wright, who prosecuted the case.

Regardless of what form the decree will take, enforcement will be necessary, it is believed, if endless litigation within the industry is to be avoided. The Justice Department that enforcement must be handled by a Government agency.

Price Sees UN Stake

Hollywood, Feb. 24.—Byron Price, board chairman of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, commenting on his appointment as assistant secretary-general of the United Nations, said today that he did not feel that he is completely disassociated himself from the motion picture industry. "He said that this industry and all others have a "supreme stake in the U. N."

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Don't wait any longer. Our new Prevue Trailer Service is Ready NOW. For details write, wire or phone Filmack, 1321 S. Wabash Avenue, Chicago 5, Illinois.
The PRIZE BABY'S got it... and your theatre can get it... by building up that S. A... the SALES APPEAL that brings entertainment-seeking patrons to your Box Office!

It's just a matter of putting on a big "front" with eye-socking ACCESSORIES... enticing your patrons with the irresistible lure of eye-and-ear-arresting TRAILERS... and being up-to-the-minute... with the latest news about your coming attractions!

It's S. A. that wins patrons... and if you put your best foot forward... with that unbeatable combination... of TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES... you can count on getting them to make a "date"... to meet you at your BOX OFFICE!
US Exhibitors Begin 16mm. Theatre Plans

Small Town Expansion To Take Shape in 1948

Regular commercial theatres for the showing of 16mm. films in towns too small to support 35mm. houses will start springing up throughout the U. S. in approximately one year from now, according to a spokesman for a large Eastern circuit which is presently investigating the situation with a view to entering the new field on a large scale.

Purchase of property for the theatres has been postponed, in most instances, only because of the present shortage of materials and supplies, plus attendant Government restrictions on commercial buildings, it is understood.

The 16mm. theatre development, long popular in other countries, is now spreading rapidly to other parts of Europe and Asia as part of the post-

Iowa Would Censor Films, Ads, Posters

Des Moines, Feb. 25.—A bill to provide for state censorship of motion pictures and posters, banners and other advertising in connection with the showing of films appeared in the Iowa House today.

The measure, introduced by Harvey Long (Rep. of Clinton), is a companion bill to one he offered earlier, which proposes an annual $1,000 license fee for all film distributors.

The new bill proposes to create a

Eight Will Service Red Cross Short

Eight distribution companies have agreed to service the American Red Cross short, "Call to Action," to the more than 15,000 theatres expected to run the seven-minute campaign film during March, which has been designated "Red Cross Month." The eight are: Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Loew-M-G-M, Paramount,

Clark Heads PRC Sales

Ralph H. Clark, veteran of distribution and exhibition, will become general sales manager of Producers Releasing Corp. on Monday.

Harry H. Thomas, PRC president, announced the appointment of Mr. Clark to the post of PRC sales manager yesterday.

Mr. Thomas praised the new sales manager for his experience in the field, and said that the post was created to enable his company to spend more time on the Coast than it had heretofore.

The new sales manager will head a department now being established by the exchange, which will give services to the exhibitors. He will also supervise the sales of the company's foreign features.

Paramount Starts Chicago Bidding

Chiago, Feb. 25. — A third distributor, Paramount, has inaugurated auction bidding here in two competitive situations. RKO and M-G-M had the second situation.

Allen Usher, Paramount district manager, reports that "Two Years Before the Mast" was awarded to Dudley Gas-

Kay Will Set Up National Sales

Kay Film Exchanges, five-city Southern distribution organization owned by Ickes and Harry Katz, will be expanded into a nationwide franchise-operated distribution company for the handling of independently-produced Hollywood features. Icke-Katz, who is currently in New York from Washington and Atlanta with his brother, disclosed here yesterday that framework of the new organization is now being worked out by the brothers, and it is expected that next fall will see operations in full swing.

Katz likened the forthcoming venture to the operations pursued by PRC when that company was first formed. In May, he said, he and his brother, Gen. Harry Katz, will file for incorporation under the New York Federal Court.

Federal Leasing 200 Runs for 'Carnegie'

Exhibition of "Carnegie Hall" during its first year will be handled through the direct leasing of 200 theatres throughout the U. S. by Boris Morros, co-producer with William LeBaron of the Federal Films picture, disclosed here yesterday.

Federal will do the leasing. A year after the production is given its send-off in New York, in April, probably with a premiere at Carnegie Hall, it will be offered for competitive bidding under the New York Federal Court.

"Odd Man Out"

[Two Cities-Universal] — Dramatic Atom Bomb

T HE scene is an unidentified city in Northern Ireland, no doubt Bel-

First, the dramatic outline: James Mason, out of prison and ill, is chief in his city of the illegal organization. Funds are required. A mill is robbed. In the getaway, the group escapes but Mason kills a mill manager who, in turn, badly injures Mason whose companions rescue him temporarily and thereafter lose him when he falls out of the escape car. The remainder of the film deals with the man hunt and Mason's adventures on his road to death.

Two of his men are cut down outside the house of an informer. Another, seeking Mason and finding him, draws off the police and is captured, but no before Mason gets a temporary breather.

Hundreds of police are on the trail. The pursued man hides in alleys.

5 Companies To File Joint Appeal Today

The five theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit yesterday reached a decision to appeal jointly to the Supreme Court from a number of decrees in the decree handed down last Dec. 31 by the New York Federal District Court.

The notice of appeal is expected to be placed on record here this afternoon, pending approval of its language at a meeting of company counsel this morning.

ATA Intervention

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The legal battle between the Justice Department and the American Theatres Association over intervention in the pending New York anti-trust case will begin Thursday when ATA counsel Thurman Arnold files appeal papers contesting the District Court's

Paramount Ending Last Pool March 1

Paramount's last remaining pooling agreement, with Fox West Coast Theatres, is being dissolved, effective March 1, Leonard L. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatre Service Corp., reported here yesterday.

In This Issue

"The Private Affairs of Bel Ami" is reviewed on page 6. Key city grosses are given on the same page.
**CSU Asks Truman To Send Conceditor**

Hollywood, Feb. 25.—In a three-pronged effort to induce Government action on the studio strike, the Conference of Studio Unions telegraphed President Truman urging him to "use your good offices to send a Federal conciliator to save the industry." Similar appeals were sent to the Senate Labor Committee and Senator William Langer, chairman of the Committee on Civil Affairs.

The Senate Labor Committee was told that "this lockout was caused by the American Federation of Motion Picture Employers, whose members are conspiring with certain labor leaders to smash free and autonomous unions in Hollywood." The wire urged an investigation.

The telegram to Langer asserted that "independent producers are now the hard-pressed victims of a conspiracy between producers and certain union officials." It asked the committee to subpoена Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers president Donald Nelson and Independent Motion Picture Producers Association president George Charuhas, "to prevent immediate inquiry into this facet of the film monopoly's practices."

**Shurgue to Organize Heritage Campaign**

Ned Shurgue, public relations director of the American Heritage Foundation, is being loaned to the American Heritage Foundation to organize and promote the U. S. Government's six-week train, in which the film industry is expected to play a leading part.

An intensive educational campaign designed to promote appreciation of American heritage is planned through the use of all media by Shurgue and his group, who will travel in a train housing American documents. The project is sponsored by the U. S. through the Department of Justice.

Shurgue, as national director of motion pictures and special events for the Treasury under Ted Gable, toured the eastern coast and the mid-west during the last war. He will start his new assignment next week.

**Personal Mention**

Fredric Ullman, Jr., RKO Pathe president, will leave here today for Coast conferences with RKO officials. •

George W. Vista, Paramount International president, will start a goodwill tour of foreign offices on Sunday when he leave here for the Coast. Accompanying him will be Clement S. Crystal, head of Paramount International's theatre department, and Albert Drane, manager of censorship and editing department.

Glenn E. Matthews, technical editor of the Film Research Laboratory, has been elected the way member of the Oval Table Society for his contributions to photographic progress. •

Joel A. Levy, chief of Loew's Theatres booking department, and Joel Levy announce the engagement of their daughter, Lorraine, to Samuel Levit.

Barry Cohen, manager of Monogram Southern exchanges, is back at offices in Atlanta after a business trip through Alabama.

William Richardson, president of Arkos Pictures of Georgia, has returned to Atlanta from Birmingham, Ala. •

Ruth Freeman, statistic clerk in the United Artists exchange, will be on vacation on March 22nd to East Diamond.

William Miskell, Tri-State Theatres district manager in Omaha is vacationing in California.

Arthur C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern exchanges in Atlanta, is in Charlotte.

Sunny Markley, Paramount's New York theatre department, is visiting in Omaha.

**Company Dividends Hit New High in '46**

Washington, Feb. 25.—Film industry dividend payments climbed to a peak of $43,995,001 on the strength of $19.46 per cent increase over 1945 when stockholders received $23,655,000, the Commerce Department reported.

Payments during December amounted to $10,885,000, compared with $6,450,000 for the previous year.

**Newsreel Parade**

LOS ANGELES' explosion is reported in all current newsreels. Also spectacular is Columbia's busy activities, Columbia University benefiting on U. S. Army and Navy base and creating a wave of excitement, including the spring training activities of the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants. Full contents follow:

**MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 52—Notable in newsreels is the New York World's Fair, which opened Thursday, February 25. Terrific chemical explosion rocks Gotham. A postal bombs, fired by destruction of mail bags. The rescue party, who were reported dead after the explosion, had not been identified.


**RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 52—U. S. War Shipping Board breaks at Princeton, Fashions in the Dominican Republic. Greeks demonstrate. Los Angeles blaze.**

**UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 14—Films in newsreels are 'Coronation of His Majesty HM King George VI, London.'**

**Schaefer in Deal For 300 'U' Reissues**

George J. Schaefer, Jr., vice-president and treasurer of George J. Schaefer Associates, a financing firm, and John J. Cobill, in-law of George J. Schaefer, Sr., plan to set up a company to distribute some 300 United Artists' films. The finalization of negotiations for acquiring the films, it is understood.

Arthur Schaefer interests here yesterday confirmed the fact that the negotiations have been in progress since the beginning of the fiscal year, during which time he was executive vice-president. Consumption of the deal, he added, awaits the arrival here of the Coast of Schaefer, Sr., who last week became executive vice-president in charge of distribution for Enterprise. He is expected at the end of this week.

**Kirsch Rejected Ill. Allied Head**


Kirsch will leave here next week for a month's vacation in Florida.

**Open City Anniversary**

"Open City" has passed its first anniversary at the World Theatre. The picture opened in New York on February 18th.

**Two UA Meetings To Start Tomorrow**

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 25.—The second of United Artists' current series of conferences will start here today with the William Penn Hotel, here, on Thursday and continue through Sunday. The meeting, which will cover the Pennsylvania-Washington and Central districts, will be presided over by public relations manager Edward M. Schmitz. Other speakers will include J. J. Unger, general sales manager, and Paul Laurant, Jr., assistant public relations director. Mark N. Silver; heads the Pennsylvania-Washington district, Mrs. Davidson, the Central district.

EL PASO, Feb. 25.—Maury Orr, United Artists Western division manager, will conduct a four-day Southern California Western district sales meeting beginning Thursday. Fred M. Jack heads the Southern district, W. E. Cooper, the central district.

Washington, Feb. 12.—A 6824 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL. Phone number, 696-8555, 828 Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL. Phone number, 596-9555.
WHEN M-G-M's "THE SEA OF GRASS" FOLLOWS M-G-M's "THE YEARLING" AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL—

M-G-M proudly cherishes the honor of showing three of its outstanding attractions in a row at the world-famed Radio City Music Hall. "Till The Clouds Roll By" was followed by "The Yearling", and now a new M-G-M hit, "The Sea of Grass". It is a mark of distinction for a motion picture to be selected for exhibition at the Music Hall—and three-in-a-row is a record for which M-G-M is deeply grateful to the Music Hall and its patrons.

AND NOW A NEW M-G-M HIT!

SPENCER KATHARINE ROBERT MELVYN
TRACY* HEPBURN* WALKER* DOUGLAS
"THE SEA OF GRASS"

EXTRA! "The Sea of Grass" selected by Louella Parsons in Cosmopolitan Magazine as Movie of the Month! (Left) Advance New York newspaper ad prior to opening of "The Sea of Grass."
"...expert and po-

Angel and the
BADMAN

Starring
JOHN WAYNE
GAIL RUSSELL

with
HARRY CAREY · BRUCE CABOT
IRENE RICH · TOM POWERS

Written and Directed by
James Edward Grant · JOHN WAYNE

A REPUBLIC PICTURES
"Since box office..." says Film Daily

and more rave reviews

"Super' Western of three-dimensional calibre amply stocked with "M.P. DAILY..."Angel' stand-out...Wayne does his best job in 'Stagecoach'" VARIETY..."Interesting and exciting entertain-

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW..."Safe box office bet any-

wire" DAILY VARIETY..."Something different and interesting the general public" INDEPENDENT..."A big-time, big-scale

traction" HOLLYWOOD REPORTER..."Tender and touching... exciting fabric that includes gun-duels, horseback pursuits and fist fights" M. P. HERALD..."Should ride into the better grosses...satisfy the ladies" THE EXHIBITOR

THIRD BIG WEEK IN...
SAN FRANCISCO!
Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for the week ending Feb. 25: (In $10) (Average: $11,000)

LOS ANGELES

"Song of Scheherazade" and "Nora Prentiss" divided the cream of the first-run grosses. Ex-ex receipts for the week ending Feb. 26:

THREE MILLION (RKO Radio)—BETTMAN'S (300) $9.80-
FIFTH AVENUE (650) $9.60-
THE JEALOUSY (20th-Fox) $9.50-

LA LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)--LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME (20th-Fox) $9.40-
THE MATILDA (Walt Disney) $9.10-

MURDER IN THE MUSEUM (WB)—WANTED FOR MURDER (20th-Fox)—EL REY (60) $9.00-

DEAD IN THE SUN (SRG)—FAIRFAX (1,900) $9.00-
LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—EPHRAIM'S (60) $8.80-

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—FOUR STAR (20th-Fox) $8.70-

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) $8.60-

THE NIGHTINGALE (Radio) and BLIND SPOT (Col.)—HILL STREET (2,700) $8.60-

LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,000) $8.60-

CUE OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio) and CALIFORNIA (Para) and THE CHINA SHIP (WB) $8.60-

ABIE'S IRISH ROSE (R-U) $8.60-

MURDER IN THE MUSEUM (WB) $8.60-

CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio) and THE NIGHTINGALE (Radio) $8.50-

ABIE'S IRISH ROSE (R-U) $8.50-

MURDER IN THE MUSEUM (WB) $8.50-

THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (Walt Disney) $8.50-

ABIE'S IRISH ROSE (R-U) $8.50-

MURDER IN THE MUSEUM (WB) $8.50-

THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (Walt Disney) $8.50-

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) $8.50-

ANNOUNCING the opening of C and G Film Effects

723 7th Ave., N.Y.C. • LA 4-2226

OPTICAL EFFECTS

723 7th Ave., N.Y.C. • LA 4-2226

CUTTING, ROLLING, COLOR REPRODUCTIONS

KANSAS CITY

Cold and mild weather alternated here. Business, although below the level of a year ago, was generally good. Ex-ex receipts for the week ending Feb. 27:

13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox) • ES WARNE (20th-Fox) $9.50-

SOON OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) • LITSZ (1,700) $9.50-

THE MURDERS OF STUDIO (600) $9.50-

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) • ORPHEUM (1,900) $9.50-

CHICAGO

"The Yearling" opened strong, led the field in a week of good business generally. Ex-ex receipts for the week ending Feb. 27:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)-LOEWS (2,400) $9.50-

HUMORESQUE (WB) • ROOSEVELT (600) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $3,666)

THE NIGHTINGALE (M-G-M) • STAGECOACH (2,700) $9.50-

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) • STAGECOACH (2,700) $9.50-

INDIANAPOLIS

The cold wave has cut grosses here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 25-26:

THE MAN I LOVE (WB) and FABULOUS (WB) $8,500-

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) $8,500-

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)-LOEWS (2,400) $8,500-

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB) $8,500-

F. J. Alford Shifts From MPA to MPEA

Frank J. Alford, assistant to Motion Picture Association treasurer George Borwich, has been appointed chief accountant and assistant treasurer of the Motion Picture Export Association, succeeding William Laffan who has resigned, it was announced here yesterday by MPEA vice-president and general manager Irving Maas. Mr. Alford joined the MPA in 1946, Alford served RKO for 12 years.

Grunenberg on Coast For Sales Meeting

San Francisco, Feb. 25.—Len S. Grunenberg, captain of the 1947 "Ned Dpiarin's Days" expedition, is expected here for a sales rally Thursday, following a similar meeting in RKO Radio's Los Angeles office. Plans then proceed to Portland and Seattle, which latter exchange includes Vancouver. A visit to the west coast's largest Western division sales manager, will be present at all of the meetings.

Dorothy Kilgallen Gets Cinema Scroll

Dorothy Kilgallen, columnist, was presented with an "honors scroll" last night by James A. Farley on behalf of Cinema Lodge, B'nai Brith at the Hollywood Roosevelt. The item is a film and allied entertainment industries paid tribute to Miss Kilgallen, who was cited for promoting understanding among all races, colors and creeds.

Academy Ballots Mailed

Hollywood, Feb. 25.—The Academy has mailed 1,600 final ballots to members who will select 1946 award winners. Nominations will be announced at a presentation here on March 13.
Wednesday, February 26, 1947

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Dewey Considers Ad Bill Protests

Assurance that Gov. Thomas Dewey will give full consideration to the industry association proposal, reported here yesterday that a brief supplementary to one filed Monday was requested by the governor's attorneys who set next Thursday as a deadline for the filing.

Stanleigh Friedman, Warner vice-president, conferred with Dewey on the subject. Additionally, he and Sidney Schreiber, MPAA counsel here, argued against the bill at the hearing.

The measure would authorize the State of New York to ban a picture on the grounds that its advertising copy is objectionable.

The governor was informed that the bill would place an unconstitutional restraint on freedom of expression, that it represents an encroachment on the freedom of the industry and is unpatriotic in that it covers only films and no other commodities.

Friedman and Allyn appeared along with Howard Dietz, director of advertising-publicity for 12-Grammy Blumstock, Warners' publicity-advertising manager, and Gordon White, director of the Eastern Advertising Code Administration.

Charles Breitel, secretary of the New York State Motion Picture Association, and Lawrence Walsh, assistant counsel for Dewey, conducted the hearing.

Chancellor May Ask Dewey to Sign Bill

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 25.—William J. Wallin, chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents, reportedly may come here tomorrow to urge Governor Dewey to sign the Chapman-Wilson film advertising bill. The recommendation that the present law be amended to cover newspapers, magazines and other media was made to the Regents in denying Commissioner Fielding's appeal to revoke the license of the New York Times.

In the hearing, which has not yet been received by the Governor, who will have 10 days to act.

Citizens Group Protests

The film division of the Progressive Committee of America, headed by Bosley Crowther, chairman, and Maud Bergman, vice-chairman, has joined in the fight to kill the Condon-Wilson bill. Mr. Crowther will notify Gov. Dewey asserting that the measure would establish a "dangerous precedent of kudnimental interference not only directed to the movie picture industry but also threatening freedom of communications," press, radio and publishing as well.

Philetelists To Meet

Next meeting of the Cinema Stamps Collectors will be held today at Town Hall Club here. The president is Nat Cohn.

United Productions’ Officers Relected

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 25.—United Productions of America officers have been reelected following a stockholders’ meeting. Stephen Bosustow was reelected president; Edward Walsh, chairman and Arch Woolley, vice-presidents; Leo Rosen, secretary, and Maxine Davis, assistant secretary.

Bosustow is executive producer, Edward Gerushman is business manager, John Hubley, supervising director; Ado Woolley, production manager.

UPA has completed an agreement with the American Tobacco company to make American Tobacco a New York whereby the latter will represent UPA in commercial sales in the New York area. Also announced is a new UPA Latin-American sales office in Havana, headed by Alfredo Alvarex and Fabian Garcia.

Peron Opposes Film Import Cut of 80%

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—President Peron of Argentina is opposed to reductions in the admission of films imported by that country, George Canty of the State Department reported here yesterday.

Peron announced that he is against a pending measure which would cut the U. S. picture imports by 80 per cent.

President Peron favors expansion of the Argentine industry, but believes it would not be wise to restrict present imports. Canty pointed out that Argentina depends upon the United States for its raw stock and equipment.

Mrs. Fred S. Meyer, 53

Hollywood, Feb. 25.—Funeral services were held at the Gruman Mortuary, here, yesterday for Mrs. Ida Meyer, 53, wife of Fred S. Meyer, 20th Century-Fox’s industrial relations director. Mrs. Meyer, who died Saturday, Feb. 14 in Cedars Sinai hospital, is survived also by her mother, Mrs. Sara Solk; a daughter, Mrs. Joseph Mandel; and a son, Stanley. The latter and his wife, Doris, daughter of Universal Pictures, will leave for Brazil today to return here at the weekend for the services.

Felder’s Mother Dies

Mrs. Annie Felder, mother of Joseph J. Felder, director of Equity Films, here, died on Sunday after a short illness.

Iowa Censor Bill

(Continued from page 1)

state department of censorship and licensing within the State Board of Education. The director of the department and his assistants would be appointed by the Board of Education upon recommendation of the state superintendent of education.

The bill specifically provides that all motion pictures, except "current event" films, and films shown by religious services conducted for profit, shall be examined and licensed by the new department. The commission would be given authority to inspect and charge a permit fee of $3 for each 1,000 feet of film on a picture and $2 on 1,000 feet for each copy of a picture.

Candy Not Under Miss. Store Tax

JACKSON, Feb. 25.—Theatres are not subject to Mississippi’s state store tax, the managers testified, and candy counters in the lobby, the state supreme court held here today.

The court reversed a Hinds County circuit court decision in the case of Richards-Lightman Theatres Corp. vs. A. H. Stone, chairman of the state tax Commission. The circuit court had denied the corporation’s right to recover a chain-store tax of some $3,000, including penalties.

However, the supreme court would allow the advantages of mass buying available to ordinary chain stores were not present in the case of theatre gum and candy counters.

These counters, the high court held, were accessible only to those who first purchased theatre tickets.

Curtis Says British Back Labor Officials

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 25.—Officials of the British Union of Fascists are to be given a "thorough going over" by the present Labor Government, E. P. Curtis, vice-president of Eastern Kodak, today declared that "British Labor is trying to keep the Labor Government from doing any thing" for England. "If the Conservatives were in power, I think it would have been possible more internal trouble," he said.

Paramount Host to France’s Maud Lamy

Executives of Paramount’s domestic and international departments will gather in the Hotel Astor tomorrow at a luncheon to be given by the company to Mme. Maud Lamy, French actress, who is the guest of Paramount during her American visit. Later in the day, the French government will grant her the Legion of Honor and at its luncheon, which will be held in the Sherry-Netherland Hotel, and she will leave on Thursday for Hollywood to be part of Parno- mard studio executives.

ATA Intervention

(Continued from page 1)

ruling against direct exhibitor intervention. This will be brief appeal with the Southern California Theatre Owners Association.

ATA will contend that the exhibitor is not adequately represented before the court. Arnold’s previous petition was accepted by the court as "vain gestus currie.

Robert L. Wright, Justice Depart- ment counsel, said today that he may not present his ATA case without profit, shall be examined and licensed by the new department. The New York legislature was given authority to inspect and charge a permit fee of $3 for each 1,000 feet of film on a picture and $2 on 1,000 feet for each copy of a picture.

RCA Service Corp. Dinner on Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 25.—RCA Service Corp. was host at a dinner Thursday evening at the Western Theatre Equipment Co., held at the Whitcomb Hotel. Bob Hope and Ginger Rogers were given the RCA theatre equipment section, and "Stubb" Schultz, district service manager, welcomed the guests. Policies and future plans for RCA sales and service were discussed.

Among those present were: Helen Taylor, Joe Allison, Jerry Gillett, Jean Willeit, Lou Gibbs, Karl Stephens, Herb Sautner, Eddie Doyle, George Williams.

Ralph Clark

(Continued from page 1)
degree, through United Artists, he added.

The picture, which he said cost $2,500,000, was filmed entirely in New York, and because it has a wide range of talent from opera and concert, plus a dash of Harry James, it cost 20 per cent less for production here than in Hollywood. Moreover, he said, he found an "excellent crew of technicians" here with little or no help to transport them from the Coast.

He explained that an additional source of economies came in making the film in Carnegie Hall, which precluded the expense of constructing a replica.

Federal Films, Morros also revealed, began with his next production, Victor Herbert’s "Babes in Toyland," in Hollywood.

Federal to Lease 200

(Continued from page 1)
"Odd Man Out"
(Continued from page 1)
shrinks into protective, dark corners, endeavors to harbor his waning strength in a horse-driven car, falls in the rain and mud and snow, makes his way to the haven of a saloon. He is picked up by an underworld character who is familiar with the underworld system, who procures the necessary reward, gets sorely needed aid from a medical student, stumbles out to meet Kathleen Ryan, who loves him and has been appealing to W. G. Fay, the priest, but cannot get in, and finally for information and help to a girl and Mason meet. Mason, out of it, fires two shots at the police advancing across a snow-covered square. In the returning fusilade, and as she had planned, both are killed.

Mason is completely convincing and touching as the illegal resistance fighter whose inner conflict finds him unable to determine if the processes of parliamentary law ought not give way to violence. Miss Ryan, whose first film this is, immediately establishes her competency as an actress of depth and professional worth. Other players, drawn principally from the ranks of Dublin's famed Abbey Playhouse, are perfectly etched in their realism. Shading them for comparative values, the two who stand above the others are F. J. McCormick, as Shell, and Fay as Father Tom. Robert Newton, as a hotel foreman, and Fay Compton, a minor role, are invaluable assets of a noted cast.

Commercially, "Odd Man Out" has Mason's voice in this country and will help establish his art, but the most effective thing about the intransigent's ticket-selling potential perhaps is best drawn by a throwback to "The Informer," with which this bears many resemblances.

First reviewed from London on a Monday of Jan. 30, Peter Brook notes: "This much will be rated in years to come among the screen's choicest masterpieces." His appraisal could prove correct.

Tinkering with an end product of such distinguished values, moreover, may be folly, yet only the verdict that the film with could be better served in less length. As it stands, on the other hand, "Odd Man Out" is a drama-on-film which will not quickly forgotten.

Running time, 113 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date set. RED KANY

Joint Appeal
(Continued from page 1)
in its present form, with Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, reporting an appeal as "unlikeliest" and with Price, of course, instructing the field sales force to abide by the spirit as well as the letter of the New York court's decision.

As late as yesterday morning, following a meeting of the attorneys of the Paramount legal department, only one condition had still not given its approval to the appeal. At that time, Louis Phillips of the Paramount legal department said the document would be filed at three o'clock this afternoon and that it would "be probable" a joint action by all five stock-owning defendants. Another meeting was held yesterday afternoon, following which Koegel authorized the 26th-Fox statement.

Paramount, the first theatre-owning defendant to announce its definite appeal, would be the hardest hit of the five companies by the court's order for divestiture of most of its operations in the persons of independent exhibitors. In early conferences among the counsel, however, was suggested to Phillips by the decree, a spokesman for one of the defendants said yesterday, adding that there was a similar view in the court's competitive-bidding provisions.

Enterprise Ads to D. & C.
Hollywood, Feb. 25—Enterprise Films has given Donald & Co. a long-term contract as advertising counsel.

MPEA Sees Early Deal With Bulgaria
Conclusion of a distribution deal between the Motion Picture Export Association and the Bulgarian Film Monopoly is anticipated at an early date, it was disclosed here yesterday by Vice-president and general manager.

Jean Barkman, MPEA representa tive, is working with Bulgaria working out preliminary details of a distribution agreement with officials of the monop oly. He will soon be joined in Sofia, Bulgaria, by former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-president and former vice-President and General Manager.

Para. Joins 'TB' Drive
Paramount became the first company in the industry to cooperate with New York health authorities in the tuberculosis campaign against tuberculosis. The firm has accepted the offer of the Department of Health to have its employees in the Metropoli tan area participate in the general mass chest x-ray survey being conducted throughout New York. The service will be free.

Paramount Pool
(Continued from page 1)
lowing his return from St. Augustine, Fla., where the company's theatre partners met last week to plan company-wide "cooperation," the pool was understood to have been passed by the New York Federal District Court's decree in the industry anti-trust suit. The court has ordered dissolution of all pools by July 1.

Goldenson said the Florida discussions, for the most part, were lim ited to getting the pool passed by the decree by C. A. Koegel, general counsel, and Louis Phillips and Walter R. Shading, of the company's legal de partment. Although the partners discussed the requirements of the partial-divestiture clause, plans for abolition of the pool by the Supreme Court, were deferred until after a later meeting, a date for which has not yet been fixed. It is the current position of the company, who attended the meeting, arrived here from Florida yesterday.

Red Cross Short
(Continued from page 1)
RKO-Radio, United Artists, Univer sal, and Warner Brothers. Present also at the meeting, and in the audience to Tom Connors, chairman of the national film distributors committee, report made to the board of directors that the long-awaited simultaneous release of the major first-runs tomorrow. Some 3000 prints have been made for the plan to handle the film in order to insure complete national showing during March.

Razor' Promotions
For 20 More Films
Point-of-sale advertising, as exemplified by the campaign applied to "Spider-Man," has been credited to all 20 of 21st Century-Fox's pictures to be released this year. Charles Schlatter, the company's advertising-publicity manager, commented on "Razor's Edge" campaign, he said, when the full allotment of the company had been learned from premieres applied to previous pictures. The company, he added, has completed all plans for every project of the campaign, scheduling up to and including "Forever Amber" and "Captain From Castle." "Finished advertising layouts," Schlatter said, are due from March through October, including such productions as "Alexander the Great," "The Last George Apley," "Carnival in Cost Rica," "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," "The Homestretch," "Moss Rose," "Miracle on 34th Street," "Rob. S. of Battle," "Kiss of Death," "Nightmare Alley," "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Tonight?" "The Walls of Jericho," "Snake Pit" and "Mother Wore Tights."

While our plans are complete now the field, campaign, Schlatter enough to that we can add to them new ideas thoughts as we approach the release of each picture. With this long-range planning we have been able to step up the effectiveness of each campaign to a greater degree than ever before, without changing its basic plan.

To further implement a closer contacts between the company's many exploitation men also will be brought together from time to time to discuss the results of concentration of 21st Century-Fox advertising in local in order to make the point of sale advertising more effective, Schlatter concluded.

Kay to Expand
(Continued from page 1)
brother will go to the Coast to attend the Variety Clubs' convention and will seek out with several independent producers in connection with the planned expansion. They are devoting their New York visit to conferences with distributors looking toward the formation of the organization.

There are a number of independent Hollywood producers who would negotiate with any distribution organization, Katz pointed out, asserting that an expansion of this nature demands financial experts, with them permanent distribution facilities. Katz said also that with an "increased number of new theatres in the offing there will be need for increased production and distribution."
M. P. Forum’s N. Y. Meeting Is Called Off

Plan Is Dropped Until Anti-Trust Suit Ends

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26.—Fred Wehrenberg, sponsor of the plan for a motion picture exhibitor forum to adjust internal trade problems, announced here today that the organizing meeting scheduled for March 10-11 at the Hotel Astor, New York, has been called off.

Wehrenberg explained that incomplete exhibitor representation for the scheduled meeting made it impractical to proceed further with the forum plans at this time. He insisted that another attempt to organize the forum will be made after the U. S. Supreme Court has acted on the pending appeal in the U. S. industry anti-trust suit, or whenever the suit ultimately is disposed of by the courts.

From present indications that could (Continued on page 7)

Para. Price Drop Scores with Public

Morning attendance at the Paramount Theatre on Broadway yesterday nearly doubled the previous high for the year as its thoroughly publicized morning admission price reduction went into effect. Robert Weitman, managing director, reported. Revenue also was up, he said, exceeding by $1,500 the opening day running income of the average of the three previous attractions at the house.

The price was lowered to 55 cents (Continued on page 7)

Education Dept. May Favor Ad Bill

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 26.—The State Education Department was expected to file with Governor Dewey a memorandum favoring the Condon-Wilson obscure advertising bill, as the State Board of Regents today began a three-day meeting to discuss (Continued on page 7)

Film Laboratories In London Seen Closing in 3 Weeks

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Feb. 26.—All sections of the industry here agree that the British laboratory operational outlook is extremely bleak with no possibility in sight for catching up on the backlog brought about by the national coal crisis. According to the Kinesophone Renters Society, film printing is assured for the next three weeks, under present coal crisis conditions, but it is doubtful thereafter.

KRS president Reginald Baker has paid tribute to the work done by those laboratories and laboratory workers who have taken the load from closed plants. J. Arthur Rank’s Denham Laboratory, he said, “worked miracles in keeping the laboratory going 64 hours a week without a break.” The Humphries Laboratory and others are still closed, as is Eastman’s Kodak.

(Continued on page 5)

Bidding Contrary To Trust Law: ATA

In a joint appeal filed with the New York Federal Court here yesterday, the American Theatres Association and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association charge that the court has given judicial sanction to a method of doing business by competitive bidding which is contrary to the Sherman anti-trust law. Both groups appealed from the New York court’s order denying their (Continued on page 7)

Ind. House Passes Anti-ASCAP Bill

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 26.—The Indiana House of Representatives passed the so-called Anti-ASCAP Bill today by a vote of 79 to 1. The measure included amendments which would give theatre-owners full protection as the result of unlicensed performances. The House version, which would make producers or distributors liable for damages, now returns to the Senate, which approved the original measure, 38 to 0.

(Continued on page 7)

9 Reviews Today

In addition to “Carnegie Hall,” the following films are reviewed inside: “The Macomber Affair,” “I Cover Big Town,” page 4; “Danger Street,” “Blondie’s Holiday,” “The Lone Hand Texan,” “The Devil Thumbs A Ride,” page 6; and “Valley of Fear,” “Before Him All Rome Trembled,” page 8.

Key city grosses are given on page 4.

Para. Alone Hits Bids As 5 Appeal

All Want Arbitration; Score Price-Fixing Ban, Theatre Restrictions

By TOM LOY

Four of the five theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit—Loew’s, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners—yesterday accepted the system of single sales and competitive bidding outlined by the New York Federal District Court when they filed a joint appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from most favorable of the local tribunal’s decrees.

Paramount, joining in a single jurisdictional statement, filed a separate assignment of errors, which appealed from the selling practices as is.

The five defendants, in a summary of “substantial questions,” center their attack on four main contentions:

That the industry arbitration system, terminated by the New York court, should have been continued.
That the injunction against price (Continued on page 8)

Companies Unlikely To Ask for Stay

The five theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit are unlikely to ask the U. S. Supreme Court for a stay of the effective date of any of the provisions of the New York court’s decree. John F. Caskey, counsel for 20th Century-Fox, indicated here yesterday as these defendants filed a joint appeal.

Stressing that a final decision with regard to stay action has not yet been
Personal Mention

David O. Selznick is due here from the Coast next week.

Rudy Berger, Southern M-G-M sales manager, accompanied by his home office assistant, Ed Alphonse, will leave Dallas today for Oklahoma City from where, on Saturday, they will leave for Kansas City.

George A. Smith, Paramount's Western film manager, left Hollywood yesterday for Omaha, Des Moines, Kansas City and St. Louis en route here for conferences with Charles M. Rank, vice-president.

S. Barrett McCormick, RKO Radio director of advertising-publicity, has extended his Hollywood visit for another week, and plans now to return here March 10.

Victoria Tsukalas, secretary to Joel Swensen, Warner Bros. home office researcher, will be married in June to Williams Payzlo, New York restaurateur.

Harry Goldberg, Warner Theatres' director of advertising-publicity, will leave New York by plane today for the Coast.

J. Arthur Rank, British industry leader, is expected to arrive here from London on May 7 on a two-months' New York-and-Hollywood visit.

Moe Silver, Warner Theatres Pittsburgh zone manager, will terminate his New York visit at the weekend.

Robert Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre here, will leave for the Coast early next week.

RCA Showroom To Open Here in April

A public showroom featuring a television and radio studio is being built by W. R. Rockefeller, Jr., on 48th Street, opening probably in April. The cost is put at $1,000,000. The showroom will be a two-story structure, part of the Eastern Air Lines Building.

Warner Men Open 2-Day Meet Today

Warner district managers and home office sales executives convene at the home office this morning here for the first session of a two-day conference.

Ben Kalmsen, vice-president and general sales manager will preside.

Gift to Philippines

Monogram International Corp. has donated 30,000 feet of 35mm. sound negative to the Philippines Islands Boys' school. The film was flown to Manila by Pan-American from charge for use in a benefit picture, "The End of the Road.

Insider's Outlook

BY RED KANN

NINETY-EIGHT per cent of those who replied to 500 cards handed them when the Paramount went out its homes regularly but who may have been drawn by this film because of its heavy advertising campaign and its out-of-the-ordinary appeal. Another head "The Razor's Edge" did not rate the handling accorded "Night and Day" and "Saratoga Trunk." A third, which could run to considerable length and much advertising, concerned the attitude of those who control important playing time toward attractions seeking to be different and backed up by sufficient conviction to make that possible.

As he stepped into his new post as distribution vice-president of Enterprise, George J. Schary held a Hollywood press interview. At it, he is quoted as having declared exhibitors will have to start paying rentals in accordance with their ability to pay, and to use their ability to trade if existing production standards are to be maintained.

It has been our impression— and we believe it is a fair one—else, we venture—that exhibitors paid rentals in accordance with the ability of the film to produce revenue.

Buried in a Sunday article "written for the New York Herald-Tribune, Thornton Del chatny reports this, out of conversation with Dore Schary, now executive vice-president in charge of RKO Radio production:

"Although RKO in the recent past has made distribution deals with nearly a dozen independent producers, Schary said today he believes, to be no longer a studio trend. On the contrary, the policy now is to build up a regular list of contract actors and directors and to play along less with the outside, or freelance, groups."

Very important, even if buried. And, of course, if true.

Sidney Solsky, always alert to Hollywood's changing trends, reports it is now corny to call something corny. "They don't use it any more. The latest is, that if it is corny, it's 'chintzy.'"

Not from where we sit.

More than 100 industry executives on the "Motion Picture Committee" will appraise the work of 22 finalists competing for the annual Quigley Showmanship titles in the Hotel Ast on, in Los Angeles.

The two selected as the outstanding showmen for 1946 will receive $100,000 in a contest as the three scenes of the skill displayed throughout the year in promoting the motion picture theatre and its attractions.

Following appraisal of the campaigns, the judges will be the guests of the Los Angeles Quigley. Principal speaker at the luncheon will be Sol Schwartz, vice-president in charge of theatres for RKO Service Corp. Many out-of-town theatre executives and exhibitors will attend.

The 22 candidates, comprising top winners in the quarterly competitions during 1946, represent the largest number of individual entries ever presented to the judges' committee. In addition the presenters from the United States and Canada, the judges will view evidences of showmanship from theatre men in South America, England, New Zealand, Belgium and Cuba.

McManus Goes Coast Advertising Post

Los Angeles, Feb. 26—John McManus has been appointed head of advertising and publicity for Warner Brothers Theatres on the West Coast. The post had been temporarily filled since the recent resignation of Mort Goodman, Denver. McManus will handle exploitation under McManus.

Johnston Address Today

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will speak on "American Foreign Economic Policy," before the second international affairs committee forum to be conducted by the Women's National Republican Club at its headquarters here today, Mrs. Robert Low Bacon is committee chairman.

Loew Election Today

The entire Loew's Inc., board of directors will be up for re-election at the company's annual stockholders meeting at the home office here today.

Nat'l Distributors Will Meet March 7-8

Chicago, Feb. 26—The new National Film Distributors, composed of members of the National Film Carriers, operating in 21 cities, will meet here March 7-8 at the Hotel Sherman to establish organizational procedure in connection with planning physical distribution to the Selznick Releasing Organization.
IF YOU WERE NORA PRENTISS WOULD YOU KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT?

IT'S TOPPING 'MILDRED PIERCE' AND IT'S TOPPING 'NIGHT AND DAY!' WARNERS HAVE A TERRIFIC ATTRACTION AND A TERRIFIC CAMPAIGN BEHIND IT!
**Key City Grosses**

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

**PHILADELPHIA**

Business was hit badly by Thursday's storm but picked up before the weekend. Estimated receipts for the week ended Feb. 27:

- **THE PERFECT MARRIAGE** (Param.) — ALLLINE (90c) — 1,300; average, $20. (Average: $20,000.
- **NORA PRENTISS** (WB) — BOYD (50c) — 1,100; average, $25. (Average: $25,000.
- **THE PLAY (USA) — EARL (40c) — 900; average, $30. (Average: $30,000.
- **THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM** (20th-Fox) — FOX (40c) — 1,100; average, $35. (Average: $35,000.
- **THE RAZOR'S EDGE** (20th-Fox) — KENT (40c) — 1,200; average, $40. (Average: $40,000.
- **HUMORESQUE** (WB) — MASTBAUM (40c) — 1,200; average, $45. (Average: $45,000.
- **HENRY V (UA) — PIZ (50c) — 1,100; average, $50. (Average: $50,000.
- **IT TAKES A FEDERAL LIFE** (RKO Radio) — STANLEY (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c) — 1,200; average, $55. (Average: $55,000.
- **LADIES' MAN** (Para-Param.) — STANTON (1,700) + 50c; average, $80. (Average: $80,000.
- **STANLEY (3,000) — 40c-50c-70c-75c-80c — 4,700; average, $100. (Average: $100,000.

**PITTSBURGH**

"The Jolson Story" continues to roll up sensational grosses at the J. P. Harris despite an overall drop in business throughout town. A list of heavy money getters for the week ending Feb. 27:

- **THE BRASHER DOUBLOON** (20th-Fox) — M.G.M. (40c) — 1,300; average, $20. (Average: $20,000.
- **THE JOLSON STORY** (Col.) — J. P. HARRIS (40c-50c-75c-70c) — 1,200; average, $25. (Average: $25,000.
- **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (RKO Radio) — PIRON (40c) — 1,100; average, $25. (Average: $25,000.
- **WILD WEST (RKO)** and **BLACK BEAUTY** (RKO) — 1,700; average, $30. (Average: $30,000.
- **SINBAD THE SAILOR** (RKO Radio) — 1,500; average, $35. (Average: $35,000.

**BUFFALO**

Business has been generally good despite a weekend snow storm. "Sister Kenny" is doubling the house average at the Twentyteenth Century Theatre, and "Calgaria" also is rolling up an impressive gross at the Great Lakes. "The Palm Beach Story" has been a big hit and "It's a Snap" is still going strong. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 1:

- **LADY IN THE LAKE** (M-G-M) — BUFFALO (1,400) — 40c-50c-70c-75c — 1,200; average, $25. (Average: $25,000.
- **CALIFORNIA** (Param.) — GREAT LAKES (50c-60c-70c-75c-80c) — 1,200; average, $20. (Average: $20,000.
- **THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO** (Col.) and **LONE WOLF IN MEXICO** (Col.) — LAFAYETTE (40c-50c-60c-70c) — 1,200; average, $15. (Average: $15,000.
- **THE STORY OF DOUGLAS McPHERSON** (Col.) — DENVER (50c-60c-70c-75c-80c) — 1,200; average, $12. (Average: $12,000.
- **TREASURE OF THE AZTEC** (M-G-M) — RADIO CITY (50c-60c-70c-75c-80c) — 1,200; average, $10. (Average: $10,000.
- **THE LONE WOLF IN MEXICO** (Col.) — 1,000; average, $7. (Average: $7,000.

**SAN FRANCISCO**

Top honors here go to the Golden Gate Theatre, where a Danny Kaye stage show is coupled with "The Lone Wolf In Mexico." Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 28:

- **TREASURE OF THE AZTEC** (RKO Radio) — RKO THEATRE (50c-60c-70c-75c-80c) — 1,200; average, $12. (Average: $12,000.
- **NORA PRENTISS** (WB) and **DANGEROUS** (Para) — 1,000; average, $8. (Average: $8,000.

**DENVER**

"Open City" set a record at the Rialto, and business for other films held up fairly well despite snow and cold weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 27:

- **ANGEL AND THE BADMAN** (Rep) and **THE PILGRIM LADY** (Rep-ALADDIN (1,400) — BOOM (1,000) — 1,200; average, $15. (Average: $15,000.
- **STANLEY** (5,000) — 40c-50c-70c-75c-80c — 1,200; average, $20. (Average: $20,000.
- **OPEN CITY** (Mayo-Bursten-Rialto) — 1,000; average, $30. (Average: $30,000.
- **THE JOLSON STORY** (20th-Fox) and **ROLLING HOME** (Strippe-Gold) — WEAVER (2,575) — 1,600; average, $40. (Average: $40,000.
- **THE WOOLLY WOLF** (RKO Radio) — STANLEY (5,000) — 40c-50c-70c-75c-80c — 1,200; average, $25. (Average: $25,000.
- **REDEMPTION RANCH** (RKO Radio) — STANLEY (5,000) — 40c-50c-70c-75c-80c — 1,200; average, $25. (Average: $25,000.
- **THE WITCH OF WESTERN MICHIGAN** (Rep) — STANLEY (5,000) — 40c-50c-70c-75c-80c — 1,200; average, $25. (Average: $25,000.

**MINNEAPOLIS**

"California" paced the week's business, with "The Jolson Story" running a good second. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 27:

- **THE TITCH** (Param) — 1,000; average, $8. (Average: $8,000.
- **BOOM TOWN** (M-G-M reissue) — 1,000; average, $10. (Average: $10,000.
- **FLYING DEUCES** (RKO Radio reissue) — 1,000; average, $12. (Average: $12,000.
- **THE PILGRIM** (20th-Fox) — LYNCH (1,000) — 1,500; average, $15. (Average: $15,000.
- **THE JOLSON STORY** (Col.) — RKO OR立 (60c-85c-1.00) — 1,000; average, $15. (Average: $15,000.
- **TEMPERATION (U-R) — PAN** (1,000) — 1,000; average, $17. (Average: $17,000.
- **LADY IN THE LAKE** (M-G-M) — STATE (60c-85c-1.00) — 1,000; average, $19. (Average: $19,000.

**Benjamin Webster, 82**

Hollywood, Feb. 26, 1947 — Benjamin Webster, 82, veteran actor on the English-speaking stage who here to-}
Booklet Describes M. P. Foundation

A 32-page booklet describing the Motion Picture Foundation is in process of being printed for distribution to all theatres, circuit heads, equipment manufacturers, film exchanges, booking offices and executives of allied industries. Foundation headquarters has announced yesterday. About 2,250 copies will be sent out in four weeks to be received the last week in March.

The booklet was prepared following the recommendation of the temporary public relations committee which met last Friday under Foundation's steering committee after the organizational meeting held in New Orleans on Dec. 3-4.

Intended to make clear of Information, the booklet will contain complete details on the Foundation so that those who have not been invited to the organization of area committees will possess a full knowledge of the Foundation and its aims, it is said.

Organized in meetings in various areas are scheduled to take place in April. The names of area chairmen who will head up the organizing committee in the field for the Foundation will be announced in a few days.

4,000 Out as Strike Enters 6th Month

Hollywood, Feb. 26.—Four thousand studio workers are still on strike according to a checkup made today at the end of the fifth month of the Conference of Studio Unions strike. This is about 14 per cent of normal studio personnel.

The strike hit its peak on Oct. 14th, when 1,500 labor leaders closed the International offices to observe picket lines. About 1,000 of these men are still out of work.

Settlement was regarded as remote as ever as the strike entered its sixth month.

Chicago Strike Ends

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—Balaban & Katz’s Admiral Theatre has reopened after staying closed for six weeks because of a union controversy with the projectionists. The theatre will remain open during the negotiation period.

The controversy began when B. & K. wanted to discontinue matinee. The union says that the projectionists should be absorbed elsewhere in the circuit.

SIMPP Will Move

Hollywood, Feb. 26.—The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers will move its headquarters on April 27 from the Pacific Western Building, here, to the 11th-floor offices of the Rossiter Building. Formerly known as the Independent Projectionists Association, Donald M. Nelson, president, announced today.

Lober and Silverstein Get New Loew Posts

Louis Lober and Maurice Silverstein have been named associate regional directors of Loew’s International Corp. by Morton A. Spring, vice-president and general manager of the company’s sales and theatre operations abroad.

Lober, who was assistant to David Loew in the motion picture operations in North Africa, Egypt and the Middle East, becomes Loew’s regional director for that region. Silverstein, who has been assistant to Eddie O’Connor, regional director for the Far East, will assume his present position.

Seidelman to Europe for U-I Convention

Joseph A. Seidelman, president of Universal-International, will leave New York for Europe on March 7th to prepare for the U-I’s first convention, which will be held in Paris toward the end of March.

Others who will attend the convention from here are A. I. Lubin, to present his Fortuny Baranow, publicity department chief, and possibly Harry Sugarman, head of the firm’s department.

Stay Bid Unlikely

(Continued from page 1 )

reached, Caskey pointed out that, although the companies have appealed from the price-fixing ban, with special exceptions granted, it is unlikely any of them have any films which they desire to roadshow at present, and hence none of them have been eliminated from present contracts.

Partial divestiture, under the local courts’ ruling, already has been stayed two years, Caskey further pointed out, adding that a request for a stay of abolition of the industry arbitration system does not seem practical. This and other more practical provisions of the decree are scheduled to become effective April 1.

Competitive bidding, effective July 1, has not been appealed by Loew’s, so the court’s ruling precludes their asking for a stay of that provision, Caskey explained. Paramount, although appealing on other points, has not questioned some of its films through that method.

Caskey said the five companies’ practice, to be filed within a few days, will ask that the full record of the case be forwarded to the Supreme Court, including the Government’s August, 1944 motion for reconsideration of the consent decree. This document was excluded from the record filed by the Department of Justice.

The law, Caskey explained, gives the New York court 40 days in which to issue a protective appeal allowing an appeal to the Supreme Court. Thereafter, the Supreme Court is likely to rule that “probable jurisdiction is noted,” he pointed out, however, that a hearing on the merits of the case could be called.

For the time after the case is accepted will be for the defendants and the Department to meet and agree on what parts of the record are to be entered, if there are numerous exhibits likely to be eliminated, Caskey said.

He concluded that a hearing of the appeals before next fall is unlikely and declared they are all virtually certain to be heard at the same time.

Plan Stoppage of Newsreels in UK

London, Feb. 26.—Distributors of newsreels in the United Kingdom, are considering abandoning the reel, production of which has already been sharply curtailed as a result of laboratory shut-downs brought about by the coal strike.

At present, under crisis-inspired restrictions, the newsreels consume 3,500,000 feet of film per week. This is the amount of footage the British Board of Trade has recommended be reduced this week for the rest of the year if the entire industry is not to be imperiled by a complete lack of rawstock before the year’s end.

Laboratories

(Continued from page 1 )

which normally handle 80 per cent of the nation’s rawstock output. Eastman foresees some possibility of obtaining a special solid fuel allocation, by which means the company might possibly achieve 30 per cent of normal production.

A delegation of an all-industry committee and British Board of Trade officials met here today for a general exchange of views designed to lead to an endeavor to obtain amelioration for the industry from the government.

The concilce results in the officials’ plans of a desirable revised governmental print demands, and distributors and exhibitors agreeing with the B.O.T that 1,500,000 feet of raw stock must be conserved weekly for the rest of the year. The industry representatives said special releasing arrangements would have to be made to effect the saving, but in view of the threatened darkening of laboratories there is little hope of starting the emergency arrangement.

B.O.T officials estimate that with pooled rawstock resources about 11,000 feet of film will be available per week.

This estimate is dependent on how long the present fuel emergency lasts in the London area, and is regarded in trade circles as overly optimistic.

Ecclesine to CBS

Joseph A. Ecclesine has left Time magazine to join Columbia Broadcasting’s sales promotion department.

Hollander to Coast For Month’s Vacation

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—William K. Hollander, director of publicity, advertising and exploitation for Balaban & Katz, and Mrs. Hollander, will leave in a month for a trip to the West Coast tomorrow. They will spend two weeks at the La Quinta Hotel, which they own, and will spend part of B. and K. head John Balaban, and two weeks at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills. On March 19, Hollander will be feted at a luncheon given by B. and K. “alumni” who have worked in his department during the past 25 years. Frank Paramount producer, is chairman in charge of arrangements for the luncheon.

Coast Newsman Cite Goldwyn and Capra

Hollywood, Feb. 26.—Samuel Goldwyn’s production of “The Best Years of Our Lives” and Frank Capra for his direction of “It’s a Wonderful Life” were presented tonight with citations by the Hollywood Foreign Correspondents Association at the organization’s annual ceremonies at the Roosevelt Hotel.

Awards for 1946 also were given to Gregory Peck for his performance in the film “Roman Holiday” well for “Sister Kenny” and Anne Baxter and Clifton Webb for supporting performances in “The Razor’s Edge.”

Independent Artists Signs Allen Rixkin

Hollywood, Feb. 26.—Allen Rixkin has been signed to a producer-director contract by Independent Artists, Inc. and will report immediately to this company’s offices at the RKO Radio studious.

Edward Dmytryk has been signed to a new long-term contract as an RKO Radio producer-director. His next assignment is the direction, mostly in Switzerland, of “The White Tower,” by James Ramsey Ullman.

Ban ‘Grapes’ in Oslo

Exhibition of Darryl F. Zanuck’s “Grapes of Wrath” has been barred by Norwegian government, because American distributors insisted that audiences were to be informed correctly about the film. The film is not normal in the U.S., according to press dispatches reaching here from Oslo. The distributors also sought to have inserted at the film’s end an explanation that “the less flattering” aspects of American life depicted have since been improved.

“BOMBA THE JUNGLE BOY”

First of a series, based on the famous best selling BOMBA BOOKS, is the initial feature of a program to be produced by HARRY STERN PRODUCTIONS.

IN PREPARATION

“IMPERIAL/ALLEY

“RHYTHM OF THE REDWOODS”

HARRY STERN PRODUCTIONS

SUITE 205 — 118 SO. BEVERLY DR., BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.

The BOMBA BOOKS, published by Capra and Leon Publishing Co., New York, have registered sales of well over 1,000,000 copies since first date of publication; sales for 1946 over 75,000.
By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Feb. 26—MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN, who was blacklisted from the screen for nearly five years, will resume her career in the lead in "The Big Clock." Her husband, John Farrell, will play the private eye narrator, and Ray Milland and Charles Laughton have been assigned stellar roles. Muriel Reskin, who produces the "Bowery Boys" series for Monogram, has had his contract extended. The new pact calls for eight pictures, to be made within a two-year period.

Frederick Brisson, head of Independent Artists, producing company which releases through RKO Radio, has purchased "Lucky Penny," original by Jack Robin and Mindert Lord. Carole Landis has been signed by Eagle-Lion for a lead in "One of the Blue." The star will co-star with William Tabbert and Turhan Bey.

Current unrest in China has prompted Sam Bischoff to cancel plans to send a crew to Shanghai to shoot background for his tri-annual production, "Intrigue," which will star George Raft.

Producers Jesse L. Lasky and Walter MacEwen are conducting a search through Eastern colleges—Vassar, Bryn Mawr, Smith and Wellesley among them—for a girl to play opposite Fred MacMurray in "The Harriet Nelson Show." Harriet and Ida Jane Cameron Menzies will direct "Purgatory Street," next Interwood production, under Domestic-International. Maurice Conn has engaged Leslie Goodwins to direct "Dark Bullet," first Fortune Film which Conn will produce for Screen Guild release.

Irving Reis has been signed by U-I to a long-term directorial contract. "The Golden Stallion," recently purchased from an independent producer, will star a starring role for Roy Rogers. It is to be filmed in Trucor. Leo Shamroy, three times a winner of the Academy Award for cinematography, has been signed to a new long-term contract by 20th Century-Fox, as a result of his work on "Forever Amber," which studio executives believe will put him in line for a fourth award.

David O. Selznick has purchased the rights to "Rupert of Hentzau," which was first produced a quarter-of-a-century ago by Selznick's brother, Myron. French star Louis Jourdan is set for the title role, and Ronald Colman has been assigned the part of "Queen Flavia." Betty Hutton has been assigned the title role in "Dream Girl," producer's version of Elmer Rice's Broadway play.

Sol Siegel, recently signed to a production contract by RKO Radio, has been assigned to make "Ludlows Bailey" from a novel by Kenneth Roberts. Siegel is one of the stars of the stage production of the Korda version of All Quiet on the Western Front, and will be filmed on the spot. Zoltan Korda has been engaged by U-I to direct "The Mortal Cell," screens version of Abbeys Huxley's famed story, "The Giaconda Smile."

By HOWARD STEIN

Reviews

"Danger Street" (Pine-Thomas Paramount)

JANE WITHERS and Robert Lowery are the top melodrama of the kind which William Pine and William Thomas have produced so often and so successfully. That it is not as good as their best is partly due to the screenplay, by Maxwell Shane, Winston Miller and Kae Salkow. The plot is forced, unconvincing, and the behavior of the leading characters such as to be irritating to an adult audience.

"Danger Street" is cast as the editor of a picture magazine; Miss Wither's is the staff photographer. The two hire out as servants to a publicity-shy heiress in order to get photographs of her and her friends. When one of the pictures turns out to be evidence that the heiress' finance is somewhat less than single-mindedly, murder ensues. Miss WITHERS and Lowery then attempt to discover the identity of the killer. Their bungling efforts nearly lead to a near inside Lowery's neck, but another photograph saves the day—by Constance Lee, Wither's fledgling assistant. A mistake in timing almost turns this into a two-hour screen drama, but Lowery is in the crueal moment at the reunion to rescue Wither from embarrassment.

Produced by Burt Kelly and directed by Abby Berlin, from a screenplay by Charles Brackett and David O. Selznick, Miss WITHERS, plus Grant Mitchell, Mary Young, Jeff York, Jody Gilbert and Anne Nagel.


"Blondie's Holiday" (Columbia)

FURNISHING the usual light entertainment for the whole family, the Beaumonts go through another of their many crises with Dagwood punging his way out of his job and back in again, while Blondie, anxious to help him, finds the company which Dagwood's success, offers to have Dagwood pay the check for a lavish reunion of their high school class. In a fast-paced, in which Dagwood, having been caught by the police in a raid on a "boobie" bar, is bailed out by an old ex-boss, Jerome Cowan, all things come out right side up, with Dagwood succeeding at the crucial moments in the reunion to rescue Blondie from embarrassment.

Produced by Burt Kelly and directed by Abby Berlin, from the screenplay by Charles Brackett and David O. Selznick, Miss WITHERS, plus Grant Mitchell, Mary Young, Jeff York, Jody Gilbert and Anne Nagel.


"The Lone Hand Texan" (Columbia)

CHARLES STARRETT as the Durance Kid is pitted against feminine villainy in the person of Mary Newton, the principal which distinguishes this one from its predecessors, Miss Newton, who appears to be living a respectable life in a newly-developed frontier oil center, actually heads a band of desperadoes bent on discouraging independent oil producers by blowing up their well rigging. She succeeds in deceiving all but Durango.

Smiley Burnette, who becomes smitten with Miss Newton, cavors through several sequences and in the end screens his devotion to Durango, and the two of them win the oil war and break up Miss Newton's evil plans. The film is an example of the peppery cowboys and oil rigging, produce several quick—cut shots of Starrett's prowess over the appearance of the black-clad, masked Durango is necessary to strike fear in the hearts of the villains. Completing the cast are Fred Sears, Mande Pritchett, George Chesebro, Robert Stevens and Charles Carson, and others. Ray Nazarro directed with an eye to fast action, and Colbert Clark produced.


Charles L. FRANKE

"The Devil Thumbs a Ride" (RKO Radio)

LAWRENCE TIERNAY of "Dillinger" fame again cuts loose with pistol and fists in a portrayal of a stone-hearted, ruthless stick-up, guy who dupes a traveling salesman into providing automobile transportation and a beach lodge hide-out in his unsuccessful attempt to elude the relentless array of police. The film is an example of tough, peppery cops-and-robbers opus which should keep the customers wide-awake and interested. It appears destined to make box-office sowings ranging from muddling to good, depending on the tastes of patrons in given neighborhoods.

Following his killing of a passenger in a hold-up, Tierney hitches a ride with a gullible, somewhat inebriated salesman (Ted North) who later also accomodates a couple of girl hitch-hikers. Hot on Tierney's trail is detective Harry Sharnoff, accompanied by gas station attendant Glenn Vernon who had given the cops a tip-off on the criminal's possible whereabouts. This ringleader's operation takes at nothing to cover himself, not even at killing one of the girls, who had discovered his true identity. There are some exciting automobile-chase sequences and some comedy relief hanging upon Sharnoff and Vernon's poker-playing propensities. Completing the cast are Nan Leslie, Betty Lawford, Andrew Tombs, Marian Carr, and others. Felix Feist directed, from a story by Robert L. Dobie and R. W. Carlson, and screenplay by Robert C. DuSoc. Herman Schon's production was given a good polish.


C. L. F.

RCA's 1946 Net

Is $10,985,053

Net earnings of Radio Corp. of America in 1946 amounted to $10,985,053, compared to $10,615,470 last year. The figures, announced by David S. Buick, president, yesterday, this with the 1945 total of $279,503,615, when the corporation was still engaged in filling Government orders.

As of Dec. 31, 1946, RCA personnel numbered 39,361, representing an increase of 6,576 over the total at the end of 1945.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—British and Dominion Films has declared a final dividend of 10s. 7d. per share, or seven-and-one-half per cent for the year ending last October, making total declarations for the year of 10s. 7d. per share, or seven-and-one-half per cent for 1945. Profits after taxation increased 15 per cent over 1945. The company is also paying a three per cent interim dividend for this year.

Canadian National Bank has sold some 4,000 shares of RKO Radio common stock underling scrip certificates for fractional shares. Holders of the scrip certificates, which amount to 1/20th of a share each, have until March 19 to claim their shares of the proceeds of the sale, estimated at 865 cents each.

Boasberg Luncheon At Astor, Mar. 27

Charles Boasberg, newly-appointed RKO Radio district manager, will be given a testimonial luncheon at the Hotel Astor on March 27 by a committee of local theatre owners, headed by Harry Brandt, and including the following:


Vanguard Outdoor Ad

Vanguard Films is one of three advertisers of an outdoor motion picture advertising display which has been installed by Pixad, Inc., atop the building at 1456 Broadway here. The 450 square-foot screen operates in eight-minute cycles with three-minute intermissions.

Footballers to Films

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The War Department, reversing a previous decision, has granted football stars Glenn Davis and Bob Brilliant permission to make a motion picture in Hollywood. Although the pair are understood to have made no definite arrangement, such a move would be of interest.
Crasto to Hong Kong
As RKO Manager

J. Remi Crasto has been appointed RKO Radio manager in Hong Kong by Phil Reitman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, the office here announces. Crasto had been assistant manager in India.

Wolfe, Duff Leave RKO

Hollywood, Feb. 26.—Manny Wolfe has resigned as head of the RKO Radio studio department and of personnel in charge of foreign distribution, the office here announces. Crasto had been assistant manager in India.

Goldstone Joins RKO

Hollywood, Feb. 26.—Richard Goldstone, formerly with M-G-M and Columbia, has joined RKO-Radio as a producer under the supervision of Dore Schary to make “specialized type” product, the nature of which is not revealed.

M. P. Forum

(Continued from page 1)

be a year or more away.

Wehleben declined to elaborate on the reasons for cancellation of the New York meeting and the abandonment of the plans for the forum for the time being. However, it is known that Allied States has not accepted the invitation to attend the March 10-11 meeting and that the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners had declined an invitation. The Conference of Independent Exhibitors has been meeting here, awaiting its cue from Allied, also has not responded.

Exhibitors here believe that these defections eliminated the possibility of any solid front of national exhibitor representation for the New York meeting and consequently for the forum itself.

The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, of which Wehleben is president; the American Theatre Association, the Independent Theatre Owners of New York and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association had announced their intention of attending the meeting.

Minnesota Sales Levy
Faces Defeat

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 26.—With Sen. Neumeller of Stillwater, leading the fight against the two per cent sales tax, efforts to have the current session of the state legislature adopt the levy appeared to have collapsed when the speaker and majority leader in a joint statement declared that the measure is unnecessary, because “we have a balanced budget. There is no reason of great prosperity as far as government receipts in this state are concerned.”

Wyoming Legislature
By-Passes Industry

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—At least one state legislature is not going to bring before it a proposal to raise admission taxes or impose new ones. The Wyoming legislature has closed its 1947 session without passing any measure of harm to the industry. The Motion Picture Motion Pictures Association, reporting from Wyoming was the first of 44 state legislatures to adjourn.

Eastern Scatting Expands

Transfer of Eastern Scattering Co. to larger quarters in Springfield Gardens, L. I., from its present site in Brooklyn, is expected to be completed by Saturday.

Hoskwitz to Warners

Arnold Hoskwitz, formerly with Warners and later with Selznick, has joined Warners as assistant to Harry Mayer, new head of the talent department in New York.
Five Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

fixing deprives the defendants of this crucial advantage and deprives the public of exceptional pictures.

That prohibition against owning theatres jointly with independent exhibitors, except for interests exceeding 95 percent or not exceeding 5 percent of the vote, may be tested in the present case.

At what the failure to permit the exhibitor defendants to acquire additional theatres to protect their investments or enter competitive fields "without impeding the operation of the system has "deprived the public of the services of the most able and the most popularly known actors," the newspaper cited that injunction as an error of the local court.

Court Said to be Wrong

Declaring that the court erred in finding that the exhibitors discriminated against small independent exhibitors, agreed with their licensees to grant discriminatory privileges to affiliated companies, and punished as exhibitors to receive such privileges, the five companies specifically protest that the court's judgment has "acted as an impractical grant of clearance and run." While accepting the court's ban on clearance between theatres not in substantial competition, they object to having the burden of the proof of "reasonable" clearance.

Industry Arbitration

With regard to industry arbitration, the five co-appellants point out that the court declared that the system has "demonstrated its usefulness" and urged its continuance on a voluntary basis.

"Carnegie Hall"

(Continued from page 1)

fibration with those who prefer their notes hot.

But Prince in his new role of being the piano-solo player, when they are not living in the shadow of Carnegie Hall, they are living right on the premises. The parade of the years throws mother and father into the background and leaves Prince at Carnegie Hall. But Prince leans toward the new in music, leaves home to join Monroe's band, comes back to write the "25th Street Rhapsody" in a debut at Carnegie. This reconcile mother and father with the temporary rifting of the boy and girl, the loves of the family.

The narrative thread is not too weighty, nor is it new. But it is highly serviceable and made innocuously palatable under Edgar G. Ulmer's direction, aided by a nice array of performances chiefly in the hands of Miss Hunt, Mr. McHugh, and Miss O'Driscoll. Of this limited cast, they are three to do the best jobs. Miss Hunt is understanding as the mother, Prince is boyish, enthusiastic and likeable in what is a better performance than any he has given before. McHugh is the Irish attaché and all around good Samaritan.

But the professional players are not the real stars of "Carnegie Hall." These are the real-life stars of the concert and orchestra stage. Unused to camerawork and lights, all of them do usually well in the dramatic bits which they are called upon to perform. In their real-life toils as contemporary leaders in music they are, of course, completely professional and accomplished.

Producers William Le Baron and Boris Morros, moreover, were particularly adroit in tailoring their musical catalogue. Wisely, they have resisted whatever temptations perished their sound beyond the ken of the probably known classics and near-classics. Thus, Walter Darnousch conducts parts of the Tschaikowsky piano concerto and one of the "Leonora overtures" of Beethoven.

B. The little itself, "Carnegie Hall" has an asset which will attract many and make others cautious, but what they will be seeing is a first-class job of picture-making, designed for a broad appeal and drawing upon established concerti to project this. Before any of the other pictures predetermines the action of a single player or group of three. He will find more people like, and listen to, good music he may expect. This is something to be held well in mind when he considers "Carnegie Hall." He may find himself attracting patronage not normally flowing to his theatre and substantial reason to conclude his regulars will also be on hand, as usual.

Running time, 134 minutes. General audience classification.

"Valley of Fear"

(Continued from column 4)

where it is necessary to "roadshow" the production. The limited number of prints and the possibility that their continued production and exhibition can be the basis for "roadshow" procedures to the theatre interests, unless they can arrange to purchase the partial interest in their respective companies, and then, only if the court approves the purchase." Paramount, in addition, holds the court's order for "reversal" until the appeal is heard.

The assignment filed by Loew's, RKO, 20th-Fox and Warners alleges that the New York court made 39 errors, while Paramount cites 47. Leaning on the findings and conclusions with regard to price fixing, those with regard to clearance, those with regard to condition of clearance, it appears that theatres interests owned jointly with independents and the parties to operate the houses "collectively rather than competitively" and eliminate the possibility of the court's decision, that the consent decree entered on Nov. 20, 1940, should be of no further effect. Paramount, and its affiliated companies asks that the "decrease, judgment and order be reversed, modified or corrected and that appropriate judgment be entered." The assignment of the 15 Additional Films Get Legion Ratings

Fifteen additional features have been classified by the National Legion of Decency. One of these, "Man's Hope" (Spanish), Lopert Films, has been rated Class B. In Class A-1 are: Lopert's "Cage of Nightingales," Samuel Goldwyn's "Old New Mexico," "Happened in Brooklyn," PRC's "Law of the Lash," Universal's "Michigan Kid," and Columbia's "Over the Santa Fe." In Class A-2 are: "Backlash," 20th Century-Fox; "Queen of the Amazons," and "Renee Girl," both Screen Guild; "Suddenly It's Spring," Paramount, and "That Brennan Girl," Republic.

Johnny MACK BROWN and his side-kick, Raymond Hatton, have their hands full in this story, which concerns a land-grabbing plot engineered by an ostensibly peacable and trusted citizen of a frontier town. The villain, played by Steve Darrell, whose machinations are pretty well concealed until the closing day of the film, leads the folks to believe that banker Tristram Coffin is the culprit who swindled them out of money so their mortgaged properties could be sold off. However, the real culprit is revealed by Johnny Hatton, followed by considerable shooting, fist-fighting and horseback chases, leads the two to the real swindler who is duly turned over to the law.

Running time, 54 minutes. General audience classification.

"Before Him All Rome Trembled"

(Superfilm)

FACTUAL or not, "Before Him All Rome Trembled," which brings Anna Magnani to American audiences for the second time, on the heels of her triumph in "Open City," is an exciting film fare which traverses the path of many a good U. S. cloak-and-dagger thriller about the underground in occupied Europe and its heroic contributions to the liberation. Ostensibly based on the work of novel, "La Rosa Opera House" in Rome, the film, directed by Carmine Gallone from a script written by them, in collaboration with G. Gerard and C. Catado, offers a liberal portion of Pucci's novel as an integral part of the background and action. In fact, the opera quite obviously inspired the plot.

With English titles by Armando Macaluso providing an excellent explanation of the story as it unfolds, the picture is "art house" material not only because of the score of the score, but also because it is a "star" picture.

However, as a story about two opera stars, portrayed by Miss Magnani and Gino Siniberti, who shield an English agent at the risk of their own lives and the lives of other "O.M.'s," the picture is not a picture of the climax of a performance of "Tosca," it has flashes of suspense and action.

Apart from some annoying disturbances in the sound and an inability to capture fidelity in the reproduction of some music, "Before Him All Rome Trembled" is a fine effort from the Pucci score, and their "quality" picture, capably directed and skillfully acted. Its basic drawback lies in its slow pace, with the camera lingering too long on the opera performance thereby impeding momentum of the climax.

Running time, 105 minutes. General audience classification.

\[\text{\text{I. K.}}\]
Loew's Builds Cash to Buy Theatre Stock

Distribution Receipts Down; Theatres Up 8%)

Although Loew's theatre business this year is running eight per cent ahead of the same period last year the company has refrained from declaring an extra dividend, Charles C. Moskowitz, vice-president and treasurer, told the annual meeting of stockholders here yesterday, explaining that a factor is the possible need for cash reserves to buy up minority interests in houses jointly owned with independent exhibitors which are affected by the New York suit decree.

(Continued on page 7)

Loew's Directors, Officers Reelected

Loew's stockholders at a meeting here yesterday reelected all directors who in turn continued in office all officers of the company.

Officers are: Nicholas M. Schenck, president; vice-presidents, J. Robert Rubin, Alexander Lichtman, Edgar J. Mannix, William F. Rodgers, Howard Dietz, Charles C. Moskowitz (treasurer), Joseph R. Vogel, Benjamin Thau, Leopold Friedman (secretary), and Marvin H. Schenck, assistant treasurer.

(Continued on page 7)

43 Win in ‘Dimes’ 47 Drive Contest

Forty-three exhibitor “March of Dimes” contest winners were announced here yesterday at a Hotel Astor luncheon given by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis to trade press publishers and their representatives who judged the campaigns of the 2,116 theatre contestants. Some

(Continued on page 6)

UA Weighs Changes In Its Management; Raftery May Retire

Management changes within United Artists are in the offing in consequence of the concentration last week of company ownership in the hands of Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin.

Preliminary discussions have been held concerning selection of a new president of the company to replace Edward C. Rafferty who for long has wished to relinquish the post and return to his law practice from which he was drafted for the UA presidency in 1941.

Several names have been proposed already but discussions still are in such an early stage that such nominations have only the status of suggestions at the moment.

There has been mention, also, of the election of Arthur W. Kelly as a vice-president of the company. Kelly was associated with UA for many years.

(Continued on page 7)

PRC Managers Will Meet Here Saturday

Selling procedure for the remainder of 1946-47 and reissuing plants for nine Edward Small productions will be the chief topics at a two-day meeting of Producers Releasing Corp. district managers to be held here Saturday and Sunday at the Warwick.

(Continued on page 7)

Decision Stay Seen Up to Chief Justice

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson of the U. S. Supreme Court probably will be called upon to rule on any motions for a stay in the effective date of competitive bidding and other provisions of the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, according to legal observers here. Justice Jackson, they point out, normally rules on preliminary matters connected with appeals from the New York area has in the past disqualified himself because he was Attorney General during a part of the time in which the film case was before the Federal District Court here.

(Continued on page 7)

Columbia Will Ask For Bidding Stay

Columbia will ask the Supreme Court to postpone competitive bidding and single sales from the July 1, effective date set by the New York Federal District Court, until after the high tribunal rules on the company’s appeal of the industry anti-trust suit.

Louis Frohlich, Columbia counsel, said here yesterday.

At the same time, indication was given that Universal attorneys also will be toward asking for a stay of bidding and possibly some other features of the decree, although a final decision at the request.

(Continued on page 7)

MPA Urges Elimination of Trade Bars for Geneva

Portuguese Solons Defeat Quota Bill

By JOAO DE MORAIS PALMEIRO

Lisbon, Feb. 26.—The Portuguese National Assembly has rejected the proposed new film quota law for this country, and is now weighing the few, relatively unimportant amendments which were added to the original text following its introduction.

Main points of the proposal were: All theatres must devote one week out of each six weeks’ playing time to Portuguese product; all pictures en-

(Continued on page 6)

See Forum End A Death Knell Of Arbitration

No Plan to Continue System Remains Now

Wednesday’s cancellation of the March 10-11 meeting here to discuss formation of a motion picture forum was seen by local exhibitors yesterday as a possible death knell to longer for continuing the code-arbitration system on a voluntary basis beyond the April 1 termination date for its present operation under the jurisdiction of the New York Federal District Court.

Voluntary arbitration, endorsed by both the court and a number of exhibitor groups and leaders, had been placed prominently on the agenda of the March meeting by Fred Wehrberg, MPTOA president, who called the session and then cancelled it because of some feeling that consolidation machinery should not be prepared until after the U. S. Supreme Court disposed of the industry anti-trust suit.

That could be more than a year away.

(Continued on page 7)

WB Sets Clearance Plans Under Decree

Plans for abiding by the industry anti-trust suit’s decree provision that clearance in competitive areas shall be “reasonable,” with the burden of proof placed on the distributor, were discussed here yesterday afternoon at the opening session of a two-day meeting of Warner district managers, Ben

(Continued on page 7)

No Side Deals in UA Sales: Raftery

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 27.—Warning that “no side agreements are written into contracts with exhibitors,” Edward C. Rafferty, United Artists president, today told delegates to the company’s four-day regional meeting at the Wil.

(Continued on page 6)

In This Issue

Key city grosses are given on page 6.
Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

APPEALS of the five circuit-owned newspapers from New York decision in the Government’s anti-trust case were in the hands of the Federal Courts here late Wednesday, three hours on Wednesday when the six P.M. edition of the New York Post published this columnar observation:—"Both audience (government and distributors) supposed are appealing to the U. S. Supreme Court. The Post has filed its appeal, but the movie companies—content with the decision—won’t sign an appeal."*

The motion picture industry, indirectly, is responsible for the devastating revelation that a redhead is not only a distasteful disruptive element in an office—we wouldn’t know, ’cause there isn’t none here—said that all the square-jawed individual may be as spineless as his jaw is square.

We have the word from Ivan P. Cook, assistant director of industrial relations for the General Aniline and Film Corp., parent of Anscor Film, that Dr. John E. Diller’s studies prove the theories that such generalities are the bunk. Many redheads are weak and vacillating, and the number of chins successes refutes the old theory that they are unfit for leadership.†

Mexico City’s radio station regularly uses six-count "show-crazy court" to announce sports programs. Sort of giving them the bird.

A large likeness of "Bugs Bunny," Warner cartoon character, in fur coat and skis, appears in bright red on the cabin of the Red Headed Raider, the Army Transport Command’s C-54 that figured in the heroic rescue of the stranded members of the wrecked B-29 in Greenland.

Paramount stunt-flier Paul Manta, who has already hit 175 m.p.h., will, take to the air from Lockheed Terminal, Los Angeles, this morning, as the sleek propeller-driven Mustang racer, "Blaze of Noon," headed for New York in an attempt to break the present record of six hours.

Lew Lehr tells the story about the 20th-Fox-Lyon office stereographer who, looking over an assortment of furnishings in a drugstore at 77th and West End avenues, took him such items as "Take Me," "My Sin," "Breathless." "Our Glorious Night," and myriad other similarities, shy asked the sales girls, "Hasn’t you anything for beginners?"

Charles Daughney, Motion Picture Daily correspondent, proud Floridian of Miami, reports that it seldom rains down his way, but when it does, Mr. Daughney, owner, gets right into the act. Colony Theatre, makes paper hats out of newspapers to protect his patrons from the "light Dutchizzle."

Personal Mention

H. R. HERBERT J. YATES, foreman of the 57th Street Theater, New York last night for Hollywood.

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount’s Western division sales manager, Hugh Brady, West Coast district manager, and the latter’s assistant, Harold Wahrheit, have left the Coast for the Mid-West.

WILLIAM N. EDDY, director of television for the Paramount-Balaban and4 association in Chicago, WBBK, is en route to New York.

WOLF COHEN, Warner International vice-president, will leave here Wednesday for a South American tour.


HENDERSON M. RICH, M-G-M exclusive exploitation manager, will return to here tomorrow on a Florida vacation.

HAROLD ZELTNER, M-G-M Pittsburgh salesman, is the father of a baby boy born Feb. 8 at Montefiore Hospital, that city.

DON PRINCE, RKO Radio foreign publicity director, will leave New York for Mexico City this weekend.

LEI GRUNBERG, RKO Radio New York district manager, was in Memphis this week.

A. M. KANE, Paramount district manager, has returned to Boston from Albany, N. Y.

SHU BLUMENSTEIN, 20th Century-Fox exploitation manager, is in New Orleans from New York.

JOE PASTERNAK, M-G-M producer, will return here in a few days from a Bahamas vacation.

WILLIAM B. ZOLLNER, head of M-G-M’s reprints and importations, has returned here from a Southern tour.

SRO Setting Up Atlanta Office

ATLANTA, Feb. 27.—Al Delambre of Dallas, South-Southwest division manager of the Selznick Release Organization, is here to establish an SRO sales office which he expects to open by April 1. The Selznick company has announced that it will set up 21 sales offices throughout the country, independent of separate physical distribution facilities of National Theatre Distributors which will be used by SRO.

SRO Leaves Resigns Post

ATLANTA, Feb. 27.—Sid Reams, who was appointed Republic branch manager here three months ago, has resigned, effective immediately.

Harry Paul Named RCA Southern Head

ATLANTA, Feb. 27.—Harry Paul will resign as branch manager of the Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co. here on March 15 to become Southern district manager of RCA, with headquarters here. Paul was Wil-Kin branch manager for nine years. Previously he was with National Theatre Supply Co. for 11 years.

N. Y. Exhibitor Group In Tax Meet Today

The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Association will meet here today with John G. Bryson, assistant to Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston, to discuss the newly-introduced measure in the New York State legislature which would give blanket authorization to cities and towns to draw additional tax revenues from any source, including theatres and films.

Apley Screening Mar. 5

The late George Apley," 20th Century-Fox, will be re-screened in all exchange centers on March 5. The film was directed by Joseph Mankiewicz and produced by Fred F. Farkas.

Motion Picture Daily: 2
February 28, 1947

CALIFORNIA The Electric Theatre

A Performance Rehearsal

Ray Barrow

BARRY NARR

MILLARD STARNICKY WALTER GILMOUR

RIVOLI THEATER Doors Open "SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING" 11:00 A.M.

"The Best Picture of the Year"

—N. Y. FILM CRITICS
New Selection Basis For U-I Overseas

One of the main objectives of Universal - International's forthcoming Paris convention, for which Joseph A. Seidelman, head of the company's foreign operations, will leave New York on March 7 with a contingent of home office delegates, is to give U-I territorial managers an opportunity to view pictures for their individual countries before they are set for distribution, Seidelman disclosed here yesterday.

"In putting our foreign markets on a selective basis, we hope to meet success in each country's audiences," Seidelman said, adding that "The Egg and I," "Out of Mind," "Bell Ami," starring William Forst, and "Hello Janine." |  

Levinson to Handle Foreign Films Here

Mike J. Levinson is setting up offices in New York to handle a selection of foreign features to be presented by Levinson-Finney Enterprises, Inc. Levinson is organizing a road-show engagement of "The Egg and I," the U.S. and will first concentrate on the East Coast by making bookings from Buffalo, New York to Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis.

Edward Finney, associated with Levinson, is now getting the pictures ready for the home office and will include "The Egg and I," "Out of Mind," "Bell Ami," starring William Forst, and "Hello Janine.

Kumin Joins Cagney As Talent Chief

Hollywood, Feb. 27,—Irving Kumin has been appointed executive in charge of talent for William Cagney Productions, Kumin resigned Jan. 1 as talent executive for Warners after a 15-year association with that company. Formerly the studio's casting director, Kumin entered the Army Air Forces in 1942, returning a year ago as a second lieutenant. A few months later he was handed the top talent spot.

Coast Judge Rejects 16 Carpenters' Suit

Hollywood, Feb. 27.—Federal Judge Ben Harrison today dismissed the suit brought three months ago by 16 carpenters charging the IATSE, the Conference of Studio Unions and 10 studios with conspiracy to deprive them of their right to work. The case, which attracted wide interest as a test of the right to work principle, was dismissed on the grounds that the Federal Court lacked jurisdiction.

1ATSE Local Wins

Local No. H-63, IATSE, was designated yesterday as collective bargaining unit for a group ofecial and office employees of Robbins, Feist and Miller, music publishing subsidiary of M-G-M. The union has moved for recognition of a contract which will cover about 50 employees, is slated to get under way immediately.

Neway Workers' Union

Neway, N. Y., Feb. 27.—Cashiers, doormen, ushers and ticket-takers of Neway theatres have established a unit of the projectionists union. Edward Foley, former Neway union official, has been elected president. No demands have been filed as yet.

Fox Theatre Changes

Hollywood, Feb. 27.—Dick Dickson has resigned as general manager of the Fox Theatre and purchasing departments of Fox West Coast Theatres, has been appointed assistant general manager, thus permitting general manager George Bowser to devote more time to management and film prob- lems. Dickson replaces R. H. McCullough.

Levee to be Feated

Hollywood, Feb. 27.—M. C. Levee, chairman of the New York Regional Committee's United Appeal, will be honored at a reception tendered next week by studio officials, campaign captains and representatives of all guilds and crafts.

Boston AAA Office In Clearance Award

Reduction of clearance held by the Social Democratic Party of Berlin, N. H., operated by Allied Theatres of Berlin, over the Ritz Theatre of Gor- don Mill, has been ordered by the 20th Century-Fox, Warner Brothers, Paramount and RKO Radio, from 20 days to 21 days made in an award by the Boston tribunal of the American Arbitration Association. With the disposition of the complaint, filed by RKO representatives and Allied companies and Allied Theatres, as in- tervenor, the Boston tribunal now has set sail.

The arbiter further held that the clearance would apply only to product shown either the Strand or Allen for within 60 days of availability. All pictures not shown by either of these theatres within that period shall be December to stop issuing the permits simultaneously upon the expiration of the 60 days.

Theatre Lighting Bill In N. H. Legislature

Concord, N. H., Feb. 27.—A bill has been introduced in the New Hampshire legislature which requires theatres, dance halls, churches and other public buildings to install emergency lighting equipment.

The measure calls for installation of an auxiliary storage battery lighting system which would go on automatic in case the regular electric power failed.

St. Louis Union Told To End Permit Cards

St. Louis, Feb. 27.—International headquarters of the Theatrical Brotherhood has ordered St. Louis local No. 866 to stop permitting cards to be used in any form, as "L. H. no. 866," St. Louis, to their members. No cards will be issued except those of the union as full-fledged members. Permit cards are described by a union representative as "not in keeping with our international rules.

Children's Admissions

Hartford, Feb. 27.—The Connecticut Legislature's judiciary Committee today reported favorably on a bill authorizing children under 14 to attend motion picture theatres after six P.M. without parents.

Para. Declares Dividend

Paramount Pictures yesterday declared a 25 cents per share dividend on March 31 to stockholders of record on March 11.

Republic Dividend

Republic Pictures' board of directors yesterday declared a quarterly regular dividend of 25 cents per share on pre- ferred stock and 10 cents per share on common stock, payable May 10 to stockholders of record on March 10.

Columbia Stock Dividend

The board of directors of Columbia Pictures has declared a common stock dividend of $2.50 per share to be payable on May 9 to stockholders of record on April 24. Fractional shares owning a dividend of less than $1.50 per share will be paid in cash.

Dewey Said To Be Studying Local Taxes

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 27.—A report today by Governor Dewey's special counsel, in recommending teachers' salary boosts, stated that "it has already been in- quired by the counsel whether Governor Dewey would recommend that additional taxing power be conferred locally for educa- tional purposes in connection with a general program of increased local taxing power." Dewey was quoted as saying: "This is outside the direct purposes of this com- mittee, and we understand that the details concerning these special local needs will be forthcoming within a few days."—N. Y. Exhibitors Wire

Pottstown, Pa., Tax Fought by Warners

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 27.—Suit has been filed by Warner Theatres, Inc., in Montgomery County against the Borough of Pottstown to declare in- valid the five per cent tax on admiss- ions. Warners claims the tax, passed last December, is increasing the annual taxes for operation of the Warners' house, the Strand, from $100 to $1,000. William Golding, who operates the Strand, is a defendant, and his company has filed a similar suit.

Suit will be tried on Friday before Judge William F. Dennenhower in the Court of Quarter Sessions, county of Montgomery.

Atlantic City Tax Being Considered

ATLANTIC CITY, Feb. 27.—A bill which would permit New Jersey municipalities to impose, for operation of liquor and tobacco, hotel rooms and liquor five per cent will be introduced in the New Jersey Legislature by representa- tives of this county early in March.

The bill is designed to replace the former "liquor-tax" which has been called unconstitutional by the state Supreme court which decision was upheld by the Court of Errors and Appeals.

Maine Solons Get Admission Tax Bill

AUGUSTA, Me., Feb. 27.—A bill providing for a five per cent tax on theatre admissions to finance a state advertising campaign in Maine has been introduced in the state legislature. The tax would also apply to dance halls.

The Vermont legislature has voted down, 131 to 94, a bill which would allow motion pictures, basketball and football on Sunday afternoon.

School Films Asked

HARTFORD, Feb. 27.—Rep. Edgerton has introduced a bill which would au- thorize the house of education to pro- mote visual education in public schools.
THIS IS THE AD THAT STARTS THE Boom
FOR Boomerang! IN NEW YORK'S 10 GREAT NEWSPAPERS

THIS IS THE UNPARALLELED PARADE
OF BOXOFFICE RECORD-BREAKERS
NOW PLAYING AND ON THE WAY FROM 20th CENTURY-FOX

THE
RAZOR'S EDGE
13 RUE MADELEINE
BOOMERANG!
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA

THE HOMESTRETCH
In Technicolor!
MOSS ROSE
MIRACLE ON 34th STREET
BOB, SON OF BATTLE
In Technicolor!
KISS OF DEATH
NIGHTMARE ALLEY
CALL NORTHSIDE 777

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW
In Technicolor!
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS
In Technicolor!
THE FOXES OF HARROW
FOREVER AMBER
In Technicolor!
CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE
In Technicolor!
This is the TRUTH!

No Fiction Writer Could Create Such Drama!

...Told how it happened!
...Filmed the way it happened!

Boomerang! brings to a stunning climax of perfection the technique 20th Century-Fox made famous in "The House On 92nd Street" and "13 Rue Madeleine"

Because it is real...true...authentic...

Boomerang! is a new kind of motion picture, lifted, alive and pulsating, out of life itself!

Screen Play by Richard Murphy * Based Upon an Article by Anthony Abbot, Published in the Reader's Digest

Next Attraction ROXY COMING SOON!

7th AVE. & 50th ST.
**Key City Grosses**

**FOllowing are estimated picture grosses for Sunday, Feb. 27, 1949, for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.**

**BOSTON**

A majority of local houses are showing satisfactory business for the week.

**Swell Guy (U-I)—Boston (500) (300c—65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000).**

**Humoresque (WB) and Mr. Hex—Fenway (500) (60c—75c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,143).**

**The Razor’s Edge (20th-Par) Memo-Rial (500) (40c—60c) Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,143).**

**California (Par) and Susie Steps Out (UA)—Metropolitan (450) (40c—60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,143).**

**The Jolson Story (Col.)—Orpheum (600) (30c—50c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $285).**

**Cleveland**

“Sindbad the Sailor” played to good attendance, while business at other theatres was fair. The city escaped the heavy Easter snow storm. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 17.

**Blue Skies (Para)—Loew’s Ohio (1,200) (65c—70c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $429).**

**Lady in the Lake (M-G-M)—Shaw’s State (1,300) (50c—75c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286).**

**Love Laughs at Andy Hardy (M-G-M)—Loew’s Stillman (1,500) (50c—75c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286).**

**Murder in reverse (Four contestants)—Shaw’s Play Hall (500) (65c—70c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $357).**

**Rko Allen (500) (50c—75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $214).**

**Road to the Sailor’s Radio—Rko Palace (1,300) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286).**

**Eumoresque (WB) and Warners’ Hippodrome (1,250) (50c—75c) 7 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $214).**

**The Shocking Miss Pilgrim (20th-Fox)—Warners’ Lake Ohi (750) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $429).**

**Cincinnati**

Although there are some bright spots on the box office horizon, grosses generally are below the figures registered in recent weeks. The weekend weather was cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending Feb. 27.

**The Mighty McGurk (M-G-M)—Rko Capitol (1,500) (30c—55c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $857).**

**Till the Clouds Roll By (M-G-M)—Rko Capitol (2,000) (65c—85c—65c—75c) 7 days, 3rd week, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,286).**

**Dimes’ Drive Winners**

(Continued from page 1)

7,000 theatres participated in this year’s campaign.

The leaders at the luncheon were:
Warren D. Goetz, National Foundation director; Emil Jensen, film campaign director; Charles Reed Jones, publicist; Charles Savage, National Foundation, and John J. O’Connell, of the Foundation; Lilian Feldman and Thomas J. Murphy of the film office; and Glendon Allvane, MPA; Dave Badeckis and Jack Alicone, chairman of the judging committee.

Winners in contest No. 1, on the basis of the most dimes per seat, first to 14th places as follows: Lemberg, Los Angeles; Swift, Capitol Theatre, Macon, Ga.; John C. O’Connell, of the Foundation; Jack Fosse, Columbus, Washington; J. Clevelg, Capitol, Chicago; Gerald Jewett, Union, New York; Seabury, Cleveland; F. McMillan, Earl, Washington, J. E. Redelle, Reddee, Virginia, and Harry S. O’Connell, of the Foundation. Washington, M. Thebe, Princess, Honolulu; Nelson, pictures office, City; Sorin, RKO Keith’s; Washington; Roland Robbins, Times-Lax, Washington; Mrs. Louise Norman Miller, Little, Washington, and Sid, Elliot, of the Los Angeles, Calif., office.

Winners in contest No. 2, on the basis of percentage increase in sales, as follows: 1st to 14th places as follows: Harry Bert Lee, Rialto Theatre, Terry, Idaho; Mrs. E. F. Powell, Rialto, El Paso, Tex.; and Mrs. F. M. Wright, Rialto, La Crosse, Wis.

In contest No. 3, division No. 1, on the basis of the largest percentage increase in sales, with an engine capacity of 100 or less, first to 14th places as follows: Mrs. Harry Bert Lee, Rialto Theatre, Terry, Idaho.

Winners in contest No. 4, for theatres with seating capacity of 901 to 1,000, the winners were: Paul Horton, Times Theatre, Invasion, S. C.; Millburn Komorowski, Naert, Moscow, Idaho, and Earl S. McKennedy, Bowling Green, Ky.

Division No. 5, for theatres with seating capacity in excess of 1,000, the winners were: Alphon Kon, Murray Theatre, Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Regis O’Reilly, Peoria, Ill., and Jack A. Cameron, Ritz, Bellville, Ohio.

Division No. 4, for theatres with cancellations totaling 1,001-1,500, the winners were: George P. Suter, Radio City, Fern. City, Ga.; Mrs. L. A. Casoet, Rhoda, Minnea. polis, Pa., and William H. Henry, Mayfair, West New York, N. J., and the three winners were: N. A. Brown, Beach Theatre, Hastings on Hudson, N. Y., and J. B. Wise, of the Lincoln Theatre, Lincoln, Ill., and James A. Field, Paramount, Salem, Oreg., and Harvey G. Cook, Palace, Fort Wayne, Ind.

**Portuguese Quota**

(Continued from page 1)

terning Portugal must obtain a special license from the Board of Public Entertainment and must be passed by the censor; money obtained from the admission fees is then turned over to the national Portuguese film industry; no Portuguese theatre may be owned or managed by a foreign company or individual; the screening of any pictures dubbed into Portuguese in a foreign language will not be permitted; an exception was made in the case of Brazilian films.

The amendments still to be decided upon are the establishment of prohibitions licenses for short features and newsreels and exemption of all short features imported into the country, unless prior to Dec. 31, 1946, from dubbing regulations.
RKO Shunts 8 Field Staffers, Adds Two

CHICAGO, Feb. 27—Addition of two new field men, Keith Bain in Omaha and Leo Young in Oklahoma City, and the transfer of eight in the field staff has been announced by Terrance L. J. Heil, president of RKO Radio, who is visiting here from New York.

The shifted personnel include: Bill Prager, from Chicago to Washington; Wally Heim, Cincinnati to Chicago; Hugh McKenzie, St. Louis to Cincinnati; J. James, St. Louis; Carol W. Atlan, to Memphis; Charles Kinney, New Orleans, and Jack Quinn, New Haven to New Orleans; Fred Ford, Memphis to Milwaukee.

Loew's Builds

(Continued from page 1)

Under the decree the five exhibitor defendants, including Loew's, have been given until Dec. 31, 1948, to reduce their partnership holdings at least five per cent. Failure thereafter will increase them at least to 95 per cent.

Regarding the present increased business trend, Moskowitz said he looked forward with optimism, although unpredictable factors may influence future grosses. His optimistic opinion was supported by David Loew, president and head of the Loew circuit, who told the stockholders that New York's Broadway theaters, some of which have suffered a dip in receipts, are an inadequate criterion of conditions throughout the country. He expected that the Loew, who was assisting this to fewer venues and an apparent lessening in the popularity of stage-show jazz bands, would prove successful.

Loew's revenue from film sales for the first quarter of the current fiscal year has been better than the corresponding period in 1946, according to Moskowitz, who added that the trend has been better during the second quarter, which will end March 13, and that he expects the early decline to be overcome.

In compliance with the anti-trust suit decree, Loew's few remaining pooling agreements will be dissolved by the July 1 deadline, Vogel said. A possible extension of the Fair Trade Act was liquidated last September, he pointed out.

The company's new recording plant at Bluebird, N. W. Irwin sent its first records to dealers in the East within 10 days, Moskowitz announced.

Loew's Re-Elects

(Continued from page 1)


Directors are Friedmann, Eugene W. Leake, Moskowitz, William A. Parker, Rodgers, Rubin, Schenck, Vogel, Davis, Warfield and Henry Rogers Winthrop.

Forum's End

(Continued from page 1)

Although voluntary arbitration undoubtedly will come up at the convention of the American Theatres Association in St. Louis, the Washington or Chicago in April, indications are that some 23 of the 31 tribunals that the system will have to be discontinued before that date, with the remainder existing beyond then only until they can discover how to deal with cases on their agendas. Also, it is pointed out, since many exhibitors are not ATA members, the system might be expanded to any movement launched at the convention.

The five theatre-owning film companies have been asked by the 20th Century-Fox and Warners—which have settled many distribution disputes with exhibitors through the arbitration tribunals under the 1940 consent decree, have appealed to the Supreme Court for continuation of the system but have indicated that they will not ask for a stay of the New York court's dissolution order, and legal observers believe that Washington will not be able to rule on the case until early next year. These companies have been conspicuously silent regarding the loose ends voluntary arbitration plea, but numerous exhibitors have felt that they are being hung on the rope against their independent owners throughout the country first would demonstrate that the system is working.

Department of Justice officials have expressed opposition to continuation of industry arbitration and, it is as- sumed, are not prepared to counter distributor-parties' appeals in the Supreme Court on the issue.

PRC Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

Hotel. Ralph C. Clark, PRC general sales manager, recently appointed, will preside at this, his first PRC sales session.


The meeting will also discuss plans for the Eddie Dean outdoor musical adaptations and the "Lash" LaRoe, Al "Fuzzy" St. John action Western.

Clark will be assisted at the meetings by Harold S. Dunn, assistant general sales manager, District sales executives attended them and included Max Roth, Eastern sales manager; Al Herman, New England manager; Joe Miller, New York State manager; James Hendel, district manager, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Cincinnati; Fred Irick, Washington-Philadelphia district manager; George Schwartz, Southern manager; William Sherman, Midwestern manager; Albert M. Prestia, Midwestern assistant district manager; Beverly Miller, Western manager.

Home office executives who will attend include: Paul Charles, J. Lock Bellman, Phil Getelson, George Flein, Elmer Hollander, Abe Sutton, Neil Astrin, Joe Sugar, Frank Heffer and Joseph W. Crane branch manager Seymour Schussell.

Change Circuit With Fraud, 'Bicycling'

PHOENIX, Feb. 27.—Percentage fraud became a matter of investigation and combined for the first time in four separate suits filed here yesterday in U. S. District Court by Paramount, Famous-Radio, Loew's Century-Fox against Louis F. Long, operating 23 Arizona theaters.

Columbus and RKO, in two other suits, brought similar suits of copyright by unauthorized exhibitions.

Damages are asked on the percentage claims and for each copyright infringement.

UA Changes

(Continued from page 1)

years, at various times having been a vice-president, head of distribution, foreign manager and chairman of the finance committee. He left UA in 1944 to organize Eagle-Lion here for J. Arthur Rank. Kelly is now in England.

It is stated that Miss Pickford and Chaplin are desirous of having Gladwell L. Sears continue as vice-president in charge of the foreign department. These companies have heretofore exerted such a system for RKO, which has been in Pittsburgh and could not be reached for comment yesterday.

However, he has on many occasions assailed the UA presidency expressed his intention of returning to his law firm, O'Brien, Drigoll, Raftery and Lawler, as soon as conditions within UA permitted him to do so. It is recalled that when he was drafted for the post he agreed to serve for only one year and without a contract.

The O'Brien, Drigoll, Raftery and Lawler association has been in existence since the company was founded. The relationship is not expected to be affected by Raftery's withdrawal from the presidency.

A public issue of United Artists stock has been discussed with underwriters and while no action is contemplated for the present a public sale of stock remains a possibility for the future.

WB Clearance Plans

(Continued from page 1)

Kalminson, vice-president and general sales manager, presided, and the court's requirements were explained to Robert W. Perkins, vice-president and general counsel, and Howard Levinson of the legal department.

The decree's competitive bidding provision will be outlined in today's session, at which time, presumably, plans will be made for placing the West Coast office by Joseph Rauh's solicitation.

Previously it had been indicated that Warner's would not offer any films competitively until July 1, when the Supreme Court's decree officially becomes effective; later if the Supreme Court should grant a stay. Competitive bidding, per se, will be considered the appeal of the case filed here Thursday by the company, according to Loew's, DECO, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox.

MPA Urges

(Continued from page 1)

dent Eric A. Johnston, and prepared with the assistance of Allen W. Traylor, assistant general counsel, for the firm of Sullivan and Cromwell, maintains that reciprocal trade agreements in the past were made with the view of protecting the ordinary art trade and commerce generally on a most-favored-nation basis but because of its special status by the United States industry was subjected to "very special" restrictions.

It is pointed out that the American distributor is hardest hit by restrictions on all foreign films in countries where Hollywood pictures virtually man the market. Said the text. This is one of several examples cited in which international trade parts are agreeable to other U. S. industries.

Exemption Asked

MPA asks that U. S. films be exempt from internal taxes and charges other than those imposed on other foreign film products. Specifically, the U. S. industry wants at least the same treatment given the foreign trade by the government of any foreign government.

It would eliminate the requirement of importation of American advertising material for exposed films of U. S. origin. There would be no demand that a picture be dubbed in the country where the agents are located. The office would be established in any country in conformity with that country's laws.

Importers of U. S. product shall not be required as a condition to the granting of distribution and sale of such product to obtain the desired films of any other origin or to be a member of "any official, semi-official or partially recognized organization."

Equal Consideration

As for exemptions from any foreign government, MPA wants the same considerations as are given to other industries, again on the most-favored-nation basis, it would be exempt from customs duties and censorship upon their importation by any foreign government.

MPA proposes that in no case will a foreign government impose new restrictive measures without consultation with the U. S. industry. Specifically, it frankly recognizes that these conditions could hardly be obtained in some countries but suggests that efforts be made to obtain as much of them as possible.

The MPA states that most important is the fact that it has to have representation Geneva conferences and that Joe, who will re-arrange his European trip to be present if necessary.

Bidding Stay

(Continued from page 1)

cision has not yet been reached. United Artists, however, definitely will not ask for a stay of any part of the injunction pending appeal of the company's counsel declared, and, as reported yesterday in Motion Picture Daily, neither of the opposing defendants have indicated that a stay request from them is unlikely. Joseph W. Proskauer, special attorney for Warner Bros., has told the attorneys that, in his opinion, the Supreme Court would not be inclined to grant any stays, much as the New York judges denied them.
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<th>WEEK OF</th>
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<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>LOVE LAUGHS</td>
<td>at ANDY HARDY</td>
<td>Mickey Rooney</td>
<td>C—91 mins.</td>
<td>(Feb. Release)</td>
<td>RAINBOW OVER THE ROCKIES</td>
<td>Jimmy Wakely</td>
<td>O—54 mins.</td>
<td>LADIES' MAN</td>
<td>Eddie Bracken</td>
<td>REAL LIFE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>CIGARETTE GIRL</td>
<td>M—67 mins.</td>
<td>OVER THE SANTA FE TRAIL</td>
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<td>VALLEY OF FEAR</td>
<td>Johnny Mack Brown</td>
<td>O—54 mins.</td>
<td>VALLEY OF DEATH</td>
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<td>LADIES MAN</td>
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<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>(Feb. Release)</td>
<td>DEAD RECKONING</td>
<td>D—100 mins.</td>
<td>(February)</td>
<td>BOOMTOWN</td>
<td>Clark Gable</td>
<td>O—119 mins.</td>
<td>FALL GUY</td>
<td>Robert Armstrong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>11TH HOUR</td>
<td>Richard Dix</td>
<td>D—65 mins.</td>
<td>(March Release)</td>
<td>THE GUILTY</td>
<td>Bonita Granville</td>
<td>D—58 mins.</td>
<td>DEVIL ON WHEELS</td>
<td>Noreen Nash</td>
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<td>(Color)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 8</td>
<td>THE LONE HAND TEXAN</td>
<td>Richard Dix</td>
<td>D—65 mins.</td>
<td>(March Release)</td>
<td>EASY COME, EASY GO</td>
<td>Sonny Tufts</td>
<td>D—58 mins.</td>
<td>CASEY - THE SYNTHETIC MAN</td>
<td>Gregory Peck</td>
<td>THE LONE HAND TEXAN</td>
<td>(Rev. 1/24/47)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 22</td>
<td>MILLIE'S DAUGHTER</td>
<td>Gladys George</td>
<td>D—76 mins.</td>
<td>(March Release)</td>
<td>BEGINNING OF THE END</td>
<td>Brian Donlevy</td>
<td>D—112 mins.</td>
<td>THE GHOST WALKS</td>
<td>Brian Aherne</td>
<td>THE GHOST WALKS</td>
<td>(Rev. 1/24/47)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 29</td>
<td>WEST OF DODGE CITY</td>
<td>Preston Foster</td>
<td>D—76 mins.</td>
<td>(March Release)</td>
<td>SIX-GUN SERENADE</td>
<td>Jimmy Wakely</td>
<td>D—87 mins.</td>
<td>SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING</td>
<td>Pancho Goddard</td>
<td>SIX-GUN SERENADE</td>
<td>(Rev. 1/24/47)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>KING OF THE WILD HORSES</td>
<td>Preston Foster</td>
<td>D—76 mins.</td>
<td>(March Release)</td>
<td>VIOLENCE</td>
<td>Nancy Coleman</td>
<td>O—53 mins.</td>
<td>HIT THE ROAD</td>
<td>Richard Barthelmess</td>
<td>VIOLENCE</td>
<td>(Rev. 1/24/47)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY</td>
<td>Penny Singleton</td>
<td>Arthur Lake</td>
<td>D—76 mins.</td>
<td>MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE</td>
<td>Bob Hope</td>
<td>Dorothy Lamour</td>
<td>THREE ON A TAKING</td>
<td>Hugh Beaumont</td>
<td>MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE</td>
<td>(April 1 Release)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- **Dates Are Based On National Release Schedules and Are Subject To Change.**
- **Letters Denote The Following:**
  - (D) Drama
  - (M) Musical
  - (C) Comedy
  - (O) Western
  - (F) Outdoor Action
  - Production Numbers Are In Parentheses.
  - Discontinued Motion Picture Daily Review

**Dates:**
- March 15, 1947
- April 22, 1947
- May 6, 1947
- May 20, 1947
- June 3, 1947
- June 20, 1947
- July 4, 1947
- July 23, 1947
- August 6, 1947
- August 20, 1947
- September 3, 1947
- September 23, 1947
- October 7, 1947
- October 21, 1947
- November 4, 1947
- November 21, 1947
- December 5, 1947
- December 21, 1947
New Cases Will Prolong Life Of Arbitration

Filings in N.Y., Ohio; 3 Others in Preparation

Evidences of renewed exhibitor interest in the industry arbitration system were disclosed on Friday with the filing of new complaints in New York and Cleveland and indications that additional complaints will be filed within the next few days in Albany, New Haven and Cincinnati.

The arbitration tribunals may accept new cases up to April 1 and tribunals which have cases pending before them then may remain in existence until those cases are disposed of.

Accordingly there has been trade speculation whether the recent and current activity is indicative of independent exhibitor interest in seeing the boards maintained for as long as possible despite Department of Justice.

(Continued on page 6)

Record High Is Hit By Admission Taxes

Washington, March 2.—Federal admission tax collections reached an all-time high of $454,928,352 during the calendar year of 1946, compared with $375,306,023 for 1945, the Bureau of Internal Revenue reported on Friday. Between 80 and 90 per cent of both totals represent receipts.

(Continued on page 6)

Levin Appoints Five District Managers

John J. Shine, Frank S. Ingres, Orto Stradley, Barry Halbert and Arthur W. Davis have been named district managers of Confidential Reports, Inc., by Jack H. Levin.

Shine will work out of the Atlanta office, covering Charlotte, Dallas, Memphis, New Orleans, and Oklahoma City; Ingres, from the Chicago office, will cover Des Moines, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Omaha, and St. Louis; Stradley, in Cleveland, will cover Buffalo, Detroit, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, and Pittsburgh; Halbert, in Los Angeles, will cover Denver, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, and Seattle; and Davis, from Philadelphia, will cover Albany, Boston, New Haven, New York, and Washington.

Showmanship Award To Be Judged Today

The work of 22 finalists competing for the annual Quigley Showmanship Awards will be appraised by more than 100 industry executives of the Quigley Awards Committee, at the Hotel Astor, here, today. Following the appraisals, Martin Quigley will be host at a luncheon at which Sol A. Schwartz, vice-president in charge of theatres for RKO Service Corp., will be the principal speaker.

Many out-of-town theatre executives and exhibitors will attend.

Italy Keeping Lid On Film Profits

By ARCEO SANTUCCI

Rome, Feb. 24. (By Airmail) — While no quota restrictions against foreign product appears to be in the air, according to informed industry spokesmen here, it is possible that earnings of foreign pictures will still have to be held in blocked accounts. That investment of these earnings will continue under government control seems certain, according to these observers.

Concerned over the prohibition against converting lire into dollars, American companies in Italy have indicated their dissatisfaction and point to the ban as making unprofitable the distribution of pictures to such an extent that the average, about $13,000 per film, will not be covered by dubbing, prints and advertising.

The country's banks need government permission to spend earnings from the exploitation of foreign pictures in blocked accounts, but this rule is likely to be relaxed to enable American companies to invest in Italian stocks.

CSA Hits U.S. As Exhibitor Representative

Holds Bidding Bad, Not Just Inadequate Relief

Holding that divestiture is unnecessary, the Confederation of Southern Associations on Friday declared in an appeal to the Supreme Court that the Department of Justice's opposition to competitive bidding does not constitute representation of their interests, inasmuch as the government objects to the bidding system solely on the ground that it is an inadequate substitute for divestiture.

The CSA petition, asking the high tribunal to reverse the New York Federal District Court's denial of the association's right to intervene in the industry antitrust suit and to eliminate the bidding provision from the court's decree, was the 10th and last appeal placed on record. It came two weeks after the court's decision.

(Continued on page 6)

FWC Gains Seven In Pooling Breakup

Hollywood, March 2.—Seventeen theatres in Southern and Northern California which Fox West Coast has operated in pooling arrangements will pass to individual control and the circuit will take over 100 per cent operation of 24 other homes on completion of current paper work.

The split-up, necessitated by the

(Continued on page 6)

Myers Anticipates 'Clean-Cut' Verdict

Washington, March 2.—Unlike the New York Federal District Court, the U.S. Supreme Court early next year will make a "clean-cut" decision in the industry anti-trust suit to either remove producer-distributors from "thin legal ice" by affirming that they do not have a monopoly.

(Continued on page 6)

"It Happened in Brooklyn"

[Photo]

ET's see about this one: There's Frank Sinatra, as faithful a son as Brooklyn has ever known; Jimmy Durante, combining the mellow with his inimitable brand of humor; Kathryn Grayson, ready for song and romance and finding both; Peter Lawford, the young folks' delight; warmly sympathetic direction by Richard Whorf under the experienced hand of producer Jack Cummings; six song numbers by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne, who rank high in their field; a smattering of Bach, Dellore and Mozart, who were no slouches, either. There, also, is a story which is never important, but reliable enough for a musical.

All this sounds like a package of entertainment which is what "It Happened in Brooklyn" is. A tip-top package, unquestionably slated to

(Continued on page 5)

In This Issue

"Fall Guy" is reviewed on page 3.
Personal Mention

HOWARD DIETZ, M-G-M vice-president and director of advertising, has been appointed, left here at the weekend by plane for the Coast.

Ike and HARRY KAUTZ, Kay Film Exchanges executives, have returned to Atlantic City from visits in Washington and New York; they are due here shortly for Memphis and New Or-leans.

PAULEtte GODDARD is here from Hollywood today en route to London. She and her husband DORCES MERRYDITH will sail on the Queen Elizabeth March 7.

LOWELL CALVERT, sales representative for Hunt Stromberg Productions, has returned to New York from the Coast.

PAULA GOULD, New York Capitol publicist, will return to her desk today following an attack of the grippe.

FRANK CAPRA has been awarded the 22nd Annual Gold Star by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for 1946 for his direction of "It’s a Wonderful Life."

HARRY Young, Universal salesman, Columbus, is recuperating at his home there from injuries sustained in an automobile incident last month.

MOREY GOLSTEIN, Monogram’s general sales manager, left here at the beginning of a leave for a vacation tour of Charlotte, Atlanta and Miami.

LICINE BRIEN, Eagle-Lion representative, will leave New York for Pittsburgh tomorrow accompanied by KENNY DELMAR.

R. E. MARTIN, head of Martin Theatres, Atlanta, will celebrate his 62nd birthday on Thursday.

CHARLES K. STEARN, Loew’s assistant manager, will leave for the Coast for New York on Wednesday.

WILLIAM G. BRENNER, head of M-G-M’s New York advertising, is in Los Angeles from New York.

Blaze’ Tradeshow Set

Paramount will stage "Blaze of Noon" in all branch areas, New York excepted, on Friday, March 21. The picture, which was produced by Robert Fellows and directed by John Farrow, will be screened in New York at the Normandie Theater today. The film’s world premiere will be held at the Rivoli, here, tomorrow.

Larkin Opens Office

Mark Larkin has opened his own public relations and publicity office in New York, to promote road-show engagements and special attractions for film companies, as well as public relations campaigns for advertising agencies and book publishers.
"Odd Man Out"

[Two Cities-Universal] — Dramatic Atom Bomb

THE scene is an unidentified city in Northern Ireland, no doubt Belfast. The time is during the war; the story, an incident in the activities of the Irish Republican Army. The action starts at four o'clock and ends at midnight. The result, brilliantly produced and directed by Carol Reed, is the unrelenting and uncompromising drama of a manhunt in what is one of the few outstanding examples of its type and a motion picture which has substantial possibilities of finding ultimate place among the screen's greats.

First, the dramatic outline: James Mason, out of prison and ill, is chief in his city of the illegal organization. Funds are required. A mill is robbed. In the getaway, the group escapes but Mason kills a mill manager who, in turn, badly injures Mason whose companions recoup him temporarily and thereafter lose him when he falls out of the escape car. The remainder of the film deals with the man hunt and Mason's adventures on his road to death. Two of his men are cut down outside the house of an informer. Another, seeking Mason and finding him, draws off the police and is captured, but not before Mason gets a temporary breather.

Hundreds of police are on the trail. The pursued man hides in alleys, (Continued on page 8)
shrieks into protective, dark corners, endeavors to harbor his waning strength in a horse-driven cab, falls in the rain and mud and snow, makes his way to the haven of a saloon. He is picked up by an underworld character who is prepared to turn him over to police or friends, depending upon the greater reward, gets sorely needed aid from a medical student, stumbles out to meet Kathleen Ryan, who loves him and has been appealing to W. G. Fay, the parish priest, for information and assistance. In the final few minutes, the girl and Mason meet. Escape cut off, she fires two shots at the police advancing across a snow-covered square. In the returning fusillade, and as she had planned, both are killed.

Here are the essentials of taut and vigorous drama, compounded with exciting expertise in the screen play by R. C. Sheriff and R. L. Green, from a novel by another Green—F. J. But the bigger job was vested in Reed. To bring to life the realistic relentlessness of the hunt, to probe and to find the soul-searching required for utter conviction, to develop the stark mood, to unfold and then to catch the uncertainties and the cross-purposes of the good and the less-than-good characters parading the screen—these are among the contributions of Reed's undeniable talents as a director. His work is magnificent.

Mason is completely convincing and touching as the illegal resistance fighter whose inner conflict finds him unable to determine if the processes of parliamentary law ought not give way to violence. Miss Ryan, whose first film this is, immediately establishes her competency as an actress of depth and professional worth. Other players, drawn principally from the ranks of Dublin's famed Abbey Playhouse, are perfectly etched in their realism. Shading them for comparative values, the two who stand above the others are F. J. McCormick, as Shell, and Fay as Father Tom. Robert Newton, as a half-mad artist, and Fay Compton, in a minor role, are invaluable assets of a noted cast.

Commercially, "Odd Man Out" has Mason whose vogue in the country is on the upswing. This film will enhance his popularity, but the measure of the attraction's ticket-selling potential perhaps is best drawn by a throwback to "The Informer", with which this bears many resemblances.

First reviewed from London in Motion Picture Daily of Jan. 30, Peter Burnup wrote: 'This may well be rated in years to come among the screen's choicest masterpieces'. His appraisal could prove correct.

Tinkering with an end product of such distinguished values, moreover, may be foolhardy yet the opinion of this impressed reviewer is that the film would be better served in less length. As it stands, on the other hand, "Odd Man Out" is a drama-on-film which will not be quickly forgotten.

Running time, 113 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

Red Kann
Lohrenz’s District Wins ‘Sears Drive’

United Artists’ Midwest district, headed by Ed Lohrenz, has won first prize in the “Grad Sears Gold Cup Sales Drive” on over-all performance, it was announced at the weekend by J. J. Brennan, central sales manager. The drive started in July.

Other winning district managers are: J. G. Smith, West; Jack Frigo, New York; Moe Duloden, Phil.; Fred M. Jack, South.

Anders, head of the Warners’ Chicago, headed by Sid Rose, with Winipeg, Minneapolis, Salt Lake City and Atlanta landing in the first five, respectively. Other prize-winning branches included Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New York, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Buffalo, New Orleans, New Haven, Vancouver and St. Louis.

Winning salesmen who will receive awards for outstanding performances include G. R. Davis, Atlanta, T. A. Barber, Dallas, W. T. Keith, New Orleans; Nat Ross and Irving Mendelsohn, Boston; Dave Leff, Buffalo; Lou Geiger, Cleveland; R. J. Forman, Detroit; Sam Rilkin, New York; William Scott, Pittsburgh; Harold Ross, New York; W. R. Riddle, Denver; M. M. Krueger, Indianapolis; John Graham, Kansas City; Jack Bost, Angeles; Moe Provencher, Milwaukee, E. J. Stoller, Minneapolis, C. F. Reese, Omaha and Jack O’Bryan, Seattle.

Warner Men Discuss Auction Selling

Auction selling as specified under the deal was the chief topic at Friday’s closing session of the two-day Warner district sales managers’ meeting conducted by Tom Kalvenson, vice-president and general sales manager, at the home office.

Howard Levinson, member of the legal staff of the Warner Bros. branch office, outlined procedure to be followed in complying with the decree effect. Other speakers at the meeting were sales managers whose dates were also taken up, following the previous day’s discussion of clearance.

An announcement of an exact schedule for release during the spring and summer was the final business of the Friday afternoon session.

WB Promotes Fletcher

Herbert E. Fletcher, formerly manager of the Warner Bros. branch office in Cali, Colombia, and before that in Trinidad, has been appointed manager for Peru by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner International. He succeeds James E. Pepper, resigned. A new manager for Cali will be announced later by Cohen, who will leave here for South America on Wednesday.

Two More WB Showings

Two additional showings in March have been set by Warner Broth- ers’ international department. Additional screenings for exhibitors this month “Stallion Road” is set for March 17, “Love and Laughter” March 25, and “The Two Mrs. Carrolls” March 31.

GeneralPrecisionDividend

Directors of General Precision Equipment Corp. has declared a dividend of 25 cents per share on the company’s capital stock, payable March 25 to holders of record on March 10.

“It Happened in Brooklyn” (Continued from page 1)

send audiences away glad they came to and to convince theatremen they had bought themselves an attraction.

Sinatra is the shy, boyish “GI” from Brooklyn. The war over, he is on his way home. There, he meets Miss Grayson, singing teacher for a special school kids and disappointed in her failure to click as an operatic vocalist. Sinatra and the girl like one another, sort of; but the real romance develops when Lawford, also shy, comes over from England to learn something of the practicalities of life, and girls, in the distinctive atmosphere of Brooklyn under Sinatra’s tutelage. H engaged on all these like a mother chock, is Durante, school janitor. He meets all imasses, solves all problems and even finally sets Sinatra on his true road to romance with Gloria Grahan, Army nurse first met in London.

This pleasant shadow of a story is not what is particularly vital. What is vital is the handling of the characters and their response, the many heart-warming twists and comedy slants which come out of John McGowan’s original, from which Isold Lennart prepared the script for Who to implement thereafter.

For instance, when Sinatra and Durante go into “The Song’s Gotta Come from the Heart” as a duet, it is a high point. When Lawford throws the switch from classical to jazz and sings “Whose Baby Are You?” it is another sequence which scores. When Sinatra and Miss Grayson do an aria from “Don Giovanni” with Lawford hitting the tenor in an Italian restaurant, there another ten-strike. In fact, the mood is so genial throughout and the atmosphere so infections that a good time is practically assured all coners.

Running time, 103 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

“Fall Guy” (Monogram)

Hollywood, March 2

BASED on Cornell Woolrich’s story called “Cocaine,” this is the first to be produced in serial to the revision of the Production Code in such a way as to permit the presentation of drug addiction on the screen, and it probably rates special consideration in the trade. The news in this connection is that it does deal with the use of drugs (referred to in dialogue both as drugs and as narcotics) and it does offer an exhibitor disposed to exploit the program an opportunity to do so, but will not offer the audience’s the type of thing that sort of exploitation would suggest. In point of fact, nothing has been done with the “dope” element which could not have been done with drunkenness, insanity, or even an accidental happening, and, head, and possibly a good deal more clearly and convincingly. To ballyhoo the picture as an “expose” or anything like that is to court customer complaint.

On the other hand, it’s a quite tense little melodrama that Producer Walter M. Mirisch and Director Reginald Le Borg put together from Jerry Warner’s screenplay, and the players assembled for the project—Clifford Penn, Robert Armstrong, Teala Loring, Elisha Cook, Jr., Douglas Fowley and others—are very well fitted with Penn portraying a young man who goes to an apartment party where drinking is being done, finds himself later in a police station ward being questioned about blood on his hands and a bloody knife and, escapes, and manages to trace forgotten events with the aid of a police officer who risks his job to help him do so. It’s established that the boy has been drugged, and that a murder has been committed by his sweetheart’s guardian, a drug addict, who has become secretly in love with the girl and has sought to eliminate the boy by framing him for the murder. It’s pretty well contrived, but could have been done more coherently if the dialogue pertaining to the drugging and the drug addiction language concerning honor (the boy is described as a bad, habitual drunk) instead of stodily indirect reference to the quite unnecessarily introduced contraband.

Running time, 64 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, February 22.

William R. Weaver

Republic Sales Meet Opening on Coast

San Francisco, March 2.—James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, and Edward L. Walton, assistant sales manager, are here for a three-day sales conference which begins tomorrow.

They made the trip from Los Angeles to the Western district sales manager Earl R. Collins, and the trio is meeting with S. C. Martenstein, San Francisco branch manager, and others. At the close of the meeting, Grainger and Walton will return to Los Angeles and will leave for New York at the end of the week.

Classics Names Hankin

Sel Hankin has been named branch manager of Film Classics’ recently reincorporated branch in St. Louis, by Sam Wheeler, sales manager.

Century Men Meet At Astor Tomorrow

Century Theatres’ department heads, district managers and theatre managers will hold the first in a planned series of open forums at the Hotel Astor tomorrow. The session will hear any questions, suggestions or complaints, in an effort to increase the organization’s efficiency.

Century vice-president Fred J. Schwartz will preside.

Girl Scout Trailer

Many theatres have agreed to run a Girl Scout 50th anniversary trailer reports Leon I. Rumph of L. & R.O. Radio, who is the industry’s representative on the national public relations committee of the one-minute short featuring a message by Margaret O’Brien. will be available March 12 through National Screen Service.
Film Editors’ Union Wins 15-20% Boosts

Film editors, assistant editors and apprentices at Columbia, M-G-M and the International, Motion Picture and Pathoscope under new contracts concluded between the companies and the Motion Picture Editors’ Guild of America Local 731 of IATSE, have been awarded wage increases of 15 and 20 per cent, according to Charles Wolfe, the local’s business agent. The Columbia pact, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1946, is the first signed between the company and the union.

Setting a 40-hour week at Columbia and a 44-hour week at M-G-M, the contract at Pathoscope is on a separate basis. At Columbia, the contracts which cover an estimated 50 employees provide 15 per cent wage boosts for editors and assistant editors, bringing their respective weekly wages to $120.75 and $90.38, while editing room assistants and at-give-time employees get a cent increase, to $42.00 a week. Wolfe declared, M-G-M International’s synchronization department is getting $97.75 a week, with assistant editors and apprentices granted scales similar to those in the contracts with the other companies, he added.

Retroactive of the Pathoscope and Motion Picture Editors’ Guild of America Local 731 of IATSE to Nov. 15, 1946.

Solar Presses for Survey

CHICAGO, March 2—Congressman Robert J. Tymon of Illinois has urged Congress to approve the sweep-ingo nation-wide census of business proposed last year by the Department of Commerce. The study would embrace all businesses, including films.

Sees National Video

SCHENECTADY, March 2.—Creation of a Coast-to-Coast television network is “only a few years away,” in the opinion of Nile Trammell, president National Broadcasting.

Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

opposition to the system and criticism by some exhibitor organizations.

As reported on Friday in Motion Picture Daily, movement for ex-

pending arbitration on a voluntary basis, outside the jurisdiction of the court, was thwarted by cancellation of the March 10-11 New York meeting at which it had been called and evidence that subject along with the formation of a motion picture forum. Should all of the companies involved in the dispute, the trialogue between the new cases, the system might be held together long enough to give a possible new voluntary motion movement time enough to succeed.

In the new Cleveland complaint, against M-G-M, R. D. Stone operator of the Ideal Theatre at Lodi, O., seeks continuance of a liberal order for temporary to conform to the clearances offered by other distributors, namely seven days running and availability 30 days after territorial or national release date. Asserting that the M-G-M clear-

ances are unreasonable. Stone says that the Ideal is subject to clearance after first run in Ashland and 35 days after Mansfield, both Ohio, Schine’s Pal-

ace. Ashland and Mansfield theatres are named as interested parties.

Bringing the number of cases now before the New York tribunal to three, the New York City court. In its complaint seeks complete elimina-
tion of the seven-day clearance to which the New York City court in previous orders, the exist-
eance as well as the keeping of certain of them allegedly having been denied by Daito in a previous submission by him to the court on an earlier motion.

Marker Resigns as D. of J. Video Chief

Joseph B. Marker, special attorney for the Department of Justice’s New York anti-trust division, who has been in charge of the Government’s television anti-trust case since it was started against the Motion Picture Precision Equipment Corporation, Television Productions, Inc., Scophony Corp. of America, Scophony Ltd., and others appealing on Tuesday of the court, resigned from the Department to return to private law practice.

Marker’s resignation went his agreement to make his services avail-

able to the anti-trust division in the event the Department of Justice was brought to suit proves fruitless. Currently, also, the Government is appealing in the California court. When the Government of Scophony Ltd. as a defendant on jurisdictional grounds.

Govt. Film Division May Win Extension

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Support by exhibitor organizations and the Motion Picture Association may make possible continuation of the film division of the Office of Government Reports.

With an operating expense of slightly under $5,000 per year, the OGR film unit has been assigned to the Government’s motion picture matters, thus saving the industry considerable confusion by receiving overlapping, temporary, and haphazard representation. The American Theatre Association may be represented at closed hearings of the House Appropriations Committee when the OGR appropriation is heard. It is also believed that Eric Johnston or another MPA repre-

sentative will be asked to appear.

Myers Anticipates

(Continued from page 1)

of exhibition or, on the other hand, placing them in an “icy bath” of the

are divestment, Abram F. Myers, Assistant Administrator for competition.

Drafting his conclusion from the Government’s position and those filed by Columbia, United Artists and Universal (prior to a study of the theatre-owning defendants’ appeal film Myers), Myers says that “the divestment issue has been dished up in so many ways that the court cannot fairly escape mak-

ing a clean-cut decision.” He points out that 25 of the Government’s assign-

ments of error are against the District court’s finding. Little is left of theory of divestment exists, that six are against failure to grant divestment, three seek a ban on cross-licensing and five strike at the lower court’s conclusions relative to clearance.

The non-theatre-owning defend-

ants are making the competitive bid-

ning system the chief targets of their appeals, while the Department of Jus-
tice sues at bidding but to so many angles as to leave it thoroughly dis-
credited, Myers adds.

FVC Gains Seven

New York Federal court decree in these anti-trust suit, will be completed before July 1.

The policy inaugurated in the dis-

position of these pooling interests will provide the pattern for similar ar-

rangements throughout the National Theatres setup, a circuit spokes-

man said.

Theatre involved in the present regrangement are located in Los

Angeles, Inglewood, South Pasadena, Long Beach, Bakersfield, Stockton, Riverside, Bakersfield, San Francisco and Hanford.

Admission Taxes

(Continued from page 1)

based on motion picture admission tax receipts.

Federal admission tax receipts dur-

ing January, representing collections during the following month, amounted to $32,054,760. Compared with $29,101,349 in the same period of the previous year. Between 80 and 90 per cent of these taxes were on motion picture admissions.

Columbia Profits

(Continued from page 1)

of common stock after preferred stock dividends, calculated on the increased amount of common which was $29,403,178 in 1945, $2,257,738 or 15.25% for the 1946 period; $1.92 for the 1945 period. Stares outstanding on Dec. 28, 1946 totaled 12,278,825; on Dec. 29, 1945, 595,447.

Okla. Bill Would Widen Local Taxes

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 2—State Senators Robert Burns of Oklahoma and John Green have introduced a bill permitting Oklahoma cities to levy additional taxes includ-

ing entertainment and amusement tax. Exhibitors are expected to organize a fight against it.

Chevalier to be Welcomed

Maurice Chevalier will be wel-

tomed by a special Sterling and Post S. President’s reception. He will be his guest at a luncheon at the Town Hall Club on Thursday.

CSA Hits U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

days in advance of the deadline for filing.

Without competition bidding, the CSA contends, the other directions of the court “are fully adequate to termi-

nate the restraints of commerce formed by the bidding system, moreover, would cause the petitioners’ irrevocable damage,” the Association said.

Such damage, according to CSA, would spring from several causes:

The larger theatres would be unable to maintain the smaller smaller theatres, making the latter mediocre houses, exhibiting on a second second

Serisation of the theatre-owning defendants, permitted to continue exhibiting features and programs, if they pro-

duce enough, never have to enter the competitive market.

The definition of a competitive area to be varied so that it may result in the elimination of all clearances.

The determination of the “highest reasonable bidder, having a theatre of a size, location and equipment ade-

quate to yield a reasonable return” should be made a practical measure by which a defendant’s Department de-

termine to which exhibitor to award a feature.

The preferred method of licensing will increase admission prices through the increase in film rentals.

The question is now an established business considerations as honest-

sly, integrity, experience, goodwill and reputation.

The method of foils and prevents unnecessary post-exhibition adjustments.

Material losses would result from uncertainty as to the rate of bids. An exhibitor operating two theatres equal in seating capacity to one larger theatre cannot successfully bid against such a complex. Which the Department provides that each license must be taken theatre by theatre.

WASHINGTON, March 2—The Depart-

ment of Justice will not ask for a stay of the effective date of competi-

tive bidding beyond July 1, the date set by the New York court, despite the fact that the bidding system is criticized in its appeal to the Supreme Court, accord-

ing to Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Solicitor General.

Wright said the Department has no reason to request a stay until the Supreme Court has acted on appeals. He pointed out that the Department is less concerned with bidding as an undesirable film licensing method than as a unsatisfactory substitute for divest-


THESE ARE
THE WORLD'S NEEDIEST WAR
ORPHANS! THEY NEED YOU NOW!

The Motion Picture Industry has accepted the humane privilege of saving, through adoption, 15,000 orphans of war-ravaged Greece.

$80 will provide for a war orphan and will sustain and clothe the child for one year.

ALL motion picture industry personnel—in theatres, in home-offices, in branch film distribution offices and in Hollywood studios are urgently invited to form "$80 SAVES A GREEK WAR ORPHAN" Clubs and thus adopt one or more GREEK WAR ORPHANS for one year.

NO THEATRE COLLECTIONS ARE REQUESTED
. . . although outside contributions are desired. Local merchants and suppliers to this industry may participate with generous contributions to YOUR CLUB.

FORM YOUR CLUBS NOW!
START COLLECTING
NOW!

MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY'S APPEAL FOR THE WAR ORPHANS OF GREECE
in honor of SPYROS P. SKOURAS—March 8th to April 8th
“COLD WAVE CHILLS B’WAY GROSSES
BUT "BEDELIA" SMASH...”

Headlines VARIETY

FIGURES DON'T LIE...

when
MOTION PICTURE DAILY says:

“Bedelia

( THE WICKEDEST
WOMAN WHO
EVER LOVED! )

FIGURES TO RING UP
A TERRIFIC GROSS!

On Broadway and Main Street—"BEDELIA" is BOX OFFICE!

Ed Emanuel says, of the Harrisburg and Reading (Pa.)
Twin World Premieres, "Proves beyond doubt that
"BEDELIA" will do outstanding business!"

ANOTHER BOX-OFFICE HIT FROM EAGLE-LION!

WALTER WINCHELL says:
“Taut and Throbbing
Cinema!”

LOUELLA PARSONS says:
"'BEDELIA' is a
b-a-a-a-d girl!"

VIRGINIA VALE says:
(Syndicated columnist)
"'BEDELIA' is better
than 'LAURA'!"
Fry to Meet Living Cost Asked by ‘IA’

Seeks 6-Month Bonuses Under Studio Pacts

Notice has been served on Hollywood producers that all IATSE studio workers expect to receive bonuses equal to the increase in living costs which occurred between July and December of last year, Richard F. Walsh, ‘IA’ international president, said here yesterday.

The notice was given under authority of a recent clause in contracts negotiated since an interim agreement was entered into last July. Walsh explained that after settlement of that agreement, the bonuses were to be granted if costs advanced more than five per cent during the last half of the year.

Preliminary plans for the new talks were made by Walsh during his recent visit to the Coast, and the negotiations now are expected to be

Wage Demands Seen Costing 13 Millions

Hollywood, March 3—Studio labor costs for 1947 will rise approximately $13,500,000 if all unions petitioning for cost-of-living increases are successful in obtaining increases proportionate to the 11.71 per cent boost granted the Screen Extras Guild last week.

The SEG, the only Hollywood union whose contract outrightly specifies

Johnston Will Ask For a Strike Ban

Washington, March 3—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will appear before the House Labor and Education Committee tomorrow to urge a permanent ban on jurisdictional strikes.

He is expected to point out that labor unions had an adequate warning to clean house, but obviously refused to do so. Therefore, Johnston will urge the committee to ban internal disputes and boycotts. Several days ago Johnston warned that if labor did not accept its responsibilities and eliminate jurisdictional disputes such as the Hollywood strike, it would be the duty of Congress to step in and create order by regulation.

20ths Is Accepting Product Bids in Competitive Areas

Minneapolis, March 3—Film-bidding has already been effected by 20th Century-Fox in competitive situations in some territories, following similar action taken by other companies, although the New York Federal Court decree does not make the bidding system binding until July 2; 20th-Fox is acting at this time to iron-out "wrinkles" that may arise.

Beyond the acknowledgment that some bids have been received, spokesmen for the local 20th-Fox branch said that the bids "under consideration and will be acted upon in accordance with terms of the decree."

Earlier, M. A. Levy, 20th-Fox Prairie district manager, said theatres in the Minneapolis zone had returned bids which had been advised that such bids were now being accepted. He said the production department plans to list the bids by the day they are received.

Zorn Hits MPA on Public Relations

Pekin, Ill., March 3—Edward G. Zorn, president of the Motion Picture Exhibitors Association of Illinois, today blasted the Motion Picture Association, for failing in what he termed its main task and purpose, to better public relations.

Zorn, speaking at a Central Illinois meeting of 20th Century-Fox Theatre Owners, at the Pere Marquette Hotel

Showmanship Need Ahead Cited at ‘Awards’ Function

Calling for a return to "old fashioned showmanship," as a means of keeping business on a comfortable level after the "past few lousy years," Sol A. Schwartz, vice-president in charge of theatres for RKO Service Corp., yesterday cited the annual Oguley Publications' Showmanship Awards as the industry's "best medium through which managers have an opportunity to be heard and to receive deserv-
CSU Head Shot at And Beaten in Calif.

Hollywood, March 5—Police today were investigating the death and shooting of Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the striking Conference of Studio Unions, who was found bound at a roadside near Freeman's Junction, 135 miles from Los Angeles, late last night. He was taken to Ridgecrest Hospital where he is being treated for head injuries.

Sorrell, whose life was threatened in Oct., 1945, when four shots were fired at him as he sat in his car near his Glendale home, said that three men, who had been the target, seized him as he was returning from taking his wife to church.

The victim's gravely ill remains will remain in the hospital for several days, added that his assailants fired three shots at him after dragging him into the desert and departed, believing him dead.

Carl Head, taking charge of the CSU in Sorrell's absence, said, "The violence of last night can be said directly at the door of the conspiracy between the producers and racketeer labor leaders in Hollywood."

Hollywood Labor Up For Investigation

Hollywood, March 5—Rep. Richard Nixon (Cal.) will make an investigation of labor discord in Hollywood and will be a member of the House of Un-American Activities Committee on alleged Communist activities there.

A member of the labor committee, he will investigate the current studio jurisdictional strike and attempt to find its causes.

Hobbs Will Manage Republic Branch

ATLANTA, March 5—James Hobbs, formerly with Universal in Charlotte and Oklahoma City, has been appointed local branch manager of Republic Pictures by Merritt Davis, Southern district manager. He replaces Sid Reams who has resigned.

UK Power Grants Exclude Theatres

London, March 5—Despite the Government's restoration of electric power to all industries today, theatre and other establishments will continue, and domestic consumers still must conserve electricity five hours a day.

The order authorizes full production for all industries excepting the coal industry, except theatres. However, the shut-down of laboratories during the coal crisis, will result in a severe raw stock shortage here, and producers will have to move cautiously because requirements of all are to be met.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK, executive head of production for 20th Century-Fox, arrived here yesterday from the coast accompanied by Frank Metzler, studio treasurer. SCHENCK will leave here soon for a Florida vacation.

BERNARD LEWIS will leave for Hollywood today to begin his new job as executive assistant to Harry O'Donnell, president of Story Productions, Inc.

JACK SIMONS has replaced ARNOLD LEARAD as manager of the Century Theatre, Hartford. The latter has been transferred by the Continental Circuit to Durham, N. C.

Wade M. Carr, Manley, Inc., district manager, Cleveland, suffered a broken leg and his wife was killed in a recent automobile accident near Cincinnati.

PHIL REHM, RKO Radio vice president in charge of foreign distribution, has returned to New York from a South American tour.

Sid KRAMER, assistant to Harry Michaelson, RKO Radio short subjects sales manager, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

BUCKY HARRIS has succeeded JACO Quirk as RKO Radio's New Haven field manager. He has been transferred to New Orleans.

ARTHUR W. KELLY, president of General Motion Picture Corp., is due here from England tomorrow on the Queen Elizabeth.

WILLIAM K. SAXTON, Baltimore city manager for Loew Theatres, will be host to Tom Drake, M-G-M star, at a reception here today.

ERNST EISELING, Loew's public relations manager, has been visiting Atlanta from New York.

WILLIAM N. SKIRBALL, vice-president, of the Skirball circuit, is in Cleveland from the Coast.

HENDERSON M. RICHET, M-G-M director of exhibitor relations, returned here from Florida yesterday.

EDWARD C. RATFKE, president of United Artists, has returned from Pittsburgh.

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle Lion exploitation head, will leave here today for Philadelphia.

HARRY PAUL, Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., has returned to Atlanta from Tampa.

NATE B. SPINGOEL, Columbia exchange, left New York for a Florida vacation.

DAVID O. SELZNICK is en route here from Hollywood by train.

WILLIAM L. DEAN, the district manager for Virginia Theatres, is in Charlotte, N. C.

Correspondents: T. A. BAUMER, Chief; R. C. REED, Western Correspondent; E. J. BOWERS, Eastern Correspondent.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Ousley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Ousley, Jr., Associate Editor, Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Ousley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigleyo, New York." New York headquarters, by Express, Harry L. Harner, Les J. Brady, Secretary; James F. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fiche, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue, George H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burton, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigleyon, London." Other Ousley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald, Universal, twice a year, as a section of Motion Picture Herald, Universal, once a year, as a section of Motion Picture Daily, Associated Press, Dollans, July 1, 1927, Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $8 foreign; single copies, 10¢.
Let's Be Candid about Katie!!!

*She did take a job as housemaid in a bachelor Congressman's home! She did fall in love with him! She did risk scandal with that pointer! BUT WHAT A GIRL! ... You'll love her—and the amazing story of her career from cornfield to Capitol!

RKO PRESENTS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSPEH COTTEN * ETHEL BARRYMORE
in
"The Farmer's Daughter"

with
CHARLES BICKFORD

A DORE SCHARY PRODUCTION

Directed by H. C. FOSTER • Score by ERIC ROSE • Songs by LEO TRdacz and PAUL J. FERRAR

NOTE!

this is a reproduction of one of the regular national magazine ads in RKO's big new DOUBLE-PLAY seat-selling smash!
The Farmer's Daughter

Loretta Young
Joseph Cotten
Ethel Barrymore

in
"The Farmer's Daughter"

with Charles Bickford

A Dore Schary Production
Directed by H.C. Potter
Written by Allen Scott and Charles Addams

What can they do to bring the truth to the voters? It's Katie "The Farmer's Daughter" for laughs...for love...for Congress! The show that'll win your heart and your vote as the happy hit of the year!

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN
ETHEL BARRYMORE

RKO

And this is a reproduction of the half-page COMIC-TYPE ad that runs in four of the biggest NATIONAL MAGAZINES, as well as in the comic or magazine sections of 118 leading Sunday newspapers—to an overpowering grand total CIRCULATION of 102,310,984!
Theatres Clear of New Tennessee Tax

Memphis, March 3.—The State’s two per cent sales tax does not apply to theatre or other amusement admission tickets, Assistant State Attorney General William Barry, said today, explaining that entertainment is not a “sale of services” under the law.

However, a measure may be introduced taxing admission tickets. Such a measure is being introduced by the Knox delegation as a local act applicable to admissions in Knoxville County. The Knox Act, however, would provide for an annual percentage of admission fee. The act taxes all forms of amusement admission fees and would charge a percentage for each charge considered a payment.

Some doubt as to the constitutionality of the Knox Act has been raised on grounds that it would be class legislation, applying a tax burden to the theatre industry and not to not residents of others. The Knox Act has not yet been signed by the governor.

Milwaukee Facing Strict Censorship

Milwaukee, March 3.—Mayor Bohn, the chief of police, and city councilmen are studying Chicago’s motion picture censorship ordinance with a view to adopting a similar plan following the recent controversy in which the city’s motion picture censorship commission recommended a ban on “The Outlaw” and the common council町手 records the next to revoke the theatre’s license if it did not halt the picture’s exhibition.

Censorship ordinance is considered one of the toughest in the country, giving absolute power to mayor over film exhibitions in the city. Permits are issued by the police chief before a film can be shown and violation fines may be $10 to $100. It also provides for an ex cathedra rule, which costs local exhibitors hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. The Chicago ordinance bars immoral pictures, films as false or fraudulent as any race or creed pictures involving hanging, lynching or burning of a human being.

Chester To Produce 5 Films This Year


Bernard W. Burton will be associate producer on all films except “Smart Woman.”

Jack Kirsch’s Father, 80

Chicago, March 3.—Funeral services for Benjamin Kirsch, 80, father of noted cinematographer Jack Kirsch, will be held tomorrow at Jaffee and Albert funeral chapel, with burial at Jewish Waldheim Cemetery.

Kirsch died Saturday in Miami, following a lengthy illness.

Brennan Memorial Mass

A memorial mass will be celebrated in Patrick’s Cathedral Thursday for the late James M. Brennan, RKO Theatres executive, who died one year ago.

Loew’s Enterprise Party

Loew’s International, which will handle foreign distribution for Enterprise Prod., will be host at a cocktail party for the execs of the new Enterprise producer, and E. Richard Menaker, author of “Arch of Tri- umph” and “The Other Love.”

Universal Stock Meeting Next Week

Universal’s annual Stockholders meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, the company reported yesterday. A majority of the voting stock is to be present at the meeting, presi- dent Nate J. Blumberg, has returned from the Coast, and Charles D. Futterman, vice-president and general counsel, has returned from Nassau.

Final UA Meeting Begins on Thursday

United Artists’ final four-day sales meeting in its current series will get under way in Chicago on Thursday. Graduated, six-day resident in charge of distribution; Maury Orr, western sales manager, and George Carpenter, man in charge of nautical publicity, will leave New York for the final meeting.

Chicago meeting, like its predecessors, will be devoted to discussions of sales policy and the screening of nine pictures. At the third meeting, delegates were briefed on the new production of the New York decree by Barratt. Sears presented a review of the company’s current production status and cited the UA backlog of 29 pictures already completed and awaiting release. The negative cost to date, he said, amounted to $41,000,000. The meeting was conducted by Orr.

‘Harry Thomas Drive’ Will Begin April 23

Producers Releasing Corp. will launch on April 23, birthday of PRC president H. Thomas, a “Harry Thomas Drive,” which will run through Aug. 30. Ralph J. Clark, the company’s new sales manager, announced yesterday. The following pictures will establish the drive’s nucleus: “Born to Speed,” “Devil on Wheels” and current Philo Vance release.

Clark said forthcoming PRC product will receive advertising publicity exploitation campaigns of vastly increased scope, with special emphasis to be placed on direct-to-exhibitor campaigns. “Higher budgets and more coordinated effort in production” will be evidenced by PRC, he added.

South Dakota Faces 10% Admission Levy

Pierre, S. D., March 3.—A 10 per cent tax on admission tickets due to theatres and ballrooms is proposed in House bill No. 257 introduced by the South Dakota legislature. Proceeds would be earmarked for municipalities of township general funds.

20th-Fox Leads Tax Refund List

Washington, March 3.—Twentieth Century-Fox received the largest tax refund from the Government for overages during 1949, according to figures released by the Bureau of Internal Revenue today. The company was credited with an $82,348 refund. Second on the list were Warner Brothers officials, who received a total of $79,023.

Other industry refunds listed were: Columbia Pictures Corp., $5,173; Columbia Pictures of Brazil, $1,632; Columbia Pictures of Canada, $3,512; Columbia Pictures of West Indies, $588; Columbia Pictures of East Asia, $57; International Newsreel Corp., $5,787; Loew’s Theatres and Realty Corp., $6,875; Paramount Pictures of South America, $1,016; Paramount Films of India, $843.

Also: Paramount Land Corp., $700; Universal, $936; Warners Bros. Circuit Management Corp., $942; Warner Bros. Theatres of Pennsylvania, $684; United Artists Co., $216; United Booking Office, $3,737; Arnold Productions, Inc., $2,130; Samual Goldwyn Studios, $6,710; Monogram Pictures Corp., $8,928; National Theatres Corp., $6,638; National Picture Corp. of California, $1,011; Principal Theatres, Inc. of Arkansas, $550; Sherman Oaks Theatre Corp., $3,315; United Artists, $2,145; Warner Bros., $1,104; Albert Warner Trust, $27; Wayne’s Bros. Trust, $5; Universal, Inc., $98; Jack L. Warner Trust, $13; Warner Bros. Trust, $88; Jack M. Warner, $24,000; Milton B. Sprague, $1,946; H. Elster Warner, $14,666; Doris Warner Leroy, $6,280; and Jean Warner Sprague, $21,530.

Refunds to film stars included: Canada Lee, $1,200; Brian Ahern, $169; Louise Allbritton, $859; June Allyson, $2,417; W. Thomas Mitchell, $14,654; Harry James, $16,856; Joel Wayne, $16,514; Ann Harding, $1,856; Saba Dastagir, $1,015; Grace Kelley, $1,307; Faye Emerson, $1,544; Wallace Reid, $6,719; Harold Bell Wright, $1,504; and Mayor La Guardia, $2,319.

Mrs. Cliff Almy Dead

Hollywood, March 3.—Mrs. Cliff Almy, wife of the Warner supervisor for Philippines and Philippine Islands, died in her sleep at her home here last Thursday, after a long illness brought on by complications following an operation during the war. Family plans were awash with word from Almy, who recently returned to Manila.

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It’s time! You learned about Filmack’s NEW Prevue Trailer Service. It’s READY NOW! For full information write Filmack, 1321 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

FILMACK gives QUICKEST SERVICE on SPECIAL TRAILERS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Tuesday, March 4, 1947
John Wayne greets his fans in San Francisco Fox Theatre at premiere of ANGEL AND THE BADMAN.

Producer Wayne and director W. S. Van Dyke take to the air on radio station KPO, National Broadcasting Company, during World Premiere of ANGEL AND THE BADMAN.

John Wayne and Mrs. Wayne greet San Francisco's Mayor Roger Lapham at World Premiere of ANGEL AND THE BADMAN.

Woman's page editors of San Francisco newspapers give luncheon for Mr. and Mrs. John Wayne.

Crowds mob box office at ANGEL AND THE BADMAN World Premiere, Fox Theatre, San Francisco, February 5.

His "ANGEL AND THE BADMAN" hits box office high for two smash weeks at Fox Theatre, San Francisco, with 3rd week moveover to State Theatre.


“‘ANGEL AND THE BADMAN’ is winner. Especially a ‘must see’ for connoisseurs of leather and stirrup sagas... stellar cast. Producer Wayne has succeeded to noteworthy degree. Simple down-to-earth drama... rough and ready vigor.”

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

“Wayne and the great outdoors at their best. The plot... fresher than most. All praise due Writer-Director James Edward Grant.”

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

“One of lustiest barroom brawls you ever saw and cattle stampedes and shooting. Able cast. Wayne competent and engaging. Gail Russell glamorous in high degree... rattling good, she is, too. Harry Carey aces as always.”

THE SAN FRANCISCO NEWS

“Something away from run-of-the-prairie tales. Ambushes, wild chases, a cattle stampede and a barroom battle royal. The climactic twist is also there.”

SAN FRANCISCO CALL-BULLETIN

JOHN WAYNE • GAIL RUSSELL

Angel and the BADMAN

with

HARRY CAREY • BRUCE CABOT • IRENE RICH • LEE DIXON

and

STEPHEN GRANT • TOM POWERS • PAUL HURST

Written and Directed by James Edward Grant • A JOHN WAYNE Production
Walter Gould Extends Bromberg Territory

Omar Bromberg, general manager for United Artists in Mexico City has been promoted to the post of regional supervisor of the Northern tier of Latin American countries, by Walter Gould, VA foreign manager. These comprise Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Canal Zone, Colombia, Trinidad, Venezuela and the Caribbean area. J. B. Urbina was named Bromberg's successor in New York. Urbina has been in the region since 1942, after a lapse of five years. The Astron Hotel here following judging

motion of the entries submitted by 22 finalists in the 13th annual competition sponsored by the Managers Round Table of Motion Picture Herald. Announcement of winners of the silver and bronze plaques, as well as a plaque for outstanding showmanship in region, will be made on Friday.

Special tribute was paid by Selznick to the efforts of the third and fourth-run theatre managers, whose “ingenious and enterprise are so important, where there is no public service, exploitation director, or advertising man close at hand, where the entire campaign has to be planned and executed by the same person.” He also commended the Quigley organization for “the high plane on which this competition has been conducted.”

U.S. on Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

QP ‘Awards’ Function Held

QP ‘Photos’

Some 80 showmen and film company leaders of New York and elsewhere attended the annual judging of the "Quigley Showmanship Awards" held at the Hotel Astor here yesterday. The judging considered 20 top campaigns sent in from most states, Canada and other countries. Pictures above at the door are, reading from left to right: Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio distribution vice-president; Sol Schwartz, RKO Service Corp. theatre vice-president; guest speaker of the day; Martin Quigley, host; Gus Eissley, head of New York’s Music Hall; Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, and J. J. Fitzibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., a visitor from Toronto.

(Continued from page 1)

The annual awards were characterized by Quigley as “a direct and vital stimulus to that kind of thinking and action which leads to Roberts’ undertakings, profitable presentation of motion picture shows” and as “the means of proper and continuing recognition of that quality of distinguished showmanship which is vital to the welfare and prosperity of the industry.” Anticipation of the winners of the future will be bvec by the exploitation forces in this country and around the world in a manner which will be “another demonstration of their imagination, ingenuity and energy.”

Arnold Stoltz and Lige Brie, presenters for the Grand Circus, introduced at the luncheon, were J. J. Fitzibbons, president of Famous Players-Canadian, and James B. Frenn, F-P advertising-publicity director.


Also: Martin Quigley, Jr., Charles Aaronson, Gertrude Marilin Ernst- thall, Gus Fasuel, Herbert Fecke, Chester Fredman, Ray Gallagher, Ray Gallo, David Goldberg, David Ivers, Sherwin Kane, Red Kann, Ray Launing, Tom Loy, Paul Mooney, Jr., Terry Ramsay, Floyd Stone, Theodore J. Sullivan and Sally Walton.

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U.S. on Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

to voluntary arbitration. as such, provided it is employed only to settle contractual differences rather than to enforce the final judgment of the U.S. Supreme Court. Although the Justice Department has suggested that Congress could establish compulsory arbitration, it does not plan to act for such legislation. The Department believes, however, that the only way to establish such a system is by Congressional sanction.
Three Promoted by Minneapolis Circuit

MINNEAPOLIS, March 3.—Creation of three new creative positions in the Minnesota Amusement circuit and one promotion in the Minneapolis circuit are announced by Harry B. French, president. George C. Shepherd, auditor, has been appointed to the new post of director of sales and merchandising; Robert J. LaPiner becomes the circuit's treasurer; and Forrest D. Sathre replaces Shepherd. All appointments are effective March 15.

The new post occupied by Shepherd has been created to launch a program of expansion and improvement of merchandising in the 82 theaters operated by the company in Minnesota, the Dakotas and Wisconsin. In his new assignment, LaPiner will be in charge of planning and execution of special events, including conventions, business meetings and traffic management.

Wage Demands

(Continued from page 1)

ified an increase equaling the living-cost increase shown by U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as representing the rise between July 1, 1946 and Jan. 1, 1967, has announced that its new wage levels paid on A-11 and A-12, effective Jan. 1.

All other unions, which uniformly were parties to the strike-settlement award made on July 1, 1967, when they received 25 per cent increases, were given contracts providing for reopening when the figure now required by the Labor Department became available. Most of them have already applied for reopening negotiations.

Although employers were not bound to deal identically with all, it is regarded as certain that all will seek 16 per cent. The total increase figure of $13,500,000 for 1947, if all unions are granted identical alternations in scale, is based on December employment figures, when average pay received by about 24,000 workers, was $98.98 per week.

Living-Cost Pay

(Continued from page 1)

carried on by the IATSE's Hollywood leaders.

Walsh denied reports that he is taking part in a movement to settle the current Hollywood studio strike through conversations with William Hutcheson, president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, an affiliate of which is involved in a jurisdictional dispute with "IA" carpenters. Walsh indicated that he is standing firm on his contention that the Hutcheson group has refused to live up to an arbitration decision.

Save 2 Film Sections

(Continued from page 1)

Office of International Trade and is a fact-finding officer for the film industry.

George Canty of the State Department has only two assistants, and his total requirement for a year is around $30,000. This figure includes office rent, heat, light, telephone and other expenses. Canty's section exchanges information about foreign trade and acts in behalf of the industry to eliminate trade barriers.

MGM Sales Officials

In Midwest Session

Des Moines, March 3.—Future sales and distribution policies of Theatrical Exhibitors' Association were discussed by M-G-M executives with local and Midwest representatives here today.

Among the executives here are: John E. Flynn, Chicago; Joel Bezahl, New York, and Ralph W. Mow, Minneapolis. D. C. Kennedy, local branch manager, was host.

Zorn Hits MPA

(Continued from page 1)

here, asked, "When are exhibitors going to awaken to the fact the John- son office has not and cannot speak for exhibitors? Only a strong national exhibitor organization can speak for exhibitors and the need for such leadership is growing.

United Theatre Owners, while endorsing the work of the American Theatres Association, is not a member. Zorn, however, is a national ATA officer.

Zorn said: "Pictures are loaded with crime, horror and sex. It is becoming a problem to avoid book- ing and playing two, three or even four murder pictures in a row. The Johnson office pays no more heed to complaints of exhibitors and this condition than do producers. Zorn also criticized what he termed extravagant motion picture advertising and said that as a result of all this today exhibitors all motion picture advertising. He also condemned publicity given to Holly- wood divorces, and predicted that it is fast becoming a disgrace and may even threaten the entire business as it did in the past. "In the wake of all this questionable publicity and subject matter, there is a rising tide of censure by religious groups, Par- ent-Teacher associations and youth organizations against the motion picture business. Bovcotts of theatres for long periods of time, and not just a certain picture are threatened and censorship and higher taxes are sure to come unless something is done and quickly," Zorn said, adding: "Instead of trying to correct these evils the Johnson office has sat supinely by and let these conditions develop."

20th-Fox Product Bid

(Continued from page 1)

et would be sold picture-by-picture and theatre-by-theatre, with the dis- tributor being obligated to accept the highest bid. "If such a bid produces the rental revenue setup. If no bid matches a designated minimum flat rental, 20th-Fox reserves the right to reject all bids, Levy added.

Levy said the new competitive bidding system ordered by the New York Federal Court applies to all exhibitors who are not similarly affiliated company product in a competitive situation; national and as it becomes available.

It is also understood that in case all bids are rejected due to failure of the bidding theatres to offer the minimum rental requirements on a flat basis, 20th-Fox is then free to negotiate exhibition (of the picture or pictures rejected in the competitive situation, either flat rental or percentage, "in any way it sees fit" without violating the sales provision of the decree.

A BUY-TRANS-LUX MOVIE SCREEN

13' x 18', Still in Original Frame,
Used Once. Perfect Condition.

CALL MURRAY HILL 5-0863
Para. Price Cut 'Helpful'

First-runs in New York fought an unheated battle with the weather man over the weekend, particularly Sunday, as snow, cold and generally unpleasant conditions kept many a potential customer away. Some estimated totals for the current week are good, many are weak and all would have been better had circumstances been conducive with less adverse business factors as well as the weather.

The Hollywood's lowered admission scale, the management reports, provided a "good deal of help," with the first week's gross of "Spring's" $209,000 and a stage show close to $85,000. This is good but not outstanding. The house looks to stimulate its morning business especially with the price cut from 75c to 55 cents from opening to one o'clock. This met with public approval as the new policy went into effect on Wednesday but, reportedly, the attendance figures fell off on Thursday, Friday and again yesterday. The Paramount claims a week-day average of 7,800 for the new opening-to-one clo. period against an average for the past year of 3,400, same time of day.

'Sea of Grass' Good

"Sea of Grass" had a good opening at the Music Hall where with a stage play present, the Thursday-through-Sunday business is reported at $84,300. The initial week should wind up in the neighborhood of the Late George Apley, "The Egg and I" and J. Arthur Rank's "Great Expectations" will follow in that order, the last named probably in June. "The Angel and the Badman" stirred up box-office commotion at the Gotham with $25,000 likely for the first week.

"Song of Scherza" also scored in its debut on Broadway, with a total of $35,000 anticipated in its first week at the Criterion. "The Best Years of Our Lives" is falling off just a little at the Astor but still reigns supreme as it goes on such an extended run; the 15th week should be good for $47,500.

"Beginning of the End," with Kathar Gracey topping a stage bill is losing ground at the Capitol where the second week's gross is down to bringing in $71,000; the first week's gross was $84,700. The Roxy is experiencing a good follow the third and final one for "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim," with about $68,000 apparent, the five days ending Sunday, bringing $80,000. Week's business in tomorrow with Ed Sullivan, Broadway column- ist, and Katherine Dunham among those doing business.

Winter Garden Down

"I'll Be Yours" is down to approximately $15,000 in a second week at the Winter Garden and will be followed March 15 by "Starr's Island." Herbert Marshall's latest film is now at the Park, playing on a two-a-day basis, and business for the 10th week is meagre as also estimated $10,000. The picture will hold for three extra days, to be followed Saturday by "This Thing of Ours," which will offer on a continuous program at popular prices.

The last and final week of "That Way With Women" and Claude Thornhill's orchestra probably will give the Strand an unimportant $30,000. Coming on Friday with "Stallion Road" to be next, starting April 4.

Reviews

"Blaze of Noon" (Paramount)

Hollywood, March 3

FOR marquee purposes, Paramount's dramatization of pioneer days in the airmaile service offers the names of Anne Baxter, William Holden, Sonny Tufts and William Bendix. Sterling Hayden and Howard da Silva lend added interest and newcomer Johnny Sands distinguishes himself with a fine performance.

Laid in the early 20th, the opening of the screening by Frank Wead and Anne Baxter, the Sheelkman finds the principal four of five heroes by the air mail service with a circus troupe. One of them leaves the troupe to take a job with a small airline that has landed an air mail contract. He is followed by his brothers, who get similar jobs piloting mail planes.

The venture starts out well, but as soon as one of the brothers falls in love and marries, conflict arises. The girl, living in the same house with so many brothers-in-law, finds herself deprived of privacy, of any semblance of normal home life and, at all times, she is less important to her husband—and to his brothers—than flying, with which all four are completely absorbed.

The second brother crashes and is killed. Another brother, brother, by accident, a breakthrough in the love and thereby disrupted his emotional life, is continuously crippled.

Final and most crushing blow comes when Holden, the married brother (played by a fast-gapping fellow) is trapped by storm and darkness, and plunges to his death. It is not certain, a cheerful picture, and its audiences had best bring handkerchiefs. John Farrow's direction is masterly, and takes full advantage of the many opportunities which the script affords. as performed by ace stuntman Paul Mantz, are breathtaking.


Thalia Bell

“The Undercover Maise” (M-G-M)

ANN SOTHERN, known for reliable "Maisie" comedy character, is starring in "The Undercover Maise," a turning police detective, rums through a series of adventures which are thoroughly delightful. The humor is a blend of sophistication and "corn," thus widening its audience appeal. And the story is solid, at least it is. There is little that is simple, that some fans may fear a threatened bullet is going to put an end to the Maisie saga.

Thelma Robinson's original screenplay avoids the worn-out paths of workday crime fiction by giving over more than half of the yarn to Miss Sothern's training for her police career. These sequences, spiced by legitimate slapstick in a gymnasium, find Maisie pulled back and forth between the ambitions of Barry Nelson, her mentor on the police force, and Mark Daniels, her tutor. Finally, armed with a diploma and a badge, she goes forth to track down Leon Ames, a fortune teller racket that is to rob women who fall for his spell. The story is concerned with investor money, whereby a fake real estate agent. Dick Simmons, comes into her life. On the verge of trapping him, Maisie blunders and gets carried off by the culprits, who chain and shoot her in the Sticky Wicky. However, she sends word to headquarters, and the cops, giving chase, find her toss her caps about gynastically on a California beach. Performances are uniformly good, under Harry Beaumont's direction. George Hamilton is the boy.


Mexican Exhibitors Resist Price Cutting

MEXICO City, March 3.—Under the pressure of demands for reduced admission prices, now at a new high of 85 cents in first-runs here, local ex-
hibitors have notified the Federal and municipal governments that any reductions will be hereafter unless wage reductions are also ef-

dected.

Meanwhile, employees have asserted they will not take a pay cut. Rather, the employees are said to be agitating for wage increases.

Cinecolor Board Meeting

Hollywood, March 3.—Cinecolor's board of directors meets on March 16 at its Burbank studio, with the replacement of William F. Loss, re-
cently resigned vice-president, among the matters on the agenda.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal, for current engagements in key cities. Compiled from Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

Baltimore

For the second consecutive weekend, bad weather has affected grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 6:

MIGHTY MCGURK (M-G-M)

Century, (20c-37c-46c-54c) and five week, Gross: $11,500, (Average: $11,500)

CALIFORNIA (Para)-KEITH'S (2,400)

Week, (2,400) days, Gross: $12,500, (Average: $12,500)

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM (20th-Fox)-NEW (1,800) (30c-46c-50c-58c) days, (Average: $18,500)

HOUR PRENTISS (WB)-STANLEY (1, 38c) (29c-37c-46c) 7 days, Gross: $15,500, (Average: $13,700)

BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)-HIC-PO/OMI (2,30c) $12,700, (Average: $12,700)

THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)-TOWN (1,490) $7,300, (Average: $7,300)

A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)-MAY-ENGLAND (1,520) $6,000, (Average: $6,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Holdovers managed to do near-average business despite a conglomer-
ation of competing entertainment. Estimated grosses for the week ending March 6:

MINNEAPOLIS (M-G-M release)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-75c) 7 days, (Average: $6,600)

THE DARK MIRROR (U-I)-FOX (4,660) (3c-6c) Gross: $12,000, (Average: $12,000)

HUMORESQUE (WB)-ROXY (2,440) (5c-6c) Gross: $7,500, (Average: $7,500)

BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio) (Average: $5,000)

AND CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)-Capiol (2,440) (4c-5c) Gross: $4,500, (Average: $4,500)

LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)-LOWS (4,060) (4c-5c) 7 days, Gross: $12,500, (Average: $15,000)

AMPP Re-elects Vogel

Hollywood, March 3.—Robert M. Vogel has been re-elected for the sec-
ond year as chairman of the American Motion Picture Producers inter-
national committee.
Twentieth-Fifth Anniversary

Twenty-five years ago today Will H. Hays signed his first contract bringing him into the motion picture industry. He became president of the National Association of the M. P. I., predecessor of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, now the Motion Picture Association of America, to which Hays is under contract in a consultative capacity.

Present at the contract signing 25 years ago were producers Marcus Loew, Samuel Goldwyn, R. H. Cochrane, William Fox, Earle W. Jenkins, and a State and Stratton representative, and the Republic in Brooklyn, and (Continued on page 6)

Kodak Stock Split 5-to-1

Rochester, N. Y., March 4—Eastman Kodak’s board of directors voted today to recommend to the stockholders a five-for-one split of the common stock now outstanding; a change of the common stock from no par to $10 par value; and an increase in the number of authorized shares of common stock from 2,000,000 to 10,000,000.

Recruiting reports of the contemplated split has sent Eastman common stock on the New York Stock Exchange soaring another $4 per share yesterday, bringing its book value from $215 at the beginning of the year to $238 as of yesterday.

The new proposals, which in order to be effective must obtain a two-thirds vote of E. K. stockholders at the annual meeting in Flemington, N. J. (Continued on page 6)

Felix Jenkins, 57 Dies in New Jersey

Felix A. Jenkins, 57, secretary of 20th-Century-Fox Film Corp. and a member of its board of directors, died yesterday at Mountainside Hospital, Montclair, N. J.

Jenkins, the son of the late Henry E. and Eugenia Alger Jenkins, was born in Pelham Manor, N. Y., and was graduated from Montclair High School and the University of Virginia Law School. He was admitted to the New York Bar in June, 1913, and entered the general practice of law here with the firm of White and Case. In Jan., 1928, he became a member of the legal department of the old Fox organization.

He leaves a widow and four sons.

Ind. House Rejects Formal Censorship

Indianapolis, March 4.—A bill asking voluntary censorship of motion pictures, radio and newspapers was adopted by the Indiana House today, as a substitute for a bill that would have set up a censor board in every county.

The resolution stated that the Legislature “is desirous of passing restrictive legislation if agen-
Eleven Will Join Equipment Unit

CHICAGO, March 4.—Roy Boomer, secretary of the Equipment and Supply Manufacturers' Association, Inc., has received application blanks from the following 11 theatre equipment firms: Ace Electric Manufacturing Co., New York; Ballam Safe Co., St. Petersburg; City Hall Productions, Nashville; Electric Ad Clock Co., Chicago; Lawrence Metz Metal Products, New York; Massachusetts Electric Co., Boston; Metropolitan Scenic Studio, Omaha; Mo- hawk Carpet Mills, Amsterdam; Star Manufacturing Co., St. Louis; Thaibel & Stoiber Co., Chicago; and Theatre Specialists, Los Angeles.

Boomer also disclosed that a meeting of the board of directors of TESMA will be held in Chicago at the Drake Hotel on April 20 to discuss the details of the 1947 annual trade show, which will be held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, Sept. 24-25. Members of the board are: Harry Strong, Strong Electric Corp.; V. J. Nolan, National Carbon; Bob Engel, DeVry Corp.; William Davis, Wagner Service; E. J. Vallen, Vallen, Inc.; Carl M. Weber, Sr., Weber Machine Corp.; and the officers of TESMA: Oscar F. Neureuther, president; W. A. God- ris, vice-president, and Boomer.

Gambling Will Maintain Office Here

Ted Gamble, chairman of the board of the American Theatres Association, has established his offices in New York to take personal charge of Am- erican Theatres, Inc., purchase of which he completed last week. Price for the six houses involved was approximately $1,350,000.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE Daily on March 1, the company is held up for a time because of legal technicalities following the death of David Charko, influential stockholder. Harry Katz, president of Granville, J. M. Jenudd, treasurer, and Le Roy J. Furman, assistant treasurer, will remain at the office.

Monarch has three houses in Indian- apolis and one each in Akron, Steubenville, and New Castle, Pa.

Gamble has announced that the firm will be in Chicago at the first of May.

Griffith Partners Meet March 19-20

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 4—Annual meeting of Griffith partners and managers will be held here March 19-20. C. F. Motley, Griffith Amuse- ment Co. and Grandview Theatres executive, said formal busi- ness sessions of the delegates will be held at the Skirvin Hotel on March 20. The first day will be devoted to conferences between home office officials, department heads and the visiting partners and managers.

L. C. Griffith, circuit president, is still convalescing at his home in San Antonio, Tex., and C. J. Griffith is unable to attend the convention.

Barrett McCormick, RKO

Radio advertising-publicity director, is due in New York on Monday after three weeks on the Coast.

Ray Bell, former Loew's-M-G-M executive, has been elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the National Association of Public Rela- tions Counsel in New York.

William McClure, Universal's Charlotte office manager, his wife, and his brother Robert McClure of Theatre Booking Service there, his wife, and his brother Robert McClure of Theatre Booking Service, will arrive from New Orleans for his recent automobile accident near Sheffield, N. C.

Albert Lewis, producer, who is now in London from New York, will depart for Paris on Saturday, and later will visit the Mediterranean and Syria.

Sam Lefkowitz, Eastern district manager for Warner Bros., will be in Boston from New York for the re- mainder of the week.

Lex Normo, assistant to Paramount's president Barney Balaban, was in Washington yesterday.

Ed Hinchey, head of Warner Brothers' home office playdate depart- ment, was in Albany yesterday.

Brian Ahern is due here from the Coast on Friday.

David O. Selznick has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

Einfeld, Loew Due on Enterprise Releasing

Charles Einfeld, Enterprise presi- dent, and David L. Loew, chairman of the board, are due here from the Coast this week to help launch the company's distribution program, in concert with Co- operate with Goldwyn, distribution vice-president, who ar- rived here yesterday.

Arrived for the week is finalization of Schaefer's deal for pur- chase of some 200 Universal features and a large number of short subjects, in addition to which the studio wound up to 1938. The pictures, Schaefer con- firmed, will be reissued by a company which George J. Schaefer, Jr., will set up. Purchase price is understood to be in the neighborhood of $1,500,000.

Lichtman Has Operation

Hollywood, March 3—Al Licht- man, a vice-president of Loew's Inc. and a production executive, was re- ported resting comfortably at Cedars Sinai hospital following a major operation performed today.

Rieger Signs with Savini

Producer Jack Rieger has signed with George Savini, director of distribution in the U. S. and Canada of two features, "Stairway for a Stephen" and the "Double Trouble Bound," a plus a colored short.

Jules Levey, United Artists

producer, left New York yesterday for Chicago.

Cliff Almy, Warner Brothers' su- previsor for the Philippines and Japan, arrived in Hollywood from Manila by plane yesterday to make funeral arrangements for Mrs. Almy, who died there last Thursday.

Ruth Freeman, statistical clerk in the United Artists New York ex- change, will be married here March 22 to Irving Diamond.

C. J. Feldman, Universal-Internation- al Western division sales manager, is vacationing on the Coast and will return to New York about March 30.

Hiller Innes, executive assistant to Redstone, Holman, Paramount's Eastern production chief, has returned here from a West Indies vacation.

George Ivan Smith, J. Arthur Rank Organization producer, is due to arrive here today from England aboard the Queen Elizabeth.

J. L. Doheny, Paramount's Cen- tral division sales manager, is in Chi- cago from New York.

Louis Friedman, production man- ager of Kayton-Spiro advertising agency, is the father of a baby boy, born yesterday at the Bronx Hospital.

Joseph J. Deitch, Paramount thea- tre executive, has returned to New York from a tour of the Mid-West.

Special Events for 'A Wonderful Life'

BEAUMONT, Tex., March 4—Julius J. S. Perelman, president of Jefferson Amuse- ment Co., flew to Beaumon this morning to-day with Frank Capra and James Stewart to be guests at a press lunch- time on the day of the beginning to-day of the beginning of the opening of "It's a Wonderful Life." The picture, which over 400 were present, including civic leaders and exhibitors. In the evening they were interviewed over Dallas radio station KGKO by R. J. O'Don- nell of the Interstate Circuit in con- version with the Texas premiere of the picture which radio projection of "It's a Wonderful Life" at the Majestic Theatre tomorrow.

'Honeymoon' Preview

A preview of Eagle-Lion Films' "Lost Honeymoon" will be held at the Hollywood Theatre here, Thursday evening. Prior to the screening, E.L. executives will be hosted to trade press representa- tives at Toots Shor's.

Festival Office Here

An office has been opened here to handle American activities of the Savannah International Film Festival to be held in Savannah, Ga. Alex Selkin is Festival representative in this country, and Harry Zondervan is U. S. general manager.

Make Theatre Taxation Illegal

SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 4.—Following the successful legal action of William Fox and the West Coast Theatres and Warners, joined forces to fight the imposition of an amusement tax, a bill has been introduced in the legislature making local theatre taxes unconsti- tutional.

Produced by Assemblyman Lester A. McMillan of Los Angeles, the bill states that any taxes collected through theatre admissions should be impounded by the courts and refunded to the theatres. It further allows that any person entitled to the refund must file a claim within 10 months after the decision becomes final, otherwise the money shall automatically go to the state.

Mayor Advises Tax Waive

TRACY, Cal., March 4.—Mayor Stocker of this city has advised with- holding action on a proposed amuse- ment levy to provide funds for recrea- tion until other California cities im- pose such levies complete test cases.

Graboski Promoted

Joseph Graboski has been named Central Theaters home office manager, succeeding Norbert Kellen.
A SEA OF PEOPLE FOR
"THE SEA OF GRASS"

It is the third M-G-M Hit in succession to pack the Music Hall! First "Till The Clouds Roll By", next "The Yearling" and now "The Sea of Grass."
The Biggest for the Biggest Theatre in the world!

*R"YEARLING" PRESS-TIME FLASH! In its first engagement following its Los Angeles Premiere and its New York Music Hall run it set an all-time M-G-M record for the initial week at the State-Lake Theatre, Chicago. Just the beginning!

M-G-M presents its Spectacular Dramatization of a Great Novel!

SPENCER TRACY
KATHARINE HEPBURN
ROBERT WALKER
MELVYN DOUGLAS

with Phyllis Thaxter
Edgar Buchanan
Harry Carey Jr.
Ruth Nelson
Robert Armstrong
Screem
AAA Receives Two New Complaints

Two new theatre arbitration complaints, one in New Haven and the other in Cincinnati, have added to the recent spate of activity of the American Arbitration Association's field offices, thereby prolonging the existence of some tribunals beyond the April 1 deadline set by the New York Federal Court decree. That these additional cases were expected was reported Monday in Motion Picture Daily, with further complaints still anticipated in Albany and Cleveland.

In the Cincinnati complaint, Maurice Chase and Herman Hunt, raising charges of discrimination by M-G-M in its insistence on nine days availability for the Vogue, Suburban and Rivoli theatres, all neighborhood houses in Cincinnati, point out that other distributors grant seven days availability. They add, furthermore, that all distributors, including M-G-M, grant availability of seven to 12 days to local subsequent-run houses there.

In the New Haven complaint, Princess Theatre Corp., which operates the Princess in Hartford, contends that the seven days' clearance provided by Paramount, M-G-M, 20th-Fox, Radio-Parade and Warner Brothers in favor of the Colonial, also in Hartford, causes "ineliminable hardships" for the Princess. The Princess is neither in direct nor indirect competition with the Colonial. The complainant seeks 30 days' availability after first runs in Hartford.

Riesner Joins E-L

Hollywood, March 4.—Charles Riesner, veteran director who last week ended his seven-year contract with M-G-M, has joined Eagle Lion as a producer.

Miss Miriam Hope Riesner, died Saturday night at her home in Laguna Beach, after a long illness.

Tennessee House Burns

ATLANTA, March 4.—The Cherokee Theatre at Copperhill, Tenn., has been destroyed by fire.

Eagle - Lion, Rank In London Meetings

General discussion on the distribution interchange of J. Arthur Rank and Eagle-Lion product between representatives of both companies was take place in London within two weeks. Arthur B. Krim, Eagle-Lion president, and Robert S. Benjamin, Rank, Inc., president, will sail aboard the Queen Elizabeth on Friday.

Krim is taking with him a print of "Lost Honeymoon," which will be the first Eagle-Lion U.S. film to be distributed by the Rank organization abroad. Krim will see several Rank pictures which will be distributed by Eagle-Lion here. Rank will also have discussions with Rank officials. Krim will hold talks with General Film Distributors, Ltd., which will distribute Eagle-Lion's Hollywood films in the British Isles. He will also meet with officials of British Eagle Lion Distributors, Ltd., which will distribute Eagle-Lion productions throughout the rest of the world, except North and South America.

Rank Launches New GB Reorganization

LONDON, March 4.—Under the reorganization of Associated Provincial Picture Houses being effected by J. Arthur Rank, there will be an exchange for each one-pound ($4) ordinary share, a three-and-one-half Gaumont-British "A" ordinary five-dollar ($1) share, plus some two shillings and six-pence (45 cents) in cash, Rank announced today.

APPH, which is capitalized at 2,800,000 shares of common and 400,000 shares of seven-and-one-half per cent preferred stock, is the first subsidiary to be dealt with under the over-all reorganization of Gaumont-British Picture Co., Ltd.

Atomic Film Showing

Lt. Col. John D. Craig, who handled Army Air Force motion picture activities at the Bikini atomic-bomb tests, last summer, will show "This is the Crossroads" at Town Hall here, March 5, and a second showing of the picture, described as the only complete film of the tests in natural color with color ties, is made tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

$389,000 for "Duel"

Hollywood, March 4.—In the third month of its local engagement "Duel in the Sun" grossed $40,200 at the Vogue and Fairfax theatres here, which now earned a total of $389,273 in its eight weeks at the Vogue and seven at the Fairfax and two at the Egyptian theatres.

New Rank Company Opens in Portugal

By JOAO DE MORAES PALMERO

Lisbon, Feb. 28 (By-airmail)—J. Arthur Rank has moved into Portuguese territory. The formation of the Societade Anglo-Portuguesa de Cinema has been announced, backed by the Rank Organization, working together with Portuguese personal and capital.

The Society already has begun preliminary work in building on Lisbon's main avenue a large theatre equipped with modern technical equipment. Rank's Portuguese organization intends to work in close with Portuguese producers in all details concerning the future expansion of theatre activities. Rank also intends to produce 16mm films into this country.

Film circles are wondering just how this new Society fits into the industry here under approval of foreign interests in Portugal. A new production company has been founded, the Producciones Atlanticas de Cinema, the purpose of which is to produce and exploit Portuguese, Brazilian and Spanish pictures, as well as to engage in exhibition and distribution.

Rules for Columbia

Hollywood, March 4.—Superior Judge William J. Palmer has ruled that Columbia's contract with director Andre DeToth, entered into in 1943, is a valid agreement, overruling a counterclaim filed by DeToth on the ground he had not signed. DeToth, meanwhile, has directed four pictures for other studios, although, Columbia states, each was notified he was under Columbia contract.

'Three Premieres' in NY

"Arch of Triumph," produced by Elyce for United, will have its world premiere in New York, David Lewis, producer of the film, announced. It is said he will leave New York for London with Queen Elizabeth on March 7 to complete arrangements for the British premiere.

UA Concerned

(Continued from page 1)

rejected the request of Gradwell L. Sears, UA vice-president in charge of distribution, for a waiver of their contract and approval rights in favor of the company. The producers' representatives contended that the waiver would mean the end of distribution.

Company officials believe that if the New York Federal court decrees its protective order competitive bidding are upheld, legal responsibility will have to be fixed if bids accepted by the company subsequently are rejected by a United's representative. A second showing which contested citations could result from such a happening if UA believes liability should be determined in advance.

It is understood that the subject was up for discussion at a meeting of the UA board of directors yesterday. The meeting was adjourned until Friday.

The presentation of Charles Chaplin's new picture, " Monsieur Verdoux," which heretofore was underdetermined, will be through United Artists.

Federation Flags Screen 'Moralities'

FRENSO, CAL., March 4.—A resolution was presented before the California Federation of Women's Clubs, protesting against profanity and lewdness on the screen. Backing the resolution are the drama sections of approximately 800 clubs.

Final action on the resolution was delayed on the advice of Hulda McShane, legislative chairman for the State Federation, pending a legislative representative for theatres.

Cite 'Best Years'

Samuel Goldwyn's RKO Radio released "The Best Years of Our Lives" will receive the Foreign Language Award as the best picture of 1946, at ceremonies to be broadcast over station WNYC tonight. On behalf of Goldwyn, Robert E. Sherrwood, who wrote the screenplay, will accept the scroll.

Years' Advance Sale Big

PITTSBURGH, March 4.—An advance sale of six-weeks for the reserved performance policy for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" was held at the Fulton Theatre here in a single day. The picture will open tomorrow.

New Italian Film Here

"Miracle of Monte Casino," Italian-produced feature, in 10-reels, and three years in the making, is now in New York and Famous International Film Corp., will distribute it, with English subtitles.

Newton to Donahue, Cole

Howard W. Newton, for the past eight years vice-president and copy director of J. M. Mathes, Inc., has resigned to join Donahue and Cole, Inc., in the same capacity.

Friedlander Services

David W. Friedlander, manager of Loew's and United, here, who died of a heart attack in his office at the theatre Sunday afternoon, will be succeeded in his capacities to be read at the Riverside Funeral Parlor. Friedlander was associated with Loew's for 36 years. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Friedlander, and two children, Evelyn Lopez and Bernard J.

Mel De Lay, 47

Hollywood, March 4.—Mel De Lay, 47, an associate producer for Sam Katzman for the past four years, who was killed in a plane crash on a location set at Saugus yesterday morning and died before arrival at Newhall Hospital. De Lay was in the industry since 1923 as an actor, director and manager. His widow, mother, two brothers and three sisters survive.

Malcolm Mollan, 81

HARTFORD, March 4.—Malcolm Mollan, 81, retired editor of the Manchester Union, who was once associated with 20th Century-Fox in New York, died at his home in Watertown.

Rites Held for Conner

PHILADELPHIA, March 4.—Funeral services were held here today for Charles Conner, district manager in Cincinnati, who died in that city last Friday. His widow, Mrs. Bertha Conner, survived.
STEP UP the Quality of Your Picture!

SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITORS know that movie-goers appreciate top-quality high intensity carbon arc projection. For it makes the picture brighter, sharper in detail—with perfectly balanced color. It brings customers back again and again.

So . . . no matter how good it is now . . . you'll find it pays to step up the quality of your projection . . . and here's how it can be done!

For Smaller Theatres—

With One-Kilowatt High Intensity Projection, clear-cut black-and-white images and true color reproduction are yours at the cost of only a couple of admissions a day.

For Medium-Sized Theatres—

Larger screens and longer throws require “Suprex” Carbon High Intensity Projection for proper screen brightness and color. Ideal for medium-sized houses, this type of projection is definitely economical.

For the Largest Theatres—

Super High Intensity—the finest projection available. Greater depth, sharper definition, higher screen brightness and full richer color are the qualities that set this projection apart from all others.

For more details on stepping up the quality of your projection, get in touch with National Carbon Company, Inc.—Dept. MP.
Johnston Asks

(Continued from page 1)
showing of American films. Also the Daily Worker constantly criticizes the motion picture industry. The Communist tactics seem to be to slow down the film industry," Johnston said.

He told the committee that it is the duty of Congress to find the country of Communists. He said Communists are nothing more than enemy agents and recommended that the committee approve legislation preventing a known Red from serving as an officer of any labor union.

Johnston expressed the belief that the jurisdictional dispute in Hollywood could have been avoided if a mediator had been appointed with authority to enforce his decision. "A cooling off period is actually a heating up period," he commented in opposition to that practice.

Johnston cautioned that the government should be taken out of collective bargaining as much as possible.

Indiana Censorship

(Continued from page 1)
cies can be made to see the gravity of the problem and voluntarily cooperate in meeting it."

But the so-called Anti-ASCAP bill hit a snag in the Senate today when the chamber refused an attempt to recall a conference report which killed an amendment excluding radio stations from the bill's provisions. It is expected that the Senate will now reassess the bill to conferrence.

Century Policy

(Continued from page 1)
that henceforth, where "reasonable" drivers exist, the theatre manager will consult with a district manager in a review of Century's single-feature experiments.

Attended by 60 department heads, district managers and theatre managers, the forum also resulted in the announcement that Century will study the revamping of its booking policy on short subjects with an eye to creating "a more intelligent, all-around show." In addition, Century will enlarge its newspaper advertising budget, with special emphasis placed on the newly-established foreign film theatre, the Vogue, in Brooklyn. The increase will also provide for listings of the entire circuit in weekend editions, according to Ed Schrader, director of advertising-publicity.

Reject Print Cut

(Continued from page 1)
about by England's recent power ban, has rejected a suggestion made by the Kinematograph Renters Society for a cutover of release prints. The CEA maintains that releases are their "life blood."

Meanwhile, the CEA has promulgated a conservation plan for government consideration, under which moviethe released would be required to save 360,000 feet of raw stock weekly, the studios 250,000, and the balance of 90,000, to be saved by the government from its weekly usage of 2,500,000 feet.

Ending Pools

(Continued from page 1)
all five companies are understood to have started discussions concerning pools with the Skouras and United Artists circuit.

Last of Paramount's pools with co-defendants in the anti-trust suit was the one involving Fox West Coast Theatres, Los Angeles, which was reported in Motion Picture Daily on Feb. 26. Amplifying yesterday on the subject, Leonard R. Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, reported that the company will take over the Paramount theatre chain on March 1.

Final form of the dissolution of pools involving the Skouras Theatre Corp. may not be determined for some time, a spokesman of that company said yesterday. The Department of Justice, in its trial brief, said Skouras had eight pools with Loew's, 11 with RKO, eight with Warners and one with Paramount. The United Artists Theatre Circuit, according to the government, has four with 20th Century-Fox affiliates, four with Loew's and three with Paramount.

Kodak Stock Split

(Continued from page 1)
J., on April 29, specifically provides that:

The present 2,500,000 shares of authorized common stock without par value would be increased to 20,000,000 shares of $10 par value; the 2,488,242 issued shares of common would have value of $24,882,420; the balance of 5,117,758 shares would be split five for each share; the 17,913,270 shares held and subdivided would have value of $179,132,700; the 3,683,620 shares held in the name of the patrons would be split five for each share; the 3,000,000 shares would have value of $30,000,000.

The effects of the proposed split would result in a stock dividend but that it is strictly a split-up of shares. In other words, by this split each share of common stock will be divided into five shares of common having a total book value exactly the same as the book value of the single share before such split.

Eastman Reports Record

Sales and Profit in '46

Rockefeller, N. Y., March 4.—Eastman Kodak's annual report states that the annual record sales and net profit "for a year in which operations were not significantly affected by war business." Sales are placed at $294,733,448, and net profit at $357,691,318. Continued full capacity operation is predicted for 1947.

Independents "Balk"

At Gov't-Film Plan

Alied States, the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors and the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations have evidenced a desire not to agree along with the nine other groups on the proposed program to expedite the handling of approved Government films, accord- ing to Trade, which reports that the three have yet to be heard from although the proposition was put to them last November.

The proposal for a 12-man film distributing co-ordinating committee has the endorsement of the following, listed along with their nominee for the co-ordinating American Theatre Association, Si Fabian; Conference of Southern Associations, R. V. Wilby; Independent Theatre Owners Association, Harry Brandt; Motion Picture Association, Frank B. Harman; Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, Herman Levy; National Distributors Committee, Thomas J. Conors; Newreels, Michael Cleone; Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, Donald Nelson; Trade Press, Ben Shilyen.

RKO Pathe Deal

(Continued from page 1)
ment's international motion picture division.

Short subjects recently completed for the Government agency include "Journey of the Century," by Willard Van Dyke's Associated Films, and "Hurricane Circuit," made by Saco-
field Productions. The latter was made with the cooperation of the Army, Navy and U. S. Weather Bureau.

The Department's production program for overseas distribution is expected to pass 100 reels by the end of the year, according to John P. MacFadden, said adding that there are now 70 reels in release, playing to a monthly audience of 4,000,000. The program is designed to give foreign peoples information on the American way of life.

Local Taxes

(Continued from page 1)
Assemblyman Wilson of Yonkers today introduced a measure authorizing that city to impose, by local law, a tax not exceeding one cent on each five cents or fraction thereof paid for admission to any amusement in Yonkers. This tax would be in addition to any other taxes. It is the first measure empowering the City of New York to levy an amusement tax.

A. M. P. A. Salutes the Fan Magazine Press Welcomes Back a Great Star Personality!

Topping All Previous Record Breaking Luncheon-Meetings

THURSDAY, MARCH 6 — 12:30 NOON
Town Hall Club, 123 West 43rd Street

SPeakers:
GEORGE T. DELACORTE, President, Dell Publications
PAUL HUNTER, Publisher, Liberty Magazines

CURTIS MITCHELL, Ad-Publicity Director, Paramount Pictures, Guest-Member, M.C.
RUTGERS NEILSON, President, Presiding

Extra Added Attraction — Welcome Celebration to:
MAURICE CHEVALIER
The Great International Star—Upon His Return to the U. S. A.!

LIMITED SEATING CAPACITY. MAKE RESERVATIONS AT ONCE TO ABE DASH, FILM DAILY, BY MAIL OR PHONE.

MEMBERS  $2.00
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FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities of the Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

LOS ANGELES

Of three new features at first-run houses, "The Housekeeper’s Daughter" and "The Red House" divided the cream of the gross. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 4 are:

**THE HOUSEKEEPER’S DAUGHTER** (Filmex) and ONE MILLION B.C. (RKO-LOEWS)—GROSS: $1,000. (Average: $150.)

**THE YEARLING** (M-G-M)—Cartway Circle (1,150) $1,012.60 (2,500) 4th week. Gross: $150. (Average: $150.)

**BOOMERANG** (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,000) $1,000. (Average: $500.)

**LADY IN THE LAKE** (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (3,000) $1,000. (Average: $333.)

**DEAD RECKONING** (Col.)—Hill-Street (2,700) $1,000. (Average: $370.)

**SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE** (M-G-M)—GUILD (965) $1,000. (Average: $333.)

**DEAD RECKONING** (Col.)—HILL-STREET (2,700) $1,000. (Average: $370.)

**LADY IN THE LAKE** (M-G-M)—LOMAS (3,000) $1,000. (Average: $333.)

**BOOMERANG** (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,250) $1,000. (Average: $800.)

**THE RED HOUSE** (UA-Thalas)—MUSIC HALL (1,000) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**THE RED HOUSE** (UA—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**THE RED HOUSE** (UA—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**DEAD RECKONING** (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) $1,000. (Average: $500.)

**THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES** (RKO Radio) (Radio City) $1,000. (Average: $500.)

**THE CROWD GOES WILD** (Rep.)—PACIFIC (2,000) $1,000. (Average: $500.)

**THE YEARLING** (M-G-M)—STATE (1,615) $1,000. (Average: $625.)

**THE SECRET HEART** (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE** (U-J)—RITZ (1,500) $1,000. (Average: $666.)

**SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE** (U-J)—STUDIO (800) $1,000. (Average: $1,250.)

**SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE** (U-J)—UNITED (1,000) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**DUEL IN THE SUN** (SRO)—VOGUE (800) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**NORA PRENTISS** (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**NORA PRENTISS** (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**NORA PRENTISS** (WB)—WARNER (Wilshire) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**NORA PRENTISS** (WB)—WARNER (Westwood) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**THE JOLSON STORY** (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**DEAD RECKONING** (Col.)—CHICAGO (3,000) $1,000. (Average: $333.)

**SINBAD THE SAILOR** (RKO Radio)—MAYFAIR (2,200) $1,000. (Average: $454.)

**THE JOLSON STORY** (Col)—PANTAGES (3,514) $1,000. (Average: $293.)

**DEAD RECKONING** (Col.)—HILL-STREET (2,700) $1,000. (Average: $370.)

**SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE** (U-J)—GUILD (965) $1,000. (Average: $333.)

**THE BOWERY** (20th-Fox) and **LIVESTOCK** (Formula Film)—RIALTO (1,667) $1,000. (Average: $625.)

**HUMORESQUE** (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,950) $1,000. (Average: $513.)

**THE YEARLING** (M-G-M)—STATE (1,615) $1,000. (Average: $625.)

**THE SECRET HEART** (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) $1,000. (Average: $1,000.)

**DEAD RECKONING** (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) $1,000. (Average: $500.)

**THE RITZ** (1,500) $1,000. (Average: $666.)

**DEAD RECKONING** (Col.)—GOLDMAN (4,000) $1,000. (Average: $250.)

**JOHNNY O’CONNOR** (Col.)—KARLTON (3,000) $1,000. (Average: $333.)

**THE CROWD GOES WILD** (Rep.)—WOODS (1,200) $1,000. (Average: $833.)

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**THE JOLSON STORY** (Col)—PANTAGES (3,514) $1,000. (Average: $293.)

**LAST YEAR** 3,860,000 people saw concerts featuring the stars of the CARNegie HALL released thru UA
CINCINNATI

Most current bills are turning in good figures, although one of the heaviest shows of the winter somewhat hampered weekend attendance. Estimated receipts for the weekend ending March 4-7:

SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI (Memo) — $16,000. (3,500) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Saturday, with a benefit orchestra, plus acts. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,428)

THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M) — RKO CAPITAL (3,500). (3,500-5,000-7,500-6,900) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $2,000)

JINGLE MAN (P.R.C. release) and SWAMP WOMAN (P.R.C. release) — RKO Fox, downtown. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $110)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business shows a slight improvement despite bad weather over the weekend. Estimated receipts for the weekend ending March 4-6:

BLACK ANGEL (U-I) — CIRCLE (2,400) — Pro-City theatre, midtown. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,667)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) and BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.) — RKO Palace (2,875) — midtown. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $2,800)

LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M) — LOEWS (2,410) — downtown. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $2,250)

SALT LAKE CITY

Attendance at all theatres has been above average, with some holdovers performing excellently. The weather has been clear and moderately cold. Estimated receipts for the weekend ending March 6:

SALT LAKE CITY (Cont.)

Reviews

The secret heart (M-G-M) — UPTOWN (2,000) — downtown. 2nd week. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $2,033)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) — 14TH (RKO Radio) — 1,500-2,000-3,000) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $1,566)

TORONTO

Three theatres unfolded new features with substantial result, helped by the opening of a new radio station. Three other theatres continued their programs for a second week. Meanwhile, a large crowd for chief sponsorship and big receipts for the week ending March 6-7:

THE VERDICT (WB) and BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (RKO Radio) — RKO Radio — UTAH (1,200) (3,500-5,000-7,500) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000)

SALT LAKE CITY (Cont.)
**Dip in Gross Level at Key City Houses**

Heavy snows, reaching blizzard proportions in many parts of the country, hampered business at key city first runs during last month, leaving the weekly average gross per theatre in some 170 situations at $17,129, according to reports from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents. The January average stood at $18,867 but included, of course, the annual boost from New Year’s Eve midnight showings.

As in January, this year’s February average also ran slightly below that of Feb., 1946, when a level of $17,949 was maintained.

“The Jolson Story” appeared most often as the box-office leader in the correspondents’ reports last month but received strong competition from “Till the Clouds Roll By,” “The Shadowing Miss Pilgrim.”

(Continued on page 4)

**Apr. 2 Set for Dual Trust Suit Answers**

CHICAGO, March 5—Defendants in the $2,650,000 treble damage anti-trust suit filed by Middle States Corp. and the Riverside Operating Co. on behalf of the Minnesota Theatre, Minneapolis, and the Riverside, Milwaukee, have been given until April 2 to file answers.

Defendants are nine distributors, and, in addition, in the Minneapolis case, the Minnesota Amusement Co. is also named as a defendant.

Riverside and Middle States joined in one suit seeking damages said to be, (Continued on page 4)

**Johnston to Coast Before Annual Meet**

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, is scheduled to leave for the Coast at the weekend for meetings with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and to attend the Academy Awards function on March 13. He will be back East in time to attend the MPAA annual meeting in New York on March 31. His annual report to the meeting is now in preparation.

**M-G-M Deals Set in Field**

Determination of the best bids submitted by theatre men under the New York Federal Court’s industry decree is to be made largely in the field with the home office to give, initially, perfunctory approval of offers recommended. M-G-M has advised branch, district and division sales managers, a New York executive of the company said here yesterday.

He reasoned that it would be physically impossible for the New York office to weigh the particulars in every deal proposed by the bidders. Similarly when the program is fully underway.

Some time back, 20th Century-Fox, in a notice to branch managers on the clearance provisions of the decree, said “the responsibility for the correct decision is upon you.” Are discussing (Continued on page 2)

**Seeks Producers’ Accord on Bidding**

RKO Radio has undertaken a review of its arrangements with independent producers to determine who has the final voice in determining the best bids under the new competitive bidding system, a company spokesman indicated yesterday.

It was reported that the question of whether the independent producer, the distributor, or both, is legally responsible for competitive bidding in practice, remains unsettled at RKO, although, in the spokesman’s view, the distributing company which conducts negotiations is definitely liable and (Continued on page 4)

**ATA Set for Year Ahead, Despite Losing Circuits**

Although financial support from the RKO and Loew circuits will end when the American Theatres Association completes its initial five-year, on April 1, ATA executives see little or no difficulty ahead in carrying their program adequately through another year on the support which will remain, a spokesman for the organization said here yesterday.

Number of theatres paying ATA dues will be reduced from 7,100 to 6,900 when financing from the two circuits ends, thus cutting down the (Continued on page 4)

**N.Y. Owners Will Fight Proposed Tax**

Gov. Dewey Asks for Local Autonomy for New Levies

New York City’s exhibitors are preparing to launch a full scale attack against Gov. Thomas E. Dewey’s proposal of yesterday that the state legislature empower the city to levy an amusement admission tax of five per cent. Yesterday, Motion Picture Daily reported that a Dewey recommendation of that nature was impending.

Although New York’s Mayor William O’Dwyer and City Controller Lazarus Joseph have given assurances in the past that they are not in favor of a city tax on theatre admissions, exhibitors here have been heard to “nip the tax threat in the bud” in the legislature in Albany, according to exhibitor organization spokesmen here. It is felt that some cities and towns would take advantage of special tax powers while others would not, and as a result theatres in affected (Continued on page 3)

**Dope Films Scored By Publisher’s Wife**

ATLANTIC CITY, March 5—So-called killer-diller radio programs and the vulgarization of life allegedly conveyed by 90 per cent of the films are a handicap to the moral, mental and emotional development of American childhood, Mrs. Eugene Meyer, wife of the owner of the Washington Post, declared tonight in an address before the eighth general session of the American Association of School Administrators here.

“Movie magnates show a callous indifference to the nation’s welfare.” (Continued on page 3)

**Mason Seeks Court Rule on Rose ‘Deal’**

When David Rose, independent producer who filed a $1,800,000 suit last Dec 19 against James Mason for alleged breach of contract, stepped off the gangplank of the SS Queen Elizabeth on March 13, he was handed a summons and complaint in connection with a proceeding instituted by Mason for a declaratory (Continued on page 4)
Personal Mention

S T RO C K S K O U R A S, 20th Century-Fox president, is scheduled to leave for the Coast today or tomorrow. He is also slated for a trip to South America later this month.

B ER N A R D R. G O O D M A N, supervisor of exchanges for Warner Bros., and HERMAN GOLDBERG, purchasing agent, will leave here Monday for Charlotte and Atlanta.

G LE NT ON A L L I N E, executive secretary of the Eastern Public Information Bureau nearing the South, will return here next Wednesday.

G LE NN J E T T O N, Warner Bros. field publicity representative for Canada, will return to Toronto today from New York.


N AT W O L F, Warners circuit zone manager for Cleveland, is celebrating his 15th anniversary with the circuit.

J ACK L A V I N S, managing director of Confidential Reports, returned to New York yesterday from Chicago.

Technicolor Reward

H O L L Y W O O D, March 5—Technicolor Corp. has offered $2,500 “reward” for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the assailants who attacked Claude McNell, Technicolor employee, on leaving the plant yesterday morning.

M G M Bids Settfield

(Continued from page 1)

bidding, the company directed that all propositions must be approved by the division sales manager.

{Continued on page 3}

Grant Pictures to Start on May 15

C H IC A G O, March 5—Marshall Grant Pictures, Inc., new film-producing firm set up by group of executives, will, in June, launch production of its first, “Moonrise,” about May 15, and will be succeeded by “The Moon,” fully scheduled with each film to be budgeted at around $250,000, the company’s Jay C. Sullivan, president, will disclose. William A. Wellman will direct “Moonrise,” and E. H. Griffith, Arthur Lubin and John Rawlins are supervising shooting of national phases of Chicago heretofore played up on the screen, Saltiel said. Other directors named are P. Haas, as the producer-director, has been named Grant’s vice-president. Details on the company’s plans, backers and other pictures scheduled, of which one will be “The Loop,” which will attempt to counterattack the recently organized group that has speculative phases of Chicago heretofore played up on the screen, Saltiel said. Other directors named are P. Haas, as the producer-director, has been named Grant’s vice-president. Details on the company’s plans, backers and other pictures scheduled, of which one will be “The Loop,” which will attempt to counterattack the recently organized group that has speculative phases of Chicago heretofore played up on the screen, Saltiel said.

Republic Signs with Feldman for Three

H O L L Y W O O D, March 5—Republic Pictures has signed with Charles K. Feldman Group Productions for a minimum of three pictures each year. Players, directors and stories, Lewis Milestone will produce and direct “The Red Pony” in Technicolor and as the third, “The Hecht—Shadow” will be the second.

AMPA Luncheon Today

C ourtis V. Mitchell, Paramount advertising-publicity director, will be toastmaster; George T. Delacorte, president; Harry B. May, president; Paul Hunter, president of Liberty Magazines, will be the principal speakers, and Maurice Chevalier will be guest of honor at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers luncheon-meeting to be held at the Town Hall Hotel today. Rutgers Nelson is president of AMPA.

Picketing in 3rd Week

S A N FRANCISCO, March 5—Picketers of the Fillmore Theatre by negroes, just over the third week of their picketing, have no labor difficulty, the building being 100 per cent union, but hinges entirely on the negro's that there be 50 per cent negro help employed.

George Nasser, owner and general manager, has retired arbitrators directly to the union, through which he says all employees are hired.

Columbia Withdraws

MEXICO CITY, March 5—Columbia has cancelled a 10-picture contract with the Tepeyac studio, operated by E. N. Miller of the Alkon Group, following collapse of a studio roof that killed three workmen and injured 19 others. A loss of confidence in the studio's physical security is said to have inspired Columbia's action. The pictures will be made in other Mexican studios scheduled to adjourn before the month ends.

AMPP Feles Price At Luncheon Today

H O L L Y W O O D, March 5—A farewell luncheon to Byron Sullivan will be given on behalf of the assocation of Motion Picture Producers board members and other officials tomorrow at the Hills Hotel. Price will leave here on March 15th to assume his new duties as U.S. assistant secretary-general.

U.S. Film Program Is Hit by Staff Cuts

C ultural Affairs have resulted in temporary curtailment of some operations of the international motion picture division here, it is understood. Chief delay is being experienced in obtaining the material for tomorrow's show and in re-editing, although the production program has not been impeded.

The staff cut, according to a department spokesman, has no connection with budget hearings now going on in Congress.

Army Cities de Rochemont

March of Time producer Richard de Rochemont and MOT directors Rita VANDIVER and Victor Jurgens are among a group of war correspondents given awards by the War Department for services overseas and honored with campaign ribbons by Gen. Courtney H. Hodges, commander of the U.S. First Army, at the Overseas Press Club luncheon here held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here.

Ind. ASCAP Bill Amended

I ND I AN A P O L I S, March 5—A new conference report on the so-called Anti-ASCAP bill, restoring the union's exclusive rights under its bylaws from its provisions, was approved in the House today. The measure will be up for vote in the Senate tomorrow.

Friedman Speaks Today

Chester Friedman, editor of the West Coast's "K-Sound" Picture Herald, will address a Lion's Club luncheon-meeting today at the Roger Smith Hotel in White Plains, N. Y. on "The Theatre's Place in the Community—Today and the Manager's in Business and Civic Affairs."

Clinical Unit Begun

H O L L Y W O O D, March 5—Motion Picture Relief Fund president Jean Herstosh has announced the start of construction of the $500,000 clinical unit at the Motion Picture Country House.

The unit will double hospitalization facilities.

W. P. Mullen to CBS

William P. Mullen has joined Columbia Broadcasting's spot-sales division as an account executive in New York.

D i v e r s o n of the last 72 hours, and now again hereafter continuing its theatre activities to Wisconsin, has invaded Iowa with the latest offering of some of the nation's best musical and dramatic attractions, and to Marshalltown, S. and M., will take possession on March 15.

Jutkovitz Services

Services for Alexander Jutkovitz, 59, co-owner of the Park Theatre at Far Rockaway and a partner for 25 years in ownership of the Columbia and Strand there, will be held at the Jewish Center, Far Rockaway, at noon today, following a funeral at a heart attack in Cleveland, he is survived by his brother, Isador.

Services for Jenkins

Services for Felix A. Jenkins, 57, secretary of 20th Century-Fox and a member of the board of directors, who died Tuesday, will be held at 3:30 P.M. tomorrow at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Montclair, N. J. 

New Crouch Feature

"Disc Jockey" is the title of a musical feature which William Forest Crouch will produce and direct at Film Craft Studios in New York, starting shooting about a month after a screen play by Charles Curran.

Dope Films Socked

(Continued from page 1)

MRS. M E Y E R said yesterday, "Only recently the largest combination of motion picture magnates deliberately modified their own code against the use of the narcotic theme in order to exploit that powerful, generally accepted field for the benefit of our children."

"So notorious have our films become the world over," Mrs. Meyer continued, "that they are endangering our foreign relations. The strange hold which these powerful moving pictures have over the American people for profit, and jeopardize our good name and our good relations with the rest of the world."

CREDITORs OF HIRLAMAN FIRMS OFFERED 32½% 

Unsecured creditors of International Theatrical and Television Corp. and Film Distributors, Inc., are to receive 32½ percent of their claims if a plan tentatively agreed upon with debtors is filed in the U.S. District Court here today. Referee Irvin Kurtz in Federal District Court here yesterday. Kurtz signed an order granting the company and the authorizer of a joint amended plan to their creditors.

The companies, Kurtz said, "are being set up in new form under a condition that they have been able to a full money claim of their secured creditors, National Factors Corp. and Continental Bank and Trust Co. George Hirlaman is president of both firms.

SwiNoj, Marcus Invade Iowa, Buy 2

MI L W A U K E E, March 5—Swirnoff and his lieutenants before continuing its theatre activities to Wisconsin, has invaded Iowa with the latest offering of some of the nation's best musical and dramatic attractions, and to Marshalltown, S. and M., will take possession on March 15.

D O E P M E L S Socked

(Continued from page 1)

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WHAT 'MILDRED PIERCE' DID

"NORA PRENTISS"

DOES BETTER!!

PRACTICALLY EVERY ONE OF THE 73 ENGAGEMENTS UNDER WAY IS 'WAY AHEAD OF 'PIERCE'!
There are 136 minutes of the world's greatest musical artists and the world's greatest music in...

Carnegie Hall

Released thru UA

Gross Level Takes Dip

(Continued from page 1)

Madeleine" and "Sinbad the Sailor." Also coming through as weekly leaders in a number of situations were "Open City," "California," "Lady in the Lake," "Dead Reckoning," "Strange Voyage," "San Quentin," "Henry V." "It's a Wonderful Life." "The Angel and the Badman," "The Razor's Edge," and "The Best Years of Our Lives." Composite box-office reports for 1947 to date, compared with the corresponding weeks of 1940, follow:

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<td>Feb. 7-10</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>$2,760,900</td>
<td>$15,388</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 14-15</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>$2,670,900</td>
<td>$15,388</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 21-22</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>$2,840,200</td>
<td>$15,690</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 28-Mar. 1</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>$2,800,300</td>
<td>$18,668</td>
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Mason-Rose

(Continued from page 1)

Seeking Accord

(Continued from page 1)

vulnerable to court action in the event of a suit by a disappointed exhibitor-holding.

On the basis of his assertion that all procedure and differences between RKO and producers were not decided in the past, distributors have been amicably resolved in the past, and the insistence by producers' representatives here that they would insist upon the right to determine the best bed, the signs point to continuation of the policy of review and final authorization by the independent.

Last week distribution representatives of producers releasing through United Artists declined to accept to Gradwell L. Sears' request for a waiver of their bidding approval authority in favor of the UA's owner of a theater.

It was recalled that Department of Justice interpretations of the New York court decision, that while independent producers are not directly bound by the decree because they were not parties to the anti-trust suit, they cannot commit an act declared illegal without placing themselves in a position of being subject to prosecution under the anti-trust laws.

Executives of several of the producers releasing through RKO, including Walt Disney, Liberty Films and Samuel Goldwyn, Argosy and Independent Artists, have indicated that, impressed by early release dates, they are in a position to "sit back and watch" development of competitive bidding. Liberty's "It's a Wonderful Life!" and Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" have been placed on the block for competitive negotiations whenever requests have come in, and Disney's "Song of the South," which has played most of its bookings already and has received several bids only in the past week from some "limited and smaller" situations, according to a Disney spokesman, comprised only independent producers currently available through RKO. Since Argosy and IA have films in production, Disney and Goldwyn have to have new product for release after the summer, and Liberty expecting to release "State of the Union" by fall. It appears that these companies are not confronted with any immediate problem concerning bidding and procedure.

New Film-Effects Firm

C. G. Film-Effects has been established here by Milton M. Gottlieb, a veteran of 25 years in the industry, and Hugo A. Casadoro, formerly of Sound Masters, Inc.

Masonic-Syndicate Planning Circuit

A New York syndicate, headed by Harold J. Mirisch, well-recognized film buyer here for RKO Theatres, has its sights on the development of a national circuit with negotiations now on for the acquisition of two theatre companies holding six and eight houses, respectively, according to Maurice Maurer, theatre operator for City Investing Co., who figures in the plan.

Trust Suit Answers

(Continued from page 1)

have incurred in the operation of the Riverside, asking a total of $1,750,000. In the Minneapolis suit, Middle States alone asks $900,000 for losses allegedly suffered in operating the Minnesota.

Both suits were filed in U. S. District Court here on Jan. 20, by John Mulder and Abraham Brussell, local attorneys, who asked for jury trials. Both suits were assigned to Judge Michael L. Igoe, known in motion picture circles for his verdicts on the Jackson Park Theatre case, which was handed to Judge Philip L. Sullivan, who is also the judge on the Schoenhaut Circuit's antitrust suit. Both suits are on behalf of its Piccadilly Theatre.

Another Postnomination of Schoenhaut Trust Suit

Chicago, March 5—Attorneys for both sides have agreed upon still another postnomination of the Schoenhaut Circuit's $6,750,000 triple damage antitrust suit on behalf of its southside Palace Theatre, which was scheduled to get underway before Special Master-in-Chambers Charles A. McDonald tomorrow. According to Aaron Stein of Rosenberg, Stein and Rosenberg, law firm, who is representing the Schoenhauts, the new date will be "in about three weeks or a month."

ATA's Year Ahead

(Continued from page 1)

revenue by less than 10 per cent, it was explained. Moreover, RKO and Loew's are expected to return to the association after final settlement of the industry anti-trust suit, having dropped out on a position not understood to be a temporary basis when ATA sought to intervene in the case because of widespread exhibitor objections to the competitive bidding system set up by the New York Federal District Court. Of the other three theatre-owning defendants in the suit, National Theatres has remained in the association and many of Paramount's affiliates, long after Warner Theatres never joined.

Only the problem of obtaining adequate facilities in Washington or Chicago has held up final plans for ATA's forthcoming annual convention, which will take place on a date to be set between April 19 and May 1, according to the association spokesmen.
U', Columbia
In Move for
Bidding Stay

Universal's Application
Accepts Single Sales

Universal has applied to the U. S. Supreme Court for a stay of
the competitive bidding provisions of the New York Federal District
Court's decree, and Universal is preparing a similar application.

The stays, if granted, would exempt these companies from the bidding system,
which is scheduled to become mandatory July 1, at least until after the high court
rules on their pending appeals, which is not likely before early next year.

Even if the Universal and
Universal applications are act-
upon favorably, four of the
remaining six defendants in the
suit will be required to sell
their films competitively after

(Continued on page 6)

Dunn Named PRC
Asst. Sales Manager

Harold S. Dunn has been appointed
assistant general sales manager
by the National Producers Releasing Corp., by Ralph
H. Clark, general sales manager.

Dunn entered the industry in 1929,
with Frank Ridkin in Boston. In
1932, he joined Warner's sales de-
partment, shifting to the theatre de-
partment in 1929 and to the foreign department in 1931.

UK Relaxes Theatre
Closing Regulation

London, Mar. 6.—Theatres
will be permitted to open
weekdays beginning Saturday,
between 11:30 A.M. and 1:30
P.M., or between noon and
two P.M., to allow children's
matinees, trade shows, press
viewings, etc. Heretofore,
under the power ban, theatres
were closed until four P.M.

With the industry com-
pelled to save 250,000 feet of
raw stock weekly, the
Cinematograph Exhibitors
Association will meet with
the newsmen on Tuesday to
discuss whether further cuts in
newspaper or temporary
recessing of the reels.

Bidding Requests
Often Inadequate

Distributors here are finding
a "great many" requests for
competitive bidding from
theatremen not too familiar
with this method of buying
product a and consequently
their petitions are in vague
or generalized terms, rather
than being specific. One ex-
hibitor, for example, offered
M-G-M an unnamed "fabu-
lucent" sum, to be put it, for
"The Yearling."

The majority of non-con-
forming requests simply ex-
press a desire to bid on
product of a certain company.

Fight on N. Y. Tax
Bill Seen Futile

ALBANY, N. Y., March 6.—Gov-
ernor Dewey's program for increased
local taxing powers, with permissive
levies on admissions, has met an
undercurrent of opposition among
Republican legislators and outspoken
opposition by Democrats here.

It is believed, however, that with the
Governor behind the measure, the bill will
pass, probably next week.

A theatre official said tonight:
"The Governor supports the bill;
why kid ourselves? It will go through.

Of course, legislative adoption would
not put any of these taxes in effect.
They may be enacted by the legislature. That's

(Continued on page 6)

WB to Start
Bids in May

First competitive bidding for War-
ner product will take place early in
May, with "The Two Mrs. Carroll's";
"Stallion Road" and "Love and
Learning" among the earliest pictures to
be offered by the company through
the new selling method, it is under-
stood.

Following the initial offers, other
films are expected to be placed on the
competitive market in fairly rapid suc-
cession, thus putting Warners on a
full bidding basis by July 1, when the
system set up by the New York Fed-
eral District Court becomes manda-
tory.

Meanwhile, the company is under-
stood to have completed dissolution of all
its pooling agreements except one,
involving a few theatres in Okla-
ahoma City, with this expected to be
ended in the near future.

Bill to Activate
Theatre Building

WASHINGTON, March 6.—A new
housing measure which does not in-
clude authorization to restrict non-
residential building will be introduced
in the House by Rep. Jesse P. Wol-
cott, chairman of the House Banking
Committee.

Elimination of present building bar-
riers would result in the construction of
an estimated 300 theatres through-
out the nation.

(Continued on page 6)

Ackery, Wise, Bradley
Selected Top Showmen

This year, for the first time since
the start of the "Quigley Annual
Showmanship Awards," the Silver
Grand Award has gone outside
the United States. The winner: Ivan
Ackery, manager of the Orpheum
Theatre, Vancouver, B. C., one of the
hones in the Famous Players' Can-
dian circuit.

The other winners, who
this week also were designated "top
showmen" by a 42-man board of
judges, are Nate Wise, who received
the Bronze Grand Award for his cam-
paings in Cincinnati, where he is pub-
licity manager for RKO Theatres,
and Frank Bradley, who was present-
ed with the special Overseas Plaque
for his campaigns in Sheffield, En-
land, where he manages the Regent

(Continued on page 6)

AAF Jack Warner
Citation Mar. 11

Washington, Mar. 6.—The
office of the Commanding
General of the U. S. Army
Air Forces has sent to film
leaders invitations to attend
a ceremony at which the
Medal of Merit will be award-
ed in the name of the Presi-
dent to Jack L. Warner, War-
ner Brothers production vice-
president, to be presented by
General of the Army H. H.
Arnold on March 14 at March
Field, Riverside, Cal.

Film Salesmen
Move in on
Labor Front

Ask Distributors to Talk
Wages and Other Items

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, March 6.—Representa-
tives of motion picture salesmen of the U. S. have, after repeated
reports of contemplated action, heard down through the years, finally
and suddenly, appeared on the film labor scene.

David Benzor, Milwaukee at-
torney and recently-appointed
counsel and labor negotiator for the Coliseum of Motion
Picture Salesmen of America,
has sent letters to New York
home offices of all distributors
requesting distributors
and bargain with his organiza-
tion, which represents film
salesmen in many parts of the
country.

To date, Benzor has received re-
(Continued on page 7)

Selznick Board Is
Headed by Kramer

Milton A. Kramer has become ex-
cutive vice-president and chairman
of the board of United Artists
theatre chain. He succeeds
Ernest L. Scan-
lon, executive vice-president of Van-
guard Films, as chairman of the
board of SRO. Scanlon, who
remains on the SRO board, will
declare himself mainly to Vanguard fiscal affairs.

Oklahoma Owners
In Anti-Tax Drive

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 6.—About
124 Oklahoma exhibitors, representing
54 of the state's 77 counties, gathered
here to organize an all-out campaign
against a bill in the legislature which
would enable them to seek certain
lengths to broaden their tax programs to include

(Continued on page 7)
**Personal Mention**

HENDERSON M. RICHEY, M-G-M's director of exhibitor relations, has been awarded a U. S. Navy Certificate of Appreciation for his services during the war.

WILLIAM GOETZ, Universal-International production head, accompanied by his wife and CLAUDETTE COULTER, are expected to arrive here tomorrow from the East.

Ben KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, left here yesterday for St. Louis and other Mid-West points.

ARTHUR W. KELLY, General Motion Pictures Corp. president, will leave New York today for the Coast on TWA Constellation.

S. SAM SEIDELMAN, PRC foreign manager, has returned to New York after a four and a half months' trip through the Far East.

MILTON RUSSELL, general sales manager for Selznick Releasing Organization, is scheduled to leave here today for Hollywood.

STUART H. AARONS, Warner Club president and member of Warners legal staff, is left here by plane last night for the Coast.

Robert GILLIAM, of the J. Walter Thompson Agency, is scheduled to leave here today for a vacation in Florida.

**Pizar, Rank Officers, Seidelman Sailing**

William M. Pizar, foreign sales manager for Screen Guild Productions; Robert Benjamin, president of the U. S. J. Arthur Rank Organization; Joseph H. Seidelman, president of Universal-International, "U.S." foreign sales subsidiary, and A. B. Kimm, Eagle American president, among film industry notables scheduled to leave for Europe today aboard the SS Queen Elizabeth, Pizar, who expects to be away about a month, expects to be back in two months, will stop in London before traveling across the Continent to set up branches for the distribution of SGP releases.

David Lewis, Enterprise producer; Paulette Goddard, Burgess Meredith, Constance Collier, Glynn Ismond, Dr. Hubert Clifford, musical director for London Film Productions; Noel Coward, playwright and producer; Jack Buchanan and James Whale, will also sail.

**'Adventures' Opening**

A. W. Schwallberg, Eagle-Lion vice-president and general sales manager, says that "The Adventures," starring Deborah Kerr, will be premiered at the Majestic Theatre here on March 14, as planned. He also confirms the March 17 national release date.

**Insider's Outlook**

By RED KANN

MORE on the closely-watched Paramount price change:

The slash in morning scales from 70 cents from opening to 11 A.M. and from 85 cents from 11 A.M. to noon to 11 A.M. to midnight, 70 cents from opening to one P.M., all including Federal tax, is not only the shift, although emphasis has been concentrated on that bracket. No doubt, because it is the deepest cut.

Under the former structure, the house used to get 95 cents from noon to five P.M., then $1.30 from three to midnight when the tariff dropped to 95. Under the new, it is 90 cents from one to six P.M., then $1.20 from midnight when it slides off to 85 cents. This prevails Monday through Friday.

On Saturday, from opening to 11 A.M. the price was 85 cents, rising a dime from 11 A.M. to noon, going to $1.10 from noon to two P.M., then up 10 cents to $1.20 for the next hour, climbing to $1.40 from three to midnight when it reached a peak of $1.50 and receded to $1.20 at midnight. Now it is 70 cents from opening to noon, 95 cents from noon to one P.M., then $1.25 from one to five P.M., at which hour it clammers to $1.50 and remains there until midnight when it is cut back to 95 cents.

A Sunday scale, likewise, has undergone a change. From opening to one P.M., the price formerly was $1.30, changing to $1.50 throughout the afternoon and evening until midnight when it sluffed to $1.20. Now it is $1.25 from opening to one P.M., at its maximum of $1.50 thereafter until midnight when it contrtracts to 95 cents.

The full-blown price setup is essential to any understanding of what the theatre is endeavoring to accomplish. That endeavor, primarily, is to restore morning business to some semblance of its former level. On the basis of the first nine days, the management, which is to say Bob Weitman, stoutly maintains the plan already is so pronounced a success that attendance is putting the previous three shows to shame. On the basis of the first six days, patronage to one A.M. was up almost 100 per cent, he reports.

Meanwhile, Broadway competitors continue to look down their noses. They remain unconvincing, or so they say, of any need to follow suit and the probability is their judgment is sound so far as the new scheme has gone. While, plus two days, hardly can be conclusive.

They are pointing out, also, that a drop in price stacks up as an argument for increased attendance in in dollars. The answer is pretty obvious. The Paramount is interested in both.

Weitman maintains the theatre teaches it's not a long time since Wednesday and Friday night and weekend business, which means the gravy train starts to gather speed with whatever else is left. He figures that, while he is getting less money per admission, particularly in the morning hours, he also is getting attendance so much greater that the house has increased in attendance in about nine months that the gross inevitably must improve.

It is in Weitman's mind as well that he won't have the field to himself much longer. If someone wants to take a bet, we'd line up with him.

**For the record:**

Thornton Delaney, reporting in the New York Herald Tribune from Hollywood, had Dore Schary pursuing a new production at RKO. No longer with that company to rely so heavily on independents. Instead, new policy provided for the development of a contract list and "to play along with major houses, major talent, or freelance, groups," he wrote. Hollywood checkup shows that Schary had been misinterpreted; he has no such plan in mind.

Century Circuit's program in cooperation with the Board of Education to gauge whether films will complement classroom teaching is of utmost importance, according to exhibitors. And closer to the business of running a community. Bearing all costs and charging no admission, Century is holding one morning show a month for four months.

This is a first-rate instance of good thinking, good service and progressive showmanship.

— DAAPA ANDREWS in "BOOMERANG"

A 20th Century-Fox Picture

KATHERINE HUNDRUM, ENRICO LEONEQUA ED SULLIVAN & GARDNER

ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

— "BLAZE OF NOON" in "PARAMOUNT'S"

RIVOLI THEATER Door Open 8:30 A.M. 9:30 A.M.
Los Angeles—
4 THEATRES—
"LEADING THE CITY!"
—Variety

New York Roxy—
"OUTGROSSING '13 RUE MADELEINE'!"

Stamford, Connecticut—
"A BOXOFFICE TRIUMPH!"

DANA ANDREWS in
Boomerang!

Darryl F. Zanuck presents

Jane Wyatt • Lee J. Cobb
Cara Williams • Arthur Kennedy • Sam Levene • Taylor Holmes • Robert Keith • Ed Begley
Directed by ELIA KAZAN
Produced by LOUIS de ROCHEMONT
Screen Play by Richard Murphy • Based Upon an Article by Anthony Abbott. Published in The Reader's Digest

There's always a Boom at the Boxoffice when you play Century-Fox

THE RAZOR'S EDGE” • “THE LATE GEORGE APLEY” • “THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR”
‘CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA’ In Technicolor • “THE HOMESTRETCH” In Technicolor
It’s a SWEET TUNE at the B. O.!

"SONG’ HOT!" in N. Y.
TORRID!" in Buffalo
"SONG’ HOT!" in L. A.
LOOKS GOOD!" in Chi. (2nd Week “FANCY!”)
TERRIF!" in Cincy
and it’s just beginning to sing!
Big Spurt in Production as 12 Films Start

Hollywood, March 6—Production has surged strongly upward, with work starting on 12 new films. Five others have been finished and entered M-G-M's "The Pirate"—temporarily suspended. The shooting index stood at 88, compared to the record level of 32. The production scene follows:

Columbia
Finished: "Lady from Shanghai," "Three Were Thoroughbreds" (Cavalcade).


Shooting: "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchanan).

M-G-M
Monogram
"Song of the Thin Man," "The Hucksters."

Monogram
"Sarge Goes to College," with Fredric March, Barbara Stanwyck, George Keaton, Robert Taylor, Tom Brown.

Paramount

Shooting: "Road to Rio," "Albuquerque" (Claron).

PRC
"Silent Voice.""

Republic

Independents Honor Price at Dinner
Hollywood, March 6—The Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, last night at a formal dinner to Byron Price. Speakers were IMPAA president I. E. Chadwick, SMPA president Donald Nelson, Joan Hershot, Joseph L. Breen and IATSE representative Roy Brewer.

Price was given the AMMP award at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Price will leave here for New York on March 13 to assume new duties as assistant secretary-general.

Top Showmen
(Continued from page 1)

Theatre for Gaumont British. Judges comprised executives in distribution and exhibition. Twenty-two finalists had weathered the quarterly awards competitions, and their exhibitors, which were on view at the Hotel, here, this week, were examined by hundreds from the industry. Sol A. Schwartz, vice-president and general manager of RKO Theatres, and G. H. Lev, RKO’s assistant at the luncheon, said he found particular merit in campaigns conducted by managers of smaller theatres with the aid of a publicity department or exploitation director.

N. Y. Tax Bill
(Continued from page 1)

where a fight could be waged.

Republican Assembly declared: "If the bill were to come to a vote today, it would be defeated, I think, but the situation will change before the bill becomes law.

Some localities will not wish to levy such taxes. This kind of bill puts every legislator on the spot.

State lawmakers expect a protesting deluge of mail and wires over the weekend.

Approve U. S. Tax Bill
WASHINGTON, March 6—The House Monday, approved a joint Congressional conference committee report continuing indefinitely the Federal excise tax. Approval of the bill's provisions, which include a 3-cent tax on every leaf of tobacco, is expected.


30th Century-Fox
"The Trespasser," "Springtime in the Sierras."

Selznick

Shooting: "The Paradise Case."

Stoltz Nominated To Head AMPA
Arnold Stoltz has been designated by the nominating committee of Associated Motion Picture Advertisers to succeed Rutgers Neillson, whose term as president will expire shortly. Nomination is subject to election by the Board of Directors.

Others nominated are: Vice-president, Phil Williams; treasurer, Max Stein; secretary, Margarete Vagena. Nominated for the board of directors are: Neillson, Joel Swenson, Harry Williams, Clay Hailey and Don Veile. Charles Allicote was nominated to fill a vacancy on the board of directors.

Nominating committee chairman Robert Wible announced the selection at yesterday's AMPA luncheon-meeting at the Town Hall Club, which was addressed by George T. Delacorte, president of Dell Publications; Muriel Babcock, editor of Ideal Publications; O. G. Elder, president of MacFadden Publications; Ralph Maeght; Favorit Publications; and David Brown, editor of Literary magazine, all of whom reviewed progress recently in the fan magazines. Maurice Chevalier, guest of honor, spoke on the art of comedy. He will be joined by the AMPA's advertising-publicity director, who is master of ceremonies. Irma Singer, chairman of the luncheon arrangements committee.

Bidding Star
(Continued from page 1)

July 1. The other two, Paramount and United Artists, company stays only by applying separately for them, according to informed legal opinion here. M-G-M, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and Warners have not appealed from the bidding provision. UA has appealed. A bidding provision will be passed by Independent Artists to a producer-writer contract. Screen Services.

"My Own True Love" will be the title of Paramount's film version of the Yokolida Folkes novel, "Make You a Fine Wife." British actress Phyllis Calvert will be starred, and Val Lewtron has been assigned to production. Peter Lorre has been signed by Republic for a leading role with Vera Ralston and John Carroll in "Crime in the East," directed by Richard Fleischer. The film has been assigned by Eagle-Lion for a starring role in "Out of the Blue."

"The Man from Colorado." Charles Vidor will direct, Jules Scherner will produce. Peter Lorre has been signed by Republic for a leading role with Vera Ralston and John Carroll in "Crime in the East," directed by Richard Fleischer. The film has been assigned by Eagle-Lion for a starring role in "Out of the Blue."

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Ban Jurisdictionals By Law: C. of C.

WASHINGTON, March 6—Jurisdictional strikes should be ruled an unfair labor practice and unions should be made responsible by law for such disputes, the S. Chamber of Commerce told the House Education and Labor committee today.

H. W. Steinkraus, chairman of the C.O.P.'s labor relations committee, opined that compulsory arbitration between labor and management. He said, however, that voluntary arbitration is acceptable to the Chamber.

Commenting on jurisdictional strikes, the Chamber said: "Labor unions have failed to see that it is to their advantage to provide adequate forums for the settlement of such disputes. For that reason a jurisdictional strike should be made an unfair labor practice and legal machinery should be provided for settlement of such disputes."

Theatres Help Local Merchants: Friedman

Chester Friedman, editor of the Managers' Round Table of Motion Picture Herald, told a White Plains Lion's Club luncheon-meeting yesterday that "the theatre is a bulwark in keeping local consumers of tangible merchandise in their own communities." Friedman, who was guest speaker at the luncheon, said that the "great drawing power of motion pictures helps to attract business" for local merchants from rural and surrounding areas.

Lantz Signs 5-Year Contract with UA

Hollywood, March 6—Walter Lantz has signed a five-year releasing contract with United Artists for 11 cartoon shorts annually.

With Universal for the past 20 years, Lantz will continue his "Woody Woodpecker" musical miniatures and "Andy Panda" characters in his forthcoming product.

UA's Sears Makes Gold Cup Awards

CHICAGO, March 6—The Midwest district, headed by Rud Lohrman, has been awarded first prize of $7,000 in United Artists vice-president Gradwell's Sears' Gold Cup Drive.

At a regional sales meeting here today, the Chicago branch headed by R. Reid, was awarded $5,000 prizes. Rose also received a gold cup from Sears. These five salesmen each received medals and certificates.

'Years' Nets $16,000 Pittsburgh Advance

PITTSBURGH, March 6—The Fulton Theatre here ran up a $16,000 advance sale for "The Best Years of Our Lives," which is being shown at advanced prices four times a day. Individual seats are not reserved, but numbers are allotted beyond capacity.

The house points out that one advantage of the system is that it breaks down resistance to advanced prices reserved for big pictures. Only minor hitch occurred; some people claimed the right to sit through two shows.

Seven More Pictures Get Legion Ratings

Columbia's "Thirteenth Hour" has been classified A-1 by the National Legion of Decency. The following were classified A-2: "Danger Street," and "My Favorite Brunette," both Paramount; "The Sin of Harold Diddlebock," United Artists, and "Undercover Maisie," M-G-M.

AEG Corp.'s French-made "Angel and Sinner" and Tricolor Films' French-made "Children of Paradise," were placed in Class B.

RKO-Radio Appoints Elias Lapinere

Elias Lapinere has been appointed RKO-Radio European publicity director and will make his headquarters in the Paris office of Wladimir Lissin, general European supervisor. RKO-Radio discloses here Lapinere has been nominated by European managers of American companies as chairman of the public relations committee for the Brussels Film Festival.

Goldstone to RKO

HOLLYWOOD, March 6 — Richard Goldstone has been named RKO Radio as a producer, according to an announcement by Dore Schary, executive vice-president in charge of production. He will concentrate, under Schary's supervision, on a specialized type of picture, the nature of which will be disclosed later. Former head of the M-G-M short subject department and more recently a producer at M-G-M and an independent, Goldstone served during the war with the motion picture division of the USAAF.

Schary-Wallis Deal

Hollywood, March 6—Dore Schary and Hal Wallis have announced a "package deal" whereby RKO-Radio secures from Hal Wallis Productions all screen rights to "The White Swan," along with Elizabeth Scott and Burt Lancaster as co-stars, Byron Haskin as director and Leo Tover as cameraman.

Film Salesmen

(Continued from page 1)

plies from three major companies, expressing their willingness to sit down and discuss the film salesmen's demands, it is said.

Arthur M. Van Dyke, sales manager of 20th Century-Fox in Chicago, who is the national president of the Colosseum unit in St. Louis, discloses that to date no specific demands have been asked for. He also said that because of the peculiar nature of a film salesman's job, no minimum hours will be asked for.

Van Dyke said the film salesmen is not affiliated with any labor organization. The IATSE has on occasion attempted to organize film salesmen. He pointed out that salesmen are the only branch of the industry not organized to date and that their aims are to get security and proper position in the industry. He added that salesmen's demands will be fair and reasonable, observing, "I think the companies will be fair and reasonable with us."

Van Dyke said that negotiation strategy will be set by an executive group composed of 14 from all sections of the country. While declining to state how many salesmen are now affiliated with the Colosseum throughout the country, Van Dyke did say that the membership in Chicago, for example, has increased 10 per cent in 10 days. Omaha and Indianapolis are also completely organized. He reports that the Colosseum embraces 13 film salesmen's groups comprising a membership of nearly 500.

Van Dyke disclosed that Solley of RKO Radio in Atlanta as national president in the December election. Solley was elected treasurer, Mel Keller of Portland, executive vice-president; N. Provencher, Milwaukee, executive secretary.

Hollywood Mass Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, March 6—With the basic issues in the salesmen's strike still unchanged, the Conference of Studio Unions prepared for a special mass meeting tonight at Legion Stadium. All unions and several civic organizations have been invited to hear speakers representing Herbert Sorrell report on his abduction and beating by unidentified assailants last Sunday night.

Local 278 Negotiating

HOLLYWOOD, March 6—Building Service Employees' local No. 278 is understood to be negotiating with IATSE leaders for an arrangement under which its striking members could disassociate themselves from the Conference of Studio Unions and return to work.

Oklahoma Owners

(Continued from page 1)

announcements levies or gross receipt taxes.

The meeting, presided over by C. B. Akers, chairman of the state exhibitors' legislative committee, resulted in agreement by the exhibitors to spark a "grass-roots" drive against the proposed law and support a measure designed to increase the state's property tax system. The opposed bill, sponsored by Tulsia and Oklahoma City officials, has been referred to a Senate committee for public hearings within the next two weeks.
<table>
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<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>MONO.</th>
<th>PARA.</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>LITTLE MR. JIM Butch Jenkins James Craig C—104 mins.</td>
<td>FRONTER FIGHTERS Spencer Tracy Katherine Hepburn C—125 mins.</td>
<td>THREE ON A TIE Huxley Beaumont, Cheryl Walker</td>
<td>(April 1 Releases)</td>
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<td>April 12</td>
<td>BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—94 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)</td>
<td>FRONTER FIGHTERS Spencer Tracy Katherine Hepburn C—125 mins.</td>
<td>THREE ON A TIE Huxley Beaumont, Cheryl Walker</td>
<td>(April 1 Releases)</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
<td>FRAMED Glenn Ford Janie Carter Barry Sullivan D—82 mins.</td>
<td>FRONTER FIGHTERS Spencer Tracy Katherine Hepburn C—125 mins.</td>
<td>THREE ON A TIE Huxley Beaumont, Cheryl Walker</td>
<td>(April 1 Releases)</td>
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*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.*
Southwest Is 1st in Volume Of Early Bids

M-G-M Said to Have No New York Requests

Southwest exhibitors lead the country in volume of requests for competitive bidding, according to an M-G-M's records, sources familiar with the company's bidding operations report. Theatremen who petitioned the company are concentrated mostly in the Dallas and Oklahoma City areas, it is said, and from this the conclusion is drawn that many independents are seeking to outbid the Griffith interests there.

Following in the number of requests for bidding are the Midwest, Far West, Central and East in that order, reportedly, with New York exhibitors said to be completely inactive in this respect.

Fred Schwartz, vice-president of Century Circuit here, long on record in favor of bidding, states he has yet to decide on whether he will look for

St. Louis May Pass Admissions Levy

St. Louis, March 9.—A five percent amusement tax, designed to yield $730,000 annually, is one of four tax measures proposed by the Citizens' Tax Commission to Mayor Kauffmann as a source of additional municipal revenue. For the proposed last spring and blocked through the opposition of motion picture interests here, the amusement tax now proposed is before the Board of Aldermen. Indica-

Columbia Stay Plea Cites Years Since Suit Was Docketed

Columbia's application to the U. S. Supreme Court for a stay of single sales and competitive bidding will be heard by the court after the contention that, since the industry anti-trust suit was filed eight years ago, the time gained in effecting these drastic provisions before the high tribunal rules would not be significant. It was indicated by Mr. Frolich, counsel for the company, here at the weekend. The application will be filed early this week.

Frolich will point out that, in the event the Supreme Court reverses the New York Federal District Court on the single sales and single sales, Columbia would be subjected to "great additional costs" in revising its policy of selling a film's product in advance if it had been forced meanwhile to in-

Laboratory Tie-up Looms Here Tonight

A strike starting at midnight tonight and threatening virtually all East Coast film processing appeared to be in the offing over the weekend, follow-

The proposed new standard building code for New York State, containing numerous revised theatre regulations, faces an uncertain future. It was introduced here by John Congeed, industrial code referee for the State Labor Department, who said the Board of Standing 10 and Appeals has failed to agree as yet to call public hearings on the document. Such hearings, if they are held at all, will not take place until after the Legislature adjourns, he added.

The code, drawn up by the Depart-

Theatres Seen Escaping Fire Insurance Rate Rise

Motion picture theatres stand a good chance of escaping increased fire insurance rates which are being sought generally by a majority of U. S. fire underwriters as a result of increased fire losses outside the theatre field since 1942.

This favored treatment for the-

6 Reviews Today


Congressman Lauds Circuit Experiment

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Praising the motion picture industry in general for its "splendid services" during the war and Century Theatres of New York in particular for its visual education experiment begun Feb. 24 in collaboration with the Board of Edu-

New Case Activates Tenth AAA Board

The filing of a clearance complaint with the previously inactive Omaha tribunal of the American Arbitration Association, bringing to 23 the num-

First in Film News

FIRST IN FILM NEWS
NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1947
TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 47

Treasury Will Review 20% Admission Tax

WASHINGTON, March 9.—The clear-cut indication that the Treasury is prepared to review the 20 percent Federal Admission Tax, along with other federal taxes, came on Friday, during hearings on the Treasury appropriation for the next fiscal year before the House Appropriations Committee.

Stanley S. Surrey, the Treasury's tax legislative counsel, told the committee that the Treasury is reviewing these taxes with a view to correcting any inequities that may be found.

Meanwhile, the Senate, without a dissenting vote, approved and sent to the White House legislation indefinitely extending the wartime excise taxes. The new bill, already passed by the House, includes tax concessions on furs and foreign travel which were made by a joint conference committee.
Personal Mention

H. R. THOMAS, Producers Releasing Corp., president, left New York for the Coast on Saturday.

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO sales promotion manager, will address the American Public Relations Association in Washington on March 17.

WALTER L. TITUS, Jr., Republic's southern division sales manager, is in Chicago for New York today. He will be in Nashville Wednesday.

RUDY BEGER, Southern sales manager for M-G-M, and his aide, LEONARD HIRSCH, are due in Atlanta today from Memphis.

S. BABBETT MCMORRICK, RKO Radio advertising-director-publicity director, left the Coast by train for New York on Saturday.

RUXE JACKER, Columbia's assistant general sales manager, will leave New York today for Washington for a two-day stay.

BILLY JOHNSTON, special representative for Bob Hope, returned to New York at the weekend from a national tour.

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount's Western division sales manager, is visiting New York from Los Angeles.

MARTIN LEVINE, Brandt Theatres executive here left for Florida over the weekend for a vacation.

CLAUDINE LEE, Paramount's public relations director, returned here at the weekend from Florida.

EUGENE ARNSTEIN, secretary-treasurer of Film Classics, is in Buffalo from New York.

R. M. SAVINI, president of Astor Pictures, returned here from Toronto on Saturday.

CHARLES K. STERN, Loew's assistant executive vice-president, is due here today from the Coast.

Mr. and Mrs. WALTER READ, Jr., have left New York for the Coast.

Record for 'Pursued'

Warner's "Pursued" set a non-holiday opening-day record of more than $3,000 at the Strand Theatre here on Friday, playing to an attendance in excess of 15,500, the company reports, adding that the receipts were over $1,000 ahead of the previous high non-holiday opening.

Arthur Dickinson III

Arthur S. Dickinson, head of the conservation department of the Motion Picture Association here, is seriously ill at his Rye, N.Y., home.

Jack McCulloch of the MPA office here has been placed in charge of the department in Dickinson's absence.

Frank Knapp, assistant editor of 'Motion Picture Daily,' has moved to Los Angeles to join the office of Paramont's west coast offices.

Frank H. Tomlinson, long connected with the Motion Picture News, has taken a position with the newly organized Film Features Service, Inc., as its circulation director.

 Tradewise... by Sherwin Kane

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

The Morenci, Michigan, Observer reported that "Because of the great amount of late-minute advertising, it has been necessary to omit much of the news from this issue of the Observer. The next news will be printed next week."

There was a spell late last Wednesday night when the management of New York's Music Hall wished it didn't have at least one of those interludes of stagewear lifting the Hall's walls backstairs. Some 5,000 patrons ran bell merr for the exit when a backstage engineer grabbed the public address system shortly after the house darkened for the feature picture, and steam jetted up from beneath the footlights, to produce a scene-cur- tain of hazy effects—used for stage acts—which this word made more like smoke and flame.

Fellow staffers right down to a man send heartfelt expressions of sympathy to Mr. O. Gabler, who—says United Press—is paid $6,000 a week, yet finds it a lucky day when he clears more than $1,000 for himself.

Actress Dorothy Lamour reports to the Hollywood sheriff's office that $1,100 cigarette case, a little trinket valued at $80 and 30 diamonds, was "lost" at a cafe party given the other day by producer Walter Wagner. No word is heard on the找回 of the gems.

Without showing the slightest outward sign of tremendum, motion picture industry members of Variety Tent No. 21 will hold their next monthly meeting at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary.

The mines have their portal-to-portal pay and now comes wash-up-time pay, instituted by DuPont, which is related to the motion picture industry by virtue of its DuPont Film rawstock subsidiary. The soap-and-wax- making process will cost the company $4,600 a year.

Leo Lehr's current yarn is about the young chap in 20th Century-Fox's home office publicity department, about to pop the question to his gal, who stopped at a jewelry store where he spotted an engagement ring he liked.

"How much is it?" the prospective customer asked.

"Just $100," said the clerk.

The lad whistled in surprise.

"How much is that one?" he asked, pointing to another ring.

"That one is two whistles."
Song of Scheherazade in Technicolor!

The One Picture that's Worth 1000 Words!
The Pleasure Treasure of the Ages!

Morocco......where men went to forget...and Scheherazade made them remember forever...to sing her name...to sigh her fame!

Thrill to the best loved music of RIMSKY-KORSAKOFF
“SONG OF INDIA” • “FANDANGO”
“ARABESQUE” • “FLIGHT of the BUMBLE BEE”
“HYMN to the SUN” • “CAPRICE ESPAGNOL”
“SCHEHERAZADE”
UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL presents

Song of Scheherazade

in Technicolor!

Yvonne De CARLO
Brian DONLEVY
Jean Pierre AUMONT

with EVE ARDEN
PHILIP REED - JOHN QUALEN

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY WALTER REISCH
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: HAL MOHR, A.S.C.
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: EDWARD DOODS
PRODUCED BY
EDWARD KAUFMAN

and CHARLES KULLMAN
STAR OF THE METROPOLITAN OPERA CO.
PRE-SOLD TO 120,000,000 READERS WITH ONE OF THE BIGGEST ADVANCE CAMPAIGNS EVER DEVOTED TO A SINGLE MOTION PICTURE!

FULL PAGE, FULL COLOR in LOOK MAGAZINE and color ads in LIFE · COLLIERS · LIBERTY SATURDAY EVENING POST · COSMOPOLITAN REDBOOK · FAMILY CIRCLE · MODERN SCREEN WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION · TRUE STORY SCREEN ROMANCES · TRUE CONFESSIONS MOVIE STORY · MOTION PICTURE · SCREENLAND MOVIE SHOW · SILVER SCREEN · MOVIES · MOVIE LIFE · MOVIELAND · MOVIE STAR PARADE · PERSONAL ROMANCES · SCREEN GUIDE SCREEN STARS · MODERN ROMANCES · PHOTOPLAY TRUE ROMANCES · TRUE EXPERIENCES · TRUE LOVE · RADIO MIRROR and in Canada, LIBERTY MacLEAN'S · TORONTO STAR WEEKLY

**Song of Scheherazade**

DON'T SAY IT...SIGH IT!
in Technicolor!
**Motion Picture Daily**

**Newsreel Parade**

**President Truman's Visit to Mexico**

President TRUMAN's visit to Mexico is reported by all current reports. A variety of sports items and entertainment news, particularly certain weak spots in the story material, particularly its somewhat rambling development and not too fully drawn characterizations.

Ray Milland and Teresa Wright share the lead, lending all the historic know-how they possess, and that's plenty, to presentation of the Karl Tunberg screenplay about the Londoner of noble background and with Parliamentary aspirations, and the lady he chooses despite the fact she is "below his station."

Virginia Field, Anthony Quinn and Cedric Hardwicke are the principal supporting players, all doing a splendid job. Milland's election to Parliament and his marriage to Miss Wright come early in the costumed (1892) drama. Her innocent encounter, as the story goes, with a stranger, Quinn, leads to the reconciliation. Tunberg produced the picture and Lewis Allen directed.

Running time, 97 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, April 25.

**National Distributors Hold Chicago Meet**

CHICAGO, March 9.—National Film Distributors, preparing a handle physical distribution for the Selnick Re- lations, organized a two-day meeting at the Hotel Sherman here over the weekend, with James Clark, head of Clark Film Distributors, Phil adelphia, presiding.

Also present were: Harold Sherit, Philadelphia, general counsel; Clint West, Philadelphia, secretary; Louis Molitch, Philadelphia; S. J. Marshall, Boston; John Vickers, Charlotte; M. H. Berman and D. M. Branch, New Orleans; George Callahan, Jr., and Louis Hanna, Pittsburgh; Meyer Adelson, Miss D. Dennis, Philadelphia: L. V. Benton, Atlanta; J. W. Jack, Dallas; Frank Smith, Syracuse; Earl Jamison, Kansas City; Trampe, Milwaukee; Harold McKinney, Des Moines; Thomas W. Gilliboy, San Francisco; W. A. Slater, Seattle, and Edward Johnson, Cleveland.

**Her tz to Coast on Buchanan Expansion**

John Hertz, Jr., chairman of the board of Buchanan and Co., has gone to Beverly Hills to discuss plans for expansion of the motion picture division of the agency with Buchanan West Coast executives.

Sitting in with him on the parleys will be Fred Jordan, vice-president in charge of Coast operations; Paul Ra do, creative head of the Buchanan West Coast office, and John Krimsky, Buchanan representative, who will figure strongly in the expanded, the company reports.

**Harris Farewell Dinner**

ALBANY, N. Y., March 9.—Variety Club Tent No. 9 will give a farewell dinner tomorrow night to Maurice "Bucky" Harris, RKO exploiter, who is being transferred to New Haven. Lew Allemann has been moved from Salt Lake City to succeed Harris here.

**RKO Wins Court Crown**

The RKO basketball team defeated the Campbell-Ewald five on Friday evening, 34 to 29, to win the Radio City basketball championship.

**Review**

**"The Imperfect Lady" (Paramount)**

HAT "The Imperfect Lady" emerges as merchandise of importance for the theaureans is attributable almost solely to an unusually fine cast which puts over the story material, particularly its somewhat rambling development and not too fully drawn characterizations.

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Film Experts from
Germany to U. S.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—A large
umber of German scientists, experts
in color film development and televi-
sion, may be brought to the U. S. by
the Commerce Department to assist
the country in numerous research
problems. In addition, the Department
plans to retain some 2,500 scientists in
its own employ.

The Department has planned expan-
sion of research into the AFGA color
film development for some months. In
addition, the color chief, Nathan D. Golden, and
industry representatives procured the
process in Germany after the war
ended.

Contacts may be let at a future date,
provided Congress provides the funds,
or research on developments brought
over from Germany.

Cynthia Delayed

M-G-M has cancelled tomorrow's
national tradeshow of "Cynthia’s
secret." A new title and date will be
announced shortly. "High Barbarea"
will be screened tomorrow as planned.

12,000,000 Overseas
To Hear Awards

Hollywood, March 9.—Jean Her-
sholt, president of the Academy of
Motion Picture Arts and Sciences,
and Mervyn LeRoy, chairman of the
Academy Annual Awards Program, pre-
dicted at the weekend that the March
13 Awards presentation ceremony will
reach the world's largest listening
audience.

"We can count on 12,000,000 people
listening in on our 11 short-wave
stations in San Francisco and
New York," Lieut.-Col. Robert E.
Kearney, Commandant of the Armed
Forces Radio Service, declares.

Kansas Premiere of
'Trail Street' Set

RKO Radio has elaborate plans for
the world premiere of "Trail Street"
March 25 in two theaters in Liber-
al, Kansas, locale of the picture, the
company announces here. A group of
Hollywood personalities will attend
the event, which will be followed by
openings of the film in 50 cities in
Kansas and Missouri. J. Lewis, RKO
Radio manager in Kansas City, set the
openings.

Reviews

"Buck Privates Come Home"

(Universal-International)

THE zany antics, the pratfalls, the
wild and fast scenes in which Lou
Costello teeters on a ledge or is whirled by an uncontrolled machine—in
short, all the slapstick adventures which have stood us well in the past—
come again in "Buck Privates Come Home." No riotous concoction that takes up where "Buck Privates" left off; in fact, to
establish the continuity, a few "reminder" sequences, snipped from the earlier
film, serve as a prelude. Theatre patrons who like their Abbott and Costello
served up in healthy chunks will definitely go for this one.

Written by John Grant, Frederic J. Rinaldo and Robert Leo, from a story
by Richard Macaulay and Bradford Ropes, the screenplay brings Costello and
Bud Abbott into a series of scrapes with Nat Pendleton, initially as the cop
on whose beat they peddle their "2.99" ties for 35 cents, then as their sergeant
and again as the cop. The fount of their postwar problem is finding a home
for, but the French orphan, played by Beverly Simmons, whom they
illegally brought back to America, and before they succeed they tie in
with Tom Brown in his midget racing car scheme, winding up with a furious
run. Costello gets carrrying crazy off. The outside from which Costello goes
crashing crazy off. The outside from which Costello goes
Express: the Nationwide and even in the air. Others in the cast are Jean Fulton, Don Beddoe and Donald Mac
Bride.

Robert Arthur produced and Charles T. Barton directed.

Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification.

Irving Kaplan

"The Adventurers"

(20th-Fox)

D Ightful, comic passages and a liberal dose of characterization
portrayed with restraint and sensitivity, are ladled out in this suspenseful
melodrama of espionage and invasion secrets to make "The Adventurers," co-
produced by Frank Lauder and Sydney Gilliat, and directed by Lauder for
Arthur Rank, a skillfully-handled picture by Beverly Simmons, whom they
illegally brought back to America, and before they succeed they tie in
with Tom Brown in his midget racing car scheme, winding up with a furious
run. Costello gets carrying crazy off. The outside from which Costello goes
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Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification.

Irving Kaplan

S. D. Skouras Sees
Good Greek Market

Hollywood, March 9.—Greek audi-
ences demand good product, said
S. D. Skouras, president of the Skouras
Circuit, operating 45 theatres through-
out Greece, said at a press conference
here. "As long as American producers
maintain present standards of quality,
they need no fear competition in the
Greek market for stars to come,"
the exhibitor asserted.

Skouras, a nephew of Charles C.
Skouras and George E. Skouras, who
accompanied him on his trip here by Nick
Argyros, distributor in Greece for
Universal-International, United Artists
and Republic, and their wives. He will
remain here a week longer and then
leaves for New York.

Skouras stated that 90 per cent of
the films now playing in Greece are
American, as compared with prewar
figures of 50 per cent German, British
and French.

Mr. Skouras, who also heads the Skouras
Film Co., distributor in Greece for
20th Century-Fox, Paramount and
RKO, said that his business
company has been increasingly good in
Greece since the liberation. He declared that
the Greek people want entertainment as an
anodyne for years of hardship. They
want it and they'll pay for it, even if it
means depriving themselves of essen-
tials.

Currently, heavy drama, action pic-
tures and a few musicals command the
best grosses in Greece, he said. Local
product is not a competitive factor, he
pointed out, because the Greek indus-
try makes only five pictures a year.

Coast Damon Runyon
Benefit Sold Out

Hollywood, March 9.—All tickets
have been sold to the Damon Runyon
Benefit at the New Hollywood,
all-star show to be held at the Down-
town Paramount Theatre on Wednes-
day night.

Bob Hope is organizing the affair
and will be master of ceremonies.

Sugars, who is scheduled to attend,
Hope’s “My Favorite Brunette”
will be shown, a day ahead of its initial
Los Angeles run.

Tarzan’ Screening

SoL Lesser's “Tarzan and the Hunt-
est” will be the trade screened by RKO-
Radio’s New York and Los Angeles
exchanges on March 18.

Congressman Lauds

(Continued from page 1)

ization, Congressman Andrew L. Som-
ers, of Brooklyn, tomorrow will read
into the Congressional Record a letter
to the Secretary of Agriculture Fred
J. Schwartz citing the theatre execu-
tive for his “public-mindedness” and
“permanent sense of community re-
sponsibility.”

Asserting that the experiment "con-
ceivably could develop national im-
portance until that time in the surround-
ing field," Somers will declare: “Anything that
brings the education of your youth is
an asset to the community.” If the exper-
iment proves that there is educational
value in regular commercial films
shown in the ideal theatre for surround-
ings of the commercial theatre, the
Congressman said he will perform a signal
service, he will add.

Monday, March 10, 1947

MOTION PICTURE DAILY
See Full Fostering Of UK Producers

Associated British Pictures Corp. is expected shortly to follow the example of the J. Arthur Rank and Alexander Korda interests in supplying financial backing to British independent producers. It was disclosed here at the weekend by British writer-director Frank Launder, who arrived here last week for a month's "OL." Should ABPC embrace such a policy, it would mean that the nation's entire non-independent structure would be fostering independent production. It is customary for Korda and Rank individually to supply financial backing to independent producers up to £2,000,000 per picture, and although the independents do not, under such circumstances, lose their identity by becoming contracted to the backers, the pictures so financed become the property of the backers, Launder explained, adding that it is likely the same circumstances will prevail under ABPC financing.

Touching on the suitability of British pictures for the American market, Launder said he is in favor of seeing British producers avail of the trails of the advisory services of a permanent production Code Administration representative.

Launder will leave here today for Boston, where his latest picture, "The Adventurers," an Eagle-Lion release, will have its American premiere on Friday. He will leave New York March 20 for the Coast, where he will discuss story properties for future production. He will return to England early in April to start work on "London Town," a picture which will be followed by "Blueagoon." He recently completed "Green for Danger" and "Captain Boycott," both of which are scheduled for release in the U. S.

The American press, Launder finds, is prone to treat all British pictures more kindly than does the British press, and by the same token, he said, British critics seem to "go easier" on American pictures than they do on British.

St. Louis Tax

(Continued from page 1)

tions are that hearings will be held soon and that the measure will be adopted because of depleted city funds.

The tax commission pointed out to the Mayor that the proposal had been defeated, admission charges were increased by an amount exceeding the proposed tax, "thus refuting any public statements that the public could not absorb a five percent increase."

Volume of Bids

(Continued from page 1)

new product through that type of buying.

MG-M is said to be selling on a competitive basis regularly in close to 25 situations. Additionally, the company agreed to conduct bidding on 10 new areas where it has been requested when new product becomes available, probably next month.

Reviews

"Range Beyond the Blue"

(Producers Releasing)

THERE is a superabundance of saddle work, chases, gun duels and a concession to the ladies in the person of Helen Mowry, a very pretty girl who does a man's job in handling the reins of her harried stagecoach line; yet "Range Beyond the Blue" does not succeed in lifting itself out of the average Western class.

Eddie Dean and his aide-de-camp, Roscoe Ates, intercept and thwart one in a series of stagecoach holdups committed against Miss Mowry's line and they remain for a while, with Ates being drafted as sheriff, to clear up the "bustles." Tod Rodger's, playing the role of Miss Mowry's uncle, turns out to be at the head of the robbers, with an offer from a railroad company for the stage line as the motivation. Also in the cast is Bob Duncan, as a strong-armed man for the culprits. Dean offers pleasant conditions to the songs.

Jerry Thomas produced and Ray Taylor directed from a screenplay by Patricia Harper.


"The Years Between"

(J. Arthur Rank-Prestige-U.I)

MATURE American audiences will regard this Sydney Box production as in a fitting example of the elevated status which has been claimed for British cinematic achievement by champions of that phenomenon here and abroad. Reviewing "The Years Between" from London in Motion Picture Daily's April 25, 1946, issue, Peter Durup termed it "a picture to be commended not only to British showmen but to exhibitors in America." With that your present reviewer agrees. Muriel and Sydney Box fashioned the screen-play from a play by Dame Du Maurier whose novel, "Rebecca," was transplanted into a celluloid classic several years ago.

Compton Bennett exercised his directorial acumen to the hilt in converting the inherently slow-paced story about a returning soldier's disillusionment and internment into an engrossing, emotion-stirring commentary on the unconventional sociological manifestations that follow war. Michael Redgrave, a British actor with a measure of following in America, is very good as the "deaf" army colonel who returns unexpectedly to his countryside manor, by coincidence, to a German concentration camp. At home he finds that his iron driveway gate has been requisitioned by the government, his wife has taken his seat in the House of Commons, his young son is a virtual stranger, and his best friend has a claim to his wife's affection.

The very nature of the theme makes the film one with special appeal for women, and, incidentally, one which the boxoffice will find quite out of their entertainment sphere.

Valerie Hobson's performance as the wife is penetrating and sensitive; Flora Robson contributes a solidly convincing portrayal as the household's retainer, and Janice McKechnie, Felix Aylmer, Dulcie Gray and John Gielgud distinguish themselves in satellite roles. Although "The Years Between" may not quite measure up to the sterling qualities of, say, "Brief Encounter," it is nonetheless one of the finer British importations, and should be well received by discriminating audiences. The original running time of 100 minutes has been reduced for American showings.


Australia Shortage

Brings Reissues

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, March 1 (By Airmail).—Exhibitors here are showing a growing interest in revivals as the feature shortage, once threatened, now becomes inevitable. Recent experience has shown that the public is ready to patronize the successes of past years and a boom in the revival field is predicted. Out-of-town exhibitors say that they are realizing better net profits with some revivals than with mediocre first run product.

Meanwhile, British producer Ralph Smart has been commissioned by the National Film Board of Canada to make a series of films in Australia. His first year's program calls for an expenditure of about $150,000 ($600,000) to be spent on one feature, a serial of six two-reel episodes, and a dozen shorts.

William Osborne, Far Eastern representative for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, has reached here for a four-month visit en route to New Zealand.
**Review**

"Lost Honeycomb"
(Eagle-Lion)

Hollywood, March 9

Not only names to bill with—Francot Tone and Tom Conway—but also laughs for the customers attracted by the billing are dished up here in Eagle-Lion's best offering to date. It is a neat idea, based on amnesia but not very seriously, and it gave a Hollywood preview audience a lot of solid laughs.

Ann Richards plays the girl opposite Tone in Joseph Fields' original screen-play, which opens quite seriously in London with Miss Richards determining to go to the United States in search of a soldier (Tone) who has failed to return to his wife, her friend, who has died and left their twins alone in the world. She arrives just as Tone, who does not remember anything about six months spent in England following a bump on the head, is about to wed another girl played by Frances Rafferty. So Miss Richards, who is the twins' mother, which is to say Tone's wife, and from there on one humorous incident follows another in abundantly laughable succession. Lee Marcus produced and Leigh Jason directed, both with humor the single consideration throughout.


**10 AAA Boards**

(Continued from page 1)

Interest in the industry arbitration system during its final weeks of existence under the New York Federal Court decree. Under the decree, the AAA will be required to reporting new cases on April 1, although it will continue to process those cases pending before that date.

A case entered in the Cincinnati theater industry last week in the Motion Picture Daily and not yet officially announced by the AAA, is one of a number of complaints filed last week. In addition, the Milwaukee theater has an appeal pending.

Activating the Omaha board, the latest complaint was filed by C. D. Fraiser, operator of the Joy Theatre in Havelock, N.C., against the Century-Fox, M-G-M, Paramount, RKO Radio and Warner Brothers. Fraiser contends that clearance granted by the companies to the Lincoln, Stuart, Nebraska, Capitol, Varsity and Colonial theaters, all of Lincoln, is unreasonable. He seeks redress of clearance enjoyed by the Lincoln, Stuart, Nebraska and State in 14 days by the Varsity and Colonial to one day.

In addition to the case now before the Omaha board, there are three in the Chicago, one in Cleveland, one in New Orleans, three in New York, one in St. Louis, six in Boston, one in Albany, two in Cleveland and one in Cincinnati.

**New Clearance Case Filed in Cleveland**

The second clearance complaint before the Cleveland tribunal of the American Arbitration Association has been filed by the Orville Theatre Co., operating the Orr and grand theaters in Orville, O., against RKO Radio, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, 20th Century and Warner Brothers.

The Orr, in asking that all clearances be removed, reports that it is subjected to "six to eight days' clearance," whereas first-runners in Canton, O., by M-G-M and Paramount, to 14 days after Wooster and Massillon by Warners, and 14 days after Wooster by 20th Fox and RKO. Schine's Wooster and Wayne theaters of Wooster, Warner's Lincoln in Massillon: the West side and Grand, also in Massillon, the Massillon Theatre Co., and Warner's Ohio and the Lorn, theaters in Canton are named as interested parties.

**Anti-Tax Committee To Invade Albany**

Spurred by the shortage of time available before the New York Legislature adjourns this month, and by the knowledge that Gov. Thomas Dewey's sponsorship of bills which have already been introduced in the Senate and Assembly to empower cities and counties to tax theatre admissions up to five per cent calls for an all out fight, New York City's exhibitors have already mapped plans for full-scale, organized attack on the Governor's tax proposal. A committee has been appointed to prepare arguments against further theatre taxes with a view toward securing a Senate committee hearing.

Among those who were present at the anti-tax meeting at Century Circuit headquarters which resulted in the committee's formation were: Fred J. Schwartz, Sam Rosen, Joseph Re-Vogel, Oscar A. Doob, Malcolm Kingsberg, Morton Sunshine, William Brandt, Emanuel Frisch, Myron Siegel, Robert W. Coyne, Rodney Smith and Sam Shain.

**Astaire Studios Open**

Theatrical and film press representatives attended an informal opening this weekend at the opening of the Fred Astaire Dance Studios here. Charles L. Casanave, former film distribution and sales executive, as well as head of Casanave-Artice Pictures, is vice-president and general manager.

**Columbia Plea**

(Continued from page 1)

...augurates a new system as of this July 1. The high tribunal is expected to rule on appeals from Columbia, as well as the government and all other defendants, early next month.

Universal, which has applied for a stay of competitive bidding but not of the order sales involving contracts which sales are contained in existing contracts, has pointed out to the Supreme Court through attorneys Turner Cooke and Charles D. Prutez that many exhibitor organizations have opposed the bidding system and that the Department of Justice objects to it as "unenforceable."

Details of the Universal application for a stay were reported Friday in Motion Picture Daily.

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Goldwyn-Selznick Astor Deal Ending

Samuel Goldwyn and David O. Selznick will lose their priority on bookings at the Astor Theatre, Broadway "showcase," upon the expiration early next month of an agreement under which they contracted to share the house on an alternating basis. Maurice Maurer, who manages for City Investing Co., owner, has announced this decision, thus clearing the way for other productions and not alone Selznick's and Goldwyn's.

Selznick's "Duel in the Sun," which figured in a controversy last November involving United Artists and the Astor clubhouse booking, has yet to be set for any New York first-run. However, Milton Kusell, general sales manager of Selznick-Releasing, has reported that an opening is expected to be agreed upon next week. He added the film will play on a "grind" policy and at advanced admissions, which will be determined by whichever theater gets the picture first.

The Astor expects to hold its present tenant, Goldwyn's "Best Years of Our Lives," until next September. A spokesman for the house feels that the present scale of $2.40 top will be lowered when any business decline occurs to this point and this he anticipates about May.

Montgomery in U-I Unit

Hollywood, March 9.—Heading his own production unit except for a deal that calls for his services as director and actor also, Robert Montgomery has signed an exclusive contract with Universal-International, according to an announcement by William Goetz, U-I production chief.

**Laboratory Strike**

(Continued from page 1)

held at the Hotel Diplomat yesterday afternoon and a request sent to Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, by John J. Francavilla, the local's president, seeking such statements and indications pointed to the probable walkout tonight of laboratory technicians.

Negotiations were abruptly Friday morning, Francavilla said. He charged that employers did not consider the demands already reached and insisted that the union accept certain contract revisions prior to discussion of the union's wage requests. The union's demand for wage parity with West Coast technicians, he added, was to have been discussed at the Friday session.

Only RKO Radio and National Screen Service, neither of which participate directly in the industry negotiating committee, will escape the tie-up if it is called, Francavilla indicated. Among the laboratories which will be affected are Film Exchange and New York, Paramount News and Paramount Pictures, two Warner Brothers facilities, and Consolidated and 20th-Fox's De Luxe.

**SCREENCRAFT PICTURES, INC.**

241 West 44th St., N. Y. C., 10

35MM — DISTRIBUTORS — 16MM FEATURES, WESTERNS, COMEDIES AND SHORTS
It's The PRIZE BABY... of course!... furthering the cause of the UNITED PATRONS... through Box Office Diplomacy... that induces theatre-goers to see EYE-to-EYE with TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES... that bring them IN... and bring them BACK... to see your ATTRACTIONS!

He's Ambassador of Good-Will for the industry... making friends and keeping them... lifting his voice in behalf of the entertainment you sell... and representing your ATTRACTIONS... colorfully!... forcefully!... truthfully!...

The PRIZE BABY knows all the inducements that turn people into PATRONS... and he uses them... to build Good-Will for your theatre... and Profits at your BOX-OFFICE!
He holds the reins on sound . . .

- As a skilled horseman controls a horse by his touch on the reins . . . now light, now firm, giving, taking—so does the production sound mixer control sound . . . amplifying, modulating . . . correlating sound with action in proper perspective.

  In this day when the reality of sound must be absolute, the mixer’s work has high importance. His knowledge of his art must be complete, his skill in using it great . . . for on him depends much of a picture’s power to move and hold an audience.

  And the mixer’s skill is enhanced by working with films which assure faithful reproduction of sound . . . a quality which is so well provided by the family of Eastman sound films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
The drop idea of Voluntary Arbitration

Companies Hold Court's Suggestion Impractical

Following discussion of continuing the industry arbitration system on a voluntary basis, as suggested by the New York Federal District Court, counsel for the five theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit have virtually abandoned the project, it is understood.

Conclusion reached in the discussion was that the plaintiff's spokesman for the attorneys, is that the voluntary system would be impractical.

Such arbitration, he said, "would be fine for the people who agree to it, but the people who don't agree would be the ones to give the trouble.

Under the existing arrangement, which the court has ended as (Continued on page 8)

Petition to Keep Building Controls

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Commissioner D. S. Myer of the Federal Housing Authority has asked Congress to continue controls over private building for another nine months in order to assure success of the veterans' housing program.

Myer addressed his appeal to chairman Jesse P. Wolcott, of the House Banking and Currency Committee. Wolcott is the author of a measure now pending which would immediately open the door for commercial construction projects.

In his confidential reports to the (Continued on page 8)

K. Collins Joins Donahue and Coe

Kenneth Collins, publisher and general manager of the New York editorial of the New York Herald Tribune, has resigned to join the advertising firm of Donahue and Coe, Inc., in a senior executive capacity. He will assume his new duties on April 1. The advertising agency handles the Loew Theatres account and others.

Collins has had a career in the field (Continued on page 8)

New Films Help NY 1st Runs; 'Pursued,' 'Boomerang' Lead

Although a general improvement in New York first-run business has yet to materialize, new product came to the aid of three situations this week.

"Pursued" proved a smash box-office performer in its opening at the Strand, where a non-holiday weekend record was established. The film, supported by Louis Prima's orchestra on the stage, drew a mammoth $42,000 Friday through Sunday, indicating a first-week gross of about $80,000.

At the Roxy, "Boomerang" is clearly demonstrating gulling power aplenty, with $100,000 run up in the first five days. Ed Sullivan and Katherine Dunham head the stage bill at the house, which looks good for (Continued on page 8)

Film 'Famine' Over, Exhibitors Claim

ELBORA, IA., March 10.—The film shortage of the past four years has been replaced by "plenty of pictures in a matter of days" because distributors are liquidating their backlog, Leo P. Wolcott, chairman of the board of Allied of Iowa and Nebraska, declared in a current membership bulletin. He urges exhibitors to take ad.

(Continued on page 7)

Goldwyn Leasing of Theatres Begins

Samuel Goldwyn's plan to lease small theatres for day-and-date engagements of "The Best Years of Our Lives" is being carried out in a number of widely scattered situations. The film opened Friday at the State and Palomar Theatre in Tampa, Fla., and will open April 1 at the Arches Theatre in Philadelphia, and the Lower Mall and University in Cleveland. Also understood to have been obtained for the picture here are Plaza and Visulite in Charlotte.

Admission prices are being advanced at all of the houses.

E-L 'Invades' S. America

The American Eagle-Lion company, by virtue of commitments made to J. Arthur Rank, is launching an "invasion" of Latin America, and by June will have opened nine distribution offices in Mexico and Central and South America. Sam Schellman, Eagle-Lion and Producers Releasing Corp., foreign sales manager, disclosed here yesterday.

By the end of 1947, 14 Latin American (Continued on page 8)

Plan Advertising Drive to Defeat N.Y. Tax Measure

With the New York State legislative battle to avoid adjournment this Saturday night, but likely to be delayed, exhibitors are planning to launch an all-out advertising campaign, if necessary, to head off passage of a bill to empower cities and counties to tax theatre admissions up to five per cent, as suggested by Governor Dewey.

A campaign headed by J. Henry Wolters of EK0 Theaters and Sam Rosen of the Fabian circuit is seeking a conference with the Governor prior to the adjournment date, and the advertising campaign is being held in reserve, to be used if it fails to secure an appointment, it is understood.

If the campaign is resorted to, it will make use of newspapers, radio, billboards and other available media, pointing out that the authorized tax, (Continued on page 7)

UK Ends Theatre Closing Regulations

London, March 10.—All theatres have resumed full-time operations as of today, as a result of continuing intensive Cinematograph Exhibitors Association representatives at the Fuel Ministry.

In granting theatre openings, however, the government has stipulated that they must save one-third of electric power on the basis of that which they consumed prior to the coal crisis; exhibitors have agreed to cut all auxiliary lighting, and will concentrate power expenditure on the showing of films.

MA, Foundation May Affiliate

The 28th annual dinner-dance sponsored by the Motion Picture Associates of the 1947 A.M.P.A. convention, May 16, at the Waldorf-Astoria, here, is announced by Fred J. Schwartz, president of the organization. This year, MPA visuals joining the (Continued on page 7)

Johnston Arranges Anniversary Dinner

Washington, March 10.—A dinner to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Motion Picture Association of America and the production code will be held in New York at the Waldorf-Astoria in mid-May. MPA president Eric Johnston made arrangements for the dinner here before departing for Hollywood.

Will H. Hayes became the first president of the National Association of the Motion Picture Industry, predecessor of the Motion Picture Association, on March 5, 1922.
Personal Mention

S. BARRETT MCCORMICK, RKO Radio director of advertising, publicity, is due here today from the coast.

SAM SIRTIZKY, vice-president of Siritzky International, will return here Thursday from France aboard the S. S. America which will have Joseph Siritzky among its passengers when it departs March 19.

DONALD MILLER MERSEREAU, associate publisher of Film Daily, is convalescing here after a week in Doctors Hospital. His leg was fractured when he was hit by a hit-and-run driver.

AL LICHTMAN, M-G-M studio executive, is recovering satisfactorily from his recent operation and will remain in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles, for several weeks.

GORDON WHITE, MPA Advertising Code Administrator, became a grandfather yesterday when a boy was born to his daughter, Mrs. GEORGE THILL.

BETT SANFORD, Atco executive and Mrs. Sanford, have returned to New York from a six-week tour of the South.


TOM CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, is vacationing in Florida.

WILLIAM J. KUPPER, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, is in St. Louis from New York.

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic vice-president, is due here from the Coast on Monday.

Brooklyn Premiere Forestalls Boycott

Brooklyn's first world film premiere will take place tonight when M-G-M's "It Happened in Brooklyn" will have its first public showing at Loew's Metropolitan Theatre. The recently-created First Families of the Brooklyn, Inc., had threatened a boycott of the film to Loew's vice-president, Joseph R. Vogel, had denied the borough the opening.

'Egg' Opening Benefit

The Damon Runyon Memorial Fund for Cancer Research rather than Tent No. 155 Variety Club, Los Angeles, will be the beneficiary of the premiere of "The Egg and the Chicken" at the Carthay Circle Theatre, Los Angeles, on March 21, U-1 announces here. The suggested contribution is 50 cents.

CSU Wires Hartley, Taft After Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, March 10.—The Conference of Studio Unions has wired Sen. Arthur T. Hartley, Rep. Fred Hartley, Jr., chairman of the Senate and House labor committees, urging a stand against restrictive labor legislation, following its meeting last night attended by 6,500 union members, representatives of civic groups, and others.

CSU president Herbert Sorrell expressed confidence at the meeting that the recent ad hoc committees would be apprehended. Telegrams to local authorities urged perseverance in putting an end to recent violence in the strike. The Conference of Motion Picture Pducers was again charged with responsibility for the violence through its failure to negotiate a settlement.

End of Strike Seen

In 2 or 3 Weeks

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Dan Tracy, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, looks for a settlement of the jurisdictional strike in the Hollywood studios within two to three weeks. He feels that his committee and the company are not planning, however, to send 400 striking electricians back to work across Conference of Studio Unions lines. Decisions of Motion Picture Pducers on the Coast by local leaders, Tracy said.

Revision of the Wagner act to include a ban on jurisdictional strikes was criticized in the Senate today by Sen. amendments to the Senate was said such a ban could come about only by cooperation between unions.

Schlaffer to South

On Promotion Mar. 17

Continuing its policy of making periodic trips into the field to consult with exhibitors and theatre advertising men, Charles Schlaffer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, will leave New York on March 17 for a swing through the South, accompanied by Rodney Bush, exploitation manager for the company. They will visit Atlanta, Charleston, Jacksonville and Miami to discuss advertising and exploitation plans for the company's 1947 product.

'Yearling' Sets Mark

CHICAGO, March 10.—"The Yearling," has set a new record for an M-G-M picture during its first week in the State Lake here, with a combined 14-day gross of almost $100,000. "Valley of Decision" had been the record holder.

IATSE Move Staves Off Lab Tie-up

Intervention by the IATSE through the appointment of James Bratman, a vice-president, to proceed with further attempts at bargains has halted preparations by Motion Picture Labor Relations Laboratory under local No. 702, IATSE, for a strike against 18 film laboratories here. The strike was scheduled to start at 12:01 A.M. this morning upon expiration of the union's contract with the employers.

Brennan was appointed yesterday by Richard F. Walsh, president, after John J. Francavilla, president of local No. 702, informed him last Friday that negotiations of the union and the laboratory representatives had been broken off. Under the IATSE constitution, the local was obliged to request aid from the International before proceeding to more drastic action. Francavilla declared that talks will probably be resumed in a few days.

A strike-vote meeting held here Sunday afternoon voted confidence in Brennan's negotiating committee and empowered it and the executive board to call a strike if further efforts at peaceful settlement of a contract fail. The employers, according to the same time, have indicated to Walsh that any conclusive negotiations would be re-opened here today, this being a condition under a new contract, Francavilla revealed.

UA Officials' Return From Sales Talks

Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of production, and other United Artists home-office executives returned here yesterday, following a four and final regional sales meeting in Chicago and the other eastern offices were interspersed in Buffalo, Pittsburgh and El Paso.

Accompanying Sears here were: J. J. Unger, general sales manager; Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising director; Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager; Jack Wrege and Robert Goldfarb, of the home-office sales department; and Orr, Western sales manager, remained in Chicago for further discussions with James Loretta, Midwest district manager.

Cohn and Montague Contracts Up Today

Ratification of employment contracts for Jack Cohn and A. Montague, approval of the issuance of options for motion picture stock and the election of seven directors will be considered here this morning at Columbia's annual shareholders' meeting.

The proposed contract with Cohn would date from Jan. 1, 1947, while the agreement with Montague would date to June 10, 1945, allowing him, additionally, an option for 10,000 shares of common stock. Both contracts extend for seven years.

Others to be voted stock options are: B. B. Kahane, 10,000 shares; Lester W. Roth, 5,000; Irving Briskin, 5,000; Gerald Rachetti, 1,000 shares.

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Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Eckel, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 715 Atlantic Wides; London Bureau, *Golden Sq., London; "The International Motion Picture Almanack, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $5 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.
What is the one guilt most women would rather die than confess?
WHAT WAS THE SIN OF JANET AMES?
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

ROSALIND RUSSELL  MELVYN DOUGLAS

Guilt of Janet Ames

with SID CAESAR • BETSY BLAIR • NINA FOCH
Screenplay by Louella MacFarlane, Allen Rivkin, Devery Freeman
Directed by HENRY LEVIN
DON'T CONdem Janet Ames
until you've seen the picture!

COLUMBIA PICTURES
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ROSALIND
RUSSELL
in
The Guilt of Janet Ames
with SID CAESAR • BETSY BLAIR • NINA FOCH
Screenplay by Louella MacFarlane, Allen Rivkin, Devery Freeman
Directed by HENRY LEVIN

Typical of the powerful magazine pre-selling campaign!
**Coming Events**

Today—Toledo Variety Club inauguration dinner.

Mar. 13—Academy Awards presentations, Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles.

March 17—New Jersey Allied meeting at New York headquarters.

Ach 19-20—Griffith partners and managers meeting, Oklahoma City.

March 20—Meeting of Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

March 24—Industry meeting on campaign for Greek War Orphans fund, Hotel Astor, New York.

March 25—Balaban and Katz "alumni" dinner, Beverly-Wilshire Hotel, Beverly Hills, Cal.

March 25-26—Rocky Mountain area exhibitors meeting on possible affiliation with Allied States, Brown Palace Hotel, Denver.

March 26—Motion Picture Association annual meeting, New York.

March 27—Testimonial for Charles Brausberg, Hotel Astor, New York.

March 27—Annual ASCAP meeting, Ritz Carlton Hotel, New York.

**Screen Guild Signs King**

Hollywood, March 10. — Screen Guild Productions has signed with independent producer Max M. King for a minimum of one feature production a year.

**Victor Potel, 57**

Hollywood, March 10. — Victor Potel, pioneer film actor and one of the original Keystone cops, died at his home here after a short illness.

**N. Y. Tax**

(Continued from page 1)

when added to the existing 20 per cent Federal admission tax, will result in a ticket levy exceeding, proportionately, the imposts on jewelry, fur coats, night clubs and race tracks. Sentiment for defeat of the measure also would be sought through a special screen trailer.

The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Association is spearheading the drive, with the American Theatres Association lending assistance.

**Dismiss PRC Counter Charge; PRC of Cuba**

In a general denial of allegations made by Producers Releasing Corp. in its reply to a suit for alleged breach of distribution contract instituted by PRC of Cuba, the company's franchise holder in that country, the plaintiff seeks dismissal of counter-claims raised by the defendant, according to papers filed in U. S. District Court here. The proceeding by PRC of Cuba seeks more than $250,000 damages allegedly because PRC Pictures failed to give the plaintiff its full product quota as stipulated in the distribution contract. PRC in its counter-claim, charges that the Cuban company owes it more than $200,000 on the contract.

**G. Hoover Elected Miami Variety Head**

MIAMI, March 10.—George Hoover has been elected chief Barker of the newly-formed Miami Variety Club. Mitchell Wolfson was named first assistant chief Barker; Dick Sachs, second assistant; All Weiss, property master; Sidney Meyer, dough guy; Arthur Schwartz, editor and Tom Jefferson, chief biller. Herb Elbschlag heads five-man sideshow committee formed at luncheon addressed by Mark Wolfe, national chief dough guy.

**R. E. Martin Honored**

ATLANTA, March 10—Roy E. Martin, head of Martin's Theatres and one of the state's veteran showmen, was honored at Variety Club headquarters here late last week by more than 250 industry representatives at a dinner marking his 35th anniversary in show business.

**MPA May Affiliate**

(Continued from page 1)

Motion Picture Foundation and is therefore dedicating the dinner as a tribute.

Directors of MPA have eliminated the customary request for donations and this year organizations and individuals will be asked to subscribe for tickets only. As in previous years, a feature of the dinner will be the presentation of an award for distinguished service within the industry.

In explaining the elimination of donations, Schwartz said: "Motion Picture Associates looks forward to the possibility of a new alliance with the Motion Picture Foundation which will become the parent charitable association of the industry. It will be proposed to the national trustees of the Foundation that Motion Picture Associates can serve as the administrative agency in this area, and we will allow ourselves in the position of having sufficient funds to operate for a while longer."

**UK in No Rush to Cut Imports: Cripps**

LONDON, March 10.—The British government does not feel it should embark upon a hurried policy of cutting further imports, Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, said today in opening a House of Commons debate on the international economic situation. "International films," he said, are important in providing relaxation. Cinematographic bill is expected to be introduced shortly.

Referring to what he called a serious dollar shortage, Cripps said the British industry is trying to counter the tendency of using money on imported foreign films by improving their own films. In that direction, Cripps said, "we are having very considerable success — so much so that the amount of foreign exchange spent on films is falling."

**Allied, ITOA Talk Deal**

The possibility of New York's Independent Theatre Owners Association joining Allied States still exists, with a meeting of representatives of both groups coming up this month, probably at the Hotel Astor here.

**'Famine' Ended**

(Continued from page 1)

vantage of the situation by buying only the best pictures and not the "poor and unsuitable ones." This will do more than anything else to improve product quality, according to Wolcott.

High flat-rental demands are rapidly replacing percentages, he notes. The Iowa-Nebraska chief urges exhibitors to "get in on the ground floor" of the Motion Picture Foundation, which he says "will give, for the first time, a definite future to industry people."

The organization's annual convention will be held at the Fontanelle Hotel, Omaha, on May 5-6, Wolcott announces, adding that regional meetings are being held in Des Moines and Osceola, Ia., this week and that the Allied Caravan now is visiting the Nebraska-Nebraska territory. At a recent meeting in Storm Lake, film rentals, competitive bidding and theatre overhead were discussed.

Wolcott's bulletin urges exhibitors to oppose three bills pending in the Iowa legislature. One calls for licensing distributors at $1,000 per year, plus one dollar per reel for all films brought into the state; another would create a state censor and licensing department; the third would provide inspection by the state fire marshal of places of public assembly where film is used.

**The Girl with the Little Black Book is DEBORAH KERR**

released thru UA

**"One of the Finest Musical Pictures Ever Filmed! Bobby Soxers Cheered!" says The Hollywood Reporter about**

**CARNegie HALL**

Released thru UA
Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture box office figures for current engagements in key cities as reported by Morton Picture Daily correspondents.

Baltimore

Business has taken a turn for the better, improving over the past fortnight. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 6 were as follows:

THE BEGINNING OR THE END (M-G-M) & TAHITIAN TRAVELS (see below) (3-disc 56c & 6c weekdays) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,143)

BOOMBERG (20th-Fox) & NEW (1,000) (2-disc 56c-6c 7 days) 2nd week. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $4,550)

HOLLYWOOD

Don Alexander, president of the Alexander Film Co. has elected the following directors: J. Don Alexander, Don M. Alexander, A. M. Alexander, J. A. Seidelman, William A. Cheever and Thomas M. Burgess. A board of directors also elected the following officers: J. Don Alexander, president; Don M. Alexander, secretary-treasurer; J. A. Seidelman, vice-president; Don Alexander, Jr., vice-president, and E. B. Foster, secretary-treasurer.

Burns Heads Local 23

PROVENCE, R, I., March 10—J. F. Burns, Jr., has been elected president of IATSE local No. 25. Other officers: vice-president, George Walker; recording secretary, Fred Newcomb; financial director, Frank Walker; business agent, William O’Hearn; to the executive board, Fred Ballard, Chester Cary. The new executive was organized by local executive committee, made up of Edward Arnold and George Ogawa.

Washington Tax Hearing

The District Committee will hold full hearing on a proposed 20 per cent admissions tax for Washington on March 18.

Kenneth Collins (Continued from page 1)

of advertising, merchandising and journalism, first as director of public- ity and advertising, and later as executive vice-president of Mac’s, during the period when their annual sales reached $43,000,000 to over $100,000,000. This was followed by an association with Gimbel’s as general manager for four years. His entry into the publishing field, as assistant to the general manager of the Harper and Row, was for a short period as executive vice-president of the Arthur Kaiden Agency. World War II interrupted his agency career but he returned to his field in 1946.

Arbitration (Continued from page 1)

very obvious since about 1,500 exhibitors are operated in partnerships, mostly by Paramount which has about 1,000. They are set to call many attorneys as could be reached and all came up with only what they “pre- sented” to be the answer. The decree of the distributor company may give its product to its own theatre without bidding. The film lawyers would tell “forever” that partly-owned houses would get product the same way. A Department of Justice spokes- man yesterday said that the position that these theatres must bid because “there cannot be any discrimination.” The suit will be dropped in this way: “It is a controversial subject not yet met. No decision has been reached.”

L-I Invades

E-L Invades

COLORADO SPRINGS, March 10—Seven leaders of the Alexander Film Co. have elected the following directors: J. Don Alexander, Don M. Alexander, A. M. Alexander, J. A. Seidelman, William A. Cheever and Thomas M. Burgess. A board of directors also elected the following officers: J. Don Alexander, president; Don M. Alexander, secretary-treasurer; J. A. Seidelman, vice-president; Don Alexander, Jr., vice-president, and E. B. Foster, secretary-treasurer.

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IATSE Favors Jurisdictional Strike Curbs

Walsh Says It Would Support Legislation

The IATSE stands ready to support Congressional legislation barring jurisdictional strikes, provided the measure drawn is "constructive and workable," Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, declared here yesterday. He warned, however, that drawing a bill to meet these requirements is a difficult matter.

Eric Johnson, Motion Picture Association president, recently appeared before a Congressional committee to urge the outlawing of the jurisdictional strikes such as the Hollywood studio strike.

Walsh and other "IA" officials stand ready to testify before the House (Continued on page 3)

4 New SRO Offices To Be Set by Kusell

HOLLYWOOD, March 11.—Milton S. Kusell, general sales manager for the newly formed nickelodeon organization, arrived here yesterday from New York preparatory to setting up new SRO sales offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver and Salt Lake City, and to arrange for more West Coast openings of "Duel in the Sun." Additional SRO offices will be opened within the next 30 days, Kusell said, adding that SRO product will be physically handled by National Film Distributors. He said personal (Continued on page 4)

Carry Tax Battle To Albany Today

Members of the exhibitor committee opposing passage of a New York State law permitting municipalities to place a tax of as high as five per cent on theatre admissions will meet with representatives of both branches of the state legislature in Albany today.

As reported yesterday in Motion Picture Daily, the exhibitors stand ready to carry their fight to the public through an extensive advertising campaign but are holding this step in (Continued on page 5)

500 Millions Expected from 20% Tax

In 1947; Truman Signs Excise Bill

Washington, March 11.—President Truman today signed into law the excise tax continuation bill which continues indefinitely the wartime 20 per cent admissions tax.

The Treasury Department estimates that the admission tax will produce more than $500,000,000 during 1947.

While the Treasury and the Joint Congressional Committee on Taxation are studying possible future reduction of the excise rates, a change is not probable before July, 1948, or even later, it is said.

Col. May Drop 10-Year SAG Pact Ending

That Columbia has been weighing the possibility of eliminating its "smaller" pictures because of high production costs was indicated yesterday by Jack Cohn, executive vice-president, at the company's annual stockholders' meeting.

In addition to discussing changes in handling methods necessitated by the New York Federal Court decree and the consequent need for "piling up" of inventory, the stockholders ratified employment contracts for Cohn and A. Montague, re-elected their seven directors and approved the issuance of options for common stock to Montgomery.

At a meeting following the stockholders' meeting, the board re-elected the seven directors.

The new contract with Cohn, which will continue for seven years from last Jan. 1, provides for a salary of $2,500 weekly and an expense allowance of $300 weekly, compared with $2,000.

Minneapolis Would Triple Theatre Tax

MINNEAPOLIS, March 11.—This city's license commission plans to increase annual fees for theatres which would lift the total income from the source about three times, the greater rise hitting smaller theatres, according to Stanley Kane, executive director of the North Central Allied.

Opposing plans for increases, as suggested by the city engineer, Kane urges the commission to abolish the present zone system and establish a flat rate on per-seat capacity. His suggestion was taken under advisement and will go before the city council on Friday.

Kane raised objections to the engineer's charges that it costs the city an average of $228 annually to police each theatre. He said the requested increase was the highest of any business group in the city.

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HOLLYWOOD, March 11.—Clearing the decks for contract renewal negotiations with producers in May, seven Screen Actors Guild executives who have financial interests in pictures in which they appear resigned today.

The Board appointed Ronald Reagan as president; Gene Kelly, first vice-president; William Holden, second vice-president, and George Murphy, third vice-president.

The SAG announced that the resigning executives: "The Guild feels that they should not hold office in the Guild as long as their present status in the industry continues."

The SAG pact is 10 years old.

Coast Pool Split Details Are Set

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11.—Representatives of Paramount have arrived here from New York for the purpose of taking over three Fox West Coast houses under the split-up of the pooling arrangements executed by FWC, as reported in Motion Picture Daily on March 3. Public will take over the Paramount, St. Francis and State and will establish a local office. Consummation of the deal is expected within a week.

Meanwhile, FWC's Rialto will go to Golden State Theatres, leaving FWC with four local houses, the Fox, United Nations, Warfield and El Capitol. In return FWC will take one Reno, Nev., house from T. and D. Jr., Enterprises and one Visalia and one Hanford theatre from Golden Gate.

Necessitated by the New York Federal court decree in the industry anti-trust suit, the split-up will affect 17 theatres in California.

Poll to Decide Road Showings For Enterprise

Public Interest Study Under Way: Schaefer

Pioneering in a movement said to have possibilities for extensive use among independent producers faced with the problem of whether to lease theatres for one- or two-weekly runs after the industry anti-trust suit decree goes into effect on April 1, Enterprise Productions is conducting a survey for "Arch of Triumph" prior to setting a selling policy on that picture, George J. Schaefer, Enterprise distribution vice-president, announced here yesterday.

The survey, designed to get a cross-section view of the independent film, is being conducted throughout the country among people in different age and income brackets, Schaefer said, indicating that unless the novel on which the picture is based has aroused sufficient anticipation among those able to pay advanced prices, the (Continued on page 5)

Code Anniversary Reported in Error

In connection with Eric Johnston's announcement Monday that the Motion Picture Producers Association in New York City in May in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the trade association, Motion Picture Daily yesterday erroneously stated that this event also marked the 50th anniversary of the Production Code. The Production Code was submitted to the National Association of Motion Picture Producers Association, in Hollywood, in January, 1917, by Martin Quigley.

The Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., was established in March, 1922, under the presidency of William H. Hays. This association was successor to the National Association of the Motion Picture Industry, Inc., which had been headed by William A. Brady. With the election of Eric Johnston to the presidency, succeeding Hays, the association's name was changed to Motion Picture Association of America.
Personal Mention

MORT BLUMENSTOCK, Warner Bros., vice-president in charge of advertising publicity, is due in Hollywood from New York on Friday.

DAVID GILITI, Thomas Lodger, Clifford J. Cox, Ashley C. Bate, Alick Holt and Neville Nissett, with Paramount in England, left New York yesterday for the Coast.

CHARLES M. REAGAN, vice-president in charge of publicity for Warner Bros., will leave for Hollywood on Friday and will return to New York in about three weeks.

ROBERT GILLHAM, J. Walter Thompson agency account executive, will return to New York from Florida on Thursday.

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount’s Western division sales manager, will leave Des Moines today for Los Angeles.

JACK COHN, Columbia executive, left New York yesterday for Florida.

A. PAM BLUMENTHAL of Cinecolor will leave New York tomorrow for Hollywood.

Indecent Stage Show Bill Exempts Owners

ALBANY, N. Y., March 11.—Under terms of an amendment to the state penal law offered by Senator Mitchell of New York, an owner of a theatre would be exempt from prosecution and revocation of a license for a year, both of which are now possible, for “indecent” performances put on by a lessee of the theatre.

At present, actors, stage hands and musicians are exempt from prosecution for such performances; under the proposed amendment a producer and director would still be liable to prosecution. Actors Equity and the New York Theatre League are reported to be behind the measure.

Family Life Meeting Scores Certain Films

CHICAGO, March 11.—Harmful effects of certain motion pictures, radio programs and current reading matter upon family life were cited today by speakers at the 18th annual National Catholic Conference of Family Life being held here.

The Rev. Patrick J. Masterson, assistant executive secretary of the National Legion of Decency, declared that in the past 10 years the number of motion pictures rated in Class A (objectionable for all) declined from 6% to 0.4%.

Eight More Pictures Rated by the Legion


Hughes Boosts Claim

Producer Howard Hughes, who filed suit 50,000,000-trial damages against Loew’s for its alleged breach of contract suit against Moving Picture Association at the time its withdrawal of Hughes picture was made, yesterday filed an amended complaint in the case alleging that the damages have grown to $7,500,000 since the actual withdrawal took place.

Roxy 20 Years Old

Twenty years ago yesterday the late Samuel Schnaith opened the Roxy Theatre here.

Two Cases Filed with Cincinnati AAA

Two complaints, each involving several claims and charges, have been filed with the Cincinnati tribunals, bringing to 24 the number of cases pending before the 10 active boards of arbitration in the Association.

In addition, the AAA appeals board has received its third case, with the filing of an appeal by R. T. Temple, president of Gorham, N. H., complainant in the case, from an award by the Boston tribunal.

While the existence of the appeals board will extend until it has disposed of all cases before it, under the organization of the New York Federal Court decree, the tribunals of the AAA have been instructed to accept new complaints, beginning April 1.

Liquidation of AAA activities in the industry will be completed upon the disposition of all cases pending at the end of this month.

Charging discrimination by M-G-M, Herman Hunt and Maurice Rosenblum, owners of the Vogue Theatre, Cincinnati, maintain that the 23 motion pictures houses in the Cincinnati area enjoy an availability date not less than seven Sundays after the first of the first or second week of downtown runs in their licenses with equal contract limitations.

Roscovin, Bond and Emery theatres as interested parties in their request for similar availability from M-G-M.

In the second case, Manager Chase, this time representing the Ritz Theatre, maintains the 20th Century Pictures and National Theatres, as interested parties in an identical complaint against M-G-M.

Uni

Univ. Stockholders Will Meet Today

WILLIAM, March 11.—Reduction of 14 directors, and authorization to retire 155,000 shares of Universal common stock issued in connection with the acquisition of First National Pictures and a number of assets of International Pictures, last summer, will be asked at the annual meeting of Universal stockholders.

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, NATE J. BLUMER, PAUL G. BROWN, J. CHEEVER HENNING, and ERNEST D. W. PRUETTMAN are among those slated for reelection.

Paul Pease Named Disney Treasurer

Paul L. Pease has been appointed assistant treasurer of Walt Disney Productions, by Roy O. Disney, president, Pease has been associated with the Disney organization for some time, according to the most recently as assistant treasurer.

He succeeds George E. Morris, who resigned two years ago, the post having been vacant since that time.

ASCAP Meeting Here

ASCAP’s annual meeting and dinner will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel here on March 27. Annual officers and board of directors will be elected at the afternoon membership meeting.

Newsreel Parade

JOHN L. LEWIS, President Truman, Ambassador Lewis Douglas, Secretary of Commerce, and other dignitaries, were on hand yesterday to inaugurate New York’s new motion picture newsreels. Also spotlighted are baseball training, skiving, the S.S. John Ericson in Cuba, and M-G-M’s new office buildings.

MOVIE NEWS, No. 36—Truman says economic peace depends on U. S. Mt. Vernon will be devastated by fire. High seas sink ship. Senate boosts Lewis, Barbara Ann Scott, girl skating champ. Sports: St. Louis Cardinals and Boston Red Sox in training, ski school for kiddies.


UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 28—President Truman warns of trade war, neutrality. Japan railroad wreck—18 die. Blue lines’ line for the U.S. Mt. Etna goes on a hearing rampage. Lewis Douglas sworn in as U. S. envoy to Great Britain. Joan Fontaine leaves with 55,000 fans. Outdoor rodeo, horses are in the picture.

MPA Members Had A Fireless Year

WASHINGTON, March 11.—There was no fire loss or personnel fire injury at any film exchange in the U. S. Willis A. Green, Picture Association inspection, Eric Johnston, president, reported today. Thirty thousand tickets were handled every day in film exchanges, A. S. Dickinson, head of the MPA’s conservation department reported.

It was the 15th year since 1926 that the department was able to report no losses. The only reported film handling fire last year was in Chicago in an independently-operated film exchange outside of the scope of MPA inspection. The fire cost $500 and the damage was $600 because a carelessly discarded cigarette fell into a drum of worn out film.

MPA’s Allen to Europe

HOLLYWOOD, March 11.—Rupert Allen has left here by plane for New York en route to Paris where he will become assistant to Frank McCarthy, President Motion Picture Association’s Continental representative.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Cell 2-5100. Cable address, “Quigphilo, Philco。” Address all communications to Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York 20, N. Y. Telegrams: Motion Picture, Daily Service, New York. International Motion Picture Almanac, Kansas. Entered as second-class matter, Sept. 25, 1915, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.
Oh, Frankie!
Red Kann, of Quigley Publications says your picture is: “A tip-top package of entertainment!”

Oh, Kathryn!
Boxoffice Magazine says your picture is: “Great! One of those pictures that bulges theatre walls.”

Oh, Peter!
Variety says your picture is: “A star-studded and sock box-office entry!”

Oh, Jimmy!
Hollywood Reporter predicts for your picture: “Box-office returns and enthusiastic word-of-mouth.”

Oh, Leo! They're talking about
"IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN"
Watch first date Capitol, N.Y.

Screen Play by Isobel Lennart
Based on an Original Story by
John McGowan • Directed by
RICHARD WHORF • Produced
by JACK CUMMINGS • A
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

LOS ANGELES

Business has been exceptional, with holders at all but six first-run theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 13th were: 
- THE MICHIGAN KID (U-I) and SWEET-HEART OF SIGMA CHI (Mona) - BILL MONT (1,600) (50c-60c-90c) 9 days, Gross: $34,500. (Average: $3,800)
- THE YEARLING (M-G-M) - CARTHAY CIRCLE (960) (50c-65c-80c) 7 days, Gross: $11,200. (Average: $1,600)
- THE MICHIGAN KID (U-I) and SWEET-HEART OF SIGMA CHI (Mona) - BILL MONT (1,600) (50c-60c-90c) 9 days, Gross: $34,500. (Average: $3,800)

BUSINESS begins to slacken, however, with the new films. 
- BOOMERANG (28th-Fox) - CHINESE (3,000) (50c-60c-15c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,600. (Average: $3,300)
- THE BEGINNING OR THE END (M-G-M) - EAGLE-TALON (1,000) (50c-65c-80c) 7 days, Gross: $9,200. (Average: $1,300)
- THE MICHIGAN KID (U-I) and SWEET-HEART OF SIGMA CHI (Mona) - BILL MONT (1,600) (50c-60c-90c) 9 days, Gross: $34,500. (Average: $3,800)
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- THE BEGINNING OR THE END (M-G-M) - EAGLE-TALON (1,000) (50c-65c-80c) 7 days, Gross: $9,200. (Average: $1,300)

BOARDING HOUSE (20th-Fox) - DIXIE (861) (50c-65c-15c) 7 days, Gross: $5,600. (Average: $1,200)
- DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) - FAIRAX (1,500) (50c-65c-80c) 10th week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $1,780)
- THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (M-G-M) - NEW YORKER (1,100) (50c-60c-85c) 10th week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $1,800)
- THE YEARLING (M-G-M) - CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,500) (60c-65c-15c) 4th week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $5,625)
- DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.) - PANTAGES (6,000) (50c-65c-15c) 7th week. Gross: $23,600. (Average: $3,300)
- THE YEARLING (M-G-M) - CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,500) (60c-65c-15c) 4th week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $5,625)
- GOES WILD (Rep.) - PARAMOUNT NT (2,500) (50c-65c-15c) 7th week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $2,542)

PHILADELPHIA

"The Jolson Story," in its second week, still is the box-office leader, with two new comers, "Canadian Pioneers Name New Officers"
- LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M) - ALDINE (500) (40c-55c-75c) 6th week. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $183)
- THE BEGINNING OR THE END (M-G-M) - EAGLE-TALON (1,000) (50c-65c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $1,600)
- BOOMERANG (28th-Fox) - LOEW'S STATE (500) (50c-65c-15c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $2,000)
- THE BEGINNING OR THE END (M-G-M) - EAGLE-TALON (1,000) (50c-65c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $1,600)

PITTSBURGH

"The Best Years of Our Lives" easily broke the house record at the Fulton in its opening week, topping the theatre's previous title holder,
- A BUV-TRANS-LUX MOVIE SCREEN (13 x 18', Still in Original Frame)
- AUS ONCE. Perfect Condition.
- CALL MURRY HILL 5-0863

Wednesday, March 12, 1947

Poll to Decide

(Continued from page 1)

leasing of theatres would be an unwise investment. Under the decree in the industry Unions, contracts may not specify minimum prices, but there is no limitation on prices in house control, as with the distributor.

Schafer said Enterprise will appoint advertising and publicity chiefs in the two new cities. Scooting reports that Enterprise, having financial difficulties, Schafer declared that with "Ramrod" in re- lease and "The Other Love" and "Body and Soul" virtually finished, the company has a backlog of pictures for late summer and fall. Two other films, "Wild Calendar" and possibly "The Pursuit of Love" will be made this year, thus completing the list of six committed to United Artists for domestic distribution. Although Schafer will devote full time to Enterprise, his production financing company, George Schafer continues to be executive.

Commenting on the previously reported deal whereby reburts to companies' share of gross revenues, short subjects and serials are being acquired for distribution through a new company, Mr. Schafer, Jr., said, "That is what will head, Schafer said this includes all but about 60 of the pictures Uni- versal has or will have made between 1943 and the end of 1947. An investment of approximately $1,500,000 is involved, he confirmed. The new company will handle the picture leases directly in New York, Phila- delphia and Boston and through branch holders elsewhere. First of the pictures will be placed on the market in July.

Four New SRO Offices (Continued from page 1)

nel for West Coast offices will be an- nounced next week.

Mr. Drake, who already established offices in Atlanta, Dallas, Chi- cago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Des Moines, Cincinnati, Cin- cinnati, Detroit, New York, Phila- delphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, Bos- ton and Buffalo.

"Duel" Brings $40,000 in 11th Week in Los Angeles

"Duel in the Sun" grossed $40,000 in its 11th week at the Vogue and Fairfax Thea- tres, Los Angeles, bringing to $429, 272 the overall gross of the picture since it opened, the Selznick Releasing Organization reports. The latest figure exceeds by 43 per cent the gross attained by "Gone With the Wind" during its first 11 weeks.

Switch SRO Ad Account

The Selznick Releasing Organiza- tion has withdrawn its advertising ac- count from Foote, Cone and Belding. The move, according to Paul McNamara, SRO executive, MacNamara will leave here for the Coast tonight.

"Amok' Ban Upheld

ALBANY, N. Y., March 11.—The Board of Regents' ban on the French picture, "Amok," was upheld by the appellate Division. It was described as "ineffect and im- moral."
Balloon Holds Two Million Para. Notes

PHILADELPHIA, March 11.—Brisk activity in film stocks was noted from Jan. 11 to Feb. 10 in a Securities and Exchange Commission report here today. The largest holding was credited to Barney Balaban, who revealed that he has $2,000,000 two and three-quarter per cent conversion notes in Paramount. Also at Paramount, Balaban sold 900 shares, Henry Cohn sold 300 shares, and Leonard Goldstein sold 300 shares jointly with his wife, leaving his holdings at 2,100 shares.

At RKO, Frederick L. Ehrman disposed of 2,300 shares of common leaving his holdings at 200. At Universal, Fred Schwarz sold 1,210 shares of common, bringing his total to 18,307; Charles Prutzman sold 350 shares, leaving his holdings at 20,550; Nate Blumberg sold 200 shares in November; J. Cheever Cowdin reported holding 11,672 shares.

At Warner Brothers, Jack L. Warner reported holding 420,000 shares of common, and his trust acquired 700 more shares, bringing his total to 20,000. Albert Warner reported holding 430,000 shares with his trust now holding 20,000 shares with the acquisition to pay $2 per 600. Samuel Schneider purchased 500 shares.

At Monogram, Norton V. Rickey exercised options and purchased 2,500 shares of common, bringing his holdings to 7,754 shares.

J. E. Brunthouse, Inc., reported the addition of 17,092 shares of Associated Motion Picture Industries, Inc., in a stock split, bringing its holdings to 34,184 shares.

Kanan Names Gerson

Hollywood, March 11.—Hal Gerson has been named Eastern representative of Kanan Productions to handle deals on story properties, talent and general business.

Tax Battle (Continued from page 1)

abeyance pending the outcome of today’s trial.

The committee, newly appointed to present the exhibitors’ views to the lawmakers, consists of Oscar Deed of Loew’s; Robert Coyne, executive director of the AmericanTheatres Association; and Elson, representing the Metropolitan Theatres Owners Association, and Henry Brandt of the Independent Theatres Owners Association of New York. They have replaced a preliminary study committee, of which J. Henry Walters of KRO Theatres, and Sam Rosen of the Fabian circuit were members.

Newseel Theatres Income Is Down 25%

Newseel theatres have experienced a business reduction of about 25 per cent since the war, Norman L. Berk, vice-president of Trans-Lux, declared here yesterday. He said subjects of late have been lacking in importance and interest in comparison with the war reacls, consequently cutting revenue.

Johnston to Discuss Price Successor

Hollywood, March 11.—Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, who arrived here this morning from Washington, will discuss with studio heads, during a 10-day stay, a successor to Byron Price who resigned a few weeks ago as MPA Hollywood vice-president to become assistant secretary-general of the United Nations. Other matters affecting Hollywood operations on the MPA also will be discussed. Meanwhile, Johnston will speak at the award ceremonies of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on Thursday evening.

MPA executive Joyce O’Hara has also arrived here from the East.

PRC, Eagle-Lion Meet

Cleveland, March 11.—PRC and Eagle-Lion held a district meeting here over the weekend at the Statler Hotel. William S. Shartn, E-L district manager and James Heidelberg, PRC district manager, were in charge.

Roth Heads PRC Drive

Max Roth, Eastern sales manager for PRC, has been named captain for the “Harry Thomas Drive,” which starts on Apr. 23, Thomas’s birthday, and runs through Aug. 30.

Columbia (Continued from page 1)

weekly and $200 for expenses weekly under a previous agreement. Moreover, the new contract also extends for seven years, from June 18, 1946, will now receive a weekly salary of $2,500, compared with $1,500 weekly formerly. Details of stock options voted to B. B. Kahane, vice-president and studio executive; Lester W. Roth, Irving Briskin and Gerald Rackett were reported in Motion Picture Daily on Feb. 18.

Harry Cohn, president of Columbia, has been working without a contract since June 30, 1945, contract proposals for him were not introduced at the meeting because, according to a company spokesman, they still are being negotiated. On the board were Harry and Jack Cohn, A. Schneider, Montague, Nate Spineldorf, Donald Stalman and Ted Blanke.

Following the court decree in answer to a question about dividends raised by a stockholder, Schneider, company treasurer, explained that operations under competitive bidding will require the amassing of a large inventory, thereby stalling the ringing of profits. The release of product has been delayed in the past few months, it was pointed out, because of the change in selling technique.

Says Bidding Spurs Theatre Expansion

Competitive bidding yesterday was given as a factor in Trans-Lux’s determination to expand its theatre holdings, by Norman Elson, president. He said in effect that the acquisition of houses now operating or the construction of new ones will become the more practical when bidding will offer an equal opportunity to obtain product.

Elson coupled this with the gradual easing of building restrictions as prompting renewed interest in theatre expansion. He said that Trans-Lux is now negotiating for a number of circuits,” but declined to elaborate.

Elson said that his policy on bidding has yet to be defined. The Boston Trans-Lux operates profitably with secondary product shown first run, he pointed out, adding that he would have to await further developments to decide on the feasibility of seeking top-notch films by bidding.

Trans-Lux’s consideration of new theatres was made known some time ago but the program was stymied by a court order of the Circuit has property at 59th St. and Madison Avenue here for a new feature house, opposite its newseel theatre. It has, too, the site of a planned “Radio City” in Washington, also as previously announced.

IATSE Favors

(Continued from page 1)

Labor Committee, which has been holding hearings on proposals to ban jurisdictional strikes, he declared yesterday following publication of testimony given before that group at the weekend by Oscar Schatte, Hollywood “boss” carpenter. Schatte’s inference that the “IA” has been responsible for violence is without foundation, Walsh declared in a statement to Rep. Fred A. Hartly, chairman of the committee. “This false charge is intended to bolster up a depression morale on the part of those who have been duped by false propaganda,” he said.

A complete investigation will show the American people who are the responsible parties in the Hollywood conflict, Walsh added.

Declaring that he had always opposed violence, Walsh reported that the strike continues to dwindle toward a conclusion. The 1,500 striking building service employees have just been ordered back to work, and the 400 striking electricians are likely to be ordered back before the end of the week, he said. However, there is no early termination in sight for the walkout by 2,000 carpenters and 900 members of the painters’ union added. Negotiations with William Hutchinson, international president of the carpenter group, apparently are at a standstill, according to the “IA” chief, who said he had not heard from Hutchinson for several weeks following preliminary reports to settle their jurisdictional differences.

Hollywood, March 11.—Reports that IATSE president Richard Walsh had forecast settlement of the studio strike before the weekend were created by Conference of Studio Unions officials, who declared that Walsh could not speak for the painters and carpenters, who comprise the majority of the workers on strike.
as a matter of fact...... In Charleston, W. Va., the picture that's topping UA's current top box-office product is "ABIE'S IRISH ROSE"

In Cumberland, Md., next to "I'll Be Seeing You" and "Since You Went Away", the top UA grosser is "ABIE'S IRISH ROSE"
In St. Paul, Minn.,
the picture that touches
the average weekly figure
in just four days of boff business
is
“ABIE’S IRISH ROSE”

AS A MATTER OF FACT.....
the picture that's doing
tremendous business wherever it plays is

“ABIE’S IRISH ROSE”
from UA!
Dick Powell · Evelyn Keyes

Johnny O’clock

is proving one of the big money pictures of the year!

✓ check San Francisco (3 weeks)
✓ check Oakland (4th week)
✓ check Philadelphia (3rd week)
✓ check Reading (10 days)
✓ check Oklahoma City (2 weeks)

and watch the list grow!

Dick Powell · Evelyn Keyes

Johnny O’clock

A COLUMBIA PICTURE
Majors Offer 17 Per Cent Salary Boost

Year's Cost Estimated At $11,000,000 by MPA

Hollywood, March 12—Major producers today offered an 11-joint, 17 per cent cost-of-living wage increase to approximately 15,000 production employees, representing all unions and guilds with which the Association of Motion Picture Producers holds executed contracts. The percentage coincides exactly with figures released by the U. S. Department of Labor showing the living cost rise in the Los Angeles area between July 1, 1945, and Jan. 1, 1946. The wage increase, which is retroactive to Jan. 1 and effective until Dec. 31, is in compliance with the interim agreement entered into as a step toward ending the two-day studio strike last July 1, when all unions received a 25 per cent increase retroactive to Jan. 1, 1946. An identical increase was given the Screen Extras' Guild last month under the terms of a special contract in it.

The only unions not receiving the raise are the members of the New England Alliance in Boston.

SAG Sets April 15 Contract Talk Date

Hollywood, March 12—In letters to 400 producers, including the New York group, the Screen Actors' Guild today set April 15 as the starting date of negotiations for a new contract to replace the present pact, which expires a month later.

Naming 17 members to represent itself, the SAG suggested that the producers set up a numerically similar group to act for them.

Set Republic Annual Meeting for April 1

Walter L. Titus, Jr., Republic's vice-president and divisional sales manager, and Arthur J. Miller, manager of Republic's Consolidated Film Industries, have been reappointed for two of the five vacancies on the board of directors to be filled at the annual stockholders' meeting here on April 1.

Other candidates for the three-year term are (Continued on page 7)

Mexico Majors Expanding To Exhibition

By LUIS BRECERA CELIS

Mexico City, March 12—Producers entering exhibition as well as distribution is the latest trend in the Mexican film industry policy. It is somewhat like that of major companies in the U. S. It is said that has been prompted by too many theaters in too few hands, a circumstance obviously much to the disadvantage of producers in the matter of playing time and percentage of grosses is complained, largely responsible for so many Mexican pictures—at least about 50—being kept from exhibition in Mexico.

Filmex, one of Mexico's four leading producer-distributors, has pio neered in entering the exhibition area by increasing Government approval of plans to build and operate a circuit, primarily as an inducement for exhibitors to enter the industry. Filmex has received approval for five screens in Mexico City, the first of several plans.

(Continued on page 7)

Krumm Named SRO Division Manager

ATLANTA, March 12—Henry Krumm, former Warner branch manager and later with United Artists, has been appointed Southern division manager for the Selznick Releasing Organization.

General sales manager Milton B. Russell is now on the Coast to set up SRO sales offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver and Salt Lake City. The Atlanta branch is one of 16 SRO offices.

(Continued on page 5)

Competitive Bidding on Big Scale in Chicago Area

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, March 12—Lock's, Paramount, RKO Radio and 20th Century-Fox, comprising half of the distributor defendants affected by the provisions of the New York Federal court decree, are already engaged in offering their product to competitive bidders in this territory, although not compelled by the decree to do so until July 1.

At least 20 theaters in this exchange area, and perhaps many more, are known to be engaged currently in bidding for pictures of the four companies. Moreover, it has been ascertained that whenever any theater here requests pictures or a run of the four companies not heretofore enjoyed, machinery immediately put in motion to obtain bids from the theaters involved.

Indications are that Chicago is the foremost experimental station and proving ground for competitive bidding in the country today.

It is apparent that no common policy as to bidding procedures has been followed by the distributors. Each company appears to be following its own way into the new marketing system, guided perhaps only by the individual way in which it is conducted.

(Continued on page 7)

New Exchange Areas Are Expanding To Universal Stay

WASHINGTON, March 12—The Department of Justice does not plan to oppose Universal's application to the Supreme Court for a stay of competitive bidding and other features of the New York Federal District Court's decision in the industry anti-trust suit, it is understood here. Frequently, as a

RKO to Maintain Advertising Level

RKO Radio's advertising outlay will not be cut, S. Barrett McCormick, advertising-publicity director, declared here yesterday upon his return from Hollywood where campaigns are under way.

(Continued on page 7)

N.Y. Owners Warn Of Peril in Tax Bill

ALBANY, N. Y., March 12—Arguing that the present 20 per cent Federal admission tax alone "makes the motion picture business a hazardous enterprise" and one which well might have an adverse economic effect upon theatres in the event of a business recession, a contingent of New York exhibitor association and circuit representatives today appealed to Senate Finance Committee chairman Arthur Wicks, and Charles Breitel, counsel to Gov. Dewey, for the elimination of the five per cent tax on theatre admissions which is included in the proposal.

(Continued on page 5)

In This Issue

"High Barbaree" and "High Conquest" are reviewed on page 8.

Key city grosses are given on page 6.
Personal Mention


John Joseph, Universal-International advertising-publicity director, is in Santa Monica Hospital with a broken heel sustained in a fall from a ladder at his Hollywood home.

N. E. Savini, assistant to Robert M. Savini, Astor Pictures president, is in New York from Atlanta. The latter has returned here from a three-day trip to Canada.

Lew Brenner, manager of the Strand, Westfield, Mass., has returned to his desk after a two months' absence. Brenner was recovering from a recent operation.

Stephen E. Fitzgibbon, Sr., president of the Devonshire Film Co., Boston, and Maxwell Anselman, vice-president, are on a two-week Mid-West tour.

Ron Haines, Warner's Western division sales manager, and Jules Lapidus, eastern division sales manager, have left New York for Mid-West tours.

F. L. Hopper, transmission engineering supervisor of the Electrical Research Products division of Western Electric, has arrived here from Hollywood.

Charles Levy, eastern publicity director for Walt Disney Productions, is in Bronx Hospital where he will undergo a three operation tomorrow.

Glendon Allis, director of public relations for the Motion Picture Association here, has returned to New York from the South.

Arthur Greenblatt, Eastern sales manager for Monogram, left New York yesterday for a two-week tour of the South.

Ben Jumbled, independent producer, will return to the Coast on Friday from New York. He will stop over in Chicago.

Dor Prince, RKO Radio foreign publicity manager, has returned to New York from Jukko City.

Paul O. Sticker of the Samuel Goldwyn Productions office here has left for the Coast by plane.

Sam Leftowitz, Eastern district manager for Warner Bros., is in Buffalo from New York.

C. J. Scollard, Paramount labor relations director, was in Washington yesterday.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

The Government collected $384,701,099 in admission taxes in 1945, in most instances a straight 20 per cent of the ticket sold. For general purposes, which are more specific than general, anyway, this indicates a national gross of $1,923,505,295 from all forms of legitimate exhibition, minus the tax retention covered by the statute.

It has become regarded as fact that from 80 to 90 per cent of the collections are to be attributed to movies released after March 1941. Beyond this further, the bracket is believed by many who have endeavored to rivet the yardstick with absolute exactitude, to be about 87 per cent. No one has ever declared it false.

Accepting this, the mathematical shows the 1945 gross from picture houses alone was about $1,673,453,304. Last year, however, collections rose $63,578,910 to a grand total of $1,458,239,719. In turn, this national gross from all sources at $2,291,198,595. By application of the same formula, film industry net intake not only was $1,993,342,777, which would mean an increase of $319,889,473 in 1946 over 1945.

Last year was the entertainment world's greatest, as all hands know. In connection with enacting the excise tax continuation bill, which maintains the 20 per cent tax at its present level until the Treasury Department on Tuesday estimated a $300,000,000 tax in 1947. Evidently, official Washington is far more optimistic than many of the industry's own executives.

From a source probably as reliable as any, which is not saying much — and with nary a compelling lack of authoritative statistics on this business, is advanced the claim 65,000,000 tickets are sold each week, on an average; that $4,000,000 represents the sales reps who show up, come high water and the rest of it; that the regular audience for an “A” attraction is 18,000,000 each week.

If this is even reasonably correct, we suppose it means those $4,000,000 dependable, buy tickets regularly of interest in any given film while the figures approach 65,000,000 because large numbers of the $4,000,000 go more than once and another segment of the differential of 11,000,000 is drawn by a particular film. It ought to be understood that publication of these statistics here suggests no blanket acceptance of their reliability. They are as good as any others, marshaled from any other source and just as inconclusive.

In Hollywood tonight, the Academy Awards for 1946 will be made known. Never before in the history of this competition has Hollywood encountered a parallel situation. England is represented by four nominations for the same film, "The Spiral," for the best picture; Laurence Olivier, who starred in it, for best actor; Celia Johnson, feminine lead in "Brief Encounter," for best actress and David Lean for best direction for the same film. If this indicates nothing else, it indicates importance and an evidence of fair play at the hands of the Coast colony and a demonstration which the British industry might note the further.

It has been custom, suggested by nobody and nothing besides enthusiasm, to draw a bead on the year's hits. This has been a practice never especially noted for its success, although last year was an improvement over the year before when we stood the audience waiting and holding a bag—mostly empty.

But again we have a slant on the victors for 1946 honors. It reflects what we would decide if this business of voting was a one-man process, which it is not. You are now about to witness the leap into space:

Best Picture — "The Best Years of Our Lives." A difficult choice in the face of "Henry V.

Best Performance, Actor — Olivier in "Henry V." Another toughie in the light of Fredric March's beautiful performance in "The Best Years." 65,000,000 stock.

Best Performance, Actress — Miss Josephine "Blind Encounter." 74,000,000 stock.

Best Performance, Supporting Actor — Harold Russell, the non-professional, armless veteran in "The Best Years." 65,000,000 stock.

Best Performance, Supporting Actress — Edith Barronmore in "The Best Years." 65,000,000 stock.

Best Achievement in Direction — William Wyler, for "The Best Years." 65,000,000 stock.

Tomorrow morning will reveal which of the above members determine. Final box score right here in the accustomed space next week.

Universal Common Retirement Voted

Williamson, March 12—Retirement plans for the Universal common stock, issued in connection with the acquisition of International Pictures last summer was approved by the shareholders at their annual meeting here today.


The directors are scheduled to meet in New York on March 20 for the annual election of officers.

'Brotherhood' Cites Film Industry Aid

In recognition of the cooperation given by exchange, circuit, and theatre managers, American Brother is shown a certificate of appreciation carrying the signatures of its honorary chairman, President Truman, the general chairman, John Z. O'Neill, and industry leaders, Spyros P. Skouras and J. Robert Rubin.

All managers who have secured 10 or more members and all who now plan to enroll members are urged to send in returns to Skouras at the 30th Century-Fox home office, here.

Bergman, Griffith on SPG Forum Tonight

At the first of a series of discussion panels planned by the Eastern Screen Publicists Guild, to be held tonight at the Hotel Piccadilly, here, industry executives, and others will discuss "The Future of the Films in 1947."

Among those who will present their viewpoints are Serge Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director for Universal-International; Richard Griffith, head of the Screen Directors of National Board of Review; Hans Burger, on the staff of the film division of the University of Wisconsin, film critic for the New York Post.

Skouras, Silverstone To Tour S. America

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, is expected to return here today from the Coast prior to his joining Murray Silverstone, 20th-Fox International head, for a survey of conditions in South America. Accompanied by their respective wives, they are to leave for Latin America on Monday.

Trust Law Study Due

Washington, March 12—A review of the anti-trust laws has been planned by the House and Senate Small Business committees. Recommendations are expected from the Sherman and Clayton acts will be requested by the groups when hearings start.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-In-Chief and Publisher; Shorin, Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. 1276 Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20. N. Y. Telephone E197-7300. Cable address, "Quigblanco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Curran, Assistant Treasurer. Union Life Bldg., 40th street, New York. Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of the Universal Film Review; International Motion Picture Almanac, Famed. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1918, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 15c.
Columbia made a better mousetrap...

and millions are beating a path to your door, Mr. Exhibitor. Yes, millions of people. More people than have ever seen any picture since GONE WITH THE WIND are seeing THE JOLSON STORY... and will see THE JOLSON STORY... in the biggest cities and the smallest towns... wherever in this broad land an exhibitor places in his marquee these proud words.

"If you... build a better mousetrap than your neighbor, the world will make a beaten path to your door."

—RALPH WALDO EMERSON
Sees Market Study Denting Trade Bars

WASHINGTON, March 12.—George Canny, State Department film consultant, declares that the film industry's analysis of foreign market problems will be an "excellent tool" to effect the elimination of foreign barriers imposed upon American films at the Geneva Trade Conference. The industry analysis was presented to the inter-departmental committee on reciprocity information recently.

Canny said the State Department will work with industry during the trade negotiations, and expressed belief that restrictions in several of the 18 nations participating will be eliminated by agreements.

Every effort is being made to open the world market for all media of communication, Canny said.

Under-Secretary of State William Clayton has pledged complete support to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association.

AGFA Color Patent Status Delays Use

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Use of the AGFA color film process may result in a lawsuit between General Aniline and Film Corp. and the company producing it unless the U. S. Alien Property Custodian clears the color patent on the open market, it is indicated here.

Meanwhile, a General Aniline associate company, is now working on the color process and has it ready for industry production, it is reported.

Maine Eastman and other raw companies are interested in further development and production of the film, an AGFA spokesman said Thursday, explaining that actual production of the color film would result in a legal battle.

On the G. Farben project the department has procured the process from the I. G. Farben film plant in Germany, that agency refuses to directly enter into the controversy over its patent. Ultimate decision permitting open market use of the film, therefore, is up to either the Alien Property Custodian or the Justice Department.

Demonstration of 'Magnetic Sound'

CHICAGO, March 12.—Marvin Camras of the Armour Research Foundation, here, will demonstrate a new inven- tion involving magnetic sound for motion pictures when the Society of Midwest Motion Picture Engineers holds its monthly meeting here tomorrow.

According to Camras, his sound-track may be used for $5, 10 or 16 mm or even larger films, it allows direction from the rear, playback, multiple tracks, immediate monitoring and new flexibility in arranging, editing and scoring, he said.

Altec Supplying New Test Film for Sound

Altec field engineers are now being supplied with a new test film to be used in the servicing of theaters. The new test film, developed by Altec with the aid of the research division of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, will be of laboratory precision, printed on safety stock, and made up of a wide variety of sections, according to Altec.

AMPA Committee Meets

The 30th anniversary dinner-dance committee of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, headed by Phil Williams, met yesterday in New York's Hotel Edison at luncheon to further plans for the event, which will be held on April 23. Others attending yesterday were: Chester Friedman, Dave Bolduc, Charles Baldwin, Dr. James Blair, Max Stein, Abe Dash, Herman Schiller and Jacques Kopstein.

Korman in New Post

Howard Korman has joined Dora- matic, the nation's leading merchandising director, ending 15 years as vice-president in charge of merchandising and promotion for McCann-Erickson.

Blue Law Hearing

LEXINGTON, Ky., March 12.—Requests for repeal of a 1940 ordinance barring Sunday baseball games, baseball games and other forms of amusement here will be heard shortly by the city council.

Newspoint Shortage Hits NY Film Ads

An increasing renewed shortage of newspapers among New York City daily newspapers has brought about new reductions in space allocations for motion picture and other amusement advertising, with the reductions said to be in the offing.

The Daily Mirror, which is devoted to the movies industry and the Post, also seriously affected, are to establish the greatest cuts in the advertising space. According to "Hollywood Tribune" and the department spokesman that paper has not yet established any reductions, but may be discussed the general shortage and that amusement and other space will be limited if conditions do not improve. Similar situations exist with other papers.

A Times advertising department spokesman, who pointed out that the general shortage of newspaper space is solely from the fact that transportation is inadequate, said the Times is well supplied and, of course, will not limit advertising space, at least for the present.

Bill Would Prevent Race Discrimination

SACRAMENTO, March 12.—An act to prohibit discrimination on account of race or color in theatres and other public places, has been introduced in the state legislature by Assemblyman Willard M. Hayck of Beverly Hills.

The measure calls for full and equal enjoyment of any "accommodation, advantage or privilege furnished by theatres or other public places of amusement.

Violators shall be liable in a civil action for damages up to $500.

Memphis Censorship Extended to County

MEMPHIS, March 12.—Memphis censorship has been extended to all of Shelby County by the State Legis- lature. The Memphis board of censors had objected to pictures banned in Memphis being shown just outside the city limits.

Projection Bill Passes

ALBANY, N. Y., March 12.—The Condon bill to amend the general business law to exempt school auditoriums, halls, and other similar places from the provisions of any legislation applying to theatres, has passed the State Senate. The companion Waldin measure is on the Assembly calendar. The State Labor Department requested the bill.

Bischoff Slates Two

Hollywood, March 12.—Sam Bisch- off of Independent Artists has established headquarters at General Service Studios and is marketing pictures, "The Pittfalls" and "Intrigue."

Edgar W. Adams, 62

MONTCLAIR, N. J., March 12.—Edgar W. Adams, 62, Western Electric general patent attorney, died of a heart attack at his home here. He is survived by the widow and three sons.

Pres. Truman Sees 'Years' Third Time

WASHINGTON, March 12.—President and Mrs. Harry S. Truman and their son, Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" for the third time last night when they viewed the local premiere of the picture at Keith's.

The benefit performance was sponsored by the Committee for National Civilian Rehabilitation, of which Mrs. Truman is honorary chairman.

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, among many others present, termed the benefit "still anath. Evi- dence of the heart of show business in assisting this work in behalf of civilian rehabilitation."

Scripps-Howard Video Promised for Fall

CLEVELAND, March 12.—Television by fall is promised Ohio as a result of an analysis of 1947 and 1948 new construction plans, WEWS, which recently announced leasing of studio quarters for erection of a micro-wave radio relay transmitter in the Allerton Hotel penthouse to beam television broadcasts to the proposed WEWS transmitter site in Parma.

Work on the WEWS studio marks the first step toward television broadcasting by any of the five stations allocated to Cleveland by the Federal Communications Commission. It is the first to be taken by Scripps-Howard Radio nationally.

Radio, Video Booms Air Conditioners

CHICAGO, March 12.—The addition of nearly 1,000 standard and FM radio and television stations throughout the country will add millions of dollars to the market for air conditioning equipment. It has been disclosed here by the Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association following an analysis of reports.

IAM has a contract with the company. However, the AFL unit claims the rights under M. Darling, president of the latter union, asserts it is striking for a collective bargaining election.

Fay Testimonial Advanced

PROVIDENCE, March 12.—The golden testimonial dinner to be given to Edward M. Fay, veteran Providence theatre-owner, by the Independent Exhibitors of Rhode Island has been advanced to April 21 from May 1. The dinner will be held at the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel here.

DeVry Plants Closed By Union Disputes

CHICAGO, March 12.—A battle between the American Federation of La- bor Electrical Workers union and the independent International Association of Machinists has closed two plants of the DeVry Corp. IAM has a contract with the company. However, the AFL unit claims the rights under M. Darling, president of the latter union, asserts it is striking for a collective bargaining election.

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REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
100 BROADWAY, N. Y. 18
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

Thursday, March 13, 1947
Minnesota CIO Fights New Tax

Minneapolis, March 12. — The Minnesota State CIO has joined the fight against the Governor’s proposed $2 per pack cigarette tax, declaring that it, along with a proposed three-cent cigarette tax, depic-""
Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

CHICAGO

"The Beginning or the End" opened strongly, while "The Yearling" continued to do good business. A number of other films also are grossing above average. Estimated receipts for the week ended March 12-13:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,400) 10th week. Gross: $57,500. (Average: $5,750).

DEAD RECKONING (Col.)—CHICAGO (3,000) 96th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $20). DEAD RECKONING (Col.)—CHICAGO (3,000) 96th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $20).

CENTURY (3,000) (49c-50c-58c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $56,000. (Average: $8,000).

SAN FRANCISCO

Business has fallen off for all films except "Smash-Up," coupled with "Accomplice," which is above average at both houses. Estimated receipts for the week ended March 14:

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I) and THE 12TH HOUR (Col.)—ORPHANY (58c-60c). 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $1,750).

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—THE GHOST OF SHEHERAZADE (U-I)—KEITHS (1,080) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $2,357). THE GHOST OF SHEHERAZADE (U-I)—KEITHS (1,080) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $2,357).


SMASH-UP (U-I) and ACCOMPLICE (U-I) —ORPONY (58c-60c). 7 days. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $8,571).

THE RED HOUSE (UA) —UNITED ARTISTS (1,856) 7th week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $3,285).


KANSAS CITY

"Sinbad the Sailor," coupled with "Dangerous Money," is setting the pace for business, with houses generally doing above average. There was heavy snow early in the week, temperatures falling into the 20's, and continuing with a threat. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 11-13:

THE ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—ESQUIRE (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $4,286).

THE ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—FAIRWAY (70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $1,000).

THE BEGINNING OF THE END (M-G-M) and LOLLIND (500) (40c-60c) 7 weeks. Gross: $3,250. (Average: $464).


BUFFALO

Except for good business for "Nora Prentiss" at the Great Lakes, films at first-runs are playing to average business or below. The ground is still under much snow. Estimated receipts for the week ended March 12:

THE BEGINNING OR THE END (M-G-M) —BUFFALO (1,300) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $3,250. (Average: $464).

HUMORESQUE (WB) and VACATION DAYS (Maus.) —HIIPPODROME (1,000) (40c-50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Holiday week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $500).

CENTURY (3,000) (49c-50c-65c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $56,000. (Average: $8,000).

INDIANAPOLIS

A slump is evident here, with most grosses running below average. "Song of the South," co-featurcd with "Blondie's Big Moment," is an exception.

San Francisco.

GROSS: $11,000. (Average: $1,500).

The Man I Love (WB) and Mr. Hex (WB) (Rep.)—LOEW'S (58c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $1,214).

SAN FRANCISCO

GROSS: $11,000. (Average: $1,500).

Cleveland.

VAUDEVILLE has returned to the RKO Palace, after a week absence, with 'San Quentin' on the screen, the week's gross at the theatre is near the house average. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 12:

HER SISTER'S SECRET (RKO) —LOEW'S (55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $700).

THE PERFECT MARRIAGE (Para.) —MORRIS (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714).

CALIFORNIA (Para.) —LOWE'S (55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,571).

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (57c-75c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire, Webster. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $571).

Cleveland.

"Swell Guy" is the leader here, with "Song of the South" also playing to good business. Estimated receipts for the week ended March 12:

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—CENTURY (2,500) (50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $2,571).

ST. LOUIS

Better than average grosses were collected by most theatres here. The weather has been fair. Estimated receipts for the week ended March 12:

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $2,000).

NORA PRENTISS (WB) —RADIO CITY (2,000) (55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,571).

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (57c-75c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire, Webster. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $571).

MINNEAPOLIS

Balm weather has been furnishing good business competition to theatre business. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 13:

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—CENTURY (1,400) (50c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week (moveover from New York). Gross: $7,200. (Average: $1,029).

THE SHOCKING MISS ANGEL (WB)—NORTH STAR (420) (50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $1,143).

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—RKO (400) (50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $1,714).

NORA PRENTISS (WB) —RADIO CITY (2,000) (55c-60c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,286).

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (57c-75c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire, Webster. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $571).

SOUTHERN PENNIES (WB) and THE END (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (1,250) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,286).

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (57c-75c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire, Webster. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $571).

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Short Subjects

“The Teachers’ Crisis” (March of Time—20th-Fox)
In “The Teachers’ Crisis,” March of Time serves up a well-knit, comprehensive look at the problems of which the American educational structure is itself today. This is certainly off to date and as timely as this morning’s headlines. Some startling facts are revealed to explain why fully 100,000 U.S. school children are inadequately taught, and why teachers are underpaid to the extent that a full-scale exodus from the profession has been underway for a decade.

Eye-opening penetration into America’s education sore-spot, aided by some first-rate dramatizing in which classroom youngsters shine, makes this subject one that can be recommended unqualifiedly to everywhere. Running time, 16½ minutes.

“San Francisco—Pacific Gateway” (This Is America-RKO Radio)
Careful selectivity of subject matter, pointing the way to places like San Francisco, and splendid photography combine to make this newest ‘This Is America subject a short which may be relied on for almost any program. Both camera and commentary point the growth of the city since its founding 100 years ago, and its position in finance, commerce, and industry. Color material includes Chinatown and Fishermen’s Wharf. Frederic Ullman, Jr., produced. Running time: 18 minutes.

“Have You Any Castles?” (Warner Brothers)
Characters on various book-covers come to life in this Technicolor fable, which takes place in a年报 like the one made by the literature people is so great that even old Rip Van Winkle can hardly believe his eyes. With the aid of other book titles, Rip’s M.O.T. of the an- noyers and returns to his slumber. Running time, seven minutes.

Key City Grosses

(SALT LAKE CITY)
Business generally is good, with “It’s a Wonderful Life” in the house. The weather continues mild and clear. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 13:

NORA PRENTISS (WB)—CAPITOL (L. 857) (56-57-76c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,040. (Average: $430)
THE LOCKET (RKO Radio)—CENTRE (L. 796) (56-57-76c) 5 days, 4th week. Gross: $3,100. (Average: $620)
QUEEN OF BURLESQUE (PRC) and SANTA FE UPRISING (Rep)—LYRIC (L. 291) (56) 3 days. Gross: $750 (Average: $250)
THE ADVENTURES OF MARCO POLO (20th-Fox) and BORDER (Screen Guild) —BILTMORE (L. 100) (56-57-76c) 5 days. Gross: $2,100. (Average: $420)
IT'S A WALTZ LIFE (RKO Radio) —STUDIO (RKO) (56-57-76c) 5 days, Gross: $1,700. (Average: $340)
SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) —UTAH (L. 100) (56-57-76c) 7 days, Gross: $1,100. (Average: $157)

Chicago Bids

(Continued from page 1)

which the decree provisions are interpreted by independent company attorneys.

Paramount, for example, affirms a number of its contracts with local Unions. RKO, on the other hand, does not, as Sam Goreslick, manager, said. The company has given 10 days for submission of bids; RKO up to 24 days.

Film Row opinion on the subject of a minimum price tag is divided. One producer who has already made a substantial bid indicated that the specified minimum may have to be accepted but in the absence of a minimum all bids may be rejected if found unsatisfactory at the time of receipt.

Independent theatres in at least three downtown theatres are known to be bidding currently against Great States Circuit, a Paramount affiliate. The Wane in Kenosha, operated by Norton & Cade, is bidding against Great States’ Peerless; the Avon, De- catur, operated by Gus Constanz, is bidding against the Lincoln and Empire theatres, and Kerasotes Bros. Senate, Springfield, against Great States’ Century.

In Decatur, RKO offered four pictures competitively, two going to the Avon, and two to Great States. Other downtown theatres are also bidding.

The Manitoba-Rose circuit, operating 29 houses in Illinois-Indiana, lost product in Michigan City, Ind., to RKO, when its contract was threatened by thelibrary there on Feb. 4. In Maywood, III., the Van Nomiskos Circuit has called for a bid on an exhibition against Manta & Rose’s Lido.

Inauguration of competitive bidding is credited with having brought about the settlement of one anti-trust suit and one neighborhood feud already.

Plifton is onfile on anti-trust suits launched against Manta-rose and distributors, alleging inability to obtain product. With bidding, he gained section of a Southern circuit to place a bid for first run with Paramount, Loew’s and 20th-Fox. In consequence, a legal settlement of the suit out of court is now being negotiated.

The product “feud” involved Jim Booth’s Palace and Bartlett Bamingers’ Coast. With the inauguration of bidding by MGM and RKO Radio, both obtained product and the feud appears to have resolved. (Editor’s Note: A second installment on the status of competitive bidding in the picture business are to be published tomorrow.)

RKO Advertising

(Continued from page 1)

product were blue-printed.

Each picture will be dealt with, promotionally, as it comes up rather than being placed in the established annual budget for advertising, McCormick said.

Top product will still be backed by the full resources of the company. One step in this category are: “The Locket,” “The Farmer’s Daughter,” “Honeymoon,” “Bachelor and the Bobbysoxer” “The Long Night,” Walt Disney’s “Fun and Fancy Free,” “Woman on the Beach,” “They Won’t Believe Me,” Sam Goldwyn’s “The Secret Life of Walter Mitty,” “If You Knew Susie” and “Tyrcon,” among others.

Mexican Union Lifts Anti-Red Film Ban

Mexican City, March 12—Two film satires on Communism, “Ninotchka” and “He Stayed for Breakfast” are now being shown in Mexico without any demonstrations from the powerful Confederation of Mexican Workers, which prevented showing of the films in 1940 by calling strikes against theatres scheduled to show them.

The federation, which controls most Mexican film labor, explained at the time that it disapproved of the pictures because of their treatment of Communism; the government has not had approved pictures, but the Confederation’s walkout prevented their showing.

The fact that there were no protests this time is taken as an indication of less Communist influence in the Confederation.

SMIP Names Advisors

Hollywood, March 12—The Soci- ety of Independent Motion Picture Theatres has appointed an advisory committee to counsel executives on the recently announced collective bargaining. The members are: Joe Alvin, chairman and Barry Buchanan, William Herbert, Allen Hoffman, Joe Reddy and Bernie Williams.

Republic Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

terms are: Samuel Becker of the New York law firm of Becker and Ber- nan; Harry M. Goetz, producer, and William K. Zuckerman, who will be the film’s producer. J. C. Penney Co. Retiring directors are: Walter F. Stevens, John J. O’Connell and Walter W. Vincent. President Herbert J. Yates, a company proxy statement discloses, last year received $95,430 apart from his $25,000 accumulated net profit, which amounted to $100,000 additional. His contract is for a five-year term. The new Jan. slate will receive $75,000 a year plus 10 per cent of the annual consolidated net profits after taxes.

Majors Offer Increase

(Continued from page 1)

present offer are those on strike, the Musicians’ Union (which received a special contract in New York last year), IATSE cameramen and sound men), whose contracts are still under negotiation), and others still debating points in offered contracts.

The Motion Picture Association has estimated that the increase in 1947 will amount to $11,000,000 in 1947. Independent producers customarily du- e to the majors’ wage scales au- tomatically.

SAG Sets Date

(Continued from page 1)

lar committee to represent them, stating that the new contract, while admittedly complex, can be negotiated in 30 days if daily meetings are held.

Guild demands will be outlined to a full membership meeting April 9. The new pact, when completed, will also be submitted to the full membership for approval.

Mexican Union Seeks Dispute Settlement

Mexican City, March 12—President Miguel Aleman has been asked by the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, Mexico’s original film labor organization, to effect a working agreement with its rival, the Picture Production Workers Union, which was recently appointed plans and headed by Mario Moreno (Cantil- flas).

Producers are eager for peace be- tween the two unions which have been at odds for two years over the distribution of workers from each among the producers. Every effort is being made to merge the two unions.

Mexican Workers To Demand 40% Increase

Mexican City, March 12—The Na- tional Cinematographic Industry Workers Union is preparing to demand a 40 per cent wage increase around May or June, prior to the expiration of the last two-year contract which American distributors made to end the 1945 strike.

Both Mexican independent and American distributors claim a further pay rise would eliminate all profits which are said to be averaging about seven per cent of gross income.

Mexico Expansion

(Continued from page 1)

outlet for its films. The Government has agreed to help finance plans which call for an investment of some $4,000,- 000 for about 10 theatres, three or four here and the others in principal provincial cities. The first, here, is nearly finished. It is expected to open in the summer. Work on the others will start as soon as possible.

That the Government has agreed to help finance the circuit is seen as further demonstration of its policy against monopolies and for free-trade.

The rest of the financing will be from Filzine’s banker, the manager of which is Simon Wisham.

Besides producing and distributing, Filzine also plans and operates Mexi- co’s second largest studio, the Azteca, here. The company president is Gre- gorio Valeraist, Oscar J. Brooks, for some years Warner manager here, is distribution chief, Manuel Suarez, wealthy Spaniard who has numerous industrial interests in Mexico, is a board member.

Adding exhibition to production distribution is also being arranged by Producciones Grovas, also one of the big four of Mexican producers, whose president is Jesus Grovas, who, 15 years ago production manager here, Grovas is completing plans for a circuit, the size of which has not yet been decided but is ex- pected to be about six as a starter.
Production In New Climb; Up Three, to 41

Hollywood, March 12—Production continues to climb, the shooting index reaching 41, compared with last week's level of 38. Three films went into cutting rooms, and six reached the stages. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: “Swing the Western Way,” with Jack Leonard, Mary Dugan, Hoosier Hot Shots, Thurston Hall.

Shooting: “The Man from Colorado,” Assigned to Treasury (Kennedy-Buchanan); Her Husband's Affairs (formerly The Lady Knows How).

Eagle-Lion


M-G-M


Shooting: “Song of the Thin Man,” The Hucksters.

Paramount

Monogram


RKO Radio


Republic

Finished: “The Trespasser.”


Shooting: Springtime in the Sierras.

Selznick


20th Century-Fox

Shooting: Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay, The Ghost and Mrs. Muir, Gone From Castle, Forevery Amber.

United Artists

Shooting: Atlantis (Nero); Body and Soul (Enterprise).

Universal-International

Shooting: Jeopardy, For the Love of Mary, Singapore, The Secret Beyond the Door (Diana); Brute Force (Helliger).
Argue Decree
Stay Motions
On March 25

To Pass on 'U' Petition; Columbia Filing Today

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Justice Stanley F. Reed of the U. S. Supreme Court has set March 25 for a hearing on Universal's application for a stay of competitive bidding and certain other sections of the New York Federal District Court's decree in the industry anti-trust suit. Thomas Turner Cooke, special counsel for the company, will present arguments for the petition.

The hearing will be held exactly a week before the April 1 effective date of most sections of the decree, and a (Continued on page 9)

Pickwick Anti-Trust
Suit Is Settled

The six-year old Pickwick Theatre anti-trust suit against major distributors has been settled by parties to the litigation and has been withdrawn, a stipulation on file in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here revealed yesterday.

Counsel and representatives of all (Continued on page 9)

State Senate Passes
Local Levy Bill

ALBANY, N. Y., March 13.—The Senate tonight passed the Burney Bill, 53-to-1, permitting counties and large cities to levy special taxes, including a five per cent amusement tax. Senator Kenneth Sherbell, A.L.P., of Kings County, was the lone dissenter.

The Assembly is expected to concur. The Legislature will not adjourn (Continued on page 3)

New Academy Rules
On Trial in Choices

Hollywood, March 12.—On trial tonight before the entire industry as well as before the audience which jammed the 6,700-seat Shrine Auditorium for the 19th annual Academy (Continued on page 12)

Academy Winners

HOLLYWOOD, March 13.—The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences tonight announced the following winners of its annual awards:


Best performance by an actress—Olive de Havilland in "To Each His Own," Paramount.


Best original screenplay—"The Seventh Veil," J. Arthur Rank-Sydney Box-Ortus, Universal (British). Screen play by Murrie Box and Sydney Box.


Special Visual Effects.


Distinctive achievement in documentary production—Short subject: "Seeds of Destiny," M-G-M.

The Irving G. Thalberg Memorial Award for the most consistently high quality of production achieved by an individual producer—Sam Goldwyn.

Special award to Laurence Olivier as producer, director and star of "Hamlet.")

Special Junior award to Claude Jarman, Jr., actor in "The Yearling," M-G-M.


Special achievement award to Ernest Lubitsch, director.

Bidding Could Start for All
Firms April 1

See Sec. 2 Permitting Theaters to Demand It

All major distributors can be compelled to offer their product to bidders on and after April 1 in any competitive situation under the provisions of paragraph nine, section two, of the New York decree, company attorneys and sales executives here conceded yesterday.

Paragraph nine of section two, which becomes effective April 1, whereas the decree's competitive bidding provision is not effective until July 1, enjoins the distributors from "arbitrarily refusing the demand of an exhibitor" for a run of a film instead of licensing it to a competitor. This (Continued on page 12)

Independents Like
Bidding in Chicago

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, March 13.—Small independent exhibitors are appearing here as the most enthusiastic boosters for competitive bidding. At the moment, at least, they are pleased with the prospect of being able to bid for better runs and different product, whether they get it or not.

They bid for it here today (Continued on page 15)

Selznick Reveals
'Duel' Is Re-Edited

David O. Selznick announced yesterday that his Technicolor production, "Duel in the Sun," had been re-edited in accordance with the suggestions of various religious and civic groups, including the Legion of Decency. Selznick stated: "While the (Continued on page 12)

In This Issue

"King of the Wild Horses" and "West of Dodge City" are reviewed on page 9.
Asides and Interludes

By JAMES C. CUNNINGHAM

WANTED: A home for the United States government plaque honoring the motion picture industry for its efforts in World War II.

George Schaefer, former War Activities Committee chairman, has been boarding the 200-pound bronze plaque in his New York office since its return from a two-year tour of display in theaters throughout the country. Schaefer is considering several ideas for determining a permanent resting place for the giant medal because it belongs to a private individual, and, he fears, presentation of it to any one branch will bring loud squawks from one of the others, there being such a virulent feud among them.

Schaefer is wide open to suggestions on what to do with the plaque. So, we offer this one: When the Department of Justice really takes over the "policing" of the film business, as it hopes to, what better place could there be than on the long, white marble walls of the state's anti-trust department in the fall of Justice?

Correspondence from Quigley Publications' Swiss representative, Carlo Federer, at Zurich, explains that he will be absent from his post for three weeks on a compulsory military service assignment. Switzerland hasn't had a war in 500 years.

The Strand Theatre, Louisville, in the blue-grass country of Kentucky, introduced Senator Claghorn's "It's a Wonderful Life" by playing highly frosted, very minty Juleps.

We always were fond of Southern hospitality, except that of Richmond, Virginia, and its Confederate capital, on the occasion when Paramount's press agent, "Oddie" Odell, himself a Southerner, single-handedly jacked up newsmen for the premiere of "So Red the Rose," introduced the writer of this column to a bevy of Richmond belles, as "Col. Cunningham, great grandson of General Grant!" We never did get to see the film that day.

Shelp us, the Strand gave free admission last week during the Claghorn run, to any gent wearing a Confederate Army uniform. "Bring a companion, too," said the Strand's announcement, "but make sure he's not a Northerner."-

To 20th Century-Fox's No. 1 flummery, Tom Cousins, we call attention to this headline in New York's PM: "Forever Whirled, Paid a Lady," reporting a decision by Boston's Superior Court Judge Frank J. Donohue.

Topping the many unique methods employed by Hollywood laborites to prevent the crossing of picket lines are the kites used by New Bedford, Mass., pickets to prevent the entry of raw materials into the struck Cornell-Dubilier plant.

Personal Mention

BYRON PRICE, retired vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, will leave Hollywood on Sunday for New York to assume his new post as assistant secretary-general of the United Nations.

SABIE CONTI, manager of Reade's Paramount, Plainfield, N. J., has been elected treasurer of the Town of Harrison, N. J. Tony Hunting, Reade manager in Red Bank, N. J., this week celebrated his 25th year as a member of the Harrison Township Council.

WILLIAM GOEDD, Universal-International's vice-president in charge of production, will return to Hollywood from New York next Friday.

LEONARD H. GOLDENSON, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, is due in New York from the Coast tomorrow.

CURT MITCHELL, director of advertising-publicity for Paramount, returned to New York from Washington yesterday.

STANLEY and MRS. MAYER (she is the former DORIS BLUMBERG), will leave here for the Coast tomorrow.

TOM FARRER, Loew's International manager in Shanghai, is en route here from the Coast by train.

RICHARD H. HILLMAN, British producer, will leave New York for the Coast on Sunday.

BRYAN FOY, Eagle-Lion production chief, will leave the Coast today for New York.

DAVID ROSE, independent producer, has left here for Hollywood.

W. H. Auten Joins British Raw Stock Emergency Passes

Harold William Auten has been appointed assistant European division manager for United Artists, by Walter Gould, UA foreign manager.

Auten, who will work with William W. Levy, division manager for Europe and the Near East, entered the industry in 1937 as a member of the William Morris agency in London. In 1940 he joined the British Army where, as a staff officer during the war years and the immediate postwar period, he handled various film assignments in Continental Europe, including that of Controller of the UFA Cinema Contracts in the British zone of Germany. Auten was also responsible for the reopening of theatres in Greece, Belgium and Holland when the war ended.

Auten is the son of Harold Auten, a retired president of the Motion Picture Daily.
**Electricians Told To Return to Jobs At Studios’ Call**

**HOLLYWOOD, March 13.—**Members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 40, which has been conducting a work stoppage in the Pathe studios, voted to return to work yesterday and as called by the studios. The order was given at a special meeting last night by Charles Hughes, trustee, on instruction from International president Dan Tracy. Hughes and IATSE International representative Roy M. Brewer today issued a joint statement saying that the agreement reached by Tracy and IATSE president Walsh provides for recognition of the Dec., 1945, AFL jurisdictional directive, and for settlement of all remaining disputes on a local basis, without giving the studios to the International becomes necessary.

Producers had no immediate comment on the development. About 400 electricians constitute IBEW membership. A CSU spokesman said that the rank and file of Local 40, which has been charged incident strengths, rather than the CSU members, with the work stoppage. CSU president Herbert Sorrell spent the morning closed with U.S. labor consultant Frank Wenig, who arrived yesterday from Washington. He quoted Wenig as intending to visit the IATSE and the producers in an attempt to come to some agreement around a conference table this week-end to work out a strike settlement.

**Local 702, Eastern ‘Labs’ Resume Talks**

Negotiations between 18 Eastern laboratories and Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians Local No. 702, IATSE, were resumed here yesterday at the Hotel Astor. Participating in the discussion was James C. McKee, IATSE vice-president, who was assigned to attempt a solution of wage issues which are-Studios in the tying up virtually all Eastern film processing at midnight, last Monday. The move was advocated by producers and the laboratories expired Monday. Negotiations were broken off last Friday after McKee appealed to the local’s demand for wage parity with West Coast technicians to be have been considered. Further talks are scheduled for today.

**Devry Strike Ends**

CHICAGO, March 13.—The Devry Projector Co. strike ended today after president William C. DeVry consummated a collective bargaining agent election, to be held on Monday. The American Federation of Electrical Workers, which had called the strike, claims a majority. The company workers have elected P. Hartigan as leader last month, with the International Association of Machinists, an independent union.

**McCue To Film Classics**

Thomas McCue has been appointed traveling auditor for Film Classics, by Sumner Brothers, New York, for the company. McCue held the same post with Universal-International for the past six years.

**Theatres Approve 1st Run for Purdue ‘U’**

Precedental sale of prior-run rights to nine of J. Arthur Rank’s Prestige Pictures for showing in the auditorium at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind, has been consummated, but only after the five commercial theatres in that city had given the “go-ahead” for the total house. A spokesman for the Rank company said yesterday, Commercial theatres said they had been dissuaded from showing in “The Overlanders,” which is included in the pact with the university, he added.

The school auditorium, it was pointed out, has a seating capacity of 6,146, while the largest of the five regular houses in the city has an audience of 1,472. The total population is approximately 14,000, out of some 50,000 for Lafayette and West Lafayette combined.

**Patent Suit Won by Park-In Theatres**

PROVIDENCE, R.I., March 13.—E.M. Loew’s Drive-In Theatre, Inc., of Providence, lost a 6-year court battle over patent rights in the drive-in theatre industry today when the Court of Appeals upheld a lower court’s decision in favor of the Theatre Owners of America, Inc., a rival company, on income derived from the Loew’s Theatre between June 1, 1938, and 1944.

The decision is of wide importance to drive-in theatres. All of those using the Park-In patent will be subjected to royalties paid in accordance with the terms of the Loew’s patent. No move to appeal the decision has been made yet.

The provisions of the suit showing the Park-In Theatres is to be determined by further hearings before Judge Hartigan as agreed upon before the suit to collect royalties was heard.

Park-In Theatres filed the suit against Loew’s on April 30, 1941, to recover triple damages for infringement of patent of 1,909,537 for the drive-in theatre. Park-In contended that Loew’s has infringed on a right granted the company by the Loew’s Theatre which it has been licensed to operate since 1938.

On June 1, 1937, the Park-In said, it entered into an agreement with the Loew’s whereby the Loew’s was granted certain license rights, in return for which the Drive-In was to make weekly reports of receipts and make weekly payment of royalties, with royalties to be paid on the basis of 12 per cent of gross receipts in excess of $1,000 a week, and for not less than 12 weeks of a year, and 10 per cent on gross receipts over $2,500.

The Drive-In reported to the Park-In from the beginning of its operation on June 1, 1937, during which the Drive-In collected $29,065 in admissions and made royalty payments.

After that, the Park-In said in its suit, the Drive-In ceased making royalty payments, with the result the court granted the order.
By Popular Demand!

THE GREATEST CAST EVER ASSEMBLED IN THE CHAMPION MUSICAL OF ALL TIME!

By Popular Demand!

BACKED ALL THE WAY WITH 20th CENTURY-FOX SMASH SHOWMANSHIP—PLUS THE GREATEST RADIO CAMPAIGN EVER ACCORDED A MOTION PICTURE!

By Popular Demand!

DAY-AND-DATE IN HUNDREDS OF THE NATION'S GREATEST THEATRES LED BY THE ROXY, NEW YORK CITY!
Irving Berlin's

Alexander's Ragtime Band

Starring

TYRONE POWER • ALICE FAYE
DON AMECEHE • ETHEL MERMAN

and JACK HALEY • JEAN HERSHOLT

HELEN WESTLEY • JOHN CARRADINE

DARRYL F. ZANUCK In Charge of Production • Directed by HENRY KING

Screen Play by Kathryn Scola and Lamar Trotti • Adaptation by Richard Sherman • Lyrics and Music by Irving Berlin
Dances Staged by Seymour Felix • Associate Producer Harry Joe Brown

Brought back with all its songs, all its stars, all its heart by

20th Century-Fox
$8,100,000 Bonus
To Kodak Employees

ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 13—A record-breaking dividend reaching a greater number of employees than ever before in the company's history, totaling $8,100,000 to cover 48,000,000 shares of common stock, was declared on April 8, 1946, to be paid April 24, 1946, to all employees of the company. The dividend on the common stock was $.375 a share. If the five-to-one split recommended last week by the directors is adopted at the annual meeting, the per share dividend on the common stock becomes $.75,000, the company declares.

Based on common stock dividends declared in the preceding year, the wage dividend is apportioned on a pro rata basis of one-half per cent of the total individual earnings for five years for each dollar of declared common stock dividend above $.35 a share. If the five-to-one split recommended last week by the directors is adopted at the annual meeting, the company's earnings for the period would be divided equally among its employees.

Since 1946 dividends totaled $7 per share, the current employee rate is one cent above the pro rata basis of common stock dividends declared in the preceding year. At the annual meeting, the company's earnings for the period would be divided equally among its employees.

The total of $8,100,000 to be paid to 48,000,000 shares of common stock represents a dividends of $8,100,000,000,000 to 48,000,000 shareholders.

Indian Producer To Make Buddha Film

Vajay Bhakt, president of Prakash Pictures of India, has arrived in the U. S. to arrange for the production of a film on the life of Buddha. The project was first publicized here yesterday by the India Society. The film will be made on "American standards," the director told a reporter. No conditions for the film will be made and the distribution rights will be divided.

Next month the society will hold a conference in New York to finalize a program for cultural exchange of films and other media. The first new film arriving from India will then be exhibited. Bhakt and Hariv Govil, a social worker, are planning for intensified interchange of films between the U. S. and India, holding that films provide a means for India to quickly absorb Western culture, industrial techniques and other sorely-needed information in the modernization of that country.

E-L Group in Boston To Attend Premiere

BOSTON, March 13—A party of Eagle-Lion officials, including Alfred V. Werker, president, and general sales manager; Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity chief, and Arthur Jeffrey, exploitation director, are here to attend tomorrow night's premiere of "The Adventuress" at the Majestic Theatre. Frank Lauber, producer, and co-producer of the film, which stars Deborah Kerr, accompanied the executives from New York.

New Move to Push Films

JOHANNESBURG, March 8 (By Air Mail)—Private film societies to further interest in motion pictures in South Africa and to maintain the sociological value of films are gaining ground here. Starting in Cape Town, the movement has spread to Johannesburg, where monthly showings of features with educational interest are held.

'Goldwyn Girls' Return

Veterans of 25,000 miles of air travel in a tour of 15 capitals of the Caribbean and South American republics, the "Goldwyn Girls," returned to New York by air last night on route to Hollywood. The tour was made to promote Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn."

Newsreel Footage Satisfies the GOP

WASHINGTON, March 13—Newsreels are now giving the GOP its share of footage, William Murphy, public relations director of the Republican National Committee, observes.

Mr. Murphy, in the last election, committee chairman Carroll Reece notified newsreel producers that the GOP wanted equal representation of its footage given to the Democratic Executive Administration. Since the protest was made, it was said, the newsreels have carried as much Republican Congressional footage as they have White House and Executive Department material.

Delay Formation of New Radio Council

The radio industry's plans to establish a Broadcasters' Advisory Council to function somewhat similarly to the Motion Picture Association in that it would be a voluntary organization to raise standards will not be further developed until at least late next year, when what an organizational committee will meet.

The proposed council, which already is said to have run into opposition from sponsors of network shows, would involve the appointment of an executive director.

On the organizational committee are: Edgar Kobak, president of Mutual; chairman; Niles Trammell, president of NBC; Claire R. McCullough, president of WGR, Lancaster, Pa.; I. R. Lonsherry, executive vice-president of WGR; B. F. Thomas, president of WGR; D'Arcy Brophy, president of Kenyon and Eckhardt; Sigurd S. Larmour, president of Mutual; Robert F. Elder, vice-president of Lev- er Brothers, and Donovan B. Stedler, advertising director of Standard Brands.

As reported in Motion Picture Daily on March 7, the council will be composed of representatives of CBS; E. B. Ryan, Jr., president of Radio City. If formed, the council is to be known as the National General Foods. Purpose of the organization, they said, is "to improve radio's service to the public under the structure of a free radio."

Skouras Will Start Showmanship Drive

LOS ANGELES, March 13—Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, will leave here on March 25 to personally initiate the fifth annual showmanship drive. He will be accompanied by John Ber- terto, Harry Cox, Eddie Zabel and Frank A. Hesse. Meetings with road managers and district managers in San Francisco, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Denver and Seattle are scheduled.

Greek Orphans Plan To Start Monday

LOS ANGELES, March 13—The drive to secure support for the adoption of 15,000 Greek war orphans by the motion picture industry will be launched Monday at a luncheon to be given by Charles Skouras, one of the sponsors of the plan, at the Ambassador here, in honor of Ned Depinet, national chairman of the Greek Orphans Committee. Depinet will explain the adoption program to Hollywood industry leaders.

Favorite Acquires Four

Favorite Films has acquired the world rights to "Gee Whiz, Corp.!," named to "Gay Desperado" and "One Rainy Afternoon." Moe Kerman, favorite producer, who recently returned from the Coast, also acquired "Sea Bandits" and "Revolt of the Zombies."

March 14, 1947

Warner Gets Mexican Go-Ahead on Filming

MEXICO CITY, March 13—The Mexican censorship office has granted approval to Warner Brothers, "The Treasures of the Sierra Madre," following trouble during filming at Tampico last November in the wake of the San Juan strike.

The office examined the disputed scenes and found nothing in them offensive. Warner Bros. will go ahead as scheduled. Warners is now free to continue production in this country.

Mexican Business Is Hit by a Recession

MEXICO CITY, March 13—The Mexican film industry attributes a current business slump partly to a regular seasonal decline but generally to generally adverse business conditions.

The price of silver and a lesser demand for it is also an adverse influence, the country being a world's largest silver producer. A special session of Congress has been called to aid mining and the general economic situation.

U.S. Companies in on Brussels Festival

BRUSSELS, March 9 (By Airmail)—On behalf of eight American companies, an international association has accepted an invitation to participate in the Brussels World Film Festival to be held June 1-20.

The acceptance was made on behalf of United Artists, Columbia, M-G-M, Paramount, RKO, Universal, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Brothers.

Circuit Would Dissolve

MEXICO CITY, March 13—Circuito del Norte de Monterrey, has petitioned the Federal Board of Coordination and Arbitration for authorization to close its business, contending that operations have become unprofitable. Excessively high labor costs are said to be principally responsible for the circuit's inability to realize any profits.

Loew Mexican Tribute

MEXICO CITY, March 13—M-G-M Mexican manager Carlos Niebla is completing details for an extensive exhibit at the Cinemex, M-G-M manager pictures from March 30 to May 10 as a tribute to Arthur M. Loew, president of Loew International.

Winter in New Post

Norman Winter has joined the New York office of Foote, Cone and Belding as director of television and motion pictures.

Mexican Talent Cut

MEXICO CITY, March 13—Mexican producers have an improved economic labor outlook with the acceptance of lower wages. Producers call the accepted cuts a gesture of co-operation by talent in aiding the Mexican industry.

Only four pictures are n/ production under the pro- ducer's system of quality over quantity.

To Alter Variety Club

CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 13—Officials of Charlotte's Variety Club have approved plans for complete renovation of the building. Charlotte's Variety Club is a housing club for students. The club rooms occupy one-half of the southern wing on the second floor. The cost will be approximately $6,000.
U-I has "The Egg and I" set in the Radio City Music Hall!
Of course, we are extremely excited and happy about "THE EGG AND I" being booked into the Radio City Music Hall by Mr. Gus Eyssell, President and Managing Director.

This is a fitting tribute to this fine American comedy based upon the perennial best-seller by Betty MacDonald.

We extend our appreciation to Gus Eyssell and to all exhibitors throughout the country who will ultimately appraise to the same degree the box office and entertainment quality of "THE EGG AND I." At this writing it is estimated that "THE EGG AND I" has been read by twenty-five million persons. This indicates that "THE EGG AND I" will be one of the best patronized pictures of all time.

Naturally, U-I is backing it up with the biggest advertising campaign in its history.
RCA 16mm. Parley, In Camden April 14

CAMDEN, March 13—Distribution and presentation of films, including first de- tails of a new line of 16mm. equip- ment, will be discussed by RCA's 16mm. equipment division at a meeting, starting April 14, to be held at the company's home office here. O. V. Swisher, 16mm. section, will head the meeting, assisted by Joe Petraske, sales head, slated to outline a distribution policy.

Other speakers will be Ed Jones, promotional manager of the division, who will present dealer and merchandising plans, and M. F. Gillespie, chief of the educational department.

RCA regional representatives who will attend include Al dishinger and M. F. Blakeslee, New York; Hal Winter, Harry Somerville and Milt Romney, Cleveland; Emlen Beene, Atlanta; Hal Maag, Larry Lalibar and Bob Cleveland, Los Angeles; R. H. Rien- holm, manager of the Chicago Chi- cago; Jim Cockey and Max Heiden- reich, Dallas.

A tour of a follow-up meetings to announce plans made at the Camden meeting to 16mm. equipment dealers, will be held in New York, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit and Orlando, in May.

Forum Discusses Outlook, Censorship

Future industry trends and the growing influence of the cinema on society will be dual subjects of a forum held last night at the Hotel Piccadilly here by the Screen Publicists' Guild. Participants were: George Berg- man, Universal-International-Eternal advertising-publicity director, who discussed the 1947 outlook; Elmas Burger of the United Nations film section, who outlined U.N. film plans; Richard Griffith, executive director of the National Board of Review, who highlighted the growing censorship threat on local levels; and Frank —Lauder, president of the British Film Renters' Association, and J. Arthur Rank, producer, who contrasted British and American censorship.

This afternoon, Bergman and Bos- ley Crowther, New York Times film critic, will debate the question, "Is the Influence of the Movies Good or Bad?" on the "Opinions Please" series in the CBS School of the Air pro- gram.

Pickwick Suit (Continued from page 1)

principals involved in the action de- cided to discuss terms of the settle- ment. It was reported in trade circles, however, that the settlement figure was $225,000.

The action, originally filed in 1941 in U.S. District Court at New Haven, asked $85,000,000 damages of the major distributors. It alleged that the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, Conn., was improperly run by E. J. Pesky, was forced to close in 1939 due to inability to obtain suf- ficient product, and that its troubles were directly related to Stamford, Conn., and Port Chester, N.Y. theaters.

William McKay and Saul Rogers, attorneys for plaintiffs, took an appeal to the Circuit Court here when the case was dismissed by the lower court in 1943 and was pending up to the time of the settlement.

Reviews

"King of the Wild Horses" (Columbus)

W HILE "King of the Wild Horses" has the substance to make it a sensi- tive drama about the adjustment of a young boy to a new family and environment, it stumbles somewhat in the telling, principally because it is over-long for the material available. More astute editing might have over- come some of the plot's over- longness through Bill Shiefeld's polished portrayal of the sky-city bred lad who moves West to join his uncle on his ranch.

Filled with stories of his late father's success in befriending, "King," leader of the wild horses, Bill, played by Robert Taylor, is introduced to this new world by his uncle, and Gail Patrick, his aunt. With Patti Brady, their daughter, Bill becomes familiar with the chores of ranch life. He, too, befriends King, as his father once did, but, unlike his father, determines to set the down to cattle raising. This at a cost are: Gunna Williams, Buzz Henry, Charles Kemper and John Kellogg. The picture was produced by Ted Richmond and directed by George Archainbaud, from a screenplay by Frank Wisegberg and story by Franklin Coen.

Running time, 79 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, March 27.

IRVING KAPLAN

"West of Dodge City" (Columbus)

P O P P I N G up all over the place at crucial moments, "The Durango Kid," played by Charles Starrett, who also appears as a placid surveyor, has all the makings of a "cattle-buger" Fred Sears and his crew from becoming cattle barons through unscrupulous deals. The action is fast, albeit a bit hackneyed, as Starrett, the surveyor, helps to "put the finger" on Sears for his frauds and, then, as his "partner" in crime, to bring the culprits to justice. Fetching Nancy Saunders, showing the same stubborness as his late father did in holding his ranch against onslaughts of the crooks, lends feminine grace to the picture, while Glen Starrett, as her brother, provides a few moments of uncertainty in his readiness to sell out to Sears.

Also in the cast are Smiley Burnette, as the town's editor, who alone and in company with two bewilderingly named, 'Marmut' and 'Gravy'; Mike Connolly produced and Ray Nazarro directed.

Running time, 57 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, March 27.

Para.-Adams Tiff Ends in a Draw

Disagreement between Paramount and Adam-Adams over what constitutes a 21- year franchise held by Adams for the paramount, Newark, and the U. P. S. trademark has been settled by arbitration which gives neither side a complete victory. Text of the findings was mailed to both parties.

Under the franchise, which would have expired in 1951 if the Federal Court had not ruled for the distributor and exhibitor were com- mitted to arbitration in the event of a dispute which had been brewing for some time and reached its climax on August 1, 1946.

Paramount named George A. Schaefer as its arbitrator and Adams named Edmund C. Grainger, presi- dent of the Shea circuit, as his ar- bitrator. Failing to reach an ac- cord, the two arbitrators turned to Paul Mead, former vice-president of Irving Trust, as a third. The decision covers product played by Adams in both situations from the break-off date last year to the pres- ent, and renders some important decisions.

Paramount wins a franchise agreement four years hence.

U.S. Will Reprint So. America Survey

WASHINGTON, March 13.—A U. S. Department of Commerce survey of motion pictures and equipment in Latin America, containing new infor- mation on markets and data collected and published in a 1944 report, has been reprinted because of a continued demand by the industry. Nathan D. Golden, Commerce film consultant, discloses. Latest reports are on Brazil, Colombia, Cuba and Uruguay.

Brief Hits Jackson Park Court Ruling

CHICAGO, March 13.—Distributor defendants with Balaban and Katz and the Warner circuits have filed briefs in the Jackson Park suits for the new system of release, and recommending that the Jackson Park Theatre be given an opportunity to bid for pictures.

Though there was no error in holding that all issues were settled in the Jackson Park's pre- vious suit, it is not be- ing brought up again during the present injunction trial; that when those find- ings were made for the decision to stand on in its present form; that even if the findings were right the decision goes too far and grants relief which the findings do not justify. Arguments are slated to be heard at the April session, the plaintiff's attorneys say, in days in which to file a reply brief.

Objected to, also, are the two-weeks' trial of the first thea- tres, the elimination of twin bills, and the decision of the court ordering dis- tributors to sell Jackson Park films one week ahead of B. and K's Maryland and Warner's Jeffrey theatres.

Beja and Nylund Are Named by Reisman

Rene Beja, former RKO Radio manager in Portugal and Brazil, has been appointed manager in Spain, and Kurt Nylund, former RKO Radio dis- tributor and manager in Sweden, is manager in that country, by Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution. Nylund will have headquarters in Oslo, Beja in Bar- celona.

Bidding Stay (Continued from page 1)

decision is expected to be handed down within one or two days after the presentations of the arguments. Universal's application asks, in addition to the bidding stay, the vacation of the injunctions of the New York Court, which would in- validate existing contracts, notably franchises and the sales of a year's product, but not until after the high tribunal rules on the company's pending appeal, probably early next year. Formal bidding un- der the decree is scheduled to begin July 1.

Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, said today that the Department of Justice stands by its decision on whether to oppose Universal's ap- plication for a stay. On Wednesday, one of his assistants had reported that he had "informed" President through the government "saw no rea- son" why a stay should be granted.

Colin Low's stay of single sales as well as competitive bidding, will be filed with the Supreme Court on March 18, which also has appealed from the bidding provision, remained undecided today. The decision of the Court, which is normally heard in late April or May, should be announced in the coming days. Normally, all stay requests will be argued at the March 25 hearing. Jus- tice Reed received jurisdiction in the matter last week. Philip Jackson, who normally considers preliminary motions on cases from the New York court, had disqualified himself on the grounds that he was Attorney General when the original complaint was filed.

To See Wright on Equity Record Costs

Following a meeting yesterday in the office here of Edward C. Raittery, counsel for the Committee of United Artists, attorneys for the eight distributors said they will confer with Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney Gen- eral, on how much of the court record of the New York anti-trust case must be printed for the U. S. Supreme Court. The time of the decision are now pending.

The issue particularly involves the printing of all or parts of the hundreds of exhibits entered in the case, which along with the rest of the record, would bring costs to about $90,000. It was estimated. The companies pre- fer to offer only that part of the record pertaining to the provisions of the de- cree. In his decision Wright wants the entire record print- ed. No decision has been reached on how the printing costs are to be met.

(AContinued from page 1)
NEW YORK RECORD CROWDS JAM GOTHAM THEATRE, BROADWAY, TO GREET JOHN WAYNE’S FIRST PRODUCER-STAR PICTURE “ANGEL AND THE BADMAN”
NEW YORK REVIEWS “ANGEL AND THE BADMAN

“...mightily enjoyed by the Gotham audiences...”
John T. McManus—PM

“...pleasant...different...refreshing.”
Otis L. Guernsey, Jr.
NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE

“...off-formula Western...hard-riding, fighting, shooting, and sapolioed cussing...an excellent cast...considerable entertainment for the family trade.”
Lee Mortimer, DAILY MIRROR

“...exciting sequences in the film and one particularly thrilling chase.” Kate Cameron, DAILY NEWS

“Superior to usual Western...different from and a notch or two superior to the normal sagebrush saga.”
The NEW YORK TIMES

“Even a Western can pull out some surprises, as ANGEL AND THE BADMAN proves at the Gotham. The accent is on action...plenty of worthwhile stuff...Gail Russell, excellent in her silent scenes.”
Eileen Creelman, NEW YORK SUN

“Actor Wayne gives a good performance...”
Rose Pelswick, NEW YORK JOURNAL - AMERICAN

“Good Western, entertaining comedy romance.”
CUE MAGAZINE

JOHN WAYNE • GAIL RUSSELL

Angel and the BADMAN

HARRY CAREY • BRUCE CABOT • IRENE RICH • LEE DIXON
and STEPHEN GRANT • TOM POWERS • PAUL HURST

Written and Directed by JAMES EDWARD GRANT • A JOHN WAYNE Production

A REPUBLIC PICTURE
BURLINGTON, Vt., March 13—A $1,400,000 anti-trust suit against 10 distributors and four exhibitors has been filed in the U. S. District Court here by Joseph P. Wilson, operator of the Brandon Community Theatre who charges that in 1935 the defendants had formed a combine in a conspiracy allegedly to break the law. Distributors named are: Paramount, Loew-M-G-M, Warners, RKO, United Artists, Universal, Columbia, Republic, Monogram, and PRC of Boston. The four exhibitors named are: Samuel Kurzon, Bangor, Me.; Newell and Kenneth Kursen, Newton, Mass., and the Millinocket Opera House.

The suit charges that the combine was directed against independent theatre operators, who were discriminated against in that they could not obtain first-run pictures; as a result, the plaintiff’s business was damaged.

**‘Duel’ Re-Edited**

(Continued from page 1) The editing for the groups involved resulted in 46 individual cuts, they were of a nature that was naturally made in the process of editing a film following previews or trial engagements. With the substitutions and additions the overall length of the film has not been materially changed and its dramatic values and integrity have not suffered in the least.

In its trial engagements in Los Angeles, the film ran slightly less than two hours and 20 minutes and in its new form the picture’s running time is two hours and 18 minutes.

“The film has been seen in connection with various moral reasons have been ‘The Best Years of Our Lives’, ‘Blue Skies’, ‘Humoresque’, ‘Open City’, ‘13 Rue Madeleine’ and ‘The Sign of the Cross’.

“After seeing Deborah Kerr’s superb performance in ‘The Adventurers’, it is not difficult to see why she was chosen for the extremely enticing role opposite Gable in ‘The Hucksters.’”

Lee Mortimer, New York Daily Mirror

**Bristol Exhibitors Defeat 5% Tax Bill**

BRISTOL, Tenn., March 13—Exhibitors here have won their battle against a threatened five per cent admission tax.

Recently, when the City Council put in an unanimous session, a five per cent tax was introduced and passed and was slated to become effective in 48 hours thereafter. However, theatre managers organized quickly succeeded in having the tax rescinded until a public hearing was given the proposal, and during it persuaded the council to abandon the tax.

**Bidding April 1**

(Continued from page 1) could invoke bidding when a contest for a run consequently develops—specifically, that the exhibitor offers better terms for a run which his competitor would otherwise obtain.

With this in mind United Artists has directed its sales force to map local competitive areas so that requested runs could be negotiated. Similarly, a Universal sales executive reports that the company will be prepared to negotiate in compliance with the “arbitrary refusal” clause of the decree. All companies have requests for bidding totaling hundreds of actual “tests” have been made. Metro Goldwyn Mayer, principally, and by RKO-Radio and Paramount. Twentieth Century-Fox instituted a system of considering run and film restrictions by theatremen some time ago.

Recent Universal negotiations resulted in booking “The Egg and I” into the Manor Theatre, Charlotte, where it will be shown on a roadshow basis, rather than at a Wilby-Kincey house. Wilby-Kincey similarly lost “The Shocking Miss Pilgrim,” 20th-Fox, to the Manor, which is operated by H. W. F. when an exhibitor offered it, also in Charlotte, operated by Edward Curtis.

The Department of Justice has yet to formulate any policy on how it will deal with “arbitrary refusal” and bidding restrictions, and will await complaints from exhibitors against the defendants’ compliance.

**Rule Awards**

Of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Awards ceremonies, were not only all films and performances but also the Academy’s right to increase any rule limiting final voting to the Academy membership. With contenders for 10th Academy Awards fixed at five, it was voted by observers that Academy prestige “tonight” faced the sternest test in its history. The restrictions of final ballot privileges to Academy members was announced last September by President Jean Hersholt as a change made by the board of governors in an endeavor to end long reiterated charges that the major studios enjoyed advantages in balloting due to the numerical superiority of their employees eligible to vote.

The change was a topic of controversy when disclosed. It narrowed the electorate substantially. Voters in pre-reading halls total about 10,000 individuals. Under this year’s system, voters eligible to cast final ballots numbered only 1,000.

Although preliminary nominations were conducted for the most part on a widespread basis, the film which the public more closely comparable to previous years the possibility that sentiment in runner-up ranks might assume important proportions following pre-reading and was largely made by less electors than formerly has undergone widespread speculation. But, should a committee of several other procedural changes this year, were confident that the results of the Academy overruled by this approval. They point out that the whole purpose of the changes was to offset the “inertia” criticism.

Tonight’s ceremonies, the first ever opened to the public, were run off under perfect weather conditions, with the full accomplishment of floodlighting, fanfare and glamour traditionally marking an all-out Hollywood event. As an added motive, motion pictures are “the newest form of dramatic art since the birth of the Greek drama,” Erich von Stroheim, president of the Motion Picture Association, in making the presentations, called upon the assembled film workers and audience to use the medium to “‘give the world understanding.’

Give it ties of friendship and affection which come only through knowledge and appreciation,’ he continued, ‘join with those who work in motion pictures throughout the world to show by example the way to a broader, happier life for peoples everywhere.’

Emphasizing that ‘our generation has the tragic privilege of living in the greatest human crisis since the fall of the Roman Empire,’ the A.M.P.A.S. head added: ‘It also has to magnify the opportunity to mold, form and direct the inevitable changes of tomorrow so that eventually we may have peace on earth and good will toward men.”

Research Council Cites Many For Technical Developments

The Academy’s research council, whose inquiry bestowed technical awards for "outstanding merit, tonight extended honorable mention to the following: Harlan I. Baumbach and the Paramount laboratory for an improved method for quantitative determination of hydroquinone and metal products development; Herbert E. Britt for development and application of formulas signifying reducing cloud and smoke effects; F. B. Miller and the Warner sound and electrical departments for design and construction of an arc lighting generator, and Melford F. Williams and the Warners, for a new brilliant xenon lamp; and C. O. Steel and the Warner’s laboratory for a new lamp design and condenser used for the design and development of an audio finder and track viewer for checking and locating sound tracks.

Also, Burton F. Miller and the Warner sound department for design and application of an equalizer to eliminate relative spectral energy distortion in electronic compressors; Martin Marion and Hal Hawkins for RKO Radio’s miniature visual bullet effects; Harold Nye and the Warner effects department for the development of an electronically-controlled fire and gas effect.

**New N. J. Theatre To Use Television**

A corporation headed by New York theatre-owner Harry Brandt has signed a lease with Chestnut Manor, Inc., for a new 1,200-seat theatre to be built in Union, N. J., with special television equipment, it is announced by Mr. and Mrs. Cantatiere, theatre realtors.

A special television auditorium will be built, along with a theatre, to accommodate about 200. In addition, television equipment will be installed in the theatre, to be used for televising events as they happen. In the deal with Brandt is New Jersey exhibitor Fred Kailner.

**Frangooles to Albany**

ALBANY, N. Y., March 13—James Frangooles, formerly with Basil Theatres and Paramount, in Buffalo, has been named Paramount booker here, replacing Howard Goldstein who resigned to join RKO Radio here as head booker, to succeed the late A. H. (Abe) Van Densen.

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ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS

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FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
<table>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
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| Feb. 15 | CIGARETTE GIRL | (Feb. Releases) | LOVE LAUGHS | ANDY HARDY | Valley of Fear | ANGEL AND THE BADMAN | SINBAD THE SAILOR | (Feb. Releases) | THE KING | BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY |)
|         | M—67 mins. | OVER THE SANTA FE TRAIL | JOHNNY MACK | IRVING RICH | (Rev. 2/17/46) | JOHN WAYNE | DOUGLAS | (Feb. Releases) | ALBERTO FERRER | BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY |)
| Feb. 22 | (Feb. Releases) | DECK ORCHID | MICKEY ROONEY | IRA MCLAUGHLIN | FALL GUARD | ROBERT ARMSTRONG | LAW OF THE LASH | (Rev. 2/27/46) | BYRD | GLADYS |)
| Mar. 1  | MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY | (Feb. Releases) | My Brother Talks to Hotties | BUTCH JENKINS | FALLING MAN | ROBERT ARMSTRONG | DICK TRACY VS. CUEBALL | (Rev. 3/1/46) | GEORGE | GLADYS |)
| Mar. 8  | THE LONE HAND TEXAN | (Rev. 2/27/46) | THE GUILTY | BONITA GRANVILLE | CALIFORNIA | ROY MILLAND | APACHE ROSE | (Color) | (Rev. 2/27/46) | GLADYS |)
| Mar. 15 | JOHNNY O'CLOCK | (March Release) | THE ELITE IN CONDOMinium | DICK POWELL | HIGH CONQUEST | DON AAMES | LAW OF THE LASH | (Rev. 3/1/46) | GEORGE | GLADYS |)
| Mar. 22 | MILLIE'S BEGINNING | (March Releases) | SIX GUN SERENADE | GEORGE GABOR | TRAILING DANGER | JOHNNY M. BROWN | DEATH OF JESUS | (Rev. 3/1/46) | GEORGE | GLADYS |)
| Mar. 29 | WEST OF DODGE CITY | (March Release) | VIOLANCE | NANCY COLEMAN | SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING | FRED MACMURRAY | HIT PARADE | 1947 | GEORGE | GLADYS |)
| April 5 | KING OF THE WILD HORSES | (April Releases) | MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE | FERN JONES | SIX GUN SERENADE | WILLIAM WRIGHT | PHIL VAUGHN | (April 1 Releases) | GEORGE | TANYA |)
| April 12 | BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY | (April Releases) | IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN | FRANK SINATRA | MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE | WILLIAM WRIGHT | TWILIGHT ON THE RIO GRANDE | (Rev. 3/1/46) | GEORGE | TANYA |)
| April 19 | GUILD OF JANET AMES | (April Releases) | LITTLE MR. JIM | BURT JENKINS | THREE ON A TICKET | BERTHARD & McLAUGHLIN | BUCK PRIVATES | COME HOME | BURT | TANYA |)
| April 26 | FRAMED | (April Releases) | THE SEA OF GRASS | SPEECH TERRY | THE BEATLES | FRANCIS L. LAFORD | THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER | (Rev. 3/1/46) | BURT | TANYA |)
|         |         |            | THE IMPERFECT LADY | RAY MILLAND | WEST TO GO | EDWARD GLENN | EDWARD GLENN | (Rev. 3/1/46) | BURT | TANYA |)

**Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.**
Chicago Bids
(Continued from page 1)

with Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio and 20th Century-Fox. And they are doing it in sufficient numbers to make this new territory what ap-
pears to be the largest competitive bidding experimental station in the country too.
All retail distributors believe that the volume of bidding will increase from day to day, reaching a high peak in the future. They also believe it will tend to level off eventually, particularly as over-
zealous bidding can quickly become unprofitable.
One spokesmen said that a small exhibitor probably will not be able to bid in more than 15 or 20 new pictures a year on terms new to him which will prove profitable to both the exhibitor and distributor.

Summary of Situation
Following is a summary of the competitive bidding situation here of the four companies engaging in it, Loew's, RKO, Paramount and 20th-

RKO RADIO: Ten films offered to the Barletstein Circuit's Annetta and Film Exchange and the Century Palace got nine, the Annetta, one. Six films have been offered both the-
to the second group, bidding which is going on at the present time.
In Decatur, Great States' Lincoln and Empress got two, Gas Constant's Avon obtained none. RKO at present has nothing available for bidding for first-run in Michigan City, Ind., while Manta & Rose Circuit's Tivoli, Lido and Up-
town in the same town have obtained none.

Bidding is currently going on for RKO product between Anderson Circuit's Tivoli, Volo, and Boole & Mar Theatre. Both houses are in

Wilmington, Ill.

Pictures will shortly be offered to the Renz Theatres of Elgin and Rovi, Rovi, Chicago, for competitive bids.
Seven films have been offered for bidding to Morris Albuire's Vision, booked by Si Greive, and Ben Banos' Harmony, booked by Allied.

In Gary, Ind., RKO is offering a group of films to the Fifth Avenue, operated by Harry Abbott, and Ti-

volo, operated by V. U. Young, head of all the district's enterprises.

with-Four Offerings

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX: In Kewanee, Ill., the following pictures have been offered to both the Waneke Theatre and Great States' Peerless Circuit's Tivoli, "The Shocking Miss Pil-


RUNAWAY FIGURES!

"Pursued"

TERESA WRIGHT ☿ ROBERT MITCHEM in MILTON SPERLING'S PRODUCTION of NIVEN BUSCH'S "Pursued"

With Judith Anderson • Dean Jagger • Alan Hale and Introducing John Rodney • Original Screen Play by Niven Busch • Music by Max Steiner • Directed by Raoul Walsh • Produced by UNITED STATES PICTURES for WARNER
Reprieve for President and Army Cite
Arbitration

May Be Asked

Consider Court Move to Keep Tribunals Intact

By TOM LOY

Theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit are considering asking the U. S. Supreme Court for a stay of the New York Federal District Court's order ending the industry arbitration system on April 1, except for the liquidation of cases filed prior to that date.

H having appealed from the New York order, the companies, which strongly urged retention of the system when the case was tried, now face the fact that, even if the high tribunal should grant the appeal, there will be no officially-constituted arbitration machinery between the end of this month and the early part of next year unless a stay is sought and obtained.

Paramount, Loew's and 20th Century-Fox are understood to favor seeking a stay, with RKO and Warn- (Continued on page 2)

CSU Requests
AFL Aid Here

Three representatives of Holly- wood's Conference of Studio Unions, establishing temporary Eastern head- quarters here for the purpose of so- liciting financial support from Ameri- can Federation of Labor locals in the New York area, reiterated CSU charges that the West Coast jurisdic- tional dispute was provoked by the producers, in presenting their case be- (Continued on page 6)

5 at 20th Promoted
By Silverstone

Arthur G. Doyle, formerly 20th Century-Fox managing director in India, has been named district manager for India, China, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Singapore, and Indo-China, and Herbert White, un- til recently managing director of

(Riverside, Cal., March 16.—The highest award of the U. S. Govern- ment to a civilian, the Medal for Merit, was presented Friday by General of the Ar- my H. H. Ar- nold in behalf of the President to Jack L. War- ner, Warner Brothers' pro- duction vice-presi- dent, in a cerem- ony at March Field, here, attended by military, in- dustry and civic leaders.

The award covers Warner's services to the War Department in the recruitment and organization of motion picture per- sonnel for the Armed Forces, for the production of training and recruiting films, and for his participation in the provision of entertainment films for overseas.

In a personal tribute to Warner. (Continued on page 6)

Columbia Meeting
Starts Tomorrow

A three-day meeting of home office executives, district managers, and top sales personnel will be held by Colum- bia tomorrow through Thursday at the Hotel Warner, New York A. Montague, general sales manager, will preside.

Purpose of the meeting is to discuss selling plans under the Federal anti- (Continued on page 2)

End of Exhibitor Trust Attacks Seen
Under a Decision Sustained by Court

Compliance with the New York Federal Court's equity decision, if sustained in U. S. Supreme Court, will mean the end of exhibitor trust suits against distributors, according to a consensus of legal opinion here.

Attorneys drew this conclusion from the fact that the decree covers all situations which prompted legal action by theatremen to date, and the likelihood of any new suit for anti-trust proceedings is remote to them.

One lawyer while in agreement on this, however, said he is frankly pessimistic as far as other exhibitor anti-trust suit- ing is concerned. He explained that while he can assure conformity with the decree, he feels certain that some theatremen probably will have complaints concerning the injunction against product sales discrimination.

UA Joins ‘U’, Columbia in
Asking Stays

Seeks Postponement of Distributor Injunctions

The three non-theatre-owning defen- dants in the industry anti-trust suit lined up solidly at the weekend on a campaign to keep much of the New York Federal District Court's decree from going into effect this year, so far as their own distribution activities are concerned.

United Artists, unexpectedly join- ing Universal and Columbia in their efforts to obtain stays from the U. S. Supreme Court, prepared to file a petition today asking that the company be exempted from virtually all the injunctions against distributors until after a final ruling in the case.

Excluding only the decree clause that bars franchise agreements, UA will seek a stay of the orders against admission-price fixing, clearances other than those which are "reasonable" in competitive situations, for- mula deals, master agreements and the "arbitrary refusal" to license a

Radio Looks
For PCA Aid

WASHINGTON, March 16—The Na- tional Association of Broadcasters, now in the process of revising and strengthening its "standards of prac- tice" for the radio industry, has con- sulted the Motion Picture Association on the Coast on the workings of the (Continued on page 6)

Legion Explains Its
Position on ‘Duel’

The National Legion of Decency has classified "Duel in the Sun," after re- vision, as "Il-Objectionable in Part." The reason for the classification is as

In This Issue

"Time Out of Mind" is re- viewed on page 6.
WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M vice-president in charge of domestic sales, will return here today from the Coast.

JAMES PATRICK CONNAMAH, M-G-M division sales manager, will observe his 27th anniversary in film trade journalism today, having joined Wd's on St. Patrick's Day, 1926, as a copy boy.

CHARLES SCHLAFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, and BERNIE BUCH, exploitation manager, will leave here today on a tour of the South. They expect to return about April 1.

ROBERT J. O'DONNELL, WILLIAM McCRAB and WINTERFELT CUTLER are due in Hollywood today to make arrangements for the Variety Club convention in May.

BEN MINICKER of the M-G-M home office legal department is the father of a baby boy, HARVEY DAvis, born recently at Beth David Hospital here.

JAMES V. O'GARAA, Republican Eastern Division sales manager, is in Cincinnati. He will return here next Monday following a visit to Cleveland.

MORT BLUMENTHALL, Warner Bros vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, is due to return here from the Coast next weekend.

PAUL MACNAMARA, Selznick Releasing Organization advertising-publicity chief, left New York for a two-week tour of the South.

COLUMBIA MEETING (Continued from page 1)

Short Subjects

"One World or None" (Philip Ragon)

Under the sponsorship of the National Committee on Atomic Information, the Parents' Committee has launched an intelligent analysis of the devastating potentialities of the atom bomb by way of adequately sketched illustrations, coupled with an idea for work not individual, control of the weapon as a means of avoiding the annihilation of nations. Raymond Gram Swing's narration adds to the forcefulness of the presentation. It seems worth considering.

Film Publications, New York, will release the short through states-right distributors, beginning next month. Running time, nine minutes.

Bill Bailey and the Four Pillars"

(York-American Bankers Association)

Based on the "Reader's Digest" article by J. P. McEvoy, this Emerson York production, filmed in Tennessee, portrays the four-hand fight waged by Bill Bailey, local bank president, in winning farmers over to the four-crop system. Commentary by Bailey in Preston, available to theatres as well as to education and business groups. Running time, 18 minutes.

Local Levies Seen In Effect by July

ALBANY, N. Y., March 16—Passage by the Legislature of the bill permitting counties and cities of 100,000 or more population to impose a five percent amusement tax, among a series of special levies to pay school teachers' pay increases, is expected to clear the path for taxes to be effective by July 1.

Industry spokesmen believe that counties will be lavish in imposing the amusement tax, although the New York contingent here on Wednesday did not think that city would do so immediately.

Charles Jones Named Levey Representative

Charles Reed Jones has been appointed special representative by Jules Levey for his forthcoming United Artists release, "New Orleans." Jones was recently national publicity director of the motion picture division for the March of Dimes campaign.

Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

Brothers said to oppose such a petition, presumably on the ground that a favorable ruling upon it would be difficult to obtain, in this high tribunal.

Although Federal District Judges WILLIAM H. GODDARD and John Bright, who handed down the New York ruling in the first case of arbitration on a voluntary basis, they declared themselves powerless to order the system to go on, inasmuch as it was promulgated by the City of Justice. The distributors are understood to have decided that voluntary arbitration at Red Sox and Detroit games would be impracticable to operate.

5 at 20th Promoted

(Continued from page 1)

Cuba, succeeds Doyle as managing director of India. White is currently in New York and will leave for his final post late this month. The promotions were made by Murray S. Verstone, president of 20th-Fox International.

Other appointments include Andrew Jaeger, named manager of Puerto Rico, replacing Carlo Zeno who has retired. He is succeeded by assistant manager of Belgium after several months in the company's branch of Brussels, transferred from Belgium to become assistant manager of the Middle East.

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Mr. Samuel Goldwyn
Samuel Goldwyn Productions
1040 North Formosa
Hollywood, California.

Dear Sam:

I thought you'd like to know what a heart warming experience it is to be roadshowing THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES in our theatres.

Week after week, THE BEST YEARS maintains the same, splendid gross with no appreciable drop. Audiences enjoy every minute of it and leave the theatre to tell their friends of a memorable and happy evening of entertainment.

To you, Robert Sherwood, Willie Wyler, the cast, and all the others you brought together for its production, I extend my congratulations.

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES is, indeed, one of the best motion pictures of our lives.

Sincerely,

Charles P. Skouras

CPS:1h
LOOK AT THE SENSATIONAL
PRE-RELEASE RECORD TO DATE!

NEW YORK, Astor .................................. 18th WEEK
CHICAGO, Woods ................................ 14th WEEK
BOSTON, Esquire ................................ 14th WEEK
LOS ANGELES, Beverly ............................ 13th WEEK
       Palace ................................... 9th WEEK
       Guild .................................... 2nd WEEK
MIAMI, Colony .................................... 10th WEEK
JACKSONVILLE, St. John .......................... 3rd WEEK
ST. PETERSBURG, Playhouse ..................... 2nd WEEK
TAMPA, State .................................... 2nd WEEK
       Palma Ceia ................................ 2nd WEEK
CINCINNATI, Capitol ............................... 2nd WEEK
DENVER, Aladdin ................................ 2nd WEEK
WASHINGTON, Keith's ............................ 2nd WEEK
MINNEAPOLIS, Pan ................................ 2nd WEEK
SAN DIEGO, Mission ............................... 2nd WEEK
       Adams .................................... 2nd WEEK
SAN FRANCISCO, United Nations ............... 1st WEEK
FORT MYERS, Lee ................................ 1st WEEK
COLORADO SPRINGS, Trail ....................... 1st WEEK
PROVIDENCE, Albee ............................... 1st WEEK
LONG BEACH, Santa Fe ............................ 1st WEEK
       Town ..................................... 1st WEEK
       Cabaret .................................. 1st WEEK
PALM SPRINGS, Plaza ............................. 1st WEEK
       El Paseo .................................. 1st WEEK

SAMUEL GOLDWYN
presents

The BEST Years of Our Lives

MYRNA LOY • FREDRIC MARCH • DANA ANDREWS • TERESA WRIGHT • VIRGINIA MAYO
Long Runs!

...AND SOON THE STORY WILL BE THE SAME, AS IT OPENS IN:

San Pedro, Cal., Strand 3/19
Greeley, Colo., Sterling 3/20
Buffalo, N. Y., 20th Century 3/20
St. Louis, Mo., St. Louis 3/20
Baltimore, Md., Town 3/20
Portland, Ore., Music Box 3/21
Richmond, Va., Capitol 3/26
Seattle, Wash., Music Hall 3/28
Salt Lake City, Utah, Rialto 4/1
Boise, Idaho, Rialto 4/1
Provo, Utah, Academy 4/1
Long Beach, Cal., State (M.O.) 4/2
New Orleans, La., Liberty 4/2
University 4/2
Bakersfield, Cal., Nile 4/2
Phoenix, Ariz., Vista 4/2
Stockton, Cal., State 4/2
Louisville, Ky., Strand 4/3
Rochester, N. Y., Temple 4/3
Santa Ana, Cal., West Coast 4/3
Sacramento, Cal., Capitol 4/3
Vallejo, Cal., Senator 4/3
Joplin, Mo., Electric 4/3
Cleveland, Ohio, Lower Mall 4/4
University 4/4
Syracuse, N. Y., Empire 4/4
Detroit, Mich., Downtown 4/4
Philadelphia, Pa., Arcadia 4/4
Pix 4/4
Riverside, Cal., Lido 4/4
Las Vegas, Nev., H Turndide 4/4
Montreal, Que., Kent 4/5
Miami, Fla., Royal 4/5
Milwaukee, Wisc., Riverside 4/5
Chicago, Ill., State 4/5
Los Angeles, Cal., Coronado 4/5
Pocatello, Idaho, Capitol 4/5
Kansas City, Mo., Power 4/5
Bridgeport, Conn., Klein Memorial 4/5
Monon, Ind., Bibb 4/6
Birmingham, Ala., Birmingham 4/6
Charlotte, N. C., Visulite 4/6
Raleigh, N. C., Colony 4/6
Durham, N. C., Uptown 4/6
Greensboro, N. C., State 4/6
Greenville, S. C., Paris 4/6
San Bernardino, Cal., Studio 4/6
El Centro, Cal., Valley 4/6
Redwood City, Cal., Redwood 4/6
San Jose, Cal., Padre 4/6
Burlingame, Cal., Broadway 4/6
Palo Alto, Cal., Var. 4/6
Salinas, Cal., Alisal 4/6
Watsonville, Cal., State 4/6
Richardson, Cal., Grand 4/6
Berkeley, Cal., U. C. 4/6
San Mateo, Cal., Baywood 4/6
Alliance, Neb., Rialto 4/6
Pomona, Cal., Sunkist 4/6
Pueblo, Colo., Main 4/8
Spokane, Wash., State 4/8
Portland, Me., Empire 4/9
Bellingham, Wash., American 4/9
Boulder, Colo., Var. 4/9
Cheyenne, Wyo., Paramount 4/9
Ogden, Utah, Ogden 4/9
Springfield, Mass., Broadway 4/10
Worcester, Mass., Plymouth 4/10
Grand Junction, Colo., Avalon 4/10
Alhama, Pa., Olympic 4/10
Laramie, Wyo., Var. 4/10
Sheridan, Wyo., Orpheum 4/10
Maberly, Mo., 4th St. 4/10
Coffeyville, Kan., Polo 4/10
Longmont, Colo., Longmont 4/10
Sterling, Colo., American 4/11
Excelsior, Siks., Mo., Siloon 4/11
Sedalia, Mo., Liberty 4/11
Toppeka, Kan., Orpheum 4/11
Memphis, Tenn., Strand 4/12
Hamilton, Ont., Capitol 4/12
Savannah, Ga., West 4/13
Hutchinson, Kan., Strand 4/13
Dodge City, Kan., Crown 4/13
Calgary, Alta., Grand 4/14
Fresno, Cal., Tower 4/14
Edmonton, Alta., Rialto 4/14
Vancouver, B. C., Vogue 4/16
Winnipeg, Man., Garrick 4/16
Oklahoma City, Okla., Plaza 4/16
Ciro, New York 4/16
Everett, Wash., Balboa 4/16
Aberdeen, Wash., D & R 4/16
Cannon City, Colo., Rex 4/17
Missoula, Mont., Palace 4/17
Albany, N. Y., Grand 4/18
Norfolk, Va., Granby 4/18
Wenatchee, Wash., Vitaphone 4/18
Hot Springs, N. M., El Rio 4/19
Calexico, Cal., Capitol 4/20
Butte, Mont., Montana 4/20
Salina, Kan., El Rey 4/20
Saskatoon, Sask., Victory 4/21
Billings, Mont., Empire 4/23
St. Falls, Mont., Rainbow 4/23
Helena, Mont., Antlers 4/23
Missoula, Mont., Roxy 4/23
Duluth, Minn., Granada 4/24
Springfield, Mo., Kickapoo 4/24
Wichita, Kan., Santa 4/24
Pittsburg, Kan., Cozy 4/24
La Junta, Colo., Scout 4/25
McCook, Neb., Temple 4/25
Hallifax, N. S., Casino 4/26
Milwaukee, Wisc., Alhambra (M. O.) 4/26
Newton, Kan., Chief 4/27
Winfield, Kan., Zimm 4/27
Ottawa, Ont., Avalon 4/28
Victoria, B. C., Oak Bay 4/28
Dayton, Ohio, Colonial 4/30
Pittsfield, Mass., Colonial 4/30
Lewiston, Mont., Broadway 5/1
Schenechady, N. Y., Erie 5/2
Omak, Wash., Orak 5/2
Chelan, Wash., Ruby 5/3
Belleville, Ont., McFarthy 5/9
No. Bay, Ont., Melrose 5/9
New Haven, Conn., Shubert 5/11
London, Ont., Elmwood 5/12

FLASH! 31 INTERSTATE PLAYDATES JUST BOOKED FOR EARLY APRIL!

The ACADEMY AWARD PICTURE!
...winner of NINE academy awards!

Directed by WILLIAM WyLER
Screen Play by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD
from a novel by MacKINLay KANTOR
Director of Photography GREGG TOLAND

Released through RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
"One of the finest musical pictures ever filmed!"

says HOLLYWOOD REPORTER of

"CARNEGIE HALL"

Released thru UA

Review

"Time Out of Mind"  
(Continued from page 1)

ROBERT Siodmak foregoes murder and the psychological for straight drama on this occasion and comes up with a well-acted piece so leisurely in pace and content that it seems longer than its 88 minutes. Perhaps Rachel Field, on whose novel "Time Out of Mind" is based, did her concentrating more on character development than on story progression. It is the film, rather than the book, which is the analysis; it is a good deal of footage before Phyllis Calvert wins Robert Hutton.

J. L. Nishett, president of the union, son of Leo G. Carroll, Maine shipowner who decrees the son must follow the father. The conflict between them develops because Hutton wants music to sing through his being, not the salty tang of the sea. Finally, the union, his side, the household and practically a member of the family. She conspires to get Hutton and Miss Raines off to Paris to pursue his muse.

He returns after three or more years to find his estranged father dead and the wife still in love. Hutton, meanwhile, has a daughter with Helena Carter. It is an unsuccessful match, predicated on money. Hutton, however, throws away a concert arranged for him, takes further time to drink, and becomes, for Miss Calvert, a meritorious at a New York concert. Miss Calvert and her love become triumphant, also.

But there is all there is to the dramatic action. Performances, on the other hand, are better than the norm. In her first American-made film, Miss Calvert is very good. Hutton is far better than this reviewer has ever seen him. The experienced Carroll, always to be relied upon for an intelligent acting job, does not disappoint. Good support comes from Eddie Albert as a minor-scale heavy and from John Abbott, whose characterization of music critic is one of the best things in the film. "Time Out of Mind" is top-grade all the way on the production side. On the entertainment side, it is rung out at best. Abem Finkel and Arnold Phillips wrote the screenplay. Miklos Rozsa and Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco prepared an effective music score.

Running time 88 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

Jack Warner Cited  
(Continued from page 1)

Gen. Arnold said: "The entire motion picture industry won the gratitude of the nation for the part it played through our years of conflict. Jack Warner, a leader in that industry, is a fine example of the whole-hearted energy and integrity of that great part.

Arnold was introduced by Brigadier General J. P. Doyle, who explained that the Medal of Merit created the badge for military merit which was established by President Washington in 1782 and in its present form was authorized by executive order of President Roosevelt in 1942. Since then," General Doyle said, "it has been awarded to those few civilians who have most distinguished themselves by their service to their country.

President Truman's citation of Warner for "exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services to the United States" was read by Major L. C. Quinn, Jr.

In addition to the civilian service for which he was cited in this connection, Warner entered active duty with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, but he was assigned to the development of the first motion picture unit. That duty was to aid in the mobilization of the motion picture industry for war effort.

President Truman's citation for the war which could be made of motion pictures in the effective prosecution of the war."
Adventure!  
Action!  
Romance!  

“Buffalo Bill Rides Again”  
with  
RICHARD ARLEN  
Jennifer HOLT · Lee SHUMWAY  

Producer, JACK SCHWARZ  
Director, BERNARD B. RAY

Fearless!  
Daring!  
Roaring!  

“SHOOT TO KILL”  
with  
Russell WADE · MacDONALD  
Edmund Douglas · Susan BLACKLEY · WALTERS  

Produced and Directed by WILLIAM BERKE

Greed!  
Gold!  
Glamour!  

“The Bells of San Fernando”  
with  
Donald WOODS · Gloria WARREN  
Shirley O’HARA · Anthony WARDE  

Producer, JAMES S. BURKETT  
Associate Producer  
RENAULT DUNCAN  
Director  
TERRY MORSE

Rugged  
Daredevils of the North!  

“Bush Pilot”  
with  
Rochelle HUDSON · Jack LaRUE  
Austin WILLIS · Frank PERRY  

Producer, LARRY CROMIEN  
Associate Producer, JACK W. O'GILVIE  
Director, STERLING CAMPBELL

DETECTIVE ACTION STREAMLINERS

“THE HAT BOX MYSTERY”  
Tom NEAL · Pamela BLAKE · Virginia SALE

“The Case of the BABY SITTER”  
Tom NEAL · Pamela BLAKE · Virginia SALE

Directed by LAMBERT HILLYER

Distributed by Screen Guild Productions, Inc.
We've got them both!

RAY MILLAND
Star of the 1946 Academy Award Picture

and

TERESA WRIGHT
of the 1947 Academy Award Picture

The Timeliest Team On Any Screen... Coming Next Month in Paramount's

"The Imperfect Lady"

with
Sir Cedric Hardwicke • Virginia Field • Reginald Owen • Anthony Quinn • Melville Cooper
Produced by Karl Tunberg • Directed by Lewis Allen
Screen Play by Karl Tunberg
See Tax Fight
In at Least
3 N. Y. Cities

5 Other ‘Danger Points’; Plan Opposition Meeting

With at least three of New York State’s seven largest municipalities expected by theatre men to consider passing five per cent admission tax ordinances, the exhibitor committee which fought the legislature’s act authorizing such measures will meet here next week to plan opposition to the levies on the local level.

The state law, regarded as certain of signature by Gov. Dewey, will enable all counties and those cities which have over 100,000 population to impose the tax. Of the cities, Buffalo and Yonkers are understood to incline toward doing so, while Mayor O’Dwyer has said here that he is glad.

(Continued on page 2)

Ohio Now Faces a Local Tax System

COLUMBUS, O., March 17—Sounding a “call to arms,” P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, tells Ohio exhibitors, in a special bulletin, to contact their state representatives immediately and voice their opposition to Gov. Thomas J. Herbert’s proposal that the state vacate the admission tax field and permit municipalities to impose local admission taxes.

“If this bill were passed by the legislature,” said the Wood bulletin, “it would bring down upon the amusement industry in Ohio a hedge-podge of local amusement taxes of varying rates as high as 10 per cent.”

Columbia Opens Sales Parley Here Today

Twenty-five Columbia home-office executives and field men will begin a three-day sales meeting at the Hotel Warwick here today. A. Montague, general sales manager, will preside.

On the agenda will be discussion of selling plans under the studios and executive direction. Future product also will figure in the talks.

Seattle Impatient For Bidding Start

Seattle, March 17—Numerous exhibitors in this area are looking forward to the introduction of competitive bidding here with keen anticipation. The view of most toward the new licensing system appears to be favorable.

Typical of local exhibitor comment is this from Roy Johnson, general manager of the Rodger’s Jensen and Van Herberg Theatres: “We would very much like to see distributors start the new system.”

MGM Considers One Big’ Decree Meeting

With many provisions of the industry trust suit decree scheduled to go into effect as early as April 1, M-G-M compliance policies may be outlined at a single meeting of sales personnel from all over the country rather than through a series of regional sessions, it was indicated here yesterday following the return of William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, after six weeks on the Coast.

Rodgers discussed the matter yesterday with Nicholas M. Schneck, president of the company, and a prompt decision now is expected.

First meeting in the originally scheduled series was held in Chicago just prior to Rodgers’ Hollywood visit.

Weitman Nominated B’nai Brith Head

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount Theatre and one of the entertainment industry’s key workers on behalf of charitable undertakings, has been nominated to the presidency of New York’s Cinema Lodge of B’nai Brith, whose membership has reached 1,400.

Elections will be held at the Hotel (Continued on page 7)

Selznick Sales Meet Starts Tomorrow

Neil Agnew, president of Selznick Releasing Organization, and Milton Kussell, general sales manager, have summoned all SRO district sales managers to attend a sales meeting in New York tomorrow and Thursday, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Attending will be Sam Horowitz, Chisum and Bill Casper.

Hit Snag in Ending Pools

Interpretation of what constitutes a partnership and what a pool, with specific references to joint arrangements which have no individual corporate set-up, has created a snag for defendants in the Federal anti-trust suit who are now in the process of implementing the New Federal Court order for dissolution of such agreements in theatre operation.

That this stumbling-block has arisen was revealed yesterday by Dan Michalove, vice-president of National Theatres, 20th-Century-Fox subsidiary, upon his return here from the Coast where the Fox West Coast Theatres-Paramount pool in San Francisco has been dissolved. Paramount, he revealed, will take over operation of the three theatres involved in the pool on March 20, three days after the date set by the decree for terminating pools between defendants.

While the pool with Paramount was the only instance in which this phase (Continued on page 7)

U-I Wins Franchise Case; Cited Decree

COLUMBUS, O., March 17—Having contended that a three-year franchise between Universal International and the Drexel Amusement Co., a Miles Circuit affiliate, was imperitive under Supreme Court decision ordered by the court in the industry New York anti-trust suit, U-I won a dismissal of the injunction suit brought by Drexel in an attempt to prevent the defendants from selling films to other theatres in the Drexel competitive area. This was the first case of its kind to follow the New York decision which held that franchises are illegal.

Johnston Sets Off On Tour of Studios

Hollywood, March 17—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston started a series of meetings with major studio executives, producers, writers and critics today by visiting the Paramount, RKO and Columbia studios here. Although the nature of the talks was not disclosed, it was learned that the principal topics were foreign market conditions, domestic censorship and how film makers can cooperate in these connections by observing the Production Code.

Codirector-Producer Joseph L. Mankiewicz and Johnston’s executive assistant, Joyce O’Hara, accompanied Johnston.

‘U’, Rank and Schlesinger In 3-Way Deal

Also, Schlesinger Will Acquire U. S. Interests

A three-way film and theatre alliance has been consummated between the Schlesinger group of South Africa, the J. Arthur Rank group of Great Britain and the Universal group of America. Also, Schlesinger plans to acquire film interests in the U. S., said Universal yesterday.

A joint statement released simultaneously yesterday in New York, London and Johannesburg follows:

“the film and theatre alliance now announced provides for the exhibition in Africa, South of the Equator, of all films produced by Universal, International and the Rank group, which represents the major film production of Great Britain.

“in the territory governed by the affiliation, distribution to over 400 theatres is controlled by the Schlesinger group, which operates a large number itself, and will serve the balance which are independently operated.

“Under this alliance, Rank and Universal have agreed to arrange for the theatrical exhibition of Universal pictures in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Japan. Both Universal and Rank have agreed to the co-operation of their theatrical subsidiaries in the exhibition of films in South America, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Pakistan and the British Dominions.

“Under this agreement, Schlesinger, as the purchasing agency for the three groups, will acquire not only a controlling interest in the Rank group’s British and South African theatre circuits but also a representation of the Schlesinger interests in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Japan. Schlesinger will also have representation of the Schlesinger interests in the film production companies of Rank and Universal, which will be engaged in the production of films for the shared distribution and exhibition.

Independent Sues Schine, 8 Companies

WASHINGTON, March 17—Suit has been filed in District Court here by the American Theatre Owners of America, Inc., of Milford, Del., against Schine Circuit, and its affiliate Chesapeake Theatres Corp., charging violation of the Sherman Act.

Also named defendants in the suit are Loew’s, RKO, Tuschman, Hays, Goldwyn, Warner and Zanuck.

Sell ‘Jolson Story’ Away from Richards

New Orleans, March 17—Columbia is selling “The Jolson Story,” away from Paramount-Richards Theatres. Picture played the opposition Joy Theatre here and has been bought by independents in Paramount-Richards towns elsewhere in this territory.

This development occurs shortly after 20th Century Fox started selling away from Paramount-Richards.
James R. Grainger, Republic press agent, has returned to New York from the Coast.

Sydro P. Skoglar, 20th-Century-Fox president, and Murray Silverstone, head of 20th-Fox International, who were slated to leave here yesterday, have canceled their plans, probably to delay their departure until today.

Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, returned to New York yesterday from California.

Richard Boris Morros, son of producer Boris Morros, was married to Diane Joyce Bermel at the Hotel Plaza, here, yesterday.

Lyle Breen, assistant exploitation manager of Eagle-Lion, will leave here today for Buffalo, returning on Friday.

Burlak Bishop, Jr., M-G-M district manager, returned to Dallas yesterday from Little Rock.

Silas F. Seabre, M-G-M advertising manager, will leave here for the Coast on Thursday.

Robert Gillham, Jr. Walter Thompson Co. executive, has returned to New York from Florida.

Maye Kosenick, Selnick Releasing Organization executive, has returned from Hollywood.

Nine Cocalis N. J. Houses Go to Alden

Alden Theatre Corp., New Jersey, an affiliate of E. and Q. Associates, has leased from Cocalis Theatres, nine houses in New Jersey. J. J. Thompson, Cocalis representative, reported yesterday. Theaters are: Elmora, Royal and Strand in Elizabeth; Empire and Rahway; Rahway; Park, New Brunswick; Roslyn, Roslyn Heights; Roselle Park; Maplewood, Maplewood. Donald Jacocks is Alden president.

$2,500,000 E-L Deal

Hollywood, March 17.—A 10-year contract between Vera Caspary, author, and Eagle-Lion Studios has been consummated, under the terms of which Miss Caspary is to deliver one story annually to Eagle-Lion and will receive a flat sum for each story and five per cent of net profits on each. It is estimated by E-L that this will net the author at least $2,500,000 in the 10 years.

Wm. Hosie Leaves Disney

William Hosie has resigned as Eastern manager of the Walt Disney Productions, after seven years with that organization. Hosie, formerly advertising manager to the publicity head, came East 10 months ago. His resignation becomes effective April 1 at which time he plans to return to Los Angeles.

Monogram Directors To Meet March 22

Washington, March 17.—Steve Brody, president of Monogram and Allied Artists, will leave Hollywood tomorrow for Chicago, accompanied by George D. Burrows, treasurer, and Frank O. Lott, publicity director, Pacific Coast franchise owner, to attend a quarterly board of directors meeting at the Blackstone Hotel, March 21. Meeting Brody will go to Miami, to attend the world premiere of Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on 57th Street," Allied Artists release, which will open day and date at the Capitol and Tower Theatres in addition to the Loews Miami Beach, on April 5. Brody will then go to Dallas, Tex., for the April 24 premiere of the picture at the Majestic Theatre.

Release Switch Halts Schlaifer Trip South

Charles Schlaifer, 20th-Century-Fox production vice-president, has indefinitely postponed his scheduled Southern trip to work on long-range publicity plans for David O. Selznick's "Gentlemen's Agreement," which will now be released this season instead of next. Exploitation manager Rod- derick Hand is making the trip for Schlaifer, who originally intended to hold local exhibitor and advertising meetings with Bush in Atlanta, Charlotte, Jacksonville and Miami.

The "Gentlemen's Agreement" campaign will be set up immediately by Schlaifer and will be similar to the drive for "The Razor's Edge."

E-L Production Is Well Along; Foy Here

With two pictures completed, two editing, two in production and nine ready for filming, Bryan Foy, Eagle-Lion production vice-president, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood to make his first progress report to the board of directors of Pathe Industries, E-L's parent company, and home office executives.

Foy has completed rebuilding the studio at a cost of $1,500,000, and has filming schedule covering the next 12 months.

Jeff Davis Returns As UA Atlanta Head

Atlanta, March 17.—Jeff Davis, formerly with United Artists in Atlanta, has been transferred to Detroit. He will, return here to replace Henry Kramm as branch manager.

As reported in Motion Picture Daily, March 13, United Artists has sent a UA post here to join the Selznick Releasing Organization as Southern Division sales manager.

Bernard Hirsh Funeral

Philadelphia, March 17.—Funeral services were held today for Bernard Hirsh, former president of the Hirsh Co., motion picture theatre operators. Hirsh, who was active in the industry for 35 years, died here Friday. A native Philadelphian, he once managed a chain of 23 theatres in Arizona.

Tax Fight

(Continued from page 1)

New York will have the taxing power in Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany and Schenectady, other cities affected, are regarded by the exhibitors as possible "danger points." The question is, will they be considered unlikely to tax admissions, inasmuch as they have sources thought capable of yielding larger revenue.

The exhibitor committee which was active in Albany last week includes: Robert W. Coyne, American Theatre Association; A. N. Have, Loew's Theatres; Fred J. Schwartz, Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Association; Mort Selznick, Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York; H. Walters, KRO Theatres; and Sol Ulman, Pal- sian Theatre.

Coast Convention in May

Hollywood, March 17.—The Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners will hold its annual convention in Los Angeles May 6 through 8.

New York Theatres

"Radio City Music Hall—Rockefeller Center"

Theodore Tracy, Katharine Hepburn; Robert Walker, Myles Douglas.

"The Sea of Grass" A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Spectacular Stage Presentation

3rd Hit Week! "Unusual! Superior!" — Times

John Wayne Russell

"Angel and the Badman" with

HARRY CAREY — BRUCE CABOT
IRENE DUNHAM A JOHN WAYNE PRODUCED
A Republic Picture

BRANDON'S GOTHAM

PALACE'

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR.

MAGNIFICENT

M. B. COHN

SINBAD THE SAILOR

IN SUGAROPE TECHNOLOGIES

The Academy Award Picture

Winner of 9 Academy Awards

"The Best Years of Our Lives" ASTOR

Paramount's

"Blaze of Noon"

RIVOLI THEATER Doors Open

B'way & 49th St. 9:30 A.M.
In a Blaze of Mighty Action, RKO Gives You The Giant Drama of a Nation's Crossroads!...
The lusty story of those lawless days when frontier Kansas roared—when badmen ruled and women had no say—when it took a fearless two-gun fighting man to tame a town wilder than Dodge City...Big "Bat" Masterson, the famous U.S. Marshal whose shooting arm wrote history in the making of a mighty State!
TRAIL STREET

starring

RANDOLPH SCOTT • ROBERT RYAN
ANNE JEFFREYS • GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES

MADGE MEREDITH • STEVE BRODIE • BILLY HOUSE
Blasting out the big news about a great action entertainment to the readers of the

88,421,433 CIRCULATION


TRAIL STREET
**Key City Grosses**

**FOLLOWING are estimated pic-**

**tures grosses, exclusive of Federal**

**tax, for current engagements in key**

**cities as reported by Motion Picture**

**Daily correspondents.**

**PITTSBURGH**

Despite wintry weather, "The Best Years of Our Lives" is setting box-


office records here. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 20:

**THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES** (RKO Radio) - FULTON (1,500) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $90,000. (Average: $12,857.)

**THE JOURNEY** (Col.) - J. P. HARRIS (2,000) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $7,143.)

**MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE** (Para.) - PENN (2,000) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $28,000. (Average: $4,000.)

**THE BEGINNING OR THE END** (M-G-M) - RITZ (1,600) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week, in pay week from Penn. Gross: $39,000. (Average: $5,571.)

**THE SHANGHAI MAMMY** and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.) - SENATOR (1,500) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $12,600. (Average: $1,793.)

**PUSSED (WB)** - STANLEY (4,000) (45c-55c-75c) 2 days, 2nd week, Gross: $3,000. (Average: $1,500.)

**LADY UN-LOVED (Para.) - WARNER (2,000) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days, Gross: $9,000. (Average: $1,286.)

**BALTIMORE**

The combination of good weather and substantial new attractions is

boosting business to something better than has been seen in recent weeks. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 20:

**LOVE AND PLEASURE AT ANDY HARDY** (M-G-M) - CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-50c) 3rd week ending March 18. Gross: $48,000. (Average: $16,000.)

**SMASH-UP** (U-I) - KEEGH (2,400) (29c-37c-46c-50c) 7 days, Gross: $20,000. (Average: $2,857.)

**BOOMERANG** (20th-Fox) - NEW (1,600) (29c-37c-46c-55c) 4th week, Gross: $11,000. (Average: $2,750.)

**DEAD RECKONING** (Col.) - HIPPO-DROME (2,500) (29c-37c-46c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week, Gross: $70,000. (Average: $10,000.)

**SUN VALLEY SERENADE** (20th-Fox) - MAYFAIR (1,000) (29c-37c-46c) 7 days, Gross: $22,500. (Average: $3,214.)

**BRIEF ENCOUNTER** (U-I) - LITTLE (3,000) (29c-37c-46c) 7 days, Gross: $2,500. (Average: $363.)

**'U'-Rank-Schlesinger**

(Continued from page 1)

Weitman Nominated

(Continued from page 1)

Selznick Sales Meet

(Continued from page 1)

versal have acquired an interest in African Consolidated Theatres and

African Consolidated Films, the control of which companies remains with

Schlesinger.

"Owing to building restrictions still in force, a considerable portion of the building program of African Consolidated Theatres has not yet been carried out, but immediately the building of theatres becomes possible in the territory, which is anticipated will be in about five years, the full building program will be completed, sites having already been acquired.

"The Schlesinger group, through African Film Productions, has plans for the future development of film production in South Africa in connection with which large studios are to be erected at Parkmore, Johannesburg and it is anticipated that Rank and Universal may also become interested in African Film Productions, thereby making available the production rights of these two groups for the future development of film production in South Africa through that company."

**Ending Pools**

(Continued from page 1)

of the decree applies to National, Michalove indicated that in undertaking a survey of those pools with non-defendants for dissolution by the July 1 deadline established in the decree, company attorneys encountered difficulties in deciding which type of arrangement might be interpreted by the Government as a pool and which as a partnership. Under the decree, partnerships must be dissolved by Dec. 31, 1948, two years from the issuance of the court order, to allow sufficient time for transfer of stock. A careful examination of clauses in partnership and pooling deals, Michalove pointed out, in referring to National Theatre arrangements, have brought to light questionable stipulations which could be regarded as changing a partnership into a pool.

**Independent Sues**

(Continued from page 1)

000 anti-trust action are Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Broth-ers, RKO-Universal, United Artists and Republic Pictures. The brief charges that the defendants conspired to keep the Shore Theatre from getting first-run product, which was sold to Schne's Palace. The management in charge of all defendant distributors, including the petition related, adding, "Only defendants Paramount, 20th-Fox, RKO and Republic acknowledged the letters and those defendants all informed plaintiffs that they had no pictures available for the Shore.'"

It's Time!

It's time you learned about Filmack's NEW PREVIEW TRAILER SERVICE! It's READY NOW! For full information write Filmack, 1321 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.

Filmack gives QUICKEST SERVICE on SPECIAL TRAILERS
TO EACH HIS OWN... AND PARAMOUNT'S OWN IS

Olivia DeHavilland
1946 Winner of the Academy Award for
the Best Performance by an Actress... in

"To Each His Own"

Paramount

salutes its newest Academy Award winner for this
honor that takes its place beside last year's Academy
Awards to "The Lost Weekend" and the previous
year's Academy honors to "Going My Way."

OLIVIA De HAVILLAND
in
"TO EACH HIS OWN"
with
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
NY Indecent Ad Bill Killed By Amendment

Surprise Move Follows Mounting Opposition

ALBANY, N. Y., March 18.—An unexpected amendment to the indecent advertising bill by Assemblyman Malcolm Wilson, one of the co-sponsors of the bill, has killed the measure for this session of the legislature. The State Constitution requires that a printed copy of every bill must remain on each legislator's desk for three days. With the adjournment deadline hours away, there is no chance of meeting this requirement, unless Gov. Dewey should waive it, which he is not expected to do.

It is rumored here that the amendment—(Continued on page 8)

Names... in Today's News

SAMUEL BURGER has been appointed sales manager of Loew's International, by Morton A. Spring, vice-president, who, at the same time, named Maurice (Red) Silverstein regional sales director for Latin America.

Prior to Burger's new appointment he was regional director for Latin America and before that was M-G-M Eastern district sales manager, here. He later became a home office representative traveling abroad.

Silverstein has been with M-G-M's international department for 15 years, as manager in the Far East, South America and Southeast Asia. During the war he was with the O.W.I.

Clark Promotes Sobel and Milner in PRC Sales

Sam Sobel, veteran Pacific Coast showman, has been appointed West Coast sales supervisor for PRC, by Ralph Clark, general sales manager. Sobel, original owner of the PRC franchise in the San Francisco area, became the company's West Coast district manager, when it acquired Seattle and Portland franchises, recently.

In a further realignment of sales personnel, Clark announces that Sam Milner, former branch manager in Los Angeles, will replace Sobel as West Coast district manager, over Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Competitive Bidding in NY May Wait Until July 1

FCC Denies CBS Color Video Permit

Washington, March 18.—The Federal Communications Commission today denied the petition of Columbia Broadcasting for the right to put its color television system on a commercial basis.

J. R. Poppele, president of Television Broadcasters Association, yesterday stated here that the FCC rejection of the CBS petition would mean "greatly accelerated" production of television receivers and applications for television station permits. TBA, among others, strongly opposed CBS's application.

The competitive bidding system of film sales, which has been inaugurated gradually by several distributors in various parts of the country, especially among exhibitors in smaller situations, may not be started in New York City before July 1, when the bidding clause of the industry anti-trust decree goes into effect officially. It was indicated in exchange circles here yesterday. Spokesmen for distributor legal departments, however, declined to comment.

Reason for the delay, it was indicated, is that competitive situations requiring bidding are less numerous, proportionately, in a heavy subsequence area like New York than in smaller places where the rivalry between the few existing houses is more pronounced.

Bearing out this theory are recent reports that requests for bids from local theatres here have been conspicuous by their absence, but a substantial number of such requests now is understood to have reached at least one home office, to be passed on from there to its exchange within a few days.

The bidding system has been started—(Continued on page 6)

National Gives Up Its Mexican Houses

LOS ANGELES, March 18.—National Theatres headquarters here discloses a complete withdrawal from Mexican exhibition through disposition of its 51 per cent interest in the Del Norte circuit of 38 theatres, jointly held with Frederico Rodriguez, to Theodore Gildred's newly-formed Credito Cinematografico.

The deal, negotiated with Charles Skouras, National's president, provides for B. V.杜兰特, for the past two years N.T.'s representative in Mexico, to remain as general manager of Credito, under a 10-year contract. The latter organization, with which Rodriguez remains affiliated, is capitalized at $6,000,000 and in addition to theatre interests will sponsor production at a new studio being constructed in Tepayac.

The transaction with NT was on a cash basis for an undisclosed amount.

Johnston Warns of Film Effects Abroad

Hollywood, March 18.—Continuing his round of major studios to address executives, producers, directors and writers, Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston today counseled against unnecessary screen presentation of drinking, sex situations and loose conduct in general, lest pictures give rise to a false conception of

See New Stay Plea Set for Filing Today

5 Defendants Reported Working on Document

Application by some or all of the five theatre owning defendants for a U. S. Supreme Court stay of part of the industry anti-trust suit decree, is expected to be ready for filing today, it was indicated here yesterday by a spokesman for company attorneys who have held two prolonged meetings this week.

Although official comment on the stay question continues to be that no decision has been reached, the attorneys are understood to have been working on a request to the high tribunal, with the New York Federal (Continued on page 6)

‘Big 5’ May Oppose ATA Appeal Plea

Several major company defendants and the Department of Justice are expected to ask the U. S. Supreme Court for dismissal of the appeal of American Theatres Association, Confederacy of Southern Associations and Southern California Theatre Owners from denial of their application to intervene in the New York anti-trust suit.

If the high court dismissed the ATA (Continued on page 6)

Urges Continuance Of Building Bans

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Frank Creedon, Federal housing expeditor, today told the House Banking and Currency Committee that he does not recommend the removal of building controls in June.

Two of his assistants have agreed that decision on partial construction limitations should be removed. Creedon said, however, that there are too many pressures needed and materials are still short of demand.

In This Issue

"Stallion Road," "The Guilty" and "Rainbow Over the Rockies" are reviewed on page 8.

Key city grosses begin on page 7.
Personal Mention

LEONARD H. GOLDENSON, present at a recent lunch yesterday in New York, is vice-president in charge of theatre operations, and EDWARD L. HYMAN, vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., left here for Chicago yesterday.

ROBERT STEVENSON, United Artists director, who is leaving here tomorrow for Hollywood.

GOLDENSON, Moscow.

ROBERT SULLIVAN, United Artists’ national sales manager, returned to New York from a trip through the South.

ROBERT WEITMAN, managing director of the New York Paramount, has returned here from a trip to Arizona and the Coast.

JOSEPH SHITZKY, president of Sitzky International, is en route from New York to France.

LOUIS LOBER, M-G-M European representative, has left New York for France.

HARRY GOLDSIN, Monogram’s Eastern exploitation representative, is in Miami.

M. A. SCHLEISINGER, head of International Variety and Theatrical Agency, is in Chicago.

MAURY ORR, Western sales manager for United Artists, has returned here from a Midwestern trip.

R. RAMOS COSTAN, Puerto Rico circuit operator, has returned here from New York by plane.

Skouras, Silverstone To Visit SA Branches

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, and Murray Silverstone, president of RCA, will address branch conferences and meet with exhibitors and circuit heads in each territory they visit during their tour of Latin-American branches, which they began yesterday. Skouras and Silverstone, accompanied by their wives, left here by air and expect to return late in April.

FWC Will Adopt 500 Green War Orphans

Hollywood, March 18—Charles P. Schlesinger, president of RKO Theatres, has pledged that circuit to adopt 500 Greek war orphans at the close of a Greek Orphans Fund luncheon, held at RKO’s Hollywood Theatre yesterday. The luncheon was addressed by Ned Depinet, national chairman of the fund, joined by Robert Poole, Paul Williams and others.

In the basis of Skouras’ pledge, iniations are that Southern California exhibitors and distributors, originally asked to adopt a total of 648 Greek orphans, will treble their quota.

Schwartz Holds Meet to Plan West Drift

Sol A. Schwartz of RKO Theatres, home office chairman of the Industry’s appeal for war orphans of Greece, held a luncheon-meeting here yesterday at the St. Moritz, to formulate plans for home office collections.

Among those attending were: Eugene Picker, Local; F. H. Scollard, Paramount; Al O’Keefe, Universal; Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio; Jack 20th Century-Fox; Sam Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; Miko Dole, Warner Brothers; Robert Goldberg, United Artists; George Salter, Paramount; Jerry Pickman, Eagle-Lion; Peter Friedhoff, Monogram; Robert Coyne, American Theatres Association.

Greek Drive Luncheon

The industry’s appeal for war orphans of Greece will be the subject of a luncheon-meeting called yesterday for next Monday, at the Hotel Astor, here.

Albany Zone Launches Drive

ALBANY, N. Y., March 18—Managers and salesmen of theatres and film companies here met yesterday at the 20th-Fox-City exchange to organize the Albany zone drive in behalf of Greek orphans. An endeavor will be made to have each theatre agree to adopt an orphan. C. J. Latta, Warners of New York State manager, is local chairman; his assistants are Louis Schine, Neil Hellman and Edward Ruff.

Talent Aided 717 Events Last Year

WASHINGTON, March 18—A total of 450 Hollywood artists contributed their services for 1,784 appearances in 717 patriotic and charitable events during 1946 through the Hollywood Veterans’ Entertainment Motion Picture Association headquarters reported here today.

Davies Remains in Post

ATLANTA, March 18—Jeff Davis, United Artists branch manager at New Orleans, has been obliged be 3c health to return the appointment to the local branch. Ambrosio Henry Krumm, who resigned to become Southern division manager for the National Publicity Organization, Davis will remain in the New Orleans post and, meanwhile, no appointment of a local vacancy has been made.

Newsreel Parade

JACK L. WARNER being carried by the Army at March Field ceremonies on the Coast is spotlighted by a newsreel feature that is Academy Award highlights, the "Big Four" meeting in Moscow, Adolf Hitler’s report, reports on conditions in England and Germany, and a variety of sports and miscellaneous items. Complete details follow:


Theatricals News

Gene Buck, former president of the Motion Picture Daily, has had the honor of being inducted this morning into the Hollywood and Allied Workmen’s Home office publicity staff for assignments on syndicates and news-wires, replacing Ralph Ober, who has joined the production staff. David A. Berg, president of the Lodge, announced that Oscar Hammerstein, associate producer of "Cinema’s "Honor Scroll" to Buck.

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, will be inducted soon, but a group of names will go into the Lodge on Tuesday evening.

Livingston Joins U'

Jeff Livingston, formerly with the J. Arthur Rank Organization, has joined United Artists’ home office publicity staff for assignments on syndicates and news-wires, replacing Ralph Ober, who has joined the production staff. In Dallas, Maurice A. Bergman, "U's" Eastern advertising-publicity director, will be on the job tomorrow. David Susan of the publicity staff, with special assignments on New York newspapers, has resigned to join United Artists.

'Dead' Duo Soon

European Copyrights and Distribution plans release in this country of the 1945 feature film, "The Production of Dostoevsky's "The Idiot."

Motion Picture Daily

Wednesday, March 19, 1947
IT'S HEAVEN FOR THE FANS!
(And they're packing Broadway's Capitol Theatre!)

Leo’s got a new sweetie now! “It Happened In Brooklyn” is another big M-G-M Musical in the “Anchors Aweigh” manner!

Listen to those packed houses roar at the Capitol, N. Y.

“IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN” is the Happiest Musical that ever happened!

Happy stars for the fan millions! Happy songs for a singing nation!

Happiness is an M-G-M habit: “The Yearling” is bursting Chicago records—biggest M-G-M biz in State-Lake history!


Happy thought: An M-G-M smile reaches from Y-year to Y-year!
NOW, while there's great business, repeat business in READING, PHILADELPHIA, ALTOONA, WILLIAMSPORT, LANCASTER, PITTSBURGH.

NOW, while the word's out about the fabulous 45-city day-and-date PREMIERE of

Chas. presentation

TOMMY DORSEY
JANET BLAIR

' THE FABULOUS DORSEYS' with

PAUL WHITEMAN
and William Lundigan
Sara Allgood • Arthur Shields

Associate Producer JOHN W. ROGERS
Original Screen Play by Richard English, Art Arthur, Curtis Kenyon
Produced by Charles R. Rogers
Directed by Alfred E. Green

GUEST STARS
Charlie Barnet
Henry Busse
Helen O'Connell
Bob Eberly
Ray Bauduc
Mike Pingatore
Ziggy Elman
Art Tatum
Stuart Foster
Tommy Dorsey's Orchestra
Jimmy Dorsey's Orchestra
NOW, while it's doing that fabulous business, get it from UA!
Winning of the Academy Award has served "The Best Years of Our Lives" with additional business at the Astor Theatre, here, bringing in an impressively solid $23,500 between Friday and Sunday, and promising a handsome $47,000 for its 17th week. The picture is expected to remain at that house at least until Labor Day.

New York first-run generally enjoyed a rebound of very healthy business, with a small turn of good weather principally responsible.

Among newcomers, "It Happened in Brooklyn," at the Capitol, shone brightly, with a very strong $90,000 indicated for the first week; Sammy Kay and his orchestra are on stage. "A Song of Love" and "The Red House," at the Globe, where an initial weekend business brought in $17,500.

"Boomerang," at the Roxy, continued to demonstrate plenty of pulling power in its second week, which will bring in a mighty $165,000; Ed Sullivan and Katherine Dunham head the stage bill. At the Music Hall, "Sea of Grass" and a stage series, which drew $68,500 between Thursday and Sunday, is in line for a satisfactory $125,000 for its third and final week; "The Last Fast Gun" and "The Red House," at the Central, have an Easter stage presentation will bow in tomorrow at the Hall.

"Parnell" and Louis Prima's orchestra at the Strand, sparked by an excellent $35,000 over the weekend, is expected to draw a vigorous $82,000 for its third week. At the Hollywood, "Nora Prentiss" is expected to bring in a fair $16,000 for a fourth week. Frisky through Saturday, April 5, brought a better-than-fair $11,000. "Sindbad the Sailor" concluded an eight-week run; $30,000 is envisioned for weekend business totalling $11,600, and a sprightly $17,500 was rung up during the week. "The Locket" will take over there today. "Angel and the Badman" will ring up about $18,000 in a third week at the Gotham, and is viewed to be good for at least a five-week run. The weekend brought in $7,500.

At the Paramount, "Suddenly It's Spring" is expected to chalk up a pretty good $31,000 for a third and final week, along with an orchestra on stage; "My Favorite Brunette" and Jimmy Durante's orchestra will mount "Blaze of Noon," at the Rivoli, is headed for a fair $25,000 in a second week; "The Farmer's Daughter" will have its world premiere at that house on March 25.

A good $38,000 is anticipated for "Stairway to Heaven" at the Winter Garden where it is in its initial week, having moved over from 12 weeks at the Park which has now a straight, popular-price basis for "The Seven Between," in its second week and with a moderate $10,000 in view.

At the Victoria, $16,500 for "The Thief of Bagdad," a reprieve, in its second week, is regarded worthy of further holdover. "Song of Scheherazade" is apt good for $20,000 in its third and final week at the Criterion where "The Show-Off" will take over today. An average $7,000 is seen for "Dangerous Millions" at the Rialto, in a one-week stand; "The Devil Thumbs a Ride" will debut there on Friday. "Henry V," continues at the Fine Arts, the John Golden, where the 29th week's gross hit $9,300; it is expected to run there through the summer.

"Adventures" to Victoria

Eagle-Lion's "The Adventures" will open April 5 at the Astor Theatre, here, following "The Thief of Bagdad," E-L announced yesterday.

in various parts of the country by RKO Radio, M-G-M and Paramount, while 20th Century-Fox has been carrying on "competitive negotiations." Paramount has appealed from the bidding clause in the decree, although the other theatre-owning defendants in the suit have not.

American social customs when distributed in an arena of anti-oppressive, local or national, in this country.

It's understood that the Production Code allows more space for the presentation of such scenes when they are directly relevant to the story, such as in "The Offense," at Johnston paid warm tribute. Johnston visited M-G-M and 20th Century-Fox today. He will address principal personnel at Warner, Universal-International and Republic tomorrow. At Johnston's request, Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has called a meeting on Thursday of that organization's 24 producers to hear Johnston speak on "The Importance of Improving the Moral Tone of Motion Pictures," and to engage in a round-table discussion.

Los Angeles, George Leffo, former vice-president of Warner's sales staff, succeeds Milner as PRC branch manager in Los Angeles.

Edward T. Dickinson, Jr., has been named vice-president in charge of the development and distribution of 16mm films for United World, subsidiary of RKO. Dickinson will also be a member of the UWB board. He was last a member of the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe, representing the U.S.

George Ornstein Becomes Assistant to Grad Sears

George H. Ornstein, a member of United Artists' foreign department for the past year, has been named assistant to Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of international distribution.

Local 702 'Lab' Talks Continue Unresolved

(Continued from page 1)

Competitive Bidding

(Continued from page 1)

Johnston Warns

(Continued from page 1)

Johnston's remarks were in general the pattern of those made several months ago by Production Code Administrator Breen, to whom Johnston paid warm tribute. Johnston visited M-G-M and 20th Century-Fox today. He will address principal personnel at Warner, Universal-International and Republic tomorrow. At Johnston's request, Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has called a meeting on Thursday of that organization's 24 producers to hear Johnston speak on "The Importance of Improving the Moral Tone of Motion Pictures," and to engage in a round-table discussion.

New Stay Plea

(Continued from page 1)

District Court's abolition of the in-

dustry's system said to be the chief clause which companies desire to keep from taking effect until after a final ruling of their appeal on the decision.

Considered less likely to grow out of this week's meetings is an applica-

tion for a temporary restraining order. While Paramount has appealed from the decree's bidding clause, M-G-M, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and Warners have not. However, both appeals and stay applications with regard to the new selling method are probable, the latter after each of the three non-theatre-owning defendants, Universal, Columbia and United Artists.

Reports on all stay applications, to be held by Supreme Court Justice Stanley F. Reed, probably will be postponed from March 25 to March 29, according to Thomas Turner, Universal special counsel, who yesterday received word from Robert H. Breen, assistant attorney general of Justice that the time in which a stay could be granted has been ex- tended to April 1.

Reports that the theatre-owning de-

fendants might oppose a stay of bid-

ning were termed "not the correct position" by counsel for one of them yesterday.

Big '5' May Oppose

(Continued from page 1)

appeal, it would bar Thurman Ar-

nold, ATA attorney, from argument on the issues in the New York de-

crees, has been excepted.

The court probably will rule on the ATA appeal move when it hears oral arguments on the New York decree filed by Columbia, United Artists and Universal. The hearing is tentatively set for March 25, but may be delayed several days.

Some major defendants are known to have considered asking for dis-

missal of the ATA action and the Department of Justice has ex-

pressed opposition to the ATA action.
**Estimates of Key City Grosses**

**FOLLOWING** are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

**LOS ANGELES**

*Motion* big days, weeks. Gross: $8,250. (Average: $2,750.)

*ONE NIGHT STAND (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES* (2,900) (50c-65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,175. (Average: $2,025.)

*EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and LADIES MAN (Para)—PARAMOUNT* (Downtown) (1,995) (95c-85c-81c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $2,500.)

*EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and LADIES MAN (Para)—PARAMOUNT* (610) (90c-75c-61c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $2,143.)

*SMASH-UP (U-I)—STUDIO 889* (45c-60c-90c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $3,357.)

*DOOMSDAY (Fox)—UPPER ONION* (60c-85c-1.10) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $2,571.)

*Pursued (WB)—WARNER* (Downey) (1,200) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $3,428.)

*Pursued (WB)—WARNER* (Hollywood) (3,000) (95c-85c-81c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $1,571.)

*Pursued (WB)—WARNER* (Beverly) (1,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,143.)

**CHICAGO**

Good weather and St. Patrick’s Day combined to help Loop grosses. Of the current releases, "My Favorite Brunette" is doing the biggest business. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 22.

*THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO* (1,200) (95c) 12th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $1,500.)

*MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—FAVORITE* (20th-Fox) On stage: Danny O’Neill. Gross: $66,000. (Average: $16,500.)

*THE BEGINNING OF THE END (M-G-M)—GARRICK* (1,000) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,500.)

*Pursued (WB)—WARNER* (Beverly) (1,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,143.)

**KANSAS CITY**

Influenza and bad colds are factors in reduced attendance here. Although there has been snow, business has generally been moderate. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 22.

*THE BEGINNING OF THE END (M-G-M)—GARRICK* (1,000) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $1,500.)

*Pursued (WB)—WARNER* (Beverly) (1,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,143.)

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*Pursued (WB)—WARNER* (Beverly) (1,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,143.)

**PHILADELPHIA**

"The Jolson Story" and "The Locket" are doing outstanding business in a week of other fair grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 18-20.

*LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—AL HODGE* (50c-65c-85c-95c) 7 days. 3rd week. Gross: $8,300. (Average: $1,186.)

*NORA PRENTISS (WB)—ARCADIUM* (900) 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $1,800.)

*ONE NIGHT STAND (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES* (2,900) (50c-65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,175. (Average: $2,025.)

*EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and LADIES MAN (Para)—PARAMOUNT* (Downtown) (1,995) (95c-85c-81c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $2,500.)

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*Pursued (WB)—WARNER* (Downey) (1,200) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $3,428.)

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*Pursued (WB)—WARNER* (Beverly) (1,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $3,143.)

**BUFFALO**

The Buffalo Theatre, with "Ladies Man" on the screen and a big stage show, is doing sky-high business, while grosses at other houses hover around the average mark. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 22.

**NARA PRENTISS (WB)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-65c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,300. (Average: $471.)

*JOHNNY O’LOCK (Col.) and CIGAR GIRL (Col.)—HIPPOLYTA* (1,500) 2nd week. Gross: $18,200. (Average: $3,640.)

*THE MIGHTY McGUIRE (M-G-M) and AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—TECK* (1,500) 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $2,416.)

*THE SHANGHAI GIURE (Crown) and DICK TRACY vs. CUEBALL (RKO Radio)* TWENTIETH CENTURY—65c-75c 7 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $1,414.)

**OMAHA**

Three of the four first-runs are doing above-average business. The weather has been mild, with a touch of sunshine and considerable snow and rain. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 21.

*EDDELIA (PRC) and SING WHILE YOU DANCE (Col.)—OMAHA* (2,000) (50c-65c) 5 days. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $1,780.)

*WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (Col.)—ORPHEO (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. (Continued on following page)
Key City Grosses
(Continued from preceding page)

MINNEAPOLIS

Although most films did below-average business, "The Best Years of Our Lives" was playing to advanced sale prices at the RKO Pan, grossed almost four times the regular price average for the house. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 20:

NORA PRENTISS (WB) - PARAMOUNT ($2,900) 7 days, Gross: $900. (Average: $128)
THE RETURN OF MONTY CRISTO (Col) - LBOWFILM ($6,100) 7 days, Gross: $1,320. (Average: $188)
RKO BRANDIES (1,200) (3c-6c) 7 days, Gross: $900. (Average: $128)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business generally is quiet, hurt by adverse weather and the same-time, but "The Crime Doctor's Manhunt," with a stage show at the Circle, is well above average. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 18-19:

CRIME DOCTOR'S MANHUNT (Col) - LBOWFILM ($2,800) 7 days, Gross: $1,700. (Average: $243)
RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox) and THE RIDE HOME (20th-Fox) - INDIA ($2,450) 7 days, Gross: $1,250. (Average: $171)
SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) - RKO ($3,000) 7 days, Gross: $1,500. (Average: $214)
BEGINNING OF THE END (M-G-M) and THE MIGHTY MCGURK (RKO) ($2,900) 7 days, Gross: $1,200. (Average: $164)
HUMORESQUE (WB) - LYRIC ($1,000) 7 days, Gross: $400. (Average: $57)

CINCINNATI

"The Best Years of Our Lives" is the 10th spot in the current line-up, its initial week at the RKO Capitol at advanced prices, while other product is turning out a little better at most of the houses. Weather was cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 18-21:

BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio) - RKO ALIBE (3,400) (56c-65c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days, Gross: $1,600. (Average: $228)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (M-G-M) - RKO WALTZ (2,000) (1c-20c-1c-0c-1c) 7 days, Gross: $2,000. (Average: $286)
VALLEY OF FEAR (Mono) and BORN TO THE WEST (Mono) ($2,000) (3c-6c-9c-6c-6c) 4 days, Gross: $1,500. (Average: $375)
VARIOUS WANTED MEN (Popular) and SUICIDE SQUAD (Popular) - RKO FAMILY (1,500) (6c-8c-6c) 3 days, Gross: $1,300. (Average: $433)

Reviews

"Stallion Road" (Warner Brothers)

FILMS about horses and horse-breeding come and go—and make plenty of money en route—and now Warners puts forth a strong bid for equine box-office honors. However, the commercial success which appears certain for the picture is likely to rest not in its being another horse picture, but rather in its being a horse picture that gives considerable attention to affairs of the human heart. Ronald Reagan, Alexis Smith and Zachary Scott participate. Identical triangle that runs neck-and-neck with a fascinating representation of the horse-raising business in bounteous Southern California.

On screenplay, bristling with sharp, sophisticated repartee, was fashioned by Stephen Longstreet from his own novel. Unfolded is the story of Scott, in the role of a celebrated author, who visits the ranch of his breeder-veterinary friend, Reagan. Both fall hard for Miss Smith, another horse ranch owner. Reagan, much sought after by the young wife of a local banker, is the winner of Miss Smith’s love and Scott decides to bow out gracefully. However, when a misunderstanding develops between the lady and her fiancé (her prize mount when the veteran horse was suffering from an animal disease epidemic on the banker’s ranch, fails to answer her call for aid), Scott moves in, prepared to marry her. The film’s climax comes when Reagan himself realizes the animal is better off with him, helps to nurse him back to health. Scott, the ultimate loser, returns East to write a book about it all.

Under the able direction of James V. Kern, all performances are appropri- ately phrased, especially that of Reagan, Patrick Brady who appears as a precocious youngster, Harry Davenport, Angela Greene (playing an unhinged miss with designs on Scott), Frank Puglia and others are in support. Arthur Edeson’s photography is fine. This polished Axel Gottlieb production clearly commands playing time. Running time, 97 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 12.
Charles L. Frank

"The Guilty" (Monogram)

Hollywood, March 18

In his initial production for Monogram base, Jack Warner stresses the sordid side of murder. There is nothing heroic or exciting about the picture involved, and the characters themselves are a shoddy lot. The effect of the picture as a whole is one of uncompromising realism. It has almost a documental flavor.

The persons of the drama—played by Don Castle, Wally Cassell and Bonita Granville—are the kind of people who might live anywhere, any time. Miss Granville plays a dual role: twins, cursed with a hysterical mother. Castle, a crooked cop, is given a job by "boiler-makers," and Cassell is his room-mate, a psychoneurotic war veteran. Early in Robert Presnell’s screenplay one of the twins is murdered, and thereafter the plot revolves around the solution of the crime. The latter is a neat and plausible device which it would be unfair to reveal here. Suffice it to say that in telling the story holds interest all the way, although no sympathy is aroused for any of its participants. After Reinhardt’s direction makes ingenious use of a number of novel techniques and adds substantially to the absorbing quality of the film itself.

Thalia Bell

"Rainbow Over the Rockies" (Monogram)

LATEST of the Jimmy Wakely series comes off the assembly line with little effort to distinguish it. A few interesting sagebrush songs and just a little action are found in the yarn about Wakely’s crew en route to market with their cattle, making progress until a wire-enclosed ranch holds them up. Motivation for the feud that develops is quite vague.

Running time, 24 minutes. General audience classification. Gene Autry

Swedish Halts Import of American Films

The Swedish board of trade will no longer grant import licenses for Hollywood product. The recently-established government decision to curtail imports is in force, according to orders issued yesterday, from Stockholm. Following a warning by the Swedish national bank that the exchange rate and foreign funds are dangerously low, the government decided to curtail import payments. It was stated, however, that since there are ample stocks of American films in Sweden, it is not likely that the halting of these imports will cause any serious trouble within the film houses there for some time.

Indecent Ad Bill (Continued from page 1)

ment, which struck out the entire section on licencing pictures and authorizing a revocation of a permit when they advertising on a film was obscene, was drafted so that Gov, Dewey would not have to act on the con- violence. It has now been attacked as dangerous to freedom of the press. No objections were raised to the bill during the month the bill was before the legislature.

Both houses of the legislature passed the bill which has up to now carried only one negative vote, but since it has remained on the Assembly desk with the explanation that printing the concession of the engrossing copy necessary before the measure could be forwarded to the Governor.
Closed Shops In Industry Escape Bans

MANAGEMENTS PREFER TO PRESERVE LABOR PEACE

Although legislation banning closed union shops appears to be making considerable headway in a number of states this year, it is unlikely that such legislation will after closed shop maintenance within the motion picture industry in states where the ban is being established, according to industry labor spokesmen here.

This contention is based on the fact, they say, that projectionists, exchange workers, theatre service employees and other industry personnel in states that have long since “outlawed” the closed shop, have not been deprived of that privilege and continue to maintain closed shops with management’s “blessings,” theatre owners, exchange managers, and other industry “bosses.”

UA Gets Broadway Theatre on Lease

United Artists has concluded negotiations for leasing the 1,600-seat Shubert’s Broadway Theatre at Broadway and 53rd Street as a first-run showcase and roadhouse for its product.

The lease is for 18 months, starting April 1, immediately following the close of the stage musical, “Beggar’s Holiday,” current at the theatre. The lease is understood to carry extension options and requires the approval of the UA board, which is expected.

Negotiations between UA and Selznick.

Good Pictures Still Gross High: Yates

Hollywood, March 19—Grosses are off between 12 and 15 per cent in this country and between 20 and 25 per cent in England, according to Republic president Herbert J. Yates, who was host to the press at lunch today. Despite the slump in receipts, Yates declared that outstanding pictures are still grossing as much as in wartime. The 16mm. field offers all producers.

US Set to Oppose Stay Petitions on Economic Grounds

WASHINGTON—U.S. Department of Justice, understanding to be planning opposition to applications for stays in the industry anti-trust case, is expected to contend that placing the New York Federation of Theatre Owners Court's judgment in effect promptly will not be a “serious economic burden” to the defendant companies.

Hearing on the stay applications will be held, probably on March 28, in a closed chamber session before Justice Stanley F. Reed. Petitions from Universal, Columbia and United Artists already are pending, seeking principally to have the start of competitive bidding postponed from July 1 until after the high tribunal rules on the appeals in the case. Also, filing a Motion Picture Daily said yesterday that distributors may not start bidding negotiations in New York before the July 1 court deadline.

Bids Two U-I Films Away from Warners

Universal-International has closed its second deal on a competitive bidding basis, having purchased “The Egg and I” and “Song of Scheherazade” first-run to the Home Theatre, Oklahoma City, in competition with Warners.

Feature Promoting Hollywood Weighed

Hollywood, March 19—Representatives of producers, the Screen Writers Guild, Directors Guild and Screen Actors Guild, last night weighed a project for jointly producing a feature, or a series of shorts, which would show the serious, constructive activities of the Hollywood phase of the film industry's operations. Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston.

Fabian Planning to Retire As President of the ATA

S. H. Fabian, first president of the American Theatre Association, intends to retire from that office following the ATA annual convention next month, he said yesterday following his return from a vacation in Florida. Although Fabian did not elaborate on the fact that he would not be a candidate and would seek to avoid being drafted for a second term, if that situation should arise, it was indicated by other spokesmen for the organization that the ATA leadership has made very heavy demands on the circuit president’s time. This has been especially true with regard to committee work in cooperation with other groups.

A slate of nominees for ATA offices will be drawn up here next week when Ted R. Gamble, chairman of the board, arrives from the Coast for conferences preliminary to the convention, Fabian said, adding that he will

5 New State Censorship Laws Now in Effect

MPA's Bryson Reports to Delaware Meeting

MILFORD, Del., March 19—Five of seven state legislatures which started sessions in January and have already adjourned, with passage of film censorship bills, reported Jack Bryson of the Motion Picture Association's Washington office, at a meeting here of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The five states are: North and South Dakota, Indiana, West Virginia and Montana.

Bryson asserted that industry self-censorship was superior to political censorship.

The Delaware legislature is now considering a censorship bill, which, along with a proposed Wilmington admissions tax, was discussed by the theatremen. A. Joseph DeFeo.

Gilgham Named SRO Eastern Ad Head

Hollywood, March 19—Robert M. Gilgham, former advertising publicity director of Paramount and until this week associated with the J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency, has joined the Selznick Releasing Organization in charge of Eastern and foreign advertising publicity. His headquarters will be in New York. Gilgham reported to SRO today and is attending the company's current sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York. He will

In This Issue

“Backlash,” “Tarzan and the Huntress” and “Apache Rose” are reviewed on page 5.
**Personal Mention**

BEN KALMENSON, Warner Brothers vice-president and general sales manager, left here yesterday for Philadelphia and Washington.

EDWARD MOREY, vice-president of Monogram and Allied Artists, will leave here today for Chicago to attend the companies' board meetings on Saturday.

ELMER C. RHODES, head of Fox Midwest, is chairman of the Kansas City Citizens Bond Committee which for several months has been studying local needs and bond proposal.

CHESTER FRIEDMAN, editor of Manager's Round Table of Motion Picture Herald, is in Lexington Hospital here for an appendix operation.

CARL LESTER, executive vice-president of Benedict Bogan Productions, arrived here from the Coast yesterday.

NORMAN H. MORAY, Warners' short subjects sales manager, is due to arrive on the Coast from New York today.

MRS. ST. F. SEADLER, wife of the M-G-M advertising manager, is en route to the Coast where she will be joined by her husband tomorrow.

GEORGE F. DESMOW, National Screen vice-president in charge of sales, has returned here from a vacation at Boca Raton, Fla.

O. S. BARNETT, office manager of Monogram Southern Exchanges, Atlanta, has returned to his desk following a week's illness.

PAUL BRODER, president of Broder American Releasing Corp., left here for Detroit last night.

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic assistant general sales manager, has returned to New York from the Coast.

WALTER READE, Jr., is expected to return to New York from the Coast on April 1.

N. E. SAVINGS, of Ashor Pictures, Atlanta, has returned here from New York and Washington.

NORMAN AYERS, Southern division sales manager for Warner Brothers, is in Dallas.

ROY HAYNES, Warners' Western division sales manager, has returned here from a Midwestern tour.

**MPA Directors Meet**

The board of directors of the Motion Picture Association met at its office here yesterday for a general discussion of the forthcoming 25th anniversary of the MPA and its predecessor. No decision was reached on a specific date for the event, to be held in May.

**Insider's Outlook**

By RED KANN

**There isn't a busier place in New York than Sam Goldwyn's office.** The roadshow and pre-release runs of "The Best Years of Our Lives" were being set up as part of the routine of distribution. On Thursday, and at the Academy Awards, of which nine in various classifications went to the attraction, including its selection as the best film of the first half of the year and a special March as the best actor.

Nothing much happened in the next 24 hours. Thereafter, much did. On Saturday, grosses began to shoot up. So, too, Sunday's. It became quickly evident the Academy Awards pack considerable wallop and can do the film well, but perhaps isn't the best way, after good under given circumstances.

Chiefly, this was the fact the award came along while "The Best Years" was beginning to show all the makings of an event. It was new and practically unplayed. In the 19-year history of the awards this has been an eventful year and the last year Paramount happily faced a somewhat similar situation with "The Lost Weekend."

Sol Schwartz, whose business is, in effect, the superfinance of operations, acknowledges excitement over the initial week at the 1,600 seat Pan in Minneapolis, where the opening stanza ended Tuesday, did a whopping $31,471. At Keith's, Washington, where the capacity is 1,500, the gross on the first week, which is only the closer opening, was $41,890. Last Saturday, at the Astor, New York, brought in $8,745, making it the biggest Saturday in the preceding six weeks of the run, which opened April 17. First week at the Esquire, Boston — 941 seats — recorded $12,216. But in the 11th, the total was $11,312. There are others, all on about the same level, which leads to the conclusion on the Goldwyn premises that business jumped between 50 and 35 percent since the Academy vote was revealed.

"The Best Years" cost $3,000,000 to produce. If it stays at the Astor here in New York until Labor Day, and retains its present speed, it is possible the producer's end will be close to $1,000,000. If the Winds, Chicago, date goes to the 26th week, a look ahead holds. Gold- wyn's share will pile on approximately another $200,000, thereby returning about 57 percent of the negative cost, which includes prints by the way, from two engagingly enthusiastic blueprints and it may.

It couldn't happen to a more deserving picture.

What we would have determined that the Academy Awards was not what Academy members voted in three categories out of six and 50 per cent of 1,600. It is obvious we didn't do well. The facts, hard and inescapable:

- **Best Picture — Our Vote:** The Academy's Vote: The same.
- **Best Performance, Actor—** Our Vote: Laurence Olivier for "Henry V." Academy's Vote: Freddie March for "The Best Years."
- **Best Performance, Actress—** Ours: Celia Johnson for "Brief Encounter." Academy's: Olivia de Havilland for "To Each His Own."
- **Best Achievement in Direction—** Ours: William Wyler for "The Best Years." Academy's: Ditto.

**Note in Passing:** Frank Lauder, British director whose latest is "The Adventures." Think the production might be better off when he starts a story which has been conceived in terms of motion picture scenes and sequences without having to transpose it. With the motivation from terms of the original medium [books or stage] plays into films.

In other words, he likes originals.

But is the producer always better off? If this were true, which obviously it is not, there might never have been "Gone With the Wind," "The Green Years," "The Song of Bernadette," "Lost Horizon," "Mrs. Miniver," "Since You Went Away," "Screaming Yarn," "Cavalcade," "Ben Hur," "The Birth of a Nation," and all manner of greats in between.

**"Troubles observes a national distributor: "I don't think we've seen anything yet. Wait until we have to get embroiled in clearances."**

**Merger Inquiry Unit Set Up by Tom Clark**

WASHINGTON, March 19 — Attorney General Tom Clark today established a special Justice Department unit to review all business mergers. "Through our antitrust division, we hope to prevent the practice of合并, which is being investigated by the unit, Clark explained. It will be under the charge of Small Business S.C. A., operating with the Anti-Trust Divi-

**Nelson to Talk at UNESCO Meeting**


The agenda of the meeting also includes a discussion of plans for forming a United States film union to work with the UNESCO.

**CPA Approves New 'U' Omaha Exchange**

OMAHA, March 19 — The Civic Production Administration has approved a $135,000 exchange building here for Universal, CPA district manager Frank Epperson disclosed. It will be built on Davenport Street, on Filmm Row.

The project is part of Universal's plans to replace most existing 'U' exchanges with new structures nationally.

**Lawrence and Woolf Due Here Tomorrow**

Jock Lawrence, American representative of the J. Arthur Rank organization; Robert S. Woolf, general manager for RKO Pathe Films in the United States; and Col. W. C. Votin, Pathe studio representative in Europe, will arrive here tomorrow on the Pacific, from Corine, Calvert, French film star, is also aboard.

**Film Council Elects Griffith Chairman**

Richard Griffith, executive director of the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, was named chairman of the New York Film Council yesterday. Alfred Rosenberg was selected vice-chancellor; Emily Jones, executive secretary and William Rogers, treasurer.

**Franchise Transferred**

WASHINGTON, March 19 — Devonshire Films has sold its local franchise to Hollywood Pictures, here operated by Teddy Shull and Irwin Cohen.
RONALD REAGAN
ALEXIS SMITH
ZACHARY SCOTT

"STALLION ROAD" WHERE THE WINNERS COME FROM WARNERS!

DIRECTED BY JAMES V. KERN

PRODUCED BY ALEX GOTTLIBEB

- NOVEL AND SCREEN PLAY BY STEPHEN LONGSTREET -
Production on Coast in New Spurt, to 43

HOLLYWOOD, March 19—Production activity is still increasing, the shooting index reaching 43, compared with the previous level of 41. Nine new films have been started, seven completed. The production scene today:

Columbia


*Shooting: "Swing the Western Way," "The Man from Colorado," "Her Husband's Affairs," "Assigned to Treasury." (Kennedy-Buchman).*

Eagle-Lion

*Shooting: "The Red Stallion," "Out of the Blue." "Love from a Stranger."*

M-G-M

*Finished: "Song of the Thin Man." "Good News." "The Hucksters."*

Monogram

*Finished: "The Law Comes to Gunsight," "Sarge Goes to College."*

*Started: "Scareheads," with Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Bill Kennedy, Bobby Jordan.*

*Shooting: "The Gangster." (Allied Artists).*

Paramount


*Screen Guild: "Western Barn Dance." (Schwarz) with Frank Tubb, Helen Joyce, Frank McGlynn, Carl Hodges, "Killin' Dill." (King) with Anne Gwynne, Frank Albertson, Stuart Erwin, "The Hat-Box Mystery," "The Case of the Baby-Sitter." (Screen Art) with Pamela Blake, Tom Neal, Virginia Dale, Allen Jenkins.*

Selznick

*Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie." "The Paradine Case."*

20th Century-Fox

*Finished: "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir." "Mr. Peabody."*


*Shooting: "Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay." "Captain from Castle."*

United Artists

*Shooting: "Atlantic." (Xero).*

B. & K., Great States Officials in Meeting

CHICAGO, March 19—Executives of Balaban and Katz and Great States, Paramount affiliated in this area, held a one-day meeting today at the Blackstone Hotel here, conducted by Leonard Goldenson, Paramount theater head, and Edward Hyman. Goldenson's assistant, Goldenson and Hyman flew back to New York after the meeting ended.

At the meeting were: John Balaban, Walter Immerman, Henry Sticklemaier, Dave Sticklemaier, Dave Wallace, Charles K. Rubens, Harry Lustgarten, Nate Platt, Arthur Goldberg and John Dromey.

NBC to Congress on Intra-Union Fights

WASHINGTON, March 19—Citing evidence that "the union activity conflict resulting from strikes which have had on Hollywood production," Justice Miller, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, has asked Congress for a "civil national labor policy" which would outlaw these intra-union disputes and ban secondary boycotts.

In letters to the House and Senate labor committees, Miller warned that such intra-union and jurisdictional disputes might hamper the progress of television, adding that a number of television programs already have had to be canceled.

He stressed the need for a policy which would make labor contracts enforceable, and the parties mutually responsible. Miller branded the secondary boycott a "flagrantly abusive union practice."

Upheal 'IA' in Taking Over Local's Control

Authority of Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, to take over control of the Affiliated Broadcasters of Canada, Local No. 44, Hollywood, has been upheld by the California District Court of Appeal, the IATSE has announced.

The court upheld Walsh's emergency powers granted by the international union's constitution when the craftsmen's local joined with the Conference of Studio Unions in the jurisdictional strike of March, 1945. The court said that that arbitration settlement that dispute brought on the current strike.

ralowners Matthew M. Levy of New York and Michael G. Luddy of California represented "IA" in the case. The Court of Kell, Gal-

ag, and Margolis, represented Local No. 44.

More Houses Leased For 'Henry' Runs

ALBANY, March 19—J. Arthur Rank representatives have engaged substantially on the building of thousands of homes in Florida, and will continue until September 1946, for the "Henry V" cast. They first appear in "Yankee Doodle Dandy," which ran the film for five days, last week. The Lansing, Troy, will show "Yankee Doodle Dandy," and the Colony, Schenectady, March 25-26; Upstate Theatres arranged the bookings.

American Seating Net

A net income of $121,129 for 1946 has been reported by the American Seating Co. at the five-city tine December, arrived at after a $90,000 tax carryback credit. The net was equal to 55 cents a share compared with the 1945 net of $76,960, or $1.70 per share after a $100,000 tax credit.

"Body and Soul" (Enterprise).

Universal-International

*Started: "The Lost Love." (Wangler) with Robert Cummings, Susan Hayward, Agnes Moorehead, Joan Curing, Frank Puglia.*

*Warners: "The Unfaithful." "Two Guys from Texas," "Wallflower," "The Unsuspected." (Curriz).*

Central Casting Has 41% Rise in Activity

WASHINGTON, March 19—Central Casting, the company that acts as a clearinghouse for extra workers, has reported a 41% increase in its activity since March 1945. The company has reported that 266,000 extras, who grossed $4,614,000, have been hired since then, compared with 184,000, or $2,700,000, in the association reports. This was an increase of more than 41 per cent over 1945.

MPA pointed out that the average extra worked only 41 days and earned $700.

Drive for C. J. Latta

ALBANY, N. Y., March 19—A drive to observe C. J. Latta's sixth anniversary as upstate zone manager of Warner Theatres will be held from March 20 to June 1. Warner Theatres of the Albany and Buffalo districts will compete. Attendance, expenses, and clean shows, and the criteria on which awards will be made.

Two Coast Stations Off Air in Strike

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19—Broadcasters by two independent stations here today announced that AFL announcers struck for wages increases, while two other independent stations here were involved in the dispute, continued operations. Stations which went off the air are KSNV and KSBX, and KSBX and KBSF of this city and KLJN and ROW, Oakland, maintained schedules.

Closed Shops

(Continued from page 1)
He holds the reins on sound...

As a skilled horseman controls a horse by his touch on the reins... now light, now firm, giving, taking—so does the production sound mixer control sound... amplifying, modulating... correlating sound with action in proper perspective.

In this day when the reality of sound must be absolute, the mixer's work has high importance. His knowledge of his art must be complete, his skill in using it great... for on him depends much of a picture's power to move and hold an audience.

And the mixer's skill is enhanced by working with films which assure faithful reproduction of sound... a quality which is so well provided by the family of Eastman sound films.
Set Program for Greek Aid Luncheon
Harold Russell, handless war veteran who won two Academy Awards for his work in "The Best Years of Our Lives," will be present at the industry's luncheon for Greek war orphans in the Hotel Astor, here, on Monday. Also present will be Paul Economou-Gouras, Charge d'Affaires at the Greek Embassy.

Fred Schwartz will be toastmaster and the following are scheduled to be on the dais: Frank Walker, George Soursas, John O'Connor, St Fabian, Joseph Vogel, Malcolm Kingsberg, Dan Eyruss, Harry Brandt, William White, Sam Rinzler, and others.

Gillham to SRO
(Continued from page 1)
work in association with Paul MacNamara, who continues in charge of advertising-publicity for Selznick.

It was reported but not confirmed that Gillham may appoint Al Wilkie, former Paramount publicity manager, to a corresponding post in SRO's Eastern and foreign organization.

U.S. Firms Accept Italian Program
By ARCEO SANTUCCI
Rome, March 13 (By Airmail).—American producer-distributor representatives here have accepted a six-point conditional program governing the Hollywood imports for the rest of 1947. The program, which the Italian government had been in discussion for a month. A revised program will be drawn up for 1948. Provisions of the 1947 agreement include:

1. Italian countries are to grant Italy reciprocal treatment; proceeds from all imported features must be placed in a non-transferable escrow account at a bank authorized to deal in foreign exchange selected by the importer; foreign companies producing in Italy must use Italian studio facilities and participate in Italian production up to 50 per cent; proceeds from home-made features with Fahrenheit proportions, funds to be applied to the construction and rental of theatres; foreign companies may dispose of accumulated foreign exchange by exporting films produced in Italy in partnership; permission for importing must be obtained from the Minister of Foreign Trade.

Four new theatres will open in Rome within the next few months.

Bids Two U-I Films
(Continued from page 1)
ner Theatres located in that city. U-I also closed a deal for "The Egg and I" with the Manor, suburban Cheviot Theatre, in competitive bidding with Wilby-Kincey Theatres there.

Universal home office sales officials emphasized that the company is not soliciting competitive bids on any of its product and that the deals in Oklahoma City and Charlotte originated with the independent exhibitors involved. Terms were offered by the Homan and Manor in both cities, which were acceptable to Universal and were not matched by the circuits and other competition, it was said.

Stay Petitions
(Continued from page 1)
of briefs asking the continuance of the industry arbitration system is said to be under consideration by at least some of the five theatre-owning dyedants.

If the petitioners can establish that a financial loss would result from placing the bidding system and other desired changes in effect, Justice Reed would be bound by previous actions, grant stays, according to legal observers here.

UA Gets Broadway
(Continued from page 1)

n Releasing Organization for physical distribution of the latter's "Duel in the Sun," which has been in progress despite SRO's announcement several weeks ago that it had made a deal with Film Carriers, were ended recently and the latter deal stands. SRO is said to have balked at the terms, cost by UA for physical distribution, which were $35 per print for shipping and 35 cents per reel for servicing, among other provisions.

Yates Luncheon
(Continued from page 1)

a source of revenue as yet largely unruptured, according to Mr. Holby, who revealed that his company had signed a contract yesterday with Loew's Inc., a foreign distribution firm, of Republic pictures. He said that the factor to be considered is the lesser costs of exhibiting such prints.

Consolidated Laboratories, owned by Republic, has perfected a three-color process, Yates disclosed, which compares favorably with processes now in use. By October Consolidated will be able to supply color prints in a matter of days, as against the months now required by other firms. Upon installation of the required equipment, Republic will abandon its present two-color, and one-three-color process, which will also be called Tricolor.

"The transition from black-and-white to color films will, in my opinion, be as revolutionary as the transition from silent to sound pictures was," Yates said. He added that within in two years all Republic pictures will be in color, with the possible exception of certain types of pictures which, black-and-white expresses the desired mood more accurately than color.

Feature on Hollywood
(Continued from page 1)

presided over a round-table discussion of the idea, which is the outgrowth of a suggestion advanced several months ago by the SWG to a Motion Picture Association committee headed by former vice-president Byron Price, who has since resigned to join the United Nations.

The SWG version of the project entails complete cooperation of all firms and unions, with all producers taking a common interest. A decision on the project was reserved.

Pro-Owner, Obscene Show Measure Dies
ALBANY, N. Y., March 19.—The Mitchell bill, which would have exempted the owner or lessee of a theatre from prosecution under the penal law for an indecent or obscene stage show was not reported out of the Senate Finance Committee, and died as the legislature adjourned.

Safety Bill Dies
ALBANY, N. Y., March 19.—Will to change the definition of place of assembly and providing uniform enforcement of safety regulations by the State Industrial Commissioner in cities with 100,000 population, or more, died as the legislature adjourned here this afternoon. The bill was reported out of the Senate Finance Committee.

Tax Bill Still in Chamber
ALBANY, N. Y., March 19.—The bill authorizing a five per cent local amusement tax will be sent to the governor within a few days, following receipt of the engrossing copy. Legislators believe that some cities might change their tax rates, while rural counties proceed slowly.

5 New Censor Laws
(Continued from page 1)
manager of the Park in that city, described some of the legislative proposals as "vicious."

The meeting appointed a steering committee consisting of Edgar J. Dool, of Wilmington; Lewis S. Black, Warner, Wilmington; A. J. Belair, Rialto, Wilmington; Mrs. Reba Schwartz, Dover; Reese Harrington, Wilmington, Betts, Milboro, and Mayor Edward C. Evans of Milford. A. J. DeFlere, Wilmington, was named chairman.

Circuit representatives at the meeting included Norman Pragar and Edward C. Evans, of the Schine circuit, A. J. Vanni, William Morgan and Lewis S. Black, of the Warner theatres, and Oscelle Crouch and Edgar J. Dool, of Loew's, Inc.

Fabian, ATA
(Continued from page 1)
then suggest a successor to himself. Final decision on a date and place for the ATA convention will be made at the same time, according to Fabian. Washington and Chicago are both still under consideration, and the event is expected to be held before the end of May. Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director, and Ned Shugrue, publicity director, are scheduled to return here today from Washington.

ATA officers, in addition to Fabian and Bland, include: Charles Skow- rass, Los Angeles, first vice-president; William Skirball, Cleveland, second vice-president; Sam Pinskisi, Boston, as treasurer; Two Amynt, William X., Virginia Beach, Va., secretary.
Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, March 19

"JAN OF LORRAINE," for which no distribution deal has been set, will be made by the E. N. Corp., which is owned by Ingrid Bergman, Victor Fleming, Peter Linderg and Walter Wanger.

Local boys make good: Lee Bennet, son of Cinicolor president William Crexpisten, has been signed for a top role in "Pineapple." The plot is currently Clarion production, "Albuquerque," which casts Randolph Scott, Barbara Britton, George O'Brien, Hedy Lamarr and Robert Young. And Robert Peeples, son of Leo Peeples, chief jailer of Los Angeles County Jail, has been signed to a term contract by Paramount. He will make his debut in "Road to Rio" under the name of Bret Hamilton.

Warner's has arranged to borrow Tim Holt from RKO Radio for an important role in "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," Walter Huston has also been signed for a leading role in the film, which John Huston will supervise. Holt will produce... Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, U-I producers, writer and director, will develop and produce the version of the Broadway musical, "Bloomer Girl.

Ted Richmond and Robert Cohn, Columbia's newest producing team, have been assigned two story properties: "The Black Shadow," based on an Alexandre Dumas story, and "Thunderhead," based on Jack London's "White Silence." Producers Jesse L. Lasky and Walter MacEwen are looking for five cameramenologists, of all things. A cameramanologist is an expert bell-ringer, and five are required to ring the bells of the five churches which are a major part of "The Miracle of the Bells," first Lasky-MacEwen production for RKO Radio.

Henry Fonda has been assigned a stellar role in "Call Northside 777," which producer Otto Lasky will film in Chicago. "Call Northside 777," of course, is about a newspaper reporter... Dame May Whitty has been engaged for a key part in Samuel Goldwyn's current production, "George of the Wayside." Monogram producer Lindaar Parsley has signed Roddy McDowall to a contract, under the terms of which the juvenile actor will appear in two pictures annually over a three-year period, and will function as associate producer on the films.

Pa. Owners Adjoin

Philadelphia, March 19—The meeting here of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania has adjourned after protests against high film rentals in the light of declining box-office receipts. Plans to combat the situation will be drawn up at another meeting shortly, says S. E. Samuelson, business manager.

WANTED
BOOKKEEPER WITH MOTION PICTURE EXPERIENCE
BELL PICTURES CORP.
630 NINTH AVE., N. Y. C.

Motion Picture Daily

Thursday, March 20, 1947

Reviews

"Backlash" (20th Century-Fox)

PROBLEMS for the audience to puzzle over in this slightly above-average mystery are numerous and juicy. Was the criminal attorney really poisoned by his wife before being found shot through the heart and buried in his bathtub? Were the charred remains really those of the criminal attorney, of the escaping convict he picked up, or of an unknown third party? Had his wife been true to him, or had she been lured by another lawyer? Where does the victim's embattled law partner fit into the picture, if at all?

These and other assorted ingredients have been stirred into a fairly palatable detective stew, greatly to the credit of writer Irving Elschn and director Eugene Forde, who used frequent flashbacks and shifting points of view to keep everybody guessing and yet came through with a solid job for producer Sol M. Wurtzel. The cast is all adequate, with Leonard Strong outstanding as a tramp who stumbles across the solution. John Eldredge is the criminal attorney. Jean Rogers the wife, and Richard Travis the "DA." But chief focus is on the investigations of Detective Lieutenant Blake Bate and his assistant, Robert Benedict. They finally pick up the escaping convict, Douglas Fowley, along with the victim's partner, Robert Shayne, and the girl friend of both suspects, Louise Carrie. Thus, with two triangles, plus an unknown number of killings to be resolved, there is plenty of excuse for the pistol-packing finish.


"Tarzan and the Huntress" (RKO Radio)

A LIVELY jungle story, some first-rate wild animal stock shots, and a sprightly talkativeness on the part of the usually quiet Tarzan (Johnny Weissmuller), make this latest of the RKO Radio series, based upon characters created by Edgar Rice Burroughs, a far better-than-average piece of Tarzan, his family and Cheta, the educated chimpanzee, step in, of course, to prevent depletion of the jungle, and in the end rout the hunters with an elephant stampede. Associate producer directing from a screenplay by Jerry Gruskin and Rowland Leigh, makes certain there is never a dull moment in this well-devised production for Sol Lesser.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 5.

"Apache Rose" (Republic)

THE" Apache Rose," has been offered to audiences for chase sequences, and Roy Rogers against ruthless gamblers for vigorous hand-to-hand scrapes, "Apache Rose," aided by several entertaining musical numbers rendered by Rogers, Dale Evans and Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers, is a notch or two above most other Republic pictures. Furthermore, it offers Rogers in color, in Republic's own Technicolor, All in all, Western fans, and more specifically, Rogers' followers, should respond favorably.

Rogers, as an enterprising oilman, discovers oil on property which is part of a ranch owned by Russ Vincent. But Rogers' efforts to convince Vincent to lease exploitation rights meet with failure when gamblers to whom the ranch head is indebted intervene to wrest those rights. The attempted killing of Vincent's cousin and co-owner, Miss Evans, operator of a tugboat and object of Vincent's proposals, assumes the cousin's identity and helps Rogers bring the badman to justice. Olin Howlin, a former associate of Rogers, goes along in a codee, and King, a slick operator. Edward J. White was associate producer and William Witney directed, from an original by Gerald Geraghty. Photography, by Jack Marta, is striking, particularly in ocean-side gun-battle scenes.

Running time, 74 minutes. General audience classification.

Indiana Theatre Burns

Carlisle, Ind., March 19—The Vivian Theatre has been completely destroyed by fire. It was operated by John Reeves, Sound Studios, Inc., 150 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 1. Cinema 6-0066

Indianapolis, Ind.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 19—The National Legion of Decency has rated the following as A-1: "Apache Rose," Republic; "Blondie Holiday" and "The Lone Hand Texan," both Columbia; "Buck Privates Come Home," Universal; "High Bar Barons," M-G-M.

Placed in Class A-2 were: "The Devil Thumbs a Ride," RKO Radio; "Hard Baited Mohawk," Monogram; "Imperfect Lady," Paramount; "Ran- rod," United Artists; "Forbidden Music" (Italian), Continental Pictures.

Ten Additional Films Get Legion Ratings

Start thinking about the business you’ll want to play when you grow up

CARNEGIE HALL

Released thru UA
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**Notes:**
20th-Fox Net For Year Is $22,600,000

1946 Profit, 8 Millions Above Previous Year's

Net profit of 20th-Century-Fox for the year ended Dec. 28, 1946, is estimated at $22.6 million, according to a report to stockholders by Spyros P. Skouras, company president. The figure is 8 million above the previous year's net of $14.7 million.

Last year's net, as well as the previous year's, is arrived at after all charges of 20th-Fox and its voting-controlled subsidiaries, including National Theatres, and Royalty Theatres.

Universal Reelects Cowdin, Blumberg

J. Childe Cowdin, chairman of Universal's board of directors, Nate J. Blumberg, president, and all other officers were reelected at a meeting of the company's stockholders.

Johnston Describes General Approval Of Production Code

Hollywood, March 28—"Satisfaction with the Production Code is general" among the producers, directors and writers, with whom he held open forum discussions during the past three days, Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston told the press today in his first interview since arrival here early last week. He added that, "Although there were some, of course, who complained of their art was being stifled, I found a surprising degree of acceptance throughout the studio.

Johnston's talks to studio groups included, he said, a report by him on conditions abroad in a "very sick" country.

Formal Universal Bidding in South

F. J. A. McCarthy, Universal-International Southern division sales manager, has inaugurated formal competitive bidding wherever requested in all competitive situations throughout his territory, he reported here yesterday, following his return from a tour through the area.

President E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager, had explained that, while the company has adopted no blanket policy to put formal bidding into effect prior to the July 1 deadline set by the New York.

Decree Application Calls For Showmanship: Skouras

Ready To Produce US 'News Magazine'

Production of "News Magazine," one-reel, semi-monthly film on U. S. domestic affairs sponsored by the U. S. Department of State, will go into production within the next week at RKO Pathé studios here, it was disclosed yesterday by Hamilton MacFadden, associate chief of the international motion picture division of the State Department, and Walter O. Annes, vice-president and general manager of RKO Pathé.

The films will be documented in 24 languages and are slated for distribution around the world.

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Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

UNITED ARTISTS' views of the "potentially disastrous consequences" expressed in a strictly gag-wise, in a sample "Branch Managers' Decree Selling and Escape Sale" have been circulating the film industry, according to advertising-publicity director Paul Lazarus, Jr., and containing the following and pertinent instructions:

An expense voucher for $78, ear-marked: "For caviar and champagne for Mr. Chas. B. Floyd at hangar party, contract for a competitive area film deal; a bottle of fine liquid for celebration, service stationery for "writing to family and UA sales manager Grad Sears" during the long period required to negotiate the deal.

The salesman is warned that at the conclusion of the deal, "a gentleman with hardboiled courage, charging collision, ledergamin, contempt," etc. But the salesman need not give up hope, for it does not provide "a ticket for escaping from jail, together with a nice shiny pistol. And, finally, if all is beyond hope, the company, further provided that no deal "be considered as a sharp razor, poison, and a noose!"

Planned by juvenile rowdies, the Main Theatre in Columbus, Ohio, has passed on its box-office window a set of rules for theatre conduct among young adults, a warning that "the frictions will cause an explosion without refunds, Marked out-of-bounds are: 'Cracking guns, Ever-shifting changing seat, Three shooters, Roaming the theatre for dates, Using waterguns, Throwing things, Using cap pistols, Lighting matches,' etc.


Lost Weekend Departs, headline of the Grand Teton. Stores Say Liquor Taxes Are at Satisfaction Point.

A purse containing $2,300 worth of jewels found last November in New York's Music Hall by 19-year-old Weber Harris, and turned over by him to the police, has been returned to Harris, unclaimed.

On paper as pink as the color of his embarrassed countenance, Columbus home publicist Roy Murray sent to our news desk the startling announce-ment that the League of Present Day Artists is shipping a "permanented" plastic life-size figure of Rita Hayworth, which his organization is shipping to troops of Task Force Frigid in Fairbanks, Alaska, with the remark that the figure has been buried in the snow "down to earth, so that posterity 100 years from today might see what one of the most beautiful ladies of 1947 looked like."


Personal Mention

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M production chief in England, is due here from the Coast on April 4, en route to London.

CHRISTER FREEMAN, editor of the Movietone News, has returned to Hollywood, according to Movietone News official, after a trip to London, where he attended the Motion Picture Herald, was reported "resting comfortably" at Lexington Hospital, last night following an appendectomy.

JACK SEGAL, vice-president and treasurer of Columbia International, has returned to New York from a six-month European tour.

WILLIAM SCHRECKLER, manager of the Strand, Memphis, and Miss NEW YORK THEATRES

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

ROBERT CARR MARSHALL

W. B. COLE

DONALD DONNISON

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY

INTRODUCED BY PEGGY CUMMINS

A 20th Century Picture

THE MUSIC HALL'S GREAT EASTER SHOW STAGE

3rd HIT WEEK!

"UNUSUAL! SUPERIOR!" — Times

JOHN GAIL WAYNE RUSSELL

"ANGEL and the BADMAN"

HARRY CAREY • BRUCE CAROT

IRENE RICH • LEE DIXON

A JOHN WAYNE PRODUCTION

A Republic Picture

BRANDT'S CATHY

E. W. WAYNE 147TH ST.

Laraine Day • Brian AHERNE

Robert MITCHELL-Gene RAYMOND

"THE LOCKET" in an RCA的颜色

On Screen HUMPHREY BOGART

LIZABETH SCOTT "DEAD RECKONING"

IN PERSON GENE SHEDON

FLOYD REED

"SONGWRITERS on Parade"

Play Others

BOB HOPE

DOROTHY LAMOUR

In Person

JIMMY DORSEY

and his orchestra

PAT HENNING

LYN SHYLOCK

LOUIS JORDAN

TYPHOON FIVE

IGNITION AWARD Picture!

Winner of Nine Academy Awards!

"THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES"

"BOMBERANG"

A 20th Century-Fox Picture

IN PERSON

JEAN HAYES

KEVIN KELLEY

POPEYE THE PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS TELEVISION CORPORATION, a new firm combining the interests of radio station WIBG and "The Philadelphia Daily News," has applied for Federal Communications Commission for a new television station to be set up in this city.

Houtz in K.C. Shift

KANSAS CITY, March 20 — Neil Houtz, long with Eddie Maulsfield, Commonwealth Theatres' city manager here, is now at district headquarters in St. Louis, continuing his duties for Commonwealth theatres, Morton Vincent succeeds Houtz as manager of the Ashland.

Phila. Paper Asks Television Permit

Here's Another Reason Why We Say: “IT'S HAPPIER THAN HEAVEN...THE HIT OF '47!”

UNITED ARTISTS CORPORATION

1040 NORTH LAS PALMAS AVE.
HOLLYWOOD 38, CALIF.

729 SEVENTH AVE.
NEW YORK, N.Y.

February 25, 1947

Mr. Steve Broidy
Allied Artists Studios
4376 Sunset Blvd.
Hollywood, California

Dear Steve:

Many thanks for allowing me to see IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE. I consider this one of the finest and most delightful comedies I have ever seen. Both Roy Del Ruth and yourself are to be congratulated on bringing such splendid entertainment to the screen.

I certainly wish my organization were distributing this picture but since this is impossible, I can only say "it couldn't happen to a nicer guy".

Sincerely,

[Signature]

GRADWELL SEARS
VICE-PRESIDENT

gs/1g

ALLIED ARTISTS PRODUCTIONS, INC presents

DON AVE ANG CHARLIE VICTOR GALE
GABBORON HARDING RUGGLES MOORE STORM

IN ROY DEL RUTH'S

“IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE”
Seasonal Book Sales Hit an FPC Record

TORONTO, March 20—The annual contest for the sale of gift books of admiration sponsored by employees of the famous Players Canadian Corp., resulted in a new record for aggregate returns. (Tallying the $43,369.80 in the spring of one year ago, when the mark was some $80,000 greater than the preceding annual contest. For the third year in succession the individual selling champion proved to be Dennis Mur- phy, of the Capitol Theatre, Halifax. Second and third were J. W. P. Capitell, Regina, and B. Bloulund, the Imperial, Toronto.

SWG Modifies Plan For Author Authority

HOLLYWOOD, March 20.—In a 64-page supplement to its monthly maga- zine, the Screen Writers Guild has published a revised version of its proposed plan for formation of an American Authors Authority plan for leasing instead of selling the rights to written works. The SWG statement says that the guild is continuing its plan for leasing instead of selling the rights to written works. It proposes to set up the AAA as a non-profit corporation and as an integral part of the Authors League.

New Paramount Record

The Paramount, Times Square, sold 9,000 tickets at 35 cents each, including tax, by one P.M., Wednesday when the latest change went into effect, ac- cording to Robert Weisman, manag- ing director. It was the opening stanza of a new show, headed by “My Favor- ite Brunette” as the featured player in the stage show with Jimmy Dorsey and his orchestra, Pat Heming, Lyn Shirley, and Louis Jordan and His Tym- pany Five.

The figure is a record since Weit- man inaugurated his “early bird” policy.

Cite Pete Smith Short

Pete Smith’s latest M-G-M short, “I Love My Wife, but...,” has been named by the National Association as a Foundation as a key for “National Laugh Week,” April 1-8, the inaugu- ration to take place at the National Association convention to be held March 20 at Public School No. 17, here. Smith himself has been nomi- nated for the proposed “Huny Hall of Fame” which is to be set up by the Foundation to cite those who have made outstanding contributions in the field of American humor.

Safe Balks Thieves

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.—At a Balboa, possible robbery at this theatre, in Northeast Philadelphia, was balked when the thieves were unable to crack the 500-pound theatre safe containing $20,000. After appar- ently working several hours in the early morning, the robbers left hastily, having obtained a 15-pound brickhammer and an assortment of tools.

Tent 19 Donates $3,000

Baltimore, March 20.—Variety Tent No. 19, has donated to the Cythburn Home for Children, the presentation having been made by William R. Saxton, ex-chief booker, in the absence of chief Barker Fred Schanberger, Jr., who is hospitalized.
Win Para. Contest

Winners in Paramount's "34th and Greatest Western Drive," which ran from Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 1946, were announced here yesterday by Charles H. Reagan, distribution vice-president. The judging district manager was M. R. (Duke) Clark, Dallas, who also adjudicated the Oklahoma City and Kansas City division. \(^{\ldots} \) among the top 18 salesmen were: Maurice Antigues, New Orleans; Markon Anderson, Kansas City; E. Y. Youm, New Orleans; Max Hadfield, Seattle; Edward Bell, New York; Truman Hendrix, Dallas; Louis Aurelio, Chicago; Robert Clark, Los Angeles; Harley Davidson, Washington.

R. M. Moscow Joins Sack Amusement

DALLAS, March 20—Robert M. Moscow, son of the late Sam Moscow, formerly Southern division manager for Columbia Pictures, has joined Sack Amusement Enterprises as film production manager, in complete charge of Sack's Negro feature program and handling Sack's new Harlem Studios, Dallas.

Mexican Unions Clash on Rights

MEXICO CITY, March 20—Another bitter union "war" is looming here with the start of production of features by the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, at Cuernavaca. Its rival, the Picture Production Workers Union, headed by "Cantinflas," charges that such activity is a violation of a ruling by ex-President Manuel Avila Camacho that the latter union combine itself to the making of newspapers and other short items, giving the "Cantinflas" organization the right to make features.

CRI Union Bid to NLRB

The Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild has approached Confidential Reports, requesting "an organization for the checking company's home office employees. At a meeting between CRI management and the SPEG representatives it was agreed that the matter would be referred to the National Labor Relations Board for certification through an election.

E-K Promotes Kerr

ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 20—Howard C. Kerr, former operating chief of Eastman Kodak's war contracts division, has been appointed assistant manager of the company's San Francisco branch. J. R. Allendorf is the branch manager.

Tooth Gels Film

J. H. Hoffberg has acquired the French film "Les Claudelines" from New Hemisphere Films for exclusive American release. The picture will open at the Old South Theatre in Boston on Wednesday.

Clark, Bradley, Lake

Circuits Honors Its Quigley Contestants

CHICAGO, March 20—Louis Nye, manager of the Hoosier Theatre, Whiting, Ind., has won a contest held by the Mansa and Rose Circuit to determine which member of the 29 theatres could win the most Quigley Showmanship Awards for the final quarter of 1946. Nye had eight mentions, one citation and one scroll of honor.

Nye was followed in the contest by John Maisery, of the River Theatre, Beryw, with eight mentions and two citations. Seventeen other M. and R. district and theatre managers participated.

Commented the circuit—which owns 29 theatres in Indiana and Illinois: "We have held this competition for Quigley Awards because they are the public recognition for good work accomplished." The circuit's statement commended its managers for the "extra work to prepare campaign books to send in to the Quigley Awards." It also noted that "the list of winners speaks for itself not only as to the effort expended, but also to the possibilities in smaller and subsequent run theatres."

Barrett Joins CBS

Halsey V. Barrett, charter member of the American Television Society and formerly in sales promotion and research with New York City radio stations, has been appointed promotion manager for CBS Television by David Frederick, CBS director of sales promotion and advertising. Barrett succeeds Harry Barnett, resigned.

Anderson Back at Post

MINNEAPOLIS, March 20—Art Anderson, Warner branch manager, who recently was granted a leave of absence for poor health, has resumed activity as head of the local exchange. During Anderson's absence, C. A. Jackson of the sales staff was acting manager.

Happy Prince Shifts

ATLANTA, March 19—Hugh F. Prince, for the past 10 years theatre manager in Florida for Florida State Theatres, has been appointed by W. H. Nicolson, president of Columbia Theatres here as assistant and booker.

Review

"Untamed Fury" (PRC)

A VAGUE move in the direction of social significance is made in PRC's "Untamed Fury," a rambling story of one man's attempt to fight against an alligator-ridden, swampland section of the deep South. While the pattern of events is often predictable, excitement is intermittently found, to a high pitch, making it a watchable entertainment.

Gaylord Pendleton has the lead in the Danchez Brothers production, as a young engineer who returns to the backward land of his birth with plans of reconstructing it nearer to one's desire. Blended into the story is a romantic plot involving Mary Louise and Afica Murphy, as the city-bred siren, providing the disruptive triangle.

The difficulties of preparing the way for the construction of highways, which has always been almost impossible, as they meet the organized resistance of habit-bound natives, Told in flashback, the dramatic impact is drawn from the constant ebb and flow of hostility to Pendleton. It takes a chorus in which Pendleton rescues his chief antagonist from quicksand where his native are awakened to the bright possibilities of scientific engineering. Ewing Scott produced and directed, from a screenplay by Taylor Caven and Paul Gerard Smith.

Hirilman Creditors to Get 100% Payment

Unsecured creditors of International Television and Telefilm Corp., and Film-Tel, Inc., both headed by George Hirilman, will receive full payment of claims against the corporations under a new plan set for filing in Federal District Court here within the next two weeks. The creditors' interests said yesterday the 100 per cent arrangement empowers an earlier claim which called for 22 per cent in cash in three months and another 10 per cent in notes payable at the end of a year.

Hirilman and David of Dayton have started work on a 400-car theatre near Xenia, to be called the "Xenia Drive-In." It is expected to be in operation in May.

Theaters Enterprises, Inc., Cincinnati, will open one at nearby Woodlawn, work on which has been temporarily halted by an injunction filed by residents in the neighborhood who are protesting the project.

Dan Spiegel, Cincinnati, will open a 700-seat Drive-in theatre near July 1, near Norwood Lake, a summer resort located between Hamilton and Middletown.

Springfield Drive-In Theatre Co., has been incorporated at Youngstown by Sam Greenberger, Cleveland, and Norbert Stern, Pittsburgh, to build and operate a Drive-in, with headquarters at Youngstown, for which the contract has been awarded.

At Galion, it is reported that a new drive-in is contemplated, for which plans are being prepared.

A 600-car theatre will be built at Marion, at a cost of $75,000, by H. E. Shock, of Lima, understood to represent a corporation operating similar theatres in various locations.

New Theatres...

COLUMBUS, O., March 20.—A survey indicates an unusually large number of drive-in theatres being built or contemplated for operation during the coming year, which are expected to be in operation in this year. The list includes the following:

A 600-car theatre, the "Old Trail," is under construction between Xenia and New Concord. Owners are C. F. Conley and C. M. Camper, and W. W. Walker, New Concord, report completion scheduled for May.

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Central Shipings

Three New Branches

KANSAS CITY, March 20.—E. E. Jameson, president of the Central Shipping Bureau which has inspected and licensed all films for theatrical projection in Kansas City for the past 11 years, will set up similar district shipping agencies in Denver, St. Louis, and Kansas City, National for the purpose of handling physical distribution of Selencias, Releasing Organization.

Hollywood, March 20.—Independent producer Walter Colmes and Sally Levinson, former Warner executive with American Pictures, have organized Sunset Pictures, Inc., a $3,000,000 producing company backed by Eastern capital.

Colmes and Levinson

Form New Company

HOLLYWOOD, March 20.—The $500,000 damage action instituted by Lea and Jacob Shubert and Theatre Realty Co. against Columbia-Shubert Pictures in connection with that company's use of the name "Winter Garden" and design which is in "The Jolson Story," will go to trial on Monday in New York Supreme Court, here, with Justice James B. McVay presiding.

Columbia-Shubert Trial

Colmes and Levinson

Form New Company

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Neville House Sold

KNOXVILLE, March 20.—W. E. Dunbar has purchased the Broadway theatre here, which is the property of the Shuberts. Dunbar, owner of several theatres in this area, will start operation at once. Dunbar, who also operates the Davis, a large suburban house, plans to enlarge the Broadway.

Rice Sells to Williams

FARWALK, Neb., March 20.—The Far Walk Theatre here has been sold by Dean Rice to Wayne Williams.

Johnston Interview

(Continued from page 1)

US 'News Magazine'

(Continued from page 1)

tion in 52 countries through U. S. em-

bassies. An agreement with Allied Pictures will supervise production, Harold Bonfield will edit, and Robert Youngson will be art editor. Direction will be handled by Jack Connolly, news-'

field for the State Department's in-

ternational news division, and a new

ersre new exec.

Distribution will be in 35 and 44mm., both to foreign theatres and schools. The formal release will consist of a section on cultural activities, one on sports, and a third on science. With the initial release to include the story of how writers, artists and craftsmen in Nyack, N. Y., joined to create the film, the release will also include a science feature on how American scientists are "exploring" the sun and moon.
Belgium Exhibitors Attack Percentages
By LOUIS QUIVREUX

Brussels, March 14 (By Air-
mail)—Belgium exhibi-
tors are again buying
films on a percentage basis,
rather than on a flat rental
system, and have raised that
many are now
losing money. In a round-
about way the Germans
are responsible for this.

Before 1940, exhibitors
obtained their films on a flat
fee, but what they are
turning out to be a hit, it
meant a boom for the the-
atre-owners. When the Ger-
mans occupied Belgium, they
imposed a new system, that
of percentage, according to
the film. Some of those films
did not mean a return to flat rentals. On the
other hand today these
go as high as 55 and 70 per cent.

16 to Great Western
ATLANTA, March 20.—Great
Western Pictures, headed by John W.
Mangham will reissue 16 John Wayne
Westerns, print copies for show in
April in United States and Canadian
rights, for both 35mm. and 16mm. films,
and have been purchased from Monogram
Pictures, that owns the rights in the 16mm.
and 10mm. distribution has been
turned over to W. Wells Alexander of
Goodman, Inc., who will act as selling agent.

Theatre Rejoins Allied
CHICAGO, March 20.—Jim Booth's
Palace theatre in suburban Cicero,
which resigned from Allied
several months ago, because of the abolition
of theatre circuit agreements, has rejoined,
according to Jack Kirsch, president.
In addition, the Palace, which had never belonged to Illinois
Theatrical Owners and Billing group,
has also joined the latter.

Rosener Buys Two
Hollywood, March 20.—Herbert
Rosener Co., West Coast foreign film
leasing firm, has acquired two San
Francisco theatres, the Stage Door
and Noh Hill, bringing the circuit's total
to eight, four in San Francisco, and
four in the Los Angeles area.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Belgium Exhibitors Attack Percentages

Belgium exhibitors are again buying films on a percentage basis, rather than on a flat rental system, and have raised that many are now losing money. In a roundabout way the Germans are responsible for this.

Chatham Resigns as Griffith Publicity Man

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 20.—
Resignation of L. A. Chatham as
public relations director of the
Griffith Circuit was announced at a
two-hour meeting of the chain's 19 part-
tners and managers closed tonight.
Chatham gave no reason for his with-
drawal from the system.
He said he would take a
long rest at his Tulsa home before
announcing future plans.

Video Group to Elect

The American Television Society
has appointed a nominating com-
mittee of seven to select officer candi-
dates for the annual election to be held
at the next regular meeting in May.
Appointees are: Richard Maxwell,
chairman; A. U. Braundel, Frederick
Kugel, R. B. Gamble, Miriam Tulin and Bruce Robertson.

Eagle-Lion Plans a 'Showcase' Here

Eagle-Lion is planning to
secure a Broadway "show-
case" here for its product as
soon as possible. It plans to
establish a film back-log
of sufficient proportions, A. W. Seidensticker, division
and general sales manager,
disclosed yesterday.

Swartz in 16mm. Field
MINNEAPOLIS, March 20.—Plans to
establish a 16mm. non-theatrical ex-
change in Minneapolis are being
completed, it was announced by
B. H. Swartz, Independent Poster
Exchanger, and state rights distributor.

Swartz said that the 16mm. product
which his company will distribute
will not compete in the 35mm. field.
Swartz expects to have the new
exchange operating before the end
of the year, though no date has been
announced.

5 Companies Unite

See "how the court feels about the
other defendants' request for bidding
stays," according to a spokesman for
the Southern Film Producers Ass'n,
which seeks an order that
would result in a possible
modification of a plan for out-
right opposition to bidding
stays. The order is not
expected to be considered several
gangs of attorneys, but
concerned with the New York
theatrical-Lions' bid
for Paramount, which has been
announced. The stay will come by
a motion for the provision. Bidding is scheduled to be
completed effective July 1.

The request for the arbitration stay
will be supported by the argument that
the industry and then
establish it, if the appeal is
granted, would solve the
costly and time-consuming
process. In addition, the
defendants will oppose the
removal of any
arbitration. The stay will
mean a way for

The 31 arbitration tribunals and
the appeal board are scheduled for
liquidation by April 1 under New York's
decree, except for the
commissions filed before that date. Cases
now before the New York
districts in Omaha, New Haven, Chicago, New
York, New Orleans, New York, St. Louis, Boston,
Albany, Cleveland. Cincinnati
and Milwaukee.

After April 1, if the stay is granted,
the arbitrators will base their de-
cisions on those claims of the parties of
last Dec. 31 which have not been
assigned deferred effective
dates, under the 1940 consent decree
which has been abolished by the
New York court.
Happy Birthday

ENTERPRISE

ONE YEAR OLD TODAY... COMPLETED AND READY TO PLAY...

"ARCH OF TRIUMPH"

"THE OTHER LOVE"

"BODY AND SOUL"

Released

"RAMROD"

BARBARA STANWYCK
CHARLES BOYER
INGRID BERGMAN
GINGER ROGERS

JOHN GARFIELD
LILLI PALMER
JOEL MCCREA
NORMA SHEARER

LEWIS MILESTONE
WOLFGANG REINHARDT
HAZEL BROOKS
DAVID LEWIS

R. B. ROBERTS
HARRY SHERMAN
ROBERT ROSSEN

Domestic Distribution thru U. A.
French Will Build Here

Because exorbitant production costs in France have dangerously jeopardized film profits in that country, a number of French producing companies are about to launch what is described as a large-scale line-up of “showcases” in the U. S. Already Pathé Cinema and France’s Gaumont have purchased properties in New York, where they expect to begin building in the near future. Gaumont recently concluded a deal for property opposite the Little Carnegie Theatre on 57th Street, here, and Pathé Cinema has purchased a lot on 58th Street near Park. Gaumont’s M. Saddler and Pathé Cinema’s Andre Romagne are due to arrive here shortly from Paris to begin building arrangements.

Balaban Heads 2nd UJA Appeal Group

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, has been appointed national chairman of the motion picture division of the United Jewish Appeal, by Henry Morgenthau, Jr., general chairman of the drive. Balaban was also recently appointed chairman of the general campaign for Metropolitan New York.

Balaban announces that a national motion picture committee will be organized to develop the maximum cooperation of the industry in each of the local community drives on behalf of the UJA.

The Egg and I

[Universal-International] — Hilarious Farm Woes

The big parade to the backstalls for Betty MacDonald’s rib-ticking story of a city girl who finds herself transferred by marriage to a small farm is virtually assured of being followed by a big parade to the box-office for Chester Erskine’s and Fred F. Finklehoffe’s top-notch screen version. It has Claudette Colbert at her bewitched comedy best, Fred MacMurray as a near-perfect foil and a long cast of outstanding actors to represent the entire countryside in stilt-free support. It handles familiar plot values with zest and scope and frequently with freshness. It will click.

The emphasis is on slapstick, but slapstick that seems natural, even when it goes on and on. This gradually gives way to some pretty serious, heart-warming adjustments for the couple who want to wrest a living out of the soil rather than depend on the brokerage business. The hillfolk they meet appear first as caricatures, and thus are good for many an extra laugh dividend, but gradually the audience comes to see them in their correct human focus.

A simple, central story furnishes the framework. MacMurray, having

Express Rate Boost Would Affect Films

Washington, March 23—The Railway Express Agency, seeking $65,000,000 additional annual revenue, has asked the Interstate Commerce Commission for permission to increase express charges on all material it transports, including motion picture films, accessories and equipment.

The increases requested vary between different points. In the West Coast, New York the increase would rise from $13.70 to $14.00 per 100 pounds.

Solon Objects to US Film Activity

WASHINGTON, March 23—Congressman Frank Keefe, chairman of the appropriations sub-committee on Federal security appropriations, criticized Government production of films in a recent closed hearing when the Office of Education film budget was considered, testimony made public Friday revealed.

J. Hunt, a coordinator of the office, asked for $7,500 for production, purchase and distribution of educational films. The Office of Education is presently working on a visual education program in cooperation with the Motion Picture Association.

Hunt testified that his office produced one film last year. Keefe said that he wanted to make certain that the Government does not enter commercial film production.

MPA Dinner May 8; Committee Is Named

May 8 has been set as the date for the dinner celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Motion Picture Association and its predecessor, the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America.

Chaplin’s “Verdoux,” First at UA House

“Monsieur Verdoux,” Charlie Chaplin’s first since “The Dictator,” in 1940, probably will open at the Broadway Theatre, 33rd St. and Broadway, as the first picture under United Artists tenancy. “Beggar’s Holiday,” stage play, will close there on April 1, at which time UA will take possession. If the Chaplin film plays there first, it probably will open about April 5.

According to current plans, “Carnegie Hall” will be the second UA attraction at the house, and “Arch of Triumph” the third.

UA’s board of directors on Friday ratified the deal whereby the company acquires the Broadway from the Shuberts for 18 months, with options.

Ascap Moves To Increase Theatre Fees

No ‘Arbitrary’ Action Will Be Taken: Paine

By GENE ARNEEL

A complete revision of its theatre music license tax schedule is contemplated by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. John G. Paine, general manager, reveals.

Paine said the plan is now in the stage study. It will not be advanced “arbitrarily,” Paine said, explaining that the theatremen would be consulted in the hope of achieving an “equitable” formula.

Indicating that an increase in music license fees is in prospect, Paine said that present rates have been unchanged since 1933.

“The basis of payment is unfair today,” Paine said. Close to 10,000 theatres are under the ASCAP contract.

Reports 22 Nations Invite Film Curbs

WASHINGTON, March 25—American pictures continue to meet trade barriers in 22 nations and resurgent nationalism and dollar stringency are the two chief adverse forces operating against the export of films produced in this country, the international division of the Motion Picture Association reported on Friday.

Gerald M. Mayer, managing director of the division, said in his annual report that the barriers are contributing to “the indescipherable complex methods of doing business abroad.”

He disclosed that the MPA is forming

Grainger Sets Three Republic Meetings

A series of three Republic regional sales meetings, in New York, Chicago, and at the company’s Hollywood studios, is announced by James R. Grainger, executive vice-president in charge of sales.

Herbert J. Yates, Sr., company president, will address each session, which will be attended by district and

(Continued on page 15)
**Personal Mention**

**M**ort Blumenstock, Warner Brothers' advertising-publicity head, is due in New York today from the Coast.

Eric Johnston was scheduled to fly from Hollywood to San Francisco yesterday morning and to take off for Washington today. Johnston's aides, Joyce O'Hara and Edward Chewitz, left for Washington at the weekend.

Richard Walsh, LATSE president, was slated to leave New York for Mexico City over the weekend for a week's stay.

Jack Hunter, manager of the Rialto and Outdoor theaters, Chicago, will arrive here today for a week's visit.

Henry Elm, head of Capital Film Company, has returned from an abandonment operation there recently.

Jack H. Lein, Confidential Reports vice-president, has returned here from Cleveland.

Vern Caldwell, publicity head for Walt Disney Productions, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

Charles E. Kessmich, M-G-M district manager with headquarters in Atlanta, is vacationing in Miami.

William Goetz, Universal-International production head, left New York for California on Friday.

Zelma Branson of Warners' Eastern talent department is in Palm Beach.

C. J. Feldman, U-I Western division sales manager, is expected to return here today from the Coast.

John Balan has returned to Chicago from La Quinta, Cal.

William C. Gehring, Central sales manager of 20th-Fox, is in Florida.

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**Tradewise...**

**BY SHERWIN KANE**

**COMPETITIVE bidding has achieved large-scale proportions in the Chicago exhibition field. Shown here in Picture Daily's recent articles on the subject having revealed its details. Below are summaries. New York court decrees are involving and accepting competitive bids on their product in many situations around the territory. The initial reaction of independent exhibitors to the new film buying method is reported to be very favorable.**

**Illinois and Indiana exhibitors bidding for the product of Paramount, M-G-M and M-G-M in Chicago were quoted as expressing a true interest in the matter as they have not yet accepted bids, up to the present time.**

**The consensus of those who have discussed it is that a license to exhibit properly should include the film performance fee. The present Aap fee ranges upward to 10 cents per seat in the smallest theatres, with increases keyed to seating capacity. Ascap theatre licenses are for one year periods, cancellable on 30 days notice of renewal. They produce about $1,500,000 for Ascap annually.**

**3 Cagney Films to Cost $7,900,000**

Starting with William Saroyan's "The Time of Your Life," which will start on April 14, William Cagney has set a budget of $7,900,000 for the three productions slated by his company in 1947, United Artists has announced here. Henry Koster, in his first feature assignment, will direct the film, which reportedly will cost $2,300,000.

Second on the agenda is Thorne Smith's comedy, "The Stary Lamb," budgeted at $2,100,000. Richard Wallace has been signed to direct on a July starting date.

With a $3,500,000 budget, the film version of Adrienne Locke Langley's "A Lion Is in the Streets," will be Cagney's next venture and he became an independent producer. James Cagney will star in all three.

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**Newsreel Parade**

**THE last round in Georgia's governor's battle is highlighted in all current newsreels. Also reported are events in Greece, England, India, Egypt, Palestine. Novelties involve Around Maurice Chevalier, feline activities and World's Fair. War newsreels are also included. Complete contents follow:**

**MOVIE NEWS, No. 50—Battal, Greece. Greek forces' advance forced German retreat and thus the opinion that victory in Greece, despite the bombastic proclamations of British princesses in spotlight, Juan T. tripod, aviation executive, receives award. "It's the only way out, five sports in the news. Sports: art of caring, dog racing in Alaska, handball in Greece.**


**Lesser Leaves Roxy Theatre on April 8**

Irving M. Lesser, associate general manager of the Roxy Theatre, has re signed for April 8. Lesser will leave for Hollywood shortly, prior to announcing future plans. Lesser was one of the leading exhibitors in the city and a busy promoter of industry's war activities and other civic projects. He was New York chairman for several years. Lesser, aLean driver, will make cross drives, March of Dimes campaigns and other industrywide enterprises. He was also active in the formation of the American Theatre Association and the Motion Picture Foundation.

**Orphan Luncheon Today**

Hollywood stars and industry, military and civil guests will gather at an Army "Greek War Orphans Appeal" luncheon today at the Hotel Astor. On the luncheon committee are Leslie H. Fane, Harry Kalmin, Sol Schwartz, Harry Brandt, Ted Gamble, Tom Connors, S. Barret McCormick, Charles Schaefer, Sam Shain, Fred Schwartz, Joseph Vizg, Sam Zinster, Ralph Phillips, William Egan, Al Ahren and Maurice Chevalier will also attend.
Paramount's world-famous favorites introduce them and announce the great new hits they'll play in...
BING CROSBY, whose greatest hit of all will be "The Emperor Waltz," welcomes

WANDA Hendrix

"Here’s a lovely newcomer whose beauty and talent add up to—well, I’d say roughly ten million dollars! You’ll see her soon—play her soon—love her soon in her picture with Barry Fitzgerald, Joan Caulfield, and me:

’Welcome Stranger’"

ALAN LADD, whom you’ll get next in “Calcutta,” says a word about

WILLIAM Holden

“He’s been Lieutenant Holden, U. S. Air Force, until recently—but now you can call him Mister! Or better yet, you can soon put his name in lights again for he resumes his meteoric career in ‘Dear Ruth’ and

’Blaze of Noon’"
BOB HOPE, star of your Easter picture, "My Favorite Brunette," makes a pitch for his favorite starlet

OLGA
San Juan

"Boys, step up and ogle Olga! She's from Brooklyn, fellas—not from the hill by the same name. But she's made history from the Copacabana floor show to 'Blue Skies.' You lucky guys will get her soon in 'Variety Girl'"

VERONICA LAKE, so alluring in "Saigon," sees stardom ahead for

MACDONALD Carey

"The Marine has landed—back in Hollywood—after a long absence overseas! You played Mac's last hit, 'Wake Island'—and you'll surely want to play his new one. It's the gay, romantic, amusing comedy

'Suddenly It's Spring'"
DOROTHY LAMOUR pauses on "The Road To Rio" to say a word about

BILLY De Wolfe

"He wears proudly Uncle Sam's discharge emblem—and his first postwar hit was 'Blue Skies.' Everybody's talking about his great comedy routines in that picture—so everybody's waiting for his appearance with Betty Hutton in

'THE PERILS OF PAULINE'
In Technicolor

BARRY FITZGERALD, "Easy Come, Easy Go" star, gives you a girl who's easy to go for

JOAN Caulfield

"In 'Welcome Stranger,' she plays with two lucky lads—Crosby and Fitzgerald by name. And prettier she is than in 'Blue Skies' and 'Monsieur Beaucaire.' It'll be a bit of heaven playdating her in 'Welcome Stranger,' then in

'DEAR RUTH'"
BETTY HUTTON, star of "The Perils of Pauline," introduces a bad man who's good...

HOWARD Da Silva

"To Broadway he was Jud in 'Oklahoma'! To me he's Gafferty in 'Blaze of Noon.' To many fans he's the cruel captain in 'Two Years Before The Mast.' But his most memorable role of all will be in Cecil B. DeMille's 'Unconquered'" In Technicolor

LIZABETH SCOTT—now at work on Hal Wallis' "I Walk Alone," sees star-glory ahead for WENDELL Corey

"Hal Wallis has a flair for recognizing talent. He spotted Wendell at once...on the stage in 'Dream Girl.' Wendell's wonderful! I know for I've worked with him now in two Wallis productions, 'Desert Fury' and 'I Walk Alone'"
WILLIAM BENDIX wants you to know a young star who worked with him in “Blaze of Noon”

STERLING Hayden

“It’s a thrill to welcome Sterling back from war duty. He’s a good guy—and, I want to add, a great actor. One of the few who ever hit the top after just 2 pictures —‘Virginia’ and ‘Bahama Passage.’ He’s really got something for the girls in ‘Blaze of Noon’”

BARBARA STANWYCK, who is sensational in “California,” has a sensational new star for you . . .

BURT Lancaster

“When Burt played on Broadway, seven studios wanted him but Hal Wallis got him. His first loan-out was to Uncle Sam’s 5th Army, his second to his smash screen debut in ‘The Killers.’ Now he’s in Hal Wallis’ ‘I Walk Alone’ and ‘Desert Fury’”

In Technicolor
DOROTHY LAMOUR, who is Bob Hope's "Favorite Brunette," predicts big things for

JOHN LUND

"John's romantic double role in 'To Each His Own' was one of last year's most exciting 'first picture' performances. Since then he's had 3 important film assignments, and his next appearance will be opposite Betty Hutton in

'THE PERILS OF PAULINE'"

In Technicolor

SONNY TUFTS, great in "Blaze of Noon," nominates a Star of Tomorrow

MARY HATCHER

"I liked Mary so much in 'Our Hearts Were Growing Up' that I went to hear her sing the lead in 'Oklahoma!' No wonder Paramount recalled her to play the title role in the big, all-star musical event 'VARIETY GIRL'"
RAY MILLAND, coming soon in the romantic drama, "The Imperfect Lady," star-gazes and sees

MONA Freeman

"I’ve been interested in Mona ever since I watched her one day doing a ‘bit’ in ‘Till We Meet Again.’ And now I’m ready to wager that she’ll be a star of first-line importance after ‘Dear Ruth’"

DIANA LYNN, now before the camera in "The Sainted Sisters," likes the smile and songs of

ROGER Dann

"He’s the picture of continental charm—this new star from France—who isn’t married! Hero of the Maquis, idol of the Paris stage, sensation of New York’s La Martinique, you’ll see him soon in ‘Variety Girl’"
WILLIAM DEMAREST, coming soon in "The Perils of Pauline," is putting on a ballyhoo for

DE FOREST Kelley

"Step in a little closer, friends! Meet the star of 'Fear in the Night,' the surprise hit the whole trade is talking about. Next he will have the choice hero-role in the big 36-star musical

'VARIETY GIRL'

BOB HOPE sneaked back from "The Road To Rio" for the last word about . . .

VIRGINIA Welles

"Virginia is the last word, folks. Blonde hair, beautiful figure . . . I could go on but I know you're thinking only of business. So I'll be brief. Drop what's on your mind or on your lap. And date her for sure in

DEAR RUTH"
Paramount
always
THE STAR COMPANY

WILLIAM BENDIX
EDDIE BRACKEN
PHYLLIS CALVERT
MACDONALD CAREY
JOAN CAULFIELD
WENDELL COREY*
BING CROSBY
ROLAND CULVER
ROBERT CUMMINGS*
CASS DALEY
ROGER DANN
HOWARD DA SILVA
DON DeFORE*
WILLIAM DEMAREST
BILLY DE WOLFE
DOUGLAS DICK*
MARLENE DIETRICH
OLIVIA DeHAVILLAND
KIRK DOUGLAS*
FRANK FAYLEN
VIRGINIA FIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
MONA FREEMAN
PAULETTE GODDARD
MARY HATCHER
STERLING HATCHER
WANDA HENDRIX
WILLIAM HOLDEN
BOB HOPE
BETTY HUTTON
CECIL HUTTON
PATRIC KNOWLES
ALAN LADD
VERONICA LAKE
DOROTHY LAMOUR
BURT LANCANSTER*
JOHN LUND
DIANA LYNN
RAY MILLAND
KRISTINE MILLER*
KATINA PAXINOU
ROBERT PRESTON
MIKHAIL RASUMNY
PHILIP REED
GEORGE REEVES
ANN RICHARDS*
GEORGE RIGAUD*
GAIL RUSSELL
OLGA SAN JUAN
LIZABETH SCOTT*
BARBARA STANWYCK*
SONNY TUFTS
MURVYN VYE
VIRGINIA WELLES
ARLEEN WHELAN

*Under contract to
Hal Wallis Productions
RKO Radio's production plans in England will be the subject of talks scheduled to be held here with Ned E. Depinet, president, and Philip Reisman, foreign operations head, by Robert E. Wolff, the company's New York-based vice-president. Mr. Wolff said he Friday on his arrival on the SS Queen Elizabeth, 

so far in RKO's foreign studio represent-

ve, Wolff added that they would remain in New York for about 10 days before heading for the United Kingdom. They plan to return to England in May, after two months in the U. S.

also on the scene was Arnold Pressburger, who disclosed that he is seeking an American ac-

tresses to play the leading British and French roles in "Then and Now," Pressburger's forthcoming production for J. Arthur Rank. The production is budgeted at approximately $2,500,000, Press-

ourer said.

Of the European scene, Pressburger observed that the situation is so uncertain that it is difficult to judge the financial resources necess-

funds for foreign films, but the estimates fluctuate very rapidly, he added. After completion of his current obliga-

ations to Rank, he expects to return to the United States for the final production of "Last Year's Snow."

Leo Samuels, assistant to William Levy, who is international sales supervisor for Disney Productions, said he returned to New York after two months abroad where he secured for Disney product in countries "blacked out" by the war, France, Italy, Switzerland, and Belgium, his itinerary. In those countries, he indicated, particularly in France and Italy, Disney films will be shown for the first time in several years.

With a backlog that goes back to "Pinocchio," he pointed out, the principal difficulty in arranging release schedules abroad derives from the technical hurdle of having to dub pic-

tures in some of the countries in which they are to be shown and then ship-

ping them back to America for Techni-

color processing.

Other news on the ship Fri-

day were Reuben Rosenberg, assistant production manager for RKO's "The White Cliffs" and "The Last Days of Pompeii," the French film star, Jock Lawrence, American representative of the Rank Organization, who was scheduled to return home, cancelled his de-

parture in order to visit France with Arthur B. Krim, president of Eagle-

Lion. They plan to return to the U. S. by plane this week.

Parade, Barbecue at 

RKO Kansas Opening

LIBERAL, Kan, March 23—A four-

mile-long street parade, featuring 12 bands, Indians, soldiers, cowboys and cowgirls and a train of stage coaches and covered wagons, will usher in the world-famous film season here.

"Trail Street" here Tuesday, More than 50,000 persons from Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas are expected to participate in a huge barbecue.

WE Names Whitfield

Harold B. Whitfield, patent attor-

ney for Western Electric, has been appointed general patent attorney for the company effective immediately. He succeeds the late Edgar W. Adams.

$90,000 in 1947 for N.Y. Censor Board

Albany, N. Y., March 23.—An appro-

priation of $90,679, plus $14,911 for maintenance and operation expenses is likely for the motion picture division of the New York State Education Department in the state budget for the fiscal year beginning April 1. However, with general salary adjustments, a ready ap-

pearance of the legislature, the final figure for expenditures is probably will be 25 per cent higher. This would raise that figure to the appropriation of about $75,000, and the over-all sum to approximately $90,000.

Build 340 Theatres

in Japan in Year

Film theatres in Japan now number 1,477, representing an increase of 340 since Jan. 1, 1946, according to the Ministry of Education. The report says there are now only one theat-

re for every 40,000 people.

Even if 1947 construction keeps pace with that of the previous year, the ad-

dition of 175 new construction units, out, will only partially alleviate the acute theatre overcrowding which Jap-

an municipal authorities concede is a seri-

ous fire hazard and disease spreader.

'New Orleans' Premiere

Mayor D. S. Morrison of New Or-

leans, and the city administration have indicated that they will give active support to the staging of an elaborate New Year's Eve festival which will feature "New Orleans" when it opens in that city on April 26. United Artists an-

nounced they would produce the opening and exponents of jazz will attend. The film is set for the Saenger Theatre.

Film Curbs

(Continued from page 1)

ing an international information center in Hollywood to be staffed by experts whose sole function will be to police the film industry and stop to send abroad only those films which portray the true American way of life.

Mayor said universal interest in American films overseas continues, world wide, and that the advent of television has become more apparent during the past year than ever before. Coupled with the growth of television, there is now a majority feeling to create or enlarge their own motion picture industry," Mayor stated.

"We are living in an age of hucksters now being encountered by the industry, Mayor cited excessive import duties, internal tax measures, discriminatory theatre taxes, remittance taxes, government monopolies and theatre combinations.

Boston Tribunal in Clearance Award

The Boston tribunal of the indus-
	ry's arbitration system has reduced the amount of the claim maintained with five with the issuance of an award cutting the 14-day clearance formerly held by the Colonial and Olympic theatres of this city, to one day over the Harbor Theatre in York Harbor, Me.

The complaint in the case, which was filed by Lloyd H. Bridgham, oper-

ator of the Harbor Theatre, was made by the Allied Artists, and RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Brothers, Allied Theatre Co., operator of the Colonial and Olympia, was answered.

Faced with liquidation after the end of this month under the Federal anti-

trust decree, unless the U. S. Supreme Court approves appeals by five dis-

advantaged defendants to save the system, the motion picture tribunals, 10 of which are now active, have 23 com-

plaints pending. The Boston tribunal, with its five cases, has the largest number. In addition, two appeals are being processed in Boston and one in Milwaukee.

'IA' Denies Threat to Close Eagle-Lion

Charges that the IATSE had threatened to close the Eagle-Lion studio in Hollywood unless Bryan Foy, executive producer, discharged Oscar Slattery, art director, and Henry Levien, who was denied the wagons, was overturned. In an inter-

dictory order, Judge Richard F. Walsh, "IA" inter-

ested, said that Slattery had not testified before the House Labor Com-

mittee in Washington that his life was in danger, his statements before the legislative panel, he added, were subjective and not based on juridic-

tional dispute at issue in the current studio strike, injuring that he feared harm at the hands of "IA" members, Slattery's action was taken to "bolster up the dying morale" of the striking Conference of Studio Unions, according to Walsh.

Settlement Plan Offered

Hollywood, March 23. "The Tidings," a Catholic publication, has printed a five-point formula for set-

ting the studio strike drawn up by John H. Coogan and Thomas Coogan at the request of Archbishop John J. Cantwell.

Herbert S. Stupell, Conference of Studio Unions president, calls the terms "entirely acceptable." Producer of-

ficials had no immediate comment.

Variety Convention

Publicists Named

Hollywood, March 23.—Sherrill

Corwin, publicity chairman, has signed Hollywood Publicity Associates to do his direction on the 11th Annual Variety Clubs' international convention, to be held at the Ambas-

sador, Thursday, April 12.

James Campbell has been assigned by James R. Luntzel, HPA co-ordi-

nator of the convention, to handle Variety and the HPA. Campbell will establish offices in the Orpheum Thea-

tre Building and work in co-ordi-

nation with the publicists, Seymour Peiser and Robert Kenner.

Variety Meeting Today

Hollywood, March 23.—Charles P. Skouras has called a meeting of Variety Club Tent No. 25 for tomorrow to discuss convention plans.
“The Egg and I” (Continued from page 1)

chosen his calling while caught up in the toils of war, waits until his wedding night to tell Miss Colbert they have been caught up in the toils of a tumble-down farm. It continues to tumble and leak and hits back with all the contrariness of inanimate objects for months after they arrive. The little woman struggles to play up to the challenge at hand, but she comes to hate the old stoves and the eggs she is obliged to gather.

MORE serious, she gives way to a senseless obsession that her man will be stolen by the wealthy, chic, competent divorcee (Louise Allbritton) in the flourishing place down the road. Indeed, it looks as if it is going to happen, but just as the wife looks down her nose, and to make matters worse, most of the couple’s rural hopes are wiped out by a forest fire. So the disillusioned farmette gives up and flies alone to the city to find her life but finds, to her amazement, that she enjoys soft beds or sleep late in the morning and that the world is empty without the simple guy she loves. Therefore, after the baby is born, she goes back—to discover that he has managed to buy the big neighboring farm, which was all he ever wanted of its owner—and is waiting impatiently for the happy ending.

Woven into the central story are several delicious others involving the neighbors. Percy Kilbride, Marjorie Main and their tremendous brood of children represent farm life at its primitive ebb. Their eldest son, Richard Long, wants to go to college, and this Miss Colbert arranges—by slipping one of the woman’s quilts into competition at the county fair, where first prize furnishes the tuition money. Smaller but equally choice plot threads concern Billy House, a colorful peddler who never gives up making a sale, and Donald MacBride, a sour-faced egg buyer who thinks and thinks before making a purchase.

SEVERAL scenes lift the continuous ram well out of the merely workmanlike category. This is especially true of a courtroom scene where Miss Colbert struggles to trip the heavy fantastic with all the male caricatures of miles around, including two stiff-legged Indians.

Near the end is a moving sub-climax—true and always reliable—which concerns the neighbors, rounded up by Sheriff Samuel S. Hinds, arrive with lumber, tractors, stock, foodstuffs and good strong muscles to get the burned-out chicken farm started again.

The screenplay by producers Erskine and Finkelhoffe, while continuously transparent, is attuned to the material in hand, and Erskine’s direction wisely discards subtleties for pace and sharpness of screen portrayal. Eggs are often no double risk, in restaurant or henhouse, but Universal has drawn a good one.


Tott Lov

‘Time’ to Park April 5

Universal-International’s “Time Out of Mind” will open for a pre-release, reserved-seat, advanced admission price run at the Park Avenue Theatre here on April 5. Two performances will be given daily and three on Sundays. The company has not as yet set a general release date for the picture.

MPA Dinner May 8

(Continued from page 1)

America. It will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

The event is being sponsored by a committee consisting of Syros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president; Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president of RKO; Jack Cohn, executive vice-president of Columbia; Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president of Loew’s; Claude Lee, Paramount public relations director; John J. O’Connor, vice-president of Universal; Harry Goldberg, Warner Theatres director of advertising-publicity; and Herman Robinson, president of National Screen Service.

Francis S. Harmon, vice-president of the MPA, is chairman of an MPA staff committee on arrangements which includes Arthur H. DeBra, Fred W. DuVall, David Paleyman, Ted Smith, Glen Allen, Dorothy J. Lutien, and Dina Alexander.

MPA president Eric Johnston has disclosed that he has received an acceptance from J. Arthur Rank, British industry leader, to speak at the dinner.

Adventures’ Advanced

“The Adventurers,” Eagle-Lion, which follows “The Thief of Bagdad” into New York’s Victoria Theatre, will open on Thursday, April 3, instead of the previously announced April 5.

Ascap Moves

(Continued from page 1)

The present Ascap fees are 10 cents per seat annually for theatres of less than 800 seats; 15 cents for 800-1,500-seat theatres, and 20 cents for houses over the 1,500-seat size.

Paine contends some smaller houses make greater profits than some larger ones. He said that some theatres have deteriorated since 1933, while others of like size have prospered. All, however, are subject to the same music tax.

Reports of Ascap’s aim to make adjustments in its licence fee schedule have been circulating for some time, prompting Leo Wolcott, of Los Angeles, president of the Republic, an Ascap affiliated Allied, to comment in effect that such a move would be strongly opposed by the union.

Paine said that Ascap approached Allied States in 1942 on the question of a revised payment scale which, Paine said, Ascap felt necessary because of population shifts around the country due to the concentration of war industries in the larger cities. He recalled that Allied spurned the Ascap bid.

3 Republic Meetings

(Continued from page 1)

branch managers. Edward L. Watson, assistant sales manager and Western division manager, and Wallace L. Titus, Jr., Southern division manager, and James V. O’Gara, Eastern division manager, will be present at all meetings.

The first conference is set for Wednesday and Thursday, April 2-3, at the New York Athletic Club, Eastern district manager Maxwell W. Schaefer will head a contingent to meet branch managers W. P. Murphys, Joseph Engel and Jake Flax, New England district manager Frank Derwin will head a group including branch managers Herbert Schaefer, Arthur Newman, Leon A. Herman, and Jerome Lewis. Sam Seplowin, Central district manager, will head a group from that district, including branch managers Irwin H. Pollard, Norman Levra, George H. Kirby, and William Feld, Pittsburgh.

The second meeting will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 8-9, at the Hotel Blackstone, Chicago, to be attended by Southern district manager Merritt Davis and branch managers James Hobbs, J. H. Dillon, Leo V. Seelshayd and Harold Laid. Norman J. Colquhoun, Southern district manager, will head a group of managers from his district, including Thomas Kirk, Nat Wyse, and David Husted. New Western district manager Nat E. Steinberg will head a contingent including managers J. J. Houlihan, Dave Nielsen, W. F. Withers and Harry Lefoltz. Representation from the southwestern district will be headed by district manager Will Baker, with managers E. J. Brueker, Jack Frackman and Joseph Loeffler. Carl Fondevol, Mexico manager, will also attend.

Third and final meeting is slated for the week of April 14 at the Hollywood studio. Western district manager Earl R. Collins will head a group of managers, to include Ralph Caramichel, S. C. Martinen, Gene German, Mitchell Thomas, Mc Mahon and Paul McElhinney.

Balban Heads

(Continued from page 1)

Balban is planning to visit a number of cities in order to stimulate local effort.

Last year the national goal was $1,000,000,000; $105,000,000 was raised. The motion picture committees raised almost $2,000,000 in Hollywood and New York. This did not include substantial sums contributed in the field.

This year the U.A. is aiming for $170,000,000, largest quota for any philanthropy of its kind in the U. S.

COMING FOR RE-RELEASE

JAMES CAGNEY

IN “BATTLING HOOPOO”

“Something to Sing About”

The new title really describes this great and exciting picture which the public will enjoy watching with renewed interest.

ScreeeniCricuts, Inc. 347 West 46th Street, New York City 18
MGM Year's Schedule Is Set by Mayer

8 Musicals and 3 Prize Novels Are Included

A list of 42 features, eight of them musicals, was announced yesterday by the M-G-M home office on behalf of Louis B. Mayer, vice-president in charge of production, for 1947-48, from which an undetermined number will be elected for release within the year. This is in addition to the company's schedule for films in England, where "Young Bess" and "The Secret Garden" are expected to be the first before cameras.

Emphasizing current novels and literary classics, the company's Hollywood program includes "The Hucksters," with Clark Gable; "East River," Gene Kelly and June Allyson; "B. F.'s Daughter," Katharine Hepburn, and "Cass Timber." (Continued on page 7)

32 Monogram Films in '48

CHICAGO, March 24—Monogram will make the same amount of features, 32 for 1947-48 as for 1946-47 and, in addition, will make 15 Westerns, compared to 14 this year. It was announced here by Steve Brody, president, following a board of directors meeting held at the Blackstone Hotel.

Brody also announced that Monogram will release a minimum of six Allied Artists pictures in 1948, two more than this year's schedule from Allied Artists. The four Allied Artists pictures being released this year are "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," "Black Gold," "The Gangster" and "The Left-Handed Man." (Continued on page 7)

ATA, CSA Will File Jointly For Bids Stay

Petition Upper Court Tomorrow, Says Jackson

American Theatres Association and the Confederation of Southern Associations tomorrow will file with the U. S. Supreme Court a joint application for postponement of operation of the competitive bidding provision of the New York Federal Court's decree. The New York court put the operative date at July 1; the two organizations will ask that this be stayed until after the upper court has ruled on appeals of the case.

Basis of the argument to be advanced by ATA and CSA will be the damages which they will insist will be incurred by independent exhibitors. (Continued on page 7)

No 2nd Term For Gamble

Ted R. Gamble, chairman of the board of directors of the American Theatres Association, definitely will not accept a second term at the office, he said here yesterday following his arrival from the Coast for conferences, becoming too old, on plans for the ATA's convention. The board chairman's intention to (Continued on page 7)

Seek Mexican Quota; Reception Mixed

Mexico City, March 24—While some sectors of the Mexican industry have responded favorably to the request by the National Exhibitors Association for legislation to require exhibition of American films in Mexico, others have been cool. (Continued on page 7)

In This Issue

"Great Expectations" is reviewed on page 4; "Carnival in Costa Rica" and "Love and Learn" on page 6. Key city grosses are also on page 6.

600 at Rally for Greek War Orphans

The industry's current appeal for war orphans' funds, being conducted nationally in honor of Spirou P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, marked the beginning of its third week yesterday with a luncheon-rally at the Hotel Astor here. Some 600 from all branches of the industry were on hand. George P. Skouras, president of (Continued on page 7)

Gov. Dewey Signs Local Tax Bill

Albany, N. Y., March 24-Gov. Dewey today signed the bill authorizing cities of 100,000 or more to levy new taxes, including a five per cent admissions tax. The bill will be effective July 1. Gov. Dewey emphasized that the new taxes merely were permissive, not mandatory. He added that only a few counties were expected to levy all taxes. (Continued on page 7)

Boren Appointed AMPP Labor Head

HOLLYWOOD, March 24.—Charles F. Boren, who for the past seven years has been in charge of industrial relations at the Paramount studio here, has been appointed manager of labor relations for the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Eric Johnston announced yesterday.

Boren will assume the newly-created post on April 1. He will be in charge of labor relations and labor policy for the Producers Association and will work in conjunction with the major studios labor committee. It is believed here, however, that his appointment will not conflict with duties performed by Pat Casey, producers' labor representative.

Boren at one time was Paramount studio manager. He will be succeeded as industrial relations manager by Ted Leonard, who has been Boren's assistant for several years. (Continued on page 7)

Technicolor Price Up 8% as of Jan. 1

Hollywood, March 24.—Technicolor has established a price increase, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1947, to one-half cent per linear foot on all 35mm. film delivered at the company's Hollywood plant (except three-strip and successive exposure), and an identical increase in the price of negative developing. Both increases represent a rise of labor eight percent.

The company said increases are necessitated by an 11.17 per cent rise in labor rates recently adopted. Consequently, Technicolor commitments on 14 days notice if work is not started.

2 More Eye Jacksonville As New Exchange Area

75 Exhibitors Meet In Denver Today

DENVER, March 24—Some 75 theatre managers, operating more than 100 houses, will attend an Allied meeting and Wednesday at the Brown Palace Hotel here, at which it is expected a Rocky Mountain area unit will be organized.

Presenting National Allied's case will be Col. H. A. Cole, Texas Allied president, and regional vice-president, Sidney Samuelson, general manager of Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania, and Trueman K. Reiss, president of Indiana Allied. Tomorrow evening there will be a get-together at the hotel.

'Tapley,' 'Brunette' Click; Other N. Y.

First-Runs Spotty

New films, particularly "The Last George Apley" and "My Favorite Brunette," were given enthusiastic receptions at New York first-runs this week. However, holdover business on the average runs less impressively. "Apley" and the Music Hall's annual Easter stage presentation drew an excellent $67,000 Thursday through Sunday, indicating an equally excellent $141,000 for the Easter week. Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra at the Paramount proved a click combination with a first week's gross of $100,000 apparent. "The Locker" probably will take a favorable (Continued on page 7)
Exhibitor Luncheon For Boasberg Here

More than 500 reservations have been received for the Charles Boasberg testimonial luncheon to be given in recognition of his promotion of division manager by theatre owners of the New York exchange area at the Ariel Astor here Thursday.


Set Hearings on U.S. Film Section

Washington, March 24—Rep. Robert B. Wigglesworth said today that hearings on continuation of the moratorium on the Office of Government Reports will be conducted early in April. He is chairman of the appropriation sub-committee which will parcel out funds requests from independent offices.

A letter is on file at OGR from the independent Office of Government Industry committee which "tells the committee that the industry wants the liaison office continued," a spokesman said. Wigglesworth said no production funds will be granted, and refused to predict what action the committee will take. The film industry, with $1.5 billion production money, requires $50,000 for administration expenses.

Establish Trust Law Unit Within FTC

Washington, March 24—A Division of compliance was established today at the Federal Trade Commission. It will supervise and coordinate all matters arising from the enforcement of orders issued to halt violations of the Clayton anti-trust act. This section will be the unit chosen to enforce the final anti-trust act decree in the pending film case.

All anti-trust complaints received by the full FTC will be routed to the FTC, and if action is required the matter is turned over to the Attorney General. The division of compliance will be under the general counsel and is headed by Joseph Wright, ex-FTC lawyer.

Congress Urged to Aid Cultural Plan

Washington, March 24.—Undersecretary State Dean Acheson today urged Senator Vandenberg and House Speaker Martin to support continuation of the Inter-American Information Service, which includes radio broadcasts, cultural films, and publications.

He submitted his pleas to the Congressional leaders by letter. For more than four years the Acheson plan has been in operation with thousands viewing special film screens monthly.

PERSONAL MENTION

SAM KATZ, M-G-M production executive, will leave the Coast tomorrow by plane for Chicago.

ED DONAHU, Jr., Pathe Newsreel editor, is featured in the forthcoming April issue of Science Illustrated in an article on neonscop film.

AUSTIN KEOUGH, Paramount general counsel, is due here April 3 from Boca Raton, Fla., where he has been for several months.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG of the M-G-M studio publicity department is due to arrive here today by plane from the Coast.

EDWARD L. HYMAN, vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., will leave here by plane tomorrow for Boston.

JERRY MASON, associate editor of The Work magazine, is en route to Hollywood from New York.

MEL MORGASTERN, Loew's home office booker, returned here yesterday from a Miami vacation.

ALEX MANTA, partner of the Manta and Ross Circuit, Chicago, has returned here from the Coast.

SELMIA TANCHAIN, office manager of Ansell Theatres here was married at the weekend to Morris Schwartz.

J. J. DONOHUE, Paramount's Central division sales head, has returned to New York from Dallas.

EDGAR B. HATRICK will leave the Coast tomorrow for New York.

Siritzkys to Coast On Production

Leon and Samuel Siritzky of Siritzky and Siritzky, a New York circuit owning theatre operators and distributors of French product in the U.S., will visit the Coast next week. They plan to set up a licensing organization in cooperation with French producer Marcel Pagnol and one or more Hollywood producers.

Meanwhile, they report that their company has completed plans for entering 10mna. distribution of their French imports by July 1. "The Well-Digger's Daughter," the "Baker's Wife," and other of their films are now being reduced to 10mna.

Balaban's Son to Be Inducted into Lodge

Jack Cohn, S. I. Fabian, Harry Brandt and Abe Schneider will preside at the dais at the Hotel Astor here tonight when Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, inducts his son, Bart, and a group of new members into Cinema Lodge of B'nai Brith, H. E. Levin is president of the lodge.

The induction will be part of the week's activity to the tribute to the latemotion picture mogul in honoring Gene Buck, former president of ASCAP, for his Americanism.

Balaban Absorbing Lesser's Roxy Post

A. J. Balaban, executive director of the Roxy Theatre, 220 W. 72nd St., has had "a showcase" here, said yesterday he and the "rest of the organization" will absorb the duties upon Irving Lesser, who has resigned as general manager. He will leave for the Coast today.

Fessler, Pagano Leave U-I

Hollywood, March 24.—Michael Fessler and Ernest Pagano, Universal-International production writers, are here this week.

10% Admissions Cut In Effect in France

A French government-decreed 10% reduction in the market price of all commodities, including theatre admissions, is receiving the full cooperation of that nation's industry and appears to be a step toward preventing run-away inflation, Jacques Chabrier, Pathe Cinema's American representative, who recently returned here from a three-week visit to Paris, reported yesterday. Theatre 2, he said, is supporting the program easily. Chabrier's trip entailed discussions surrounding the Maurice Chevalier film "Man About Town", which RKO Radio Pictures is making in France, and which RKO Radio will release in the U. S.

Devonshire Buys Two

Devonshire Films of Boston has sold the rights to two of its productions, "Under the Red Robe" and "Storm in a Teacup," to Famous Pictures Exchange in New York, operated by Harry Goldstone.

NEW YORK THEATRES

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, is due to return to New York on March 30 from London and Paris.

AUSTIN KEOUGH, Paramount vice-president and general counsel, is due back in New York from France early next month.

TOM J. CONNORS, 20th-Fox distribution chief, is expected to return to New York from a Florida vacation at the end of the month.

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern and Southern division sales manager, has returned to New York from a Southern tour.

LEONARD ALLEN, Paramount's special representative in the Atlanta territory, became a father recently.

WILLIAM PINK, Paramount producer, has arrived here from the Coast.

ARTHUR C. BROEMER, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, has returned to Atlanta from Chicago.

FRED JACKS, Southern district manager for United Artists, is en route to New Orleans from Atlanta.

DOAK ROBERTS, Warner Brothers district manager, is in Memphis from Dallas.

RUBY BERNER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, returned to New Orleans after touring its circuit.

CLARENCE BROWN is due here from the Coast tomorrow.

First in New Canadian Rank Circuit Opens

The Odeon Theatre, North Sydney, Nova Scotia, first of a new Canadian circuit planned by the J. Arthur Rank British interests, has opened under a promotional campaign given by Charles Garson and Odeon Circuit of Canada the Rank Organization reported here yesterday.

More than 4000 were on hand for the opening. Among those on hand for the opening were George W. Peters, executive assistant to the president of Odeon, and J. L. English, Canadian theatre designer who will plan the new circuit buildings.

BARKER'S CONVENTIONAL THEATRE

1500 BARKER'S STREET, BROOKLYN

"I'M PROUD TO BE A BARKER'S THEATRE AUDIENCE"

"I'M PROUD TO BE A BARKER'S THEATRE AUDIENCE"

"CRAWDADS HAVE TEARS".. "HOTEL MAGNIFICENT".. "BRAWLY WOMEN"

"FALL OF THE GIANTS".. "MISSOURI HILL"

"JAMAICA".. "BELLE OF SAVOY"

"GREAT GATSBY".. "AGE OF INNOCENCE"

"CRAWDADS HAVE TEARS".. "HOTEL MAGNIFICENT".. "BRAWLY WOMEN"

"FALL OF THE GIANTS".. "MISSOURI HILL"

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"JAMAICA".. "BELLE OF SAVOY"

"GREAT GATSBY".. "AGE OF INNOCENCE"

"CRAWDADS HAVE TEARS".. "HOTEL MAGNIFICENT".. "BRAWLY WO
The sensational boxoffice power of

GREGORY PECK

and Hemingway's most powerful story!

BENEDICT BOGEAUS presents

GREGORY PECK • JOAN BENNETT

in Ernest Hemingway's

"THE MACOMBER AFFAIR"

also starring

ROBERT PRESTON with Reginald Denny • Jean Gillie

Directed by ZOLTAN KORDA

Produced by Benedict Bogeaus and Casey Robinson

Released thru UA

Opening in 35 key spots starting April 10!
Foy Starts Periodic Survey of Exhibition

Expressing a determination "to do something" about the rising wave of criticism of Hollywood product, Dry Foy, vice-president in charge of production for Eagle-Lion, left here last night for Detroit, Cleveland and Chicago to initiate periodic critical country survey of advice, criticisms and suggestions from exhibitors. Following a series of sales conferences in the East, Foy is headed for Detroit to attend the premiere there of "Bedelia."

Foy will stop off at Chicago before returning to Hollywood. He will embark on a tour of the Washington, Montana and western regions after a stopover at the studio. Foy added that he plans to make the tour four times annually.

M. P. Relief Fund

Aided 7,576 in 1946

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The Motion Picture Relief Fund extended aid in one form or another to 7,576 persons in all branches of the industry during 1946, according to annual report by the Executive Committee of the relief fund as disclosed today.

Established in 1919, assistance is rendered by the Relief Fund to persons who have spent five or more years in the film business. Medical patients assisted last year totaled 5,106. To aid all of them, the fund is financed by subscribed payroll deductions of one-half to one per cent. Contributions amounted to $64,276 last year.

Cheyfitz Talks on Employee Relations

Edward T. Cheyfitz, assistant to Erie Johnston of the Motion Picture Association, addressed the N. Y. Personnel Management Association at the Columbia University Club here last night on the subject "What an Employee Wants to Know."

Cheyfitz said employees' principal concerns are "wages, opportunity and security." He advocated the extension of vacations to all employees, better management to demonstrate sincerity and achieve high employee morale.

Joseph Walsh, Former MPTOA Official, Dies

HARFORD, March 24.—Joseph W. Walsh, former national vice-president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, died at Saranac Lake, N. Y., at 55. During his 30 years in the Chicago to initiate a periodic cross in Rhode Island and Connecticut. His last industry position was as manager of the Lexington Theatre at Newington, Conn.

Arthur Rankin, 50, Dies of Hemorrhage

HOLLYWOOD, March 24.—Arthur Rankin, head of the Rankin Agency, died here yesterday, Saturday of a cerebral hemorrhage following recent illness. The 59-year-old actor-writer was the son of actor Harry Davenport. He is survived by the widow and two sons.

$24,145 for Red Cross

Loew's Theatres has collected $24,145 for the annual American Red Cross roll call.

Review

"Great Expectations"

(Cinetone—Universal International)

If merit alone were to determine the outcome, this well-made and well-acted British film based on "Great Expectations" would provide its own answer. Evidence against the book.

Whatever of Charles Dickens has been filmed before was given the advantage of players widely known in the domestic market. This is far from the case with "Great Expectations," obviously had to emerge as a period piece, and period players to them will not. The special merits of this production, however, is its director, David Lean—he directed "Brief Encounter"—and the producer, Ronald Neame, have succeeded in breathing vitality into the screenplay, which is more, nevertheless, this is Dickens, which will mean the interest of the rank-and-filers will be circumstanced at best. On the other hand, to rely upon the author's followers suggests anything but the widest possible appreciation, although the sub-sellers.

It is to the credit of the fine craftsmen who created this production that they have appear to succeed in giving pace to a story which in today's eyes is hackneyed and delicately Victorian. Through direction which, of course, the film is smooth and unshadowed by the author's flavor of its times and has been produced with meticulous attention to detail.

The question mark is whether or not American audiences at large, in 1947, seeking their entertainment in straight pictures houses, will want Dickens. Direct negotiations is more. For whatever it may create, however, it is worthy of noting "Great Expectations" follows "The Egg and I" at Radio City Music Hall.

Bosley Crowther reviewed this film from London in the December 23, 1946 edition of Motion Picture Daily in 118 pages. Down to 115 for this market, the picture remains longish. Anthony Havelock-Allan served as executive producer. Running time, 115 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

Red Kain

Sweden Denies Ban On American Films

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Sweden today denied that it has imposed a complete embargo upon American films. The Swedish Board of Trade notified the State Department that published reports to that effect were "untrue and misleading."

Both the U. S. Government and the Motion Picture Association have proposed that Sweden be suggested to the State Department believes that Sweden will establish stiff quota regulations upon U. S. films, but it discount any complete embargo.

Analysts Are Third Group to Quit CSU

Hollywood, March 24.—Striking screen analysts have withdrawn from the Conference of Studio Unions and have asked the studio to open up negotiations. The anxiety of the third group to break away from the six-month CSU walkout. Electric settlements table been back on the job for over a week.

Red Cross Short Is Near Full Bookings

"Call to Action," official 1947 Red Cross short, of which 3,000 prints are in circulation, is rapidly approaching the 100 per cent booking level in most exchanges throughout the country, says Peter Levathes, assistant to Tom Connors, national chairman of the industry's distributing committee.

Berger Urges Owners To Rally at Meet

MINNEAPOLIS, March 24.—Ben Berger, president of North Central Allied, has urged all independent exhibitors in the area to attend the annual convention here April 21-22. In attacking high film rentals, Berger has urged exhibitors to unite in a fight for the best interests of the industry to avoid a situation where the attendance of a convention is the first step in a convention exhibit.

Jacksonville

(Continued from page 1)

Burton's family—"the three people"—will be in town for his wedding. They are looking for a place to live in town, but have not decided yet.

Rosenberg, who is a prominent lawyer in Los Angeles, has a law practice in the city. He is also a member of the Los Angeles Bar Association and a past president of the Los Angeles Jewish Association.
You can bet your bottom dollar it's another HOMER... when The PRIZE BABY... the Mighty Babe... goes to BAT for your theatre! Every SHOWMAN knows this "slugger" who packs 'em in... and delivers record runs... with National Screen Service TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES! He's grown up with the Game! He packs a Mighty Wallop! He "knows the SCORE"! He's Top Man in his League... most valuable Player in EVERY Theatre! He's the HOME RUN KING of the Industry!
**Key City Grosses**

**CINCINNATI**

Grosses generally are well in the upper brackets, with “The Best Years of Our Lives” continuing exceptionally strong throughout the entire week at the higher levels in the Cinerama theatres. “The Devil’s Advocate” (RKO Radio) and “The Great Lie” (20th-Fox) were also well in the upper brackets. “The Great Lie” and “The Devil’s Advocate” were the highest-grossing pictures at the RKO Capitol.

**Baltimore**

Even with fairly substantial attraction and favorable weather, current grosses are about average or slightly below. The picks of the week were the repeat performances of the following receipts for the week ending March 27:

- **STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN**
  - Gross: $12,000
- **THE LADY IN THE LACE (M-G-M)**
  - Gross: $10,500
- **THE GREAT LIE**
  - Gross: $9,500
- **THE DEVIL’S ADVOCATE (RKO)**
  - Gross: $9,000
- **THE LADY WITH THE LIGHTED CIGARETTE (M-G-M)**
  - Gross: $8,500
- **STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN**
  - Gross: $8,000
- **GREAT LIE**
  - Gross: $7,500

**ATLANTA**

Business is satisfactory but the weather somewhat cold. Estimated receipts for week ending March 26:

- **NORA PRENTIS (WB)**
  - Gross: $13,500
- **LOVE AND LEARN**
  - Gross: $12,000
- **SALT LAKE CITY**
  - Gross: $11,000

**Monte Carlo**

**REVIEW PICTURE**

... will really SELL your picture.

Fully equipped for 35MM, 16MM, and Slide Projection. Cocktail parties, luncheons and dinners at Monte Carlo this very bunn tangled setting - a gay mood for a favorable reaction.

**MADISON AVE. PICTURE**

**Tuesday, March 25, 1947**

**NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (20th-Fox)**

- Gross: $12,900 ($12,800)

**TORONTO**

A new regime was ushered in for the first-run situation in Toronto with the admission of Canal Park to the list of Famous Players-Canadian Corp. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 24:

- **THE LADY IN THE LACE (M-G-M)**
  - Gross: $12,500
- **THE DEVIL’S ADVOCATE**
  - Gross: $10,000
- **STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN**
  - Gross: $9,500
- **THE GREAT LIE**
  - Gross: $8,000

**Rank Tightens His Promotional Setup**

London, March 24.—A tightening up of the J. Arthur Rank public relations activities has been effected by the British film leader, and hopelessly every category the Rank organizations’ publicity will be controlled exclusively from Rank’s executive headquarters here.

Under the new arrangement, John Watters will become the studios’ publicity director, and John Dettner, hitherto Odson’s advertising manager, will become advertising manager, with the work of both offices to be co-ordinated under the direction of Sydney Wynn.

**‘Costa Rica’ Promotion**

Liga Sotro Harrison, Sonia Lizano and Olga Guideres Pacheco, winners of a contest in Costa Rica, sponsored by La Tribuna, San Jose newspaper, and 20th-Century-Fox, to find three girls to represent Costa Rica at the 1947 film festival of “Costa Rica at the Roxy Theatre here. The pageant will arrive tomorrow. A program of social dances has been arranged for them, following which there will go on a three-week tour of the U. S.
N. Y. Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

$55,000 in its debut at the Palace, while, at the Rialto "The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea" did a good opening and figures to take in $9,500 in its first week. One new film, "The Yearling," was less fortunate at the Criterion with only $15,000 indicated for its first week. "Johnny O'Clock" will follow tomorrow.

"Boomerang" did a sturdy $72,000 Wednesday through Sunday at the Roxy and the third week, ending Tuesday, will bring in another profitable $90,000; Katherine Dun- lins heads the stage bill, "Carnival in Flanders," which opens there on Fri- day. The third and final week's gross of "Blaze of Noon," at the Rivoli, is a weak one, estimated at $18,000; "The Farmer's Daughter" will open today.

The Best Years of Our Lives is on its way to an abundant $40,000 in its 18th week at the Astor. The picture is bettering previous grosses by about $7,000 weekly since it got the Academy Award. "The Red House" at the Globe is healthy at an estimated $27,500 for the second week after taking in a splendid $32,000 in its first seven days. "It Happened in Brooklyn," with Sammy Kaye's orchestra, has $9,000 in view for the third week at the Capitol, with the gross although a large drop under the first week's income of close to $90,000.

On the basis of a near $29,000 take over the weekend, the Strand show, consisting of "Furureed" and Louis Thawton's "Treasure," has climbed to a handsome $57,000 in the third week. "Nora Prentiss" is rolling along leisurely at the Hollywood, the fifth week promising about $13,500.

"Stairway to Heaven" on a mirror at the Winter Garden is doing good with $30,000 looked for in the second week. At the Park, $7,500 doesn't seem like too much for the third week's show, with "Nora Prentiss" slotting in its good gross although a large drop under the first week's income of close to $90,000.

Bidding Stay

(Continued from page 1)

in consequence of bidding, John G. Jackson, CSA attorney, reported here this week, set up a meeting at his office with Robert T. Barton, also representing CSA, and Thurman Arnold, ATA counsel. In view of the meeting it was indicated that bidding as already conducted by some companies has re- sulted in a considerable decline in rentals, which do not appear to be incorporated in the application. While it was admitted that actual figures are not available, it was suggested that facts supporting the claims of increased rentals for the directors could be obtained from various theatres who have participated in bidding.

Meanwhile, in Washington, the De- partment of Justice said it will oppose any applications for stays of provisions of the New York decision.

Greek War Orphans

(Continued from page 1)

Skouras Theatres and vice-president of the Greek War Relief Association; S. H. Fabian, Fabian, Inc. acts president and co-chairman of the drive; William Hells, president of the Greek War Relief Association; Harold Russell and Maurice Chevalier, Greek Charge d'Affaires in New York; Paul Economou, Greek consul, and others, pleaded the cause of Greece's 378,000 homeless orphans.

Part of the drive's goal, Fabian said, was to raise $1 million for each one of the 15,000 theatres in the U. S. to adopt an orphan. He said it was because Skouras had always demonstrated his ability to make a business decision to help the Greek children since that cause has always been so close to Skouras' heart.

George Skouras reviewed the sufferings of the Greeks in the war's aftermath, and said: "We are not asking for amounts of money that would permit the Greek children to live; they should live, but just those amounts which will enable them to exist." Hells and Economou-Gouras ex- pressed gratitude to the industry for the aid it is extending.

Thirty-seven industry leaders, actors and drive sponsors were on the drive, including, in addition to the aforementioned, A. W. Schwaberg, Arthur Sachson, Leonard Godsen, T. C. S. Slain, Samuel Rinzler, Robert Coyne, Malcolm Kingsberg, Barney Balaban, Ted Gamble, George Schaef- ter, J. R. Vogel, Alex Serner, Sol Schwartz, John O'Connor, Ted O'Shea, Gus Eysell, C. J. Scoball, Gene Tierney, Fred Schwartz (chair- man of the occasion), and others. Peter Donald was master of ceremonies. The drive is being held through April 8.

No Second Term

(Continued from page 1)

retire, following a similar stand taken by president S. H. Fabian and reported last Thursday in Motion Picture Daily, is by the ATA's chief office should be on a rotating basis, with no individu- als holding them more than one year. Both Gamble and Fabian expressed this conviction when the association was formed last April. New leadership each term will be in the interest of democratic procedure and will pre- vent any danger or suspicion of the ATA's affairs devolving into the hands of a "clique," they hold.

Although Fabian stated last week that he had a man in mind for the presidency next year and that a slate of nominees would be drawn up at this week's conferences, no confirmation of these names so presented will be referred as merely suggestions to a large nominat- ing committee, which Fabian said yesterday would be appointed.

Gamble, Fabian and Robert W. Conolly, ATA executive director, will meet today in the hope of fixing the date and place for the convention. The choice has been narrowed down to Washington or Chicago, with the date to be held between April 19 and May 1.

Planning to spend most of his time in New York from now on, Gamble will remain more than a month on his present trip. He recently purchased Monarch Theatres and is making its headquarters in the company's
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY

IS TOPPING THE ALL-TIME HIGHS OF CENTURY-FOX "ANNA and the KING OF SIAM" AT THE RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL!!!

THE WHOLE INDUSTRY IS CALLING IT "THE Great GEORGE APLEY!"

"A TREASURE OF A FILM!" — N.Y. Daily News

"SO GOOD, AUDIENCES CHEER IT!" — Lee Mortimer, N.Y. Mirror
Set Plans for 'Run' Bidding
Start April 1

Ready to Comply with Par. 9 If Stays Denied

With one or two possible exceptions, film company parties to the New York Fees of the Motion Picture Anti-Trust suit will be ready to conduct competitive bidding in certain situations during the 1947-48 tax year. It is expected that one of the defendants will object to the arrangement which the defendants believe will become effective. Its "arbitrary refusal" provision will in most instances (Continued on page 8)

RKO Radio Has 36 16mm. Films for UK

With three blocks of 12 pictures each already completed, RKO Radio will launch 16mm. operations in Britain shortly after the return to that country of Robert Wolff, managing director in the United Kingdom, on May 9. Wolff recently arrived here from London for home office conferences. Up to now, M-G-M, Columbia and Gaumont-British have been conducting 16mm. operations in Britain, where some 800 low-gauge exhibition screens (Continued on page 6)

Waiting Policy in N. Y. Tax Fight

A policy of watchful waiting was adopted by members of the Motion Picture Theatre Association who met here yesterday to work out plans for opposition to amendments in the New York State Legislature's passage of an act enabling counties and large cities to impose levies up to five per cent.

With New York City's Mayor O'Dwyer having stated that he does not plan an amusement tax at this time and with no tax ordinances yet having been introduced in Yonkers, Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse or Albany, the exhibitors have deferred immediate plans to counter such measures on the local level.

May Start Bidding Here in a Week

Although distributors are understood to have been reluctant to start competitive bidding in the New York area prior to the effective date, on July 1, consideration now is being given to inauguring the system on a limited basis in the New York area (Continued on page 8)

Million Net for 'Henry V' in Year

Net receipts in excess of $1,000,000 will have been earned by J. Arthur Rank's "Henry V" through United Artists distribution in this country on the first anniversary of its American premiere early in April. The picture opened April 3, 1946, in Boston. It has already netted $1,018,000.

The picture will end a 46-week run in New York on May 3. It is currently at the Golden Theatre on a two-day, advanced admission policy.

The American record for the picture (Continued on page 6)

U. N. Plans Film Board

PHILADELPHIA, March 25—The film panel of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization conference being held here today reached an agreement that UNESCO should help form and operate a film board to coordinate the film interests and activities of all UN agencies. More than 1,000 delegates representing over 500 organizations, including the motion picture industry, press and radio, are attending the conference, which opened yesterday.

It was further decided at the film session that UNESCO should act as a clearing house for information about films, film strips and other visual media, particularly in educational films, for all member nations. However, UNESCO would not itself produce films, except in unusual cases where normal agencies could not be used satisfactorily.

It was generally agreed that suit (Continued on page 8)

Weitman Elected B'nai B'rith Head

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount Theatre, was elected president of New York's B'nai B'rith Lodge of Equal Rights in an election held at the Hotel Astor here last night prior to the Lodge's (Continued on page 6)

Technicolor Supply Not Normal Until Next Year

HOLLYWOOD, March 25. Major production in Technicolor, bolstered up by mounting pressure upon Technicolor's plant facilities here, will not be normal until next year, even though the company expects to augment its capacity late in 1947, Herbert J. Kahn, president of Technicolor production managers, disclosed in his long-range expansion program, which has been hamstrung by "excessive delays" by labor in obtaining materials and machinery, and by high costs, he continued, Technicolor has formulated an intermediate, stop-gap program calling for limited expansion. Technicolor processing has been increased about eight per cent because of high costs, as previously reported.

Construction at a site in Van Nuys, recently purchased by the company, "considerable changes" in existing buildings, and installation of additional machines, as well as improvements developed by Technicolor's research laboratory but not yet employed in the plants are projected in the interim plan, according to Kahn.

"I think that it is not an unreasonable hope that the present backlog will not materially increase during 1947, that it will be whittled away during 1947 and 1948, and that some time in 1948 we may have both camera and printing capacity to meet some part of the high pressure for additional pictures in Technicolor and at the same time (Continued on page 6)

Legal Issues Joined by Big Five Vs ATA

Seek to Bar Theatre Groups from Appeal

A joint U. S. Supreme Court motion has been filed by the five theatre-owning companies opposing the American Theatres Association and six related trade associations in their fight against competitive bidding. It was revealed here yesterday along with the disclosure that both exhibitor organizations will present to the upper court a counter brief on April 2.

ATA and CSA both have taken an appeal from the New York Federal Court's denial of their petition to intervene in the industry anti-trust case Loew's, 20th-Century-Fox, RKO, Paramount and Warners on March 14, it has become known, opposed this in a statement and motion to the high court, asserting that the court lacked jurisdiction in an appeal (Continued on page 7)

Says WB Theatres Cancel U-1 Films

Reports that all Universal films, including current and scheduled releases, have been cancelled out of Warner theatres throughout the country, were confirmed here yesterday by Universal-International vice-president John J. O'Connor, who attributed the (Continued on page 6)

Coleman Transferred In Divisional Switch

Lester Coleman, assistant to George V. Smith, Paramount Western sales manager, will leave New York today for Los Angeles following his transfer to the division's headquarters in Los Angeles. He returned here Sunday after a two-week stay on the Coast for conferences with Smith on the transfer of the division's activities from New York to the field.

In This Issue

"Trailing Denger" is reviewed on page 8.

Key city grosses are given on page 8.
Golden State Will Build the Del Mar

SAN FRANCISCO, March 25. — The construction of three new theatres has been announced by Golden State Theatres Corp., one each at Lamot Park, Santa Cruz del Del Mar. Excavation has already begun on the Millbrae site, although the Civician Production Administration permit is still pending. William Male, representing Golden State, says the structure will have 1,100 seats and will cost $500,000.

The second property, at Lamot Park, awaits definite architectural plans, and the use of the third, a suburban tract, where residential tracts has been more definitely determined. CPA permit for the Lamot project is still needed.

At San Bruno, Golden State will augment the El Camino Theatre by construction of a new house.

ASCAP Annual Meet HereTomorrowNight

Reports on the past year's activities of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) will be made tomorrow night at the organization's annual membership meeting, which is to be held at the Ritz Carlton.

Guests invited to attend the get-together and the banquet which will follow include: David Sarnoff, RCA president; Justin Miller, head of the National Association of Broadcasters; Edward Noble, American Broadcasting board chairman; Edgar Kobal, Mutual Broadcasting president; Judge A. L. Ashby, attorney for National Broadcasting and Mrs. Guy Gannett, head of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Coast Strike Report

In Washington Today

California Senators Jack B. Tenney and Hugh M. Burns, chairman and ranking member, respectively, of the Senate's special legislative subcommittee on Un-American Activities, left New York yesterday for Washington, where they will testify before the House Un-American Activities Committee today on Communism in connection with the current Hollywood studio strike, Tenney said.

'Duel' Release April 17

April 17 has been set as the national release date for "Duel in the Sun," Milton Kusel, Selznick Releasing Organization sales manager, announced here yesterday. Plans have been concluded for openings in California, Texas, Florida, and additional Southwestern and Southwestern states.

"Verdoux" Ad Account Set

Buchanan and Co. has been designated advertising agency for "Mon- ster," Verdoux," as written by Charles Chaplin announced here yesterday.

Personal Mention

G E O R G E F. DEMBOY, National TV Screen Service vice-president, has charged of sales, his fractured ankle sustained during a recent visit at Miami Beach.

A L F R E D N. SACK, head of Sack Amusement Enterprises, Dallas, is in Washington this week. He will visit New York all next week.

S T E V E BRODY, Monogram president, and EDWARD MORSE, vice-president, have left Chicago for a tour of Canada.

B E N J A M I N F I L D I N G, New York sales representative of the Film Commission, is returning to his desk shortly following a three weeks' absence due to illness.

A R T H U R JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation chief, will leave New York this week, accompanied by actress JUNE LOCKHART.

H A R R Y BLAKE, manager of the Studio Theatre, Salt Lake City, has returned to his desk after a prolonged illness.


L. W. McCLELLAND, Paramount Memphis branch manager, is in Dallas.

C A R L MILLER, a newly-appointed sales representative for Universal in Salt Lake City.

B A R N E Y ROSE, Western district sales manager for Universal-International, is in Seattle from New York.

R O B E R T ROSEN, Columbia writer-director, arrived here from the Coast yesterday.

Wood to Press for Americanism Award

HOLLYWOOD, March 25.—Producer-director Samuel Goldwyn is going to press the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences regarding the Americanism Award, which is conferred by the academy, that an award be presented for the greatest contribution of the year to the cause of good Americanism. Academy spokesmen took the attitude that such an award would be contrary to what would be many opinions as to what constitutes good Americanism. Wood suggested the award be confined to any member of the industry who furthered Americanism through the year preceding the award.

Legion Cites 'Years'

HOLLYWOOD, March 25. — Samuel Goldwyn received a citation for his Academy Award-winning "The Best Years of Our Lives," this evening, on behalf of the American Legion, Hollywood, Post No. 591.

H. M. BESSEY, vice-president of Altec, and P. F. THOMAS, treasurer, have returned to New York from Atlanta.

M A X FEDERHAR, owner of the Cameo and Regent, Akron, and Mrs. Frederick, who are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary in Montreal, he president of the Akron Theatre Managers Association.

J O H N PETRAUSKAS, Jr., Republican treasurer, became the father of a baby girl at a birth on Monday at Gotham Hospital, here.

M O R R I S B U R N E N S T O N K, Warner vice-president in charge of advertising of publicity, has returned to New York from the Coast.

G. J. MALAFRENCE, Universal-International branch operation manager, was in Chicago yesterday.

S A M U E L C A D Y M A N of the H. A. Step- pens Advertising Agency, is the father of a baby daughter, born yesterday at Brooklyn Hospital.

S A M M I L B U R N, West Coast district manager for PRC and Eagle-Lion, is in Seattle from Hollywood.

L E W G I N S B U R G of Amalgamated Theatres, Hartford, is the father of a new-born baby girl.

B U C K STONE, Western district sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, has returned to San Francisco from Seattle.

V I C GAUNTLET, Hammar-Greeneck Theatres advertising manager, has returned to Seattle from Portland, Oregon.

J A C K H U N T, Chicago theatre operator, is visiting here.

Building Controls

To Creedon's Unit

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Administrative action has been taken on the issue of commercial construction has been transferred from the Civilian Production Administration to the Housing and Home Construction Administration.

Housing expert, Frank Creedon, who said his office is taking over for the point where the CBA leaves off. The housing agency will enforce the construction limitation order, which presently restricts non-housing construction.

Estes in News Post

Bernard Estes, industry public relations consultant, has been appointed associate director of Sindicato De Prensa Latino Americano, by Stanley Ross, director of North American activities. The news syndicate supplies news services to newspapers, radio and radio clients through offices in Latin America. The news service will expand its coverage on U.S. film news.

Newsreel Parade

A M E R I C A N foreign affairs, sports, and sundry happenings abroad are the news headlines for current newsreels. Personalities include Act- ing Secretary of State Acheson, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, and Queen, and a number of American film stars. Complete contents follow:


Stromberg Here for UA Product Talks

Producer Hunt Stromberg has arrived here from Hollywood for general, discussions with United Artists offices, and promotion plans for his recently completed "Dis- honored Lady" and "Personal Column."

Stromberg expects to resume production around Aug. 1, although plans for future films have not yet been determined. He has had no further announcements, however, that he will make more pictures than heretofore.

Alexander Named Albany PBC Head

ALBANY, N. Y., March 25.—Harry Alexander, former 20th Century-Fox executive, has been selected a 20th-Fox salesman in the Syracuse area, will become Producers Re- leasing Corp. branch manager here, effective Monday. The post has been vacant for some time.

O'Sullivan, Naish Win

HOLLYWOOD, March 25.—Maureen O'Sullivan and J. Carroll Naish have been named to the Radio-Television News Award's annual St. Patrick's Day awards. Vote tabulation from Boston and Philadelphia delayed the decision for a week.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Ostile, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwood Kane, Editor; Martin Ostile, Jr., Associate Editor, Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and legal holidays. Second class postage paid at New York, New York. Musical Outlook, President; Roy O'Day, Vice-President; Victor P. Jones, Treasurer; James Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Foebe, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill., Harry R. Frodsham, Advertising Manager; London Bureau, 4 Golden sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burum, Editor; Quentin Pyles, Editor; Motions Picture Herald, Better Theaters, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; Entered as second class matter, Sept. 20, 1918, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.
TOPPERS IN THE EASTER PARADE!

MGM's "THE YEARLING" in Technicolor
Gregory Peck • Jane Wyman
ClaudeJarman, Jr.

MGM's "THE SEA OF GRASS"
Spencer Tracy • Katharine Hepburn
Robert Walker • Melvyn Douglas

MGM's "IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN"
Frank Sinatra • Kathryn Grayson
Peter Lawford • Jimmy Durante

MGM's "THE SECRET HEART"
Claudette Colbert • Walter Pidgeon
June Allyson • Lionel Barrymore

MGM's "TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY" in Technicolor
Van Johnson • Judy Garland
Frank Sinatra • June Allyson
Robert Walker • Kathryn Grayson
Van Heflin • Dinah Shore
Lucille Bremer • Lena Horne
Angela Lansbury • Tony Martin
Virginia O'Brien

MGM's "LADY IN THE LAKE"
Robert Montgomery
Audrey Totter • Lloyd Nolan
Tom Tully • Leon Ames
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

GLENN FORD

FRAM

JANIS CARTER · BARRY SULLIVAN

EDGAR BUCHANAN
KAREN MORLEY · JIM BANNO
The same Glenn Ford who tamed Gilda!
Production on Coast Off 1; 42 Shooting

Hollywood, March 25—Production has dropped off slightly, and the production index now stands at 42, compared with the previous level of 43. Six new films have reached camera stages, and work has been resumed on M-G-M's musical, "The Pirates." Seven films have gone to cutting rooms, and shooting has been temporarily suspended on Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife," due to a disagreement between the producer and director William Seiter. It appears probable that some other director will replace him when shooting starts again.

The production scene follows:

Columbia


Eagle-Lion


Paramount

Finished: "Road to Rio.""The Big Clock." RKO Radio


Finished: "The Hat-Box Mystery." (Screen Art.) Started: "Western Barn Dance" (Schwarz); "Killer Dell" (King); "The Case of the Baby Sitter." (Screen Art.)

Selznick


Shooting: "Kiss of Death," "Send- arrived; "Developing Head" (Custis); "Second Chance" (Wurtzel).

United Artists


Universal-International

Shooting: "Jeopardy," "For the Love of Mary," "Singapore," "The Secret Beyond the Door," (Diana); "Brute Force." (Hellinger); "The Lost Love." (Wanger.)

Warner


Shooting: "Voice of the Turtle," "Two Guys from Texas," "Wallflower," "The Unsuspected." (Curtiz.)

\$50,000 Fire Loss

Oklahoma City, March 25—Damage resulting from fire yesterday at the Liberty Theatre, downtown Wary house, was estimated at $50,000.

Review

"Trailing Danger"

(Monogram)

JOHNNY MACK BROWN, again aided by Raymond Hatton, sets for himself the task of driving a stage-coach safely to its terminal. The main difficulty, however, arises out of the fact that a band of outlaws are deter-mined to get all of the passengers and the result is a Western of customary proportions.

The Barney Sarecky production has Marshall Reed, as an escaped prisoner, cast as the "heavy" and he holds up his end with a proper display of skill.

The usual change of gunfighters and galloping horses are included to keep Western fans satisfied. When the smoke of battle finally clears, the stage has made its run safely, and Reed and the remnants of his gang are in the hands of justice cast, directed by Harold Bitter, are Peggy Wyone, Edwin Parker and Steve Darrell.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

Shooting: "The Big Clock." RKO Radio


Repertory


Finished: "The Hat-Box Mystery." (Screen Art.) Started: "Western Barn Dance" (Schwarz); "Killer Dell" (King); "The Case of the Baby Sitter." (Screen Art.)

Selznick


Shooting: "Kiss of Death," "Send- arrived; "Developing Head" (Custis); "Second Chance" (Wurtzel).

United Artists


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Technicolor Supply

(Continued from page 1)

time return to normal print delivery," Kalman announced.

Major stumbling blocks in Techni- color's schedule stem from the six-month strike in 1945 and the current one which began last October, each of which set deliveries three or four months behind the previous three-month period consumed from the time Technicolor received a approved answer-print," the executive explained.

Consequently, he added, it may take nine months, and in some instances longer, for delivery of completed prints.

He revealed that while the Techni- color laboratory is operating at "very nearly full capacity," about 400 of the company's workers are new people being trained in their jobs. In some departments, such as the me- chanical shop department, virtually all of the experienced men are still on strike.

Cancel U-I Films

(Continued from page 1)

action by Warners to a dispute re- evolving around Universal's signing of former Warner writer-director Robert Buc- kner.

Buckner's contract with Warners, O'Connor had said, was pending renewal and renewal of it appeared unlikely. Therefore, he added, U-I signed Buckner. Warners, he demonstrated objections to the U-I move by taking the product cancellation action, according to O'Connor.

However, Harry Goldberg, Warner Theatres advertising-publicity direc- tor, was unable yesterday to present Warners' version of the situation while awaiting details on the move from the Coast.

'Henry' Net

(Continued from page 1)

is noteworthy in view of the fact that it has not been in general release yet. nor has it played major first run theatres. Bookings have been restricted to 60 special engagements, primarily in university and college centers, in conjunction with the distributer in the U. S. and Canada. American exhibition policy for the picture was set up by Paul Lazarus, Jr., United Artists advertising-publicity director, and Harold Atten of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here. The two estimate that "Henry V" can play for several years on its present policy.

Weitman Elected

(Continued from page 1)

tribute to Gene Buck, former presi- dent of the American Society of Com- posers, Authors and Publishers, Weit- man succeeds Jack H. Levin, vice- president and general manager of Con- fidential Reports, Inc.

Elected as vice-presidents are Jul- ian Collins (ASCAP), S. M. Charn- tock, producer; S. Arthur Gibson, at- torney; Bernard Goodman, Warner Brothers; Leo Jaffe, Columbia, Pic- tures; Harlan Kirsch, Radio (ولي- Martin Levine, Brandt Theatre, Chi- cago; Lexington, Universal; Nat K. Lewis, Republic; Louis A. Novis, Paramount.

Max B. Blackman of Warner Brothers was elected secretary; Mal- vin T. Davidson, attorney, was elected secretary; Dr. Morris K. Silberman was elected sergeant-at-arms, and Rabbis Ralph Silverstein and Bernard Birstein were elected chaplains.

Gene Buck was presented the "Cine- ma Lodge Honor Scroll" for his out- standing Americanism and his devo- tion to the best interests of America's motion picture industry.

Installation of officers elected last night will be held on April 23rd.

In another feature of the evening, Barney Balaban, president of Parma- mount, inducted his son, Burt Bal- ban, as a group of new members into the lodge, members of which now totals 1,400 in the allied enter- tainment industries.

Philadelphia UJA Meeting

Barney Balaban, chairman of the motion picture division of the United Jewish Appeal, will preside over a drive organization dinner at the Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, tonight, accompanied from New York by Lou No- vins and Sam Kohn. Jay Emmanuel is head of the Philadelphia committee.

RKO 16mm. Films

(Continued from page 1)

installations, many of them mobile units, are in existence.

For the company's activities in England, Wolf said, will be exclu- sively theatrical, and will be so con- ducted to protect film, accounts. He forecast a huge market in the field and said the results attained next summer will serve as a guide to the extent which RKO Radio will pur- sue 16mm. operations in that country thereafter.

Wolf reported that James Hilton's "So Well Remembered," first of a series which RKO Radio will produce in conjunction with the J. Arthur Rank interests, has been completed and will be released shortly. The film, he said, in all likelihood marks the termination of individual RKO pro- duction in England.
TBA Wins Fight on 20% Television Tax

The Bureau of Internal Revenue's abandonment of plans to impose a 20 per cent amusement tax where television receivers are in use in cabarets was the direct result of action taken by J. R. Poppie, president of the Television Broadcasters Association, as reported here.

Appearing before the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Poppie pointed out the classification could hardly be classified in the same category as cabaret entertainment.

Television Meeting Here to Discuss Films

More than 500 radio, television, film and advertising executives are expected to attend a discussion of the part films will play in television at a "Television Institute" to be held at the Hotel Commodore here on April 14-15. The conference will be conducted by The Televister.

Among topics to be discussed are: "What Is Film's Role in Television?" "Putting Showmanship Into Television Films," "News, Television, Documentary and Event Films," "Editing Film for Video," and "Setting Up a Film Department."

2 Chicago Drive-Ins To Open Next Month

CHICAGO, March 25—Chicago's two outdoor theatres will both open next month. The six-year-old Drive-In, which advertises as "the largest drive-in theatre in the country," will open on April 20. It is owned by Nate Barger and Associates and is managed by Jack Hunt. The new Outdoor Theatre, which opened in the summer of 1946, will open on April 10. It is owned by Irving Gandall and Frank Fink. Roy Zarmine is the manager.

Carnival has been completed on a third outdoor theatre here which will be owned by Phil Smith of Boston.

Delusion' Tradeshows

M-G-M will tradeshows "Dark Delusion" in all company exchanges April 7 with the exception of Washington, where it will be screened on the following day. The picture was formerly titled "Slyna's Secret," and was originally set for showing on March 25. It was postponed until a final title was set.

Special 'Costa' Screening

The three winners of a Costa Rican beauty contest who arrived here yesterday, are to be guests at a special screening of 20th Century-Fox "Carnival in Costa Rica" at 20th's home theatre. The Costa Rican officials are also expected to attend.

Set SRO Distribution

CLEVELAND, March 25—E. S. Johnson, sales manager of the Central Shipping Terminal, has concluded arrangements to handle the physical distribution here of the SRO product. To date no Cleveland sales organization has been established.

Carrolls' Opening Set

World premiere of "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" has been set by Warners for the Hollywood Theater, New York, starting Saturday, April 5, following the current run of "Nora Prentiss."

New Allied Unit Is Indicated at Denver

DENVER, March 25—More than 60 exhibitors from seven Rocky Mountain area states attended the opening session of the Allied organization here, which met today. A. H. Cole and Trueman Rembusch present the Allied story, which was endorsed by the exhibitors who voted to place what unit will be set up as a result of the meeting.

The meeting was the nature of an open forum. Speakers ripped into distributors, claiming that the companies have no national sales policy but fit policies as they can. The Allied caravn was described, along with Allied's setup and aims. The meeting lasted until late afternoon with a get-together held in the evening.

Ten Additional Films Rated by the Legion

Four of 10 films reviewed have been placed in Class A-I by the National Legion of Decency. They are: "Carnegie Hall," United Artists, "Great Expectations," Universal-International; "The Three Lives of Adam," 20th Century-Fox; "Six Gun Serenade," Monogram.

Placed in Class A-II are, "Friendship,"" and "The Guild of Janet Ames," both Columbia, and "A Yank in Rome" (Italian), Lux Films. Class B: "Duel in the Sun," Selznick; "Magnificent Rogue," Republic, and "Odd Man Out," Universal-International. The classification of Superfilm's "General" made "unrated," has been changed from C to B, a change warranted, it was said, on the basis of revisions made in the film.

Well on Broder Job

Sydney B. Well will prepare pressbooks and lobby advertising on eight of the nine currently acquired by the Broder American Releasing Corp., from United Artists. Trailers are already in the works, the seven subjects which are tentatively scheduled for June release.

Ga. Bars Sunday Shows

ATLANTA, March 25—The Georgia House has killed a bill legalizing Sunday shows, by a vote of 80 to 40. Before killing the bill, the House had amended it which would have required theatres to donate 35 per cent of their Sunday receipts to charity.

Calvet Reception Today

Corinne Calvet, French actress, will be the guest at a reception to be given by Paramount this afternoon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here. Miss Calvet has been given a long term contract by the company.

'Years' to K.C.'s TOWER

KANSAS CITY, March 25. — Fox Midwest has placed the Tower, in Kansas City, among the "Ten Best Years of Our Lives" for the Tower, downtown first-run. Prices will be $1 for matinees and $1.50 for other shows.

French Films for E-L

American Eagle-Lion will import a number of French-made productions for distribution, Sam Selelman, E-L foreign sales manager, discloses here.

SAG Sees Walsh, Lindelof Meet Next

Hollywood, March 25—A meeting between IATSE president Richard Walsh and Painters International president L. F. Lindelof is the next step toward the ending of the current strike. The Screen Actors Guild board of directors declared today in telegrams to the executive board of Painters' Local No. 1421, the painters had asked the SAG to restate its position on the strike. The SAG telegram even opened with Walsh's expressed willingness to meet with Lindelof at the latter's convenience.

Pointing out that the painters and the carpenters are the only crafts still on strike, the SAG board indicated that the former can work out a settlement, whereas it believed the carpenters cannot do so unless International president Vittum is in a position on jurisdiction over set erection work.

Ornato Television Films

Joseph Ornato, stage and film producer, has formed Premiere Pictures, here, which will begin immediately the production of a series of shorts in 35 and 16mm. for television transmission.

Industry Cancer Drive

Harry Brandl, president of Brandl Theaters, will be the luncheon chairman for the American Cancer Society.

'Big 5' Vs ATA

(Continued from page 1)

of this nature. They charged further that the denial of ATA's and CSA's intervene is not applicable in that the two theatre groups do not have an "immediate and legal interest" in the case in which they would lose if intervention is denied.

The five companies go on to state that ATA and CSA have no interest in the New York court's decision on bidding in that if a distributor had elected to sell pictures on a competitive basis before the New York decision the two organizations would lack legal right to compel the distributor to license pictures in any other manner.

The five point to a portion of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which permits intervention as a matter of right when the right of the applicants' interests by existing parties is or may be inadequate and the applicants are not at some bound by a judgment in the action.

From this they conclude that ATA and CSA are "not adequately represented" within the meaning of the law and thus are not entitled to intervene as a matter of right.

In their counter brief, ATA and CSA will re-emphasize their claim that they will incur damages unless protected against biding, that they are without representation in the equity case although it is one in which they are vitally interested.

A unique aspect of the situation is that some extent Paramount and 20th-Fox are on odd sides with a part of themselves, namely, theatre partners and subsidiary which are members of either ATA, CSA or both.
Estimates of Key City Grosses

BUFFALO

A customary seasonal slump in engravings, which is expected here. However, the Century has doubled its average with "The Red Sonja," which was advanced at grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 29:

PUESUDE (WB)-BUFFALO 0.49 (40c-
35c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, Gross: $15,500.

GOMERANG (20th-Fox) GREAT LAKES
(3,000) (40c-65c-70c) Gross: $8,600.

BEDELIA (PRC) and IT'S A JOKE, SON
(20th-Fox) BROWNSTONE (2,400) (40c-
60c-70c-85c) 6 days, Gross: $15,500.

ETTA GIRL (Cal)-LAFAYETTE (1,300) $15,400.

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES
underwent a 1947 survey on films and
made a factual analysis of their present
world structure. A resolution for the support
of an international convention which
would facilitate the exchange of films and
visual material between countries. It is the
recommendation that these materials be
permitted to enter duty free.

Universal has begun negotiations with
exhibitors who have requested certain runs and where a contest for the
runs developed bidding was the result.

Run Bidding
(Continued from page 1)

stances result in bidding three months earlier, unless stays are granted to some of the distributors.
Display the present bid, announced now before the Supreme
Court.

Paragraph two, section two, of bids is being referred to the
bidding of an exhibitor who operates a theatre in competition with
another exhibitor. The former is operated by a distributor's affiliate, or subsidiary, or by a mailorder
house, or by the home office of a company that has a
feature to him for exhibition on a run selected by the exhibitor, instead of
by the company that has a feature to him in his theatre for showings on run such as a
run. Such demand shall be determined by the court, and the exhibitor's
refusal in writing or upon the expiration of
ten days after the receipt of the exhibitor's copy of the
Court decision.
Dissolution of Partnerships Starts Shortly

Para. - Locu - McFaul Deal Seen as First

Dissolution of theatre partnerships between affiliated circuits and independent exhibitors, as ordered to the New York Federal District Court, is expected to begin in the near future, with the three-way relationship at Buffalo between Paramount and Vincent R. McFaul likely to be the first on the list.

Talks regarding the termination of this partnership, of which have begun, according to a Paramount spokesman, who said the step will be taken in the near future, follow the ending of his company's last pooling agreement. Fourteen theatres in the Buffalo area are involved. McFaul holds a 1/1

Le Sieur, Winikus Promoted at U. A.

Howard LeSieur, advertising manager of United Artists, has been promoted to the newly-created post of assistant advertising-publicity director, by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., the company's national advertising publicity head. Francis Winikus, who has been serving as copy chief, will move up to LeSieur's spot as advertising manager.

The new move was prompted by the company's expanding business and the addition of several important projects.

Balaban Addresses Phila. UJA Group

PHILADELPHIA, March 26—Tie-in has made the situation confronting the Jewish people "infinitely worse," Barney Balaban, Paramount president and national chairman of the film division of the United Jewish Appeal, said tonight at a dinner-meeting of the local UJA film division at the Hotel Warwick here. The goal of the 1947 drive is $170,000,000.

"The Jewish people of Europe are completely dependent upon us for their..." (Continued on page 8)

Board Asks 'Free Press' Guarantees For Films, Radio

A recommendation that the constitutional guarantees of the freedom of the press be recognized as including motion pictures and the radio has the principal conclusion of interest to the two industries contained in a general report on utterances made communications at the instigation of Henry R. Luce of Time, Inc.

Titled "A Free and Responsible Press" the report is being published as a supplement to the April issue of Luce's "Fortune." It was prepared by a commission on freedom of the press, of which Robert M. Hutchins of the University of Chicago is chairman. (Continued on page 8)

Judge Jackson to Join PCA April 1

WASHINGTON, March 26—Judge Stephen S. Jackson of New York has been named assistant to Joseph L. Brezen, Production Code Administrator, and will assume his new duties in Hollywood on Tuesday, the Motion Picture Association announced today from its headquarters here.

The appointment of Judge Jackson. (Continued on page 7)

Para. May Drop Bidding Appeal But Wants a Stay

Astor Also Out of MPA Title Bureau

Astor Pictures is the second company in a week to withdraw from the Motion Picture Association's Title Registration Bureau, complaining that titles registered by the three companies are so numerous and all-inclusive that new titles filed by independents often too closely resemble those on file and conflicts result.

Eagle Lion backed out of the bureau for the same reason last week. Although an Astor statement reports it is resigning from the MPA, the company has been in no other way associated with the MPA and the title registry was rendered gratis to it, as well as to all companies outside the MPA.

Margaret Young, head of the bureau here, said yesterday that since... (Continued on page 8)

Arbitration Move Perils Decree: U.S.

D. of J. Sees Bidding as 'Step Toward Relief'

Declaring that the pending motion before the U. S. Supreme Court to prevent dissolution of the industry arbitration system beginning next Tuesday is tantamount to taking as a reversal of the New York Federal District Court's decree in the industry anti-trust suit, and that competitive bidding should start on July 1 as "a preliminary step toward adequate relief," the Department of Justice yesterday ordered the owners and operators of the high tribunal that it will oppose all stays of the local tribunal's judgment when Justice Stanley Reed holds a hearing on the petitions in Washington tomorrow afternoon.

"The arbitration stay sought by the major defendants is..." (Continued on page 7)

ATA, Allies to Ask Bids Stay Tomorrow

American Theatre Association, the Confederation of Southern Associations and the Southern California Theatre Owners' Association will apply for postponement of operation of the bidding provisions of the New York Federal Court's anti-trust decision, having altered original plans to file yesterday.

In argument for the stay, which will... (Continued on page 4)

Brooklyn Theatre to Halt Its Bidding

Condemning the three-way competitive bidding fight under way in the Court Street situation in Brooklyn as one which "rapidly getting out of control," Joseph Mirsos, owner of the Gloria Theatre, last night disclosed that he will withdraw from any further bidding for RKO Radio... (Continued on page 8)

In This Issue

Key city grosses are given on page 5.

NEW YORK, U.S.A.; THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1947

TEN CENTS
Upholds Disavowal Of Minors’ Deals

Los Angeles, March 28—The right of a player to dis-avow, on attaining majority, an employment contract entered into while minor has been affirmed by the Appellate Court here in the case of Joan Leslie vs. Warner Brothers. The case was originally decided in Miss Leslie’s favor in Superior Court.

It is understood, however, that the company will carry an appeal to the State Supreme Court. The Leslie case is considered fundamentally important to all studios, because of the existence of a large number of similar employment contracts.

Insider’s Outlook

By RED KANN

ADDRESSING 250 executives of Fox West Coast Theatres in Los Angeles last Monday, Charles Quigley, chairman, saw the immediate future of exhibition confronted with two factors. One was the implementation of the provisions of the new contract the company was negotiating with what he described as an increasing demonstration by the public of greater selectivity in their film entertainment. The other conditions, it was his conclusion, indicated the continued, if not a greater, success in exhibition would rely ever more on the careful selection of production, operation and aggressive showmanship.

There will be little argument over how much the picture business is the product of the public’s changing tastes; but it is not clear why Skouras accepted the burden for exhibition without passing to Hollywood its portion. More particularly if done on the second point, the sharper veering of the customers toward picking the attractions they intend supporting—he was giving expression to what many producers regard as the reason why the runs in stepped-up volume of late. The drift is not new. It simply grows more steadily pronounced. As the war drew to a close, ardent observers of the times began to get wise to the change. Their statistics provided all the proof the then required to demonstrate theatre managers no longer were stepping out of the way as they threw open the doors if they wanted to survive the deluge.

The deluge had not vanished, but it was precipitated on selectivity. Audiences were beginning to display signs of picking and choosing the films that they wanted. Some of the blind allegiance which was developed through lack of other spending avenues began to disappear. Values were being weighed, which meant any number of poor-to-average attractions, skyrocketed into national grosses which their merit never, if ever, deserved, began to turn earthward. Some producers and distributors who had been riding the gravy train learned they were not traveling by perpetual motion. They didn’t like it, there being no reason why they should. Nevertheless, it was as inevitable as death and taxes—to disavow a late old bromide.

The clearest manifestation of what goes on today, of course, takes form in the well-known and oft-reported extended-run situation. Fox, it has to be approached in averages, not in terms of the exceptional attraction which makes as much of a monkey of the rules as it always has. There is no question that length of run is shorter although the money generally rolling in during the life of the run causes no pain to either exhibitor or distributor.

Should this continue, first runs will require more pictures each year. In turn, this clearly indicates major studios will have to increase production to meet the market. In this event, the producers here are complaining of by exhibitor organizations, including Allied, will evaporate, and quiet restored on that point.

Forward-looking sales managers are not unprepared for the day, hoping it may never arrive. If it comes, the adjustment will have to follow. At the moment, extended runs fit properly into their somewhat abbreviated presentation. Attractive runs, holding up for three and four weeks are common occurrences. While this may increase first-run requirements, the differential is not pronounced enough for the major studio to consider a wholesale raise in production.

But, on the other hand, if runs diminish to an average of two weeks, Hollywood will be tumbling all over itself in a mad race to turn out enough merchandise to occupy available screens.

Eric Johnston says the country needs about 5,000 new theaters, indicating he anticipates quite an upsurge in portables and drive-ins. He further says all of this new construction will bring about substantially increased attendance over the period of the ensuing five years.

The building of a flock of new houses carries no guarantee audiences will be on hand to fill them. If Johnston had spoken about methods of cultivating new patrons, he would have been on happier ground. We do nothing in this industry about broadening the market, hoping that by accident or magic it will arrive upon itself.

Hardy scientific.

Governor, Mayor to ‘Orleans’ Opening

Gov. James Davis of Louisiana, Mayor of New Orleans, Joseph J. Connors, Sr., and a number of other state and city officials, as well as a number of film stars, will be on hand at 11 a.m. on Thursday at the Saenger Theatre for the world premiere thereof on April 26 of Jules Levy’s “Orleans,” the producer disclosed yesterday. The city is not only especially chosen as a locale for the development of American jazz, particularly with reference to its inception, in New Orleans, has been booked for an indefinite run at the Saenger and thereafter will be set in 100 communities in the area. Levy reported, United Artists is distributing.

Officialdom’s endorsement of the film, Levy said, is typified in a recent statement of Mayor McRae, recently as described it as “a true and entertaining history on the creation of jazz and its reign in our city at that time.” Its stars include Arturo de Cordova, Irene Rich, and featuring the Louis Armstrong and Woody Herman band. Levy’s representative here, Charles Jones, has joined with a battery of UA promotions men in New Orleans, under Paul Lazarus, jr. in the formulation of an extensive pre-selling campaign on the picture. They also will be on hand for the opening.

Levy will leave here for the Coast at the weekend to set in motion productions that will extend in six months to engage in a private enterprise. Meanwhile, he will instruct Mr. Richard Kostelanetz, whose appointment as labor relations head for the AMPP was reported yesterday in Motion Picture Daily, in his new duties.

Bachman LeavesWB: May Go to UA Post

CHICAGO, March 26—John A. Bachman, who resigned recently as Warners branch manager here after 11 years with the company, will join United Artists as branch manager in Atlanta on April 7. Latter post was left vacant by the resignation of Henry Krummem, recently appointed Southern division manager for Selznick Releasing Organization.

Shubert Trial Ends

Both sides in the three-day trial of the $500,000 unit brought by Lee and Jacob Shubert against Columbia for using the Winter Garden name and other rights in “The Jolson Story” rested their cases yesterday before Supreme Court Justice as assistant district attorney in the New York City Court of General Sessions.

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RONALD REAGAN
ALEXIS SMITH
ZACHARY SCOTT

"STALLION ROAD" WILL TAKE YOU TO THE TOP!

DIRECTED BY JAMES V. KERN
NOVEL AND SCREEN PLAY BY STEPHEN LONGSTREET
PRODUCED BY ALEX GOTTLIEB

A GREAT STORY TOLD WITH GREAT EXCITEMENT ——— IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS!

WARNERS
Road to Success!
Wash. Theatremen Plan ASCAP Fight

ST. PAUL, March 26.—Eighteen Warners theater owners here have notified their state court in St. Paul of the damages they have suffered by ASCAP's merger with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. A judgment has been issued by Judge Wright in the state court in St. Paul last week, setting the damages at $3,250,000 in addition to the old scale between now and the end of the year.

SOPE-CGP-CPB Opening Contract Talks Today

Representatives of the Copyright Protection Bureau and the Screen Co-operators Permanent Bureau were on Monday to discuss the first post-war television contract after the issues of the old-scale prices were distributed.

New RCA Television Console Is on Way

The Radio Corporation of America will shortly introduce its first post-war television console. Many executive production changes designed to increase output of all types of television receivers have been completed.

Silverstein Is Named Pictorial Ad Head

Adolph Silverstein, formerly with 20th Century-Fox, Paramount and United Artists, has been appointed advertising-publicity director of the company's film division. His new position was announced today in a letter from Dr. Silverstein, vice-president of the company's subsidiary, the National Screen Institute.

Sinatra in "Bells"

Hollywood, March 26.—Frank Sinatra, the part of Isabel Eames in "Mystery of the Mountain," will play "Vesper" in his motion picture debut in "The Man Who Wasn't There," as announced by Warner Bros.

Academy Election Set for April 15

Hollywood, March 26.—The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will hold its annual board of governors election on April 15, when elections procedures introduced under the three-by-law changes adopted last fall.

Studio Wage Boost Begins Next Week

Hollywood, March 26.—The major studios will implement next week a 15.17 per cent wage increase recently granted approximately 15,000 employees to meet the cost-of-living increase in 1945 which has been approved by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Meanwhile paychecks totaling $2,369,965.27 will be retroactive to the date of the decision, when the new wage level will cost the studios $2,250,000 in additional payments over the old scale between now and the end of the year.

Gold Heads Jersey Anti-Tax Combine

TRENTON, March 26.—George Gold, a director and chairman of the Federation of New Jersey Theatres, newly-created organization of theatre association presidents and all groups of exhibitors, set up to combat sales tax legislation. Already singled out for a full-scale assault is Assembly Bill No. 337, which would authorize municipalities to levy admission taxes.

Lester has been joined by Hammerstein and lyricist, which will be the only members used to point out the campaign.

Cancer Show Marks Frisco Realignment

SAN FRANCISCO, March 26.—The local Paramount Theatre's transfer of its managerial operations to the Coast to Paramount will be marked tomorrow by a reserved-seat opening of "My Favorite Brunette" with all proceeds going to the "Drunken Ramen Cancer Fund." A night of May 26.

The house is being taken over by Paramount as part of the dissolution of its pooling agreement with Fox West Coast. The St. Francis, to be taken over Sunday, will be modernized and changed to a theatre. The State, going under Paramount at the same time, will come back on the screen as a second feature. All three are under Jerry Zigmund, newly-appointed Paramount manager here.

Bill Seeks Parity For Women's Wages

SACRAMENTO, March 26.—A bill which will require employers in California to offer the same scale of wages to women as to men, has been introduced by Assemblymen Augustus Hawkins and Glenn Anderson, both of Los Angeles. The bill stipulates women shall receive equal pay with men doing "the same or equal work and having the same or equal qualifications."

Services Today for Abel Vigar, 49

Funeral services for Abel A. Vigar, 49, vice-president of Warner Theatres and head of Warner's Savoy Theatre, will be held at Riverside Memorial Church. The services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday in the church, and at 3:30 p.m. Friday in the church, and will be held at Clubhouse Cemetery, Kingston, N.Y.

Vigar, a brother-in-law of Joseph H. Silverstein, independent producer, had been in New York for about the past 18 years. He was a charter member of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, Surviving are his widow, Shirley, and two brothers, Harry and Joseph.

Seek Exemption for Professional Women

SACRAMENTO, March 26.—A bill exempting "executive, administrative and secretarial personnel" from the eight-hour limitation of the state labor code, has been introduced by Assemblymen Harry Johnson of Fortville, Ray Blank of South San Francisco, and J. G. Crichton of Fresno. Another proviso is included in Assembly bill No. 964, which is intended in work which is predominantly intellectual, managerial, or creative, and for which the remuneration is not less than $250 per month.

Seek Elimination Of Liquor Scenes

DES MOINES, March 26.—In a campaign to eliminate drinking scenes from film shows in Iowa, Rep. C. S. Van Eton has prepared a joint resolution which will be offered to the Iowa House Liquor Control Committee, of which he is a member. The resolution asks for the deletion of drinking scenes from current films.

Dinner For Rank

British producer J. Arthur Rank, will be honored for his work with re- gards to the war effort May 9 at the Hotel Commodore, tendered by the World's Sunday School Association.

ATL, Allies on Bids (Continued from page 1)

be heard on the same day by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed, who is handling other things, that the New York court actually has given jurisdictional sanction to a system of distributor selling which otherwise would have been illegal. They will charge that the film companies formed among themselves, to sell on a competitive basis, the exhibitors would have had remedy in law.
“GREAT EXPECTATIONS”

A fine boxoffice motion picture has been booked into the Radio City Music Hall

No finer recommendation could be given to this motion picture
J. ARTHUR RANK presents

JOHN MILLS and VALERIE HOBSON

in

"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"

by Charles Dickens

with Bernard Mills · Francis L. Sullivan
and introducing
Anthony Wager · Jean Simmons

Directed by DAVID LEAN · Produced by RONALD NEAME
Executive-Producer ANTHONY HAVELOCK-ALLAN
A CINEGUILD PRODUCTION
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE
Motion Picture Daily

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, March 26

"LIGHTS OUT," by Raymond Ken- drick's novel of the same name, a new contract with that studio. He "is to star in the picture as well as di- rect," according to a report from Eagle-Lion as a producer. . . . Albert Dekker has been engaged for a stellar role in "Complex," which W. Lee Wilder will produce and direct for Republic.

To mark the 30th anniversary of the screen debut of Edgar Rice Burroughs' character, "Tarzan," Sol Lesser will produce "Tarzan and the Mermaids," to be the latest lavish pro- duction in this series to date. Chum- pions now producing the series on an all over the world to play the mer- maids, and Johnny Weissmuller will appear once more as "Tarzan," under Brenda Joyce and Johnny Sheffield in other key roles. The picture will be released through RKO Radio next year.

James Mason will be starred in "The layered King David," to be produced by Alexander Korda. The screenplay will be based on Biblical material and in part on a story by a French author, "The Legend of Justice," novel by Ernst Lotherman, has been purchased by Universal International, and is currently the project of Edward G. Robinson. Jack Warther, currently producing "High Tide" for Monogram release, has engaged Mason for a prominent part in the picture.

"Devil Ship" will be the title of the first of six pictures which Martin Mooney is scheduled to produce for Columbia. . . . Katharine Hepburn has been assigned to the title role in M-G-M's version of the J. P. Mar- quard novel, "B. F.'s Daughter." . . . Republic is planning an all-star winter starring Allan Lane, to replace the "Red Ryder" group, the first of which will be called The Wild Frontier.

Martha Stewart has been assigned the lead opposite Don Daley in "Off to Buffalo," which Lloyd Bacon will direct and Walter Morosco will pro- duce in Technicolor for 20th-Century-Fox. . . . Talbot Jennings has been signed to a writer contract of M-G-M, and it is reported that he will be given the screenplay for "The History of Rome Hawks," in collaboration with Clem- ents Ripley. Sam Marx will produce.

Alexis Smith has been chosen for the role of Karen Clark in "Whiplash," prizefight film now shooting at Warners. . . . Three Blondes" is the title of the fourth musical to be pro- duced by Sam Katzman for Colum- bia release during 1946-17. Betty Compson, who has been away from the silent days, has been engaged by Sol Wurtzel for a top role in "Sec- ond Chance," his current produc- tion for 20th-Century-Fox.

Lee Landers will direct "Son of Rusty," next feature of Columbia's series of "Rusty" pictures about a boy and his

DIEBER, 5 Others Win

Marine Gross Drive

Jack Dieber, manager of the Marine Theatre, Brooklyn, and William Applegate, Century Theatres' Queens district manager, yesterday emerged as the winners of the two-union contest, respectively, in the circuit's annual winter drive for increased grosses, it was reported by general theatre manager J. R. Springer.

First-time winners this year are: Robert Ahlbo, manager of the Argyle, Brooklyn; Maurice, Bellerose, Long Island; Aron- son's, assistant, Jerome Thysberg; Mc- Kendrick Williams, Baldwin, Long Island; and John Jackson, Century, Theatre manager. The win- ners will leave May 21 for a four-day trip to California and Las Vegas. Placid. Dieber will be presented with a gold watch at an April 3 luncheon.

Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

really not a stay at all but a pro- pose that the parties request an "affirmative relief on their behalf," the government says in its document, copies of which may be made available to the defendants here.

"The court below," it adds, "had no juridical basis for the adoption of the arbitration system other than the consent of the parties, and this provision liquidating the consent decree of 1940 is thus utterly in- consistent with enforcement of the court's judgment of Dec. 31, 1940. Although the major defendants describe the pur- pose of this stay as merely to permit consultation on the arbitration of the issues in the case, we doubt that the stay could not be so limited without rewriting the judgment.

"Holding that the new clearance provisions are in conflict with those of the consent decree, in that they en- vision "a completely fluid system of distribution in which clearances may vary with each feature licensed," the Department states that "the suggestion that the arbitrators obviously follow the principles laid down by the opinion" (of 1946) might be true and that the arbitrators could render a stay, but that they would have authority to arbitrate such disputes only in ac- cordance with the consent decree.

Of Columbia's, Loew's and United Artists for stays of competitive bidding pending Supreme Court action on the appeal, the government says: "There is no doubt that compliance means a sub- stantial economic burden. However, under the current market- ing methods distribution of new pictures from a single source has been a "necessary evil." It is not the purpose of the consent decree to stop distribution in this manner, and if it were it would require that changes be made in the present system.

With regard to the applicants' plea that they are at a competitive dis- advantage because non-defendant dis- tributors are free from the bidding restri- ction, the Department states: "In any event, the rationale of the consent decree is not to restrain the present system but to confer on the film producers the power to do as they will with their works, in all respects other than making their exclusive agreement with the exhibitors that they are competing in the film industry. It is not the function of the consent decree to devise procedures that would allow the defendants to compete with each other as they would like.

Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

Delinquency Under

NAB Radio Attack

WASHINGTON, March 26, — Justin Miller, president of the National As- sociation of Broadcasters, has dis- closed plans to help combat juve- nile delinquency through the NAB's 1,000 member radio stations and networks. The association's new program depart- ment will prepare special script material to stations which in turn will bring the crusade to a community level.

Reopen MGM House

M-G-M's Forum Theatre has been reopened in Liege, Belgium, it was announced here yesterday.

Jackson to PCA

(Continued from page 1)

the PCA, this post is one of two to be created, the second appointment to be an- nounced later.

In addition, a number of new per- sonnel to the PCA is necessitated, the PCA said, because of increased pressure on its staff of the increased number of domestic and foreign productions which must be ex- amined by the newly created center.

Judge Jackson is a graduate of Holy Cross and Harvard Law School and served on the New York Domestic Relations Court. He is an expert in the study of juvenile delinquency.

Partnership

(Continued from page 1)

per cent interest, with the re- mainder in the remaining per cent split equally between Paramount and Loew's.

Under terms of the final decree in the industry New York anti-trust suit, co-defendants may not hold any theatre interests jointly and their joint holding with an independent is limited to 85 per cent or not exceed five per cent. The court has granted the companies until October 1, 1953 to file the di- stribution order, but reports on their progress in that direction are due not later than July 1 of this year, and in acquiring new interests through joint- partnerships, the companies must show to the satisfaction of the court that each will not unduly restrain competition.

In tackling the Buffalo situation, Paramount and Loew's attorneys are likely to be heard but are not expected to be engaged at first whether it should be regarded as a partnership or a pool but to have the case heard on the merits of the partnership. Proper interpretation of this point is seen as vital right now inasmuch as the New York court decree calls for the dissolution of pools with inde- pendents by July 1 and of those be- tween defendants by next Tuesday.
and 2oth-Century-Fox product. He added that he has informed the respective exchanges of his decision which was made after what he termed "unrealistic bidding" by the competitive Lido and Parais Court firms.

At one time an exhibitor of first run on Court Street for 20th-Fox, RKO, Paramount and Republic product, the Gloria has lost out to Parais Court on RKO's "Sindbad the Sailor" and to the Lido on 20th-Fox's "13 Rue Madeleine." Although he succeeded in regaining first run on 20th-Fox's "Margin," Mirabella said he lost money on the run because of his bid for a guarantee against percentage. Parais Court books through the Island Theatre Circuit.

Averring that his theatre will out-cross his competitors on any picture, Mirabella said that he was contemplating turning his house over to re-issues or, possibly, three features, at least until "a semblance of sanity" is restored in the situation.

Columbia product is also being auctioned in the Brooklyn situation which is the first reported bidding situation in the New York City area. Bidding for 20th-Fox product began last December, upon the initiative of the company, even before the decree was handed down by the New York Federal Court on Dec. 31.

**Astor Quits**

(AContinued from page 1)

Astor subscribed to the title service in August, 1946, it had registered only nine titles and one was protested, this "The Road to Hollywood," rights to which are held by Paramount. She said the bureau has 45,000 titles on file but made it clear priorities on these expire in 12 months. A producer on the "reserve list" for any title would get right to that title if actual production is not begun by the company holding the title six months after expiration.

She said that both Eagle-Lion and Astor could have avoided themselves of litigation of any dispute. Robert Savini, president of Astor, charged yesterday that Paramount has what he termed "road block," that is, first right to "The Road to Hollywood" title. He said that when his "Road to Hollywood" title was objected to he registered "The Road to Paramount" for, in effect, purposes of his own amusement. This was met with a storm of protest, he said.

**Balaban**

(Continued from page 1)

very survival." Balaban said, "The Jewish people of America and their Christian friends must carry the awful responsibility of determining the fate of more than a million.

The Philadelphia UJA campaign was organized at tonight's meeting at which J. Emanuel presided. Fred Schlarer was named co-chairman for Warner Brothers Theatres; A. M. Ellis was named co-chairman for Independent; and Sam Gross, 2oth-Century-Fox branch manager, was named co-chairman for distribution.

Also present were: William Goldman, Ben Fertel, Lou Novins, Sam Shain, Lewen Pizor, Morris Wax, Leo Pozzol, Lou and Abe Fabinsky, Melvin Fox, Lester Krisper, Sam Daroff, Fred Mann and Kurt Feiser.

**State Boards Would Stay**

Of its recommendation that free press guarantees be extended to films, the report says: "This would not abolish state boards of review; it would require them to operate within the First Amendment as it is interpreted by the Supreme Court."

Its second recommendation is that the "government facilitate new ventures in the communications industry, that it foster the introduction of new techniques, that it maintain a policy, among large units, of industry and that, where concentration is necessary in communications, the government endeavor to see to it that the public gets the benefit of such concentration."

**Goodenough to Kay**

MEMPHIS, March 26—John D. Goodenough, has been named branch manager of Kay Film Exchange here.
Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily correspondents.

CHICAGO

Spring rains and blizzards, combined with an unbuckled "flu" epidemic sent some grosses below recent levels. However, as in evidence generally, Estimated receipts for the week ending March 26-27:

THE JOLESON STORY (Col.—WB) — RIALTO (1,900) 9 1/2c 2nd week Gross: $2,700.00 (Average: $325.00)
MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,000) 9 1/2c 2nd week of film 1st week of new stage show. On stage King Cole Trio. Gross: $8,000.00 (Average: $266.67)

12 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)—GAR- RICK (1,000) 9 1/2c Gross: $10,000.00 (Average: $1,000.00)
SMAKING (U.S.—U.S.)—GRAND (1,500) 9 1/2c Gross: $2,000.00 (Average: $1,333.33)
THE RED HOUSE (UA)—CENTRAL (1,800) 9 1/2c On stage: Jan Ashley and Jerry Shively white only. Gross: $6,000.00 (Average: $3,333.33)
THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AIR (UA) — BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—PARK— (20th—Fox) — PALACE (2,500) 5c—95c Gross: $20,000.00 (Average: $8,000.00)
DANIEL BOONE (RKO Radio release) and WINDBACK (RKO Radio release) — RIALTO (1,800) 9 1/2c—95c Gross: $10,000.00 (Average: $5,000.00)
PURSED (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) 9 1/2c 2nd week Gross: $3,800.00 (Average: $1,900.00)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—STATE— LAKES (2,700) 9 1/2c 5th week. Gross: $30,000.00 (Average: $6,333.33)
THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) 9 1/2c Gross: $6,000.00 (Average: $3,500.00)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WEIR— rectangle 3,000 9 1/2c—95c Advanced prices: 25¢—$1.30—$1.80—$2.30—$3.00 14th week Gross: $32,000.00 (Average: at 9 1/2c: $20,000.00)

SAN FRANCISCO

A spell of fine weather, combined with a lengthy list of holdovers, kept grosses high. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 26-27:

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U—U.S.) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—ORPHÉUM— 2,400) 5c—85c 2nd week Gross: $11,500.00 (Average: $4,750.00)
BOOMERANG (20th-Fox) and ALIAS MR. SCARLETT (UA)—GRAND— (2,850) 5c—85c Gross: $14,000.00 (Average: $2,800.00)
THE JOLESON STORY (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,350) 9 1/2c—95c. With vaudeville. Gross: $4,000.00 (Average: at 9 1/2c: $2,666.67)
SMASH UP (U—U.) and ACCOMPLICE (PRC)—ESQUIRE (1,000) 5c—85c 4th week Gross: $6,000.00 (Average: at 85c: $4,000.00)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—UNITED NATIONS (1,250) (Advanced prices: 25¢—$1.30—$1.80—$2.30—$3.00 2nd week Gross: $25,000.00 (Average: at 9 1/2c: $6,666.67)
SMASH UP (U—U.) and ACCOMPLICE (PRC)—TIVOLI (1,000) 5c—85c 4th week. Gross: $11,500.00 (Average: at 85c: $7,666.67)
THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and THE PHANTOM CHEF (U—U.)—ARTISTS (1,450) 9 1/2c Gross: $13,500.00 (Average: $9,642.86)

OMAHA

Warmest weather of the year reached here, but grosses were lower than usual. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 26-27:

NORA PRENTISS (WB) and THE TRAP (20th—Fox)—BROADWAY— (2,500) 9 1/2c—95c 2nd week for "Nora Prentiss," on move. From Fox. Gross: $8,500.00 (Average: at 95c: $6,909.09)
THE LION STORY (Col.—RKO) and RITTENHOUSE (Col.—RKO) — RIALTO— (2,870) 9 1/2c—95c 7 days, after two weeks each at Empress. Webber. Gross: $7,500.00 (Average: at 9 1/2c: $5,750.00)
DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—WEBBER— (2,760) 9 1/2c—95c 7 days, with Empress. Ressure. Gross: $2,000.00 (Average: at 95c: $1,666.67)

MINNEAPOLIS

"The Razors' Edge," "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "Beat the Band" are doing outstanding business. Weather has been balmy. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 26-27:

LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M) and MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.—WARFIELD— (2,667) 60¢—85¢ 2nd week Gross: $22,000.00 (Average: $7,333.33)

DENVER

"The Best Years of Our Lives" ran strong in its second week at the Alda- din and is staying. The Jolson Story" gave the Rialto a record week and stays. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 26-27:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ALADDIN (1,100) (Advanced prices: 85¢—$1.30—$1.80—$2.30—$3.00 2nd week. Gross: $15,000.00 (Average: at 95c—95c: $19,500.00)
DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—DENVER— (2,450) 9 1/2c—95c 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,000.00 (Average: at 95c: $5,000.00)
LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M)—STATE — (2,300) 75c—95c 7 days. Gross: $11,000.00 (Average: $1,571.43)

KANSAS CITY

A snowstorm of the week and the spring-like days that followed it were both harmful to attendance. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 25-27:

SWEET GUY—ESQUIRE— (96c) —Gross: $3,000.00 (Average: $300.00)
SWEET GUY—FAIRWAY— (74c) —Gross: $5,000.00 (Average: $714.29)
SWEET GUY—FAIRWAY— (95c) —Gross: $7,250.00 (Average: $1,035.71)
THE RED HOUSE (UA) and TRITEENTH HOUR (Col.—MIDLAND— (45c) —Gross: $3,600.00 (Average: $500.00)
MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE— (Para.) — NEWMAN— (50c) —Gross: $4,000.00 (Average: $571.43)
APACHE ROSE (Rep.) and OVER THE SANTA FE TRAIL (Col.)—TOWER— (75c) —Gross: $3,200.00 (Average: $457.14)
SWEET GUY—UPTOWN— (2,000) 9 1/2c—95c 7 days. Gross: $3,000.00 (Average: at 95c: $428.57)

CLEVELAND

Westerners took first place here, with "California" and "Kit Carson" both exceeding house averages. Estimated receipts for the week ending March 26-27:

KIT CARSON (PRC release)—LOEW'S— (1,100) 75c—95c—$1.00—$1.30—$1.60—$1.85 6th week. Gross: $20,500.00 (Average: $3,416.67)
CALIFORNIA (Para.)—LOEW'S— (3,000) 9 1/2c—95c 7 days. Gross: $23,000.00 (Average: $3,285.71)

Bidding Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

do so pending the determination of the various appeals. They anticipate difficulties, however, and feel that during the initial stages they should not be subject to contempt proceedings. In any event, they feel that if the stays are granted to the present applicants, who are strongly aggressive competitors in the distribution field, the stay should not operate as to the applicants alone.

LOEW's, 20th Century Fox and Warners are not in a position to seek or obtain bidding stays, insuperably so as they did not assign that portion of the decree as an error, legal observers here point out.
The power and the glory of

**GREGORY PECK**

in Hemingway's greatest man-and-woman story!

Benedict Bogeaus presents

GREGORY PECK • JOAN BENNETT

in Ernest Hemingway's

"THE MACOMBER AFFAIR"

also starring

ROBERT PRESTON

with Reginald Denny • Jean Gillie • Directed by ZOLTAN KORDA
Produced by Benedict Bogeaus and Casey Robinson

Screenplay by Casey Robinson and Seymour Bennett
Adaptation by Seymour Bennett and Frank Arnold

Opening in 35 key spots starting April 10!

Released thru UA
Spotlight on Suit Shifts To Washington

Robert S. Golden, son of Edward A. Golden, has formed Golden Productions. The younger Golden is executive producer and president. Current officers are: Larry Witten, vice president; S. H. Lewis, treasurer; Ann Flair, secretary. Edward Golden is chairman of the board, and will also be in charge of sales, with offices in Hollywood and New York.

One picture a year for United Artists release, with work on the first of three scheduled, "Texas, Heaven and Brooklyn," tentatively scheduled in July at General Service Studio on the Coast. All pictures will be budgeted at more than $2,000,000 each. The initial production, the Golden office reported here yesterday, will have four stars, one of whom will be Beatrice Lillie. The screenplay has been written by Lewis Meltzer, from Barry Benenson's book, "Eddie and the Angelical Mike."

Norman Manning to Assist Skouras on Variety Meet

Los Angeles, March 27—Norman Manning has been engaged by Variety Clubs, International, as assistant executive commissioner, to succeed J. P. Skouras in planning and supervising all activities connected with the 11th annual convention of Variety Clubs, to be held here May 14-17.

Further plans were outlined at a meeting of the convention executive committee presided over by Skouras. The transportation committee, headed by W. H. Lollie, plans to transport deleges from key cities by special trains. George Bower, chairman of the "Humanitarian Award" committee, announced that newspaper editors are now being polled to determine the person who contributed the most to humanity during 1946. The winner will be announced by May 1.

Dean Hysell has been named editor of the Convention Journal.

Nizer Heads UCLA Speakers' Bureau for 1947 Drive

Louis Nizer, industry attorney, has been named chairman of the national speakers' bureau of the United Jewish Appeal 1947 campaign for $7,000,000.

Arbitration Ruling May Set Precedent

The American Arbitration Association is awaiting a predecision ruling from Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed, who will hear arguments in Washington today on the plan for the future of the industry tribunals. The Department of Justice has appealed the court's decision that the arbitrators were entitled to base their future decisions on the 1940 consent decree, which was superseded by "conflicting" injunctions in the New York Federal District Court's decision of last Dec. 31.

A system set up for the film industry is the only one it has had as the outgrowth of a consent decree, a spokesman for the association said here yesterday.

U-I and GFD In First Meet

LONDON, March 27—First territorial sales conference to be held by General Film Distributors and Universal-International Pictures since the merger of the Eagle-Lion group with GFD, was held here this week at the Dorchester Hotel, with E. T. Carr, co-managing director of GFD, presiding.

Keynoter of the meeting was Joseph Mannix.

Maas to Berlin for AMG Film Talks

Ivory Maas, Motion Picture Export Association's general manager, will fly to Berlin on Sunday to confer with American Military Government officials on new developments regarding the release of "Eddie and the Angelical Mike." "The United Nations" was the last film he released in Berlin.

EK Cites Advances In Color, Video Processing

Rochester, N. Y., March 27—Eastman Kodak Co. announced progress in color film photography, and graphic arts and color video processing, which are being studied in relation to commercial needs, especially those arising in the television field.

The company's research program embraces the development of extremely rapid film processing, which are being studied in relation to commercial needs, especially those arising in the television field.

Spotlight on the industry anti-trust suit, after nine years of litigation in the New York Federal District Court, will turn to Washington this afternoon, when U. S. Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed will listen to arguments on a petition to dismiss the lawsuit.

Attorneys for the theatre-owning defendants will press for a stay of that portion of the New York Federal District Court's decree which would dissolve 21 of the 31 arbitration tribunals next week—and the others as soon as their pending cases are liquidated.

The proposal to keep the boards in existence, ruling on clearance disputes only, prior to the outcome of appeal, is the result of a compromise between theatre owners and exhibitors. The decision is expected to be reached within the next week after arguments in March 17 and 19.

An appeal from the New York federal court's decision will be heard by the Full Supreme Court of the United States, which will hear arguments in April 12 and 13.

In a summary of company activities outside the United States, the report said that plants at Harrow, England; Zagreb, Yugoslavia; and Paris, France, "operated at high levels." The. plant in Stuttgart, Germany, continued its operations, begun in 1945, under jurisdiction of the United States military government.

The company's production schedule for the year is seven films, to be made by the company's main studios in Hollywood, plus one picture for a new company in France, and one for a new company in England. Two more pictures are to be released this year, and three others will be made next year.

The company's sales department has been active in the United States, and has also been active in other countries. The company's sales representatives have been in touch with distributors in all parts of the world, and have been successful in securing orders for the company's films.

In a letter to the company's president, the chairman of the board said that the company's financial position was excellent, and that the company was well on the way to being profitable.

In this Issue

"The Other Love" is reviewed on page 7.

Theatres Urge Producers Pay Ascop: Paine

Society's Gross Up to 80 Million, Says Taylor

That the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers should draft its motion picture music publishing rights revenue form the film producers and not exhibitors, has been put to Ascop in "suggestion" form by some theatre owners, John G. Paine, general manager, told the organization's annual meeting at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel here yesterday.

He said that action on this as well as the contemplated complete revision of film industry tax rates is now under study. As previously reported, the performing right society will consult theatre representatives in an effort to draw up an equitable formula for new rates.

Lester Santley, chairman of the executive committee, also touched on

Reds Defeated on Coast: Johnston

WASHINGTON, March 27—Communists' attempts to capture Hollywood have ended in overwhelming defeat. Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, told the House Committee on Un-American Activities here today in answer to comments made before the group yesterday by

Stars Are Mobbed at 'Other Love' Debut

LONDON, March 27—A milling crowd of 10,000 outside the Empire Theatre have, at the premiere of "The Other Love," longed to see the scene that rivalled that at the command performance of "Stars"
Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, Republican president, will leave Hollywood for New York this weekend.

JOHN KOHLER, formerly assistant manager of Reade’s Majestic, Perth Amboy, N. J., has been promoted to manager of the Paramount, Plainfield, N. J., from which manager SABAT CONTIE will move to the Oxford, there, as manager. FRANK GORDER, former Oxford manager, has resigned that post.

JACK P. HARRIS, head of Reade Theatres booking department, and MRS. HARRIS, will leave New York Saturday for a San Remo vacation, left by Mrs. READE, JR., and Mrs. READE, will return here Tuesday from a vacation on the Coast.

CHARLES REED JONES, who is handling special exploitation for “New Orleans” on behalf of producer JULES LEVY, will leave here tomorrow for New Orleans in connection with the film’s opening there, April 26.

BEATRICE REGINA SPRINGER, daughter of Joseph R. Springer, general theatre manager of Circuit Century, will be married on Sunday to BERARD J. COHEN, at the Belmont Plaza Hotel, here.

JOE MACK, production head of Film-Trailers Co., Chicago, became a father this week, making sales manager IRVING MACK a grandaddy for the second time within a few weeks.

NORMAN AYERS, Southern division sales manager for Warners, is due here today from Philadelphia and Washington.

J. MAXWELL JOHNSON, Paramount’s special representative in Cleveland, has returned here from New York.

H. WALLIS will leave Hollywood over the weekend for New York and will sail for England on April 9.

MRS. PICKWORTH, who was expected to arrive here this week, now is expected to arrive from the Coast on April 7.

ARON LEVY, manager, here will leave today for a short Bermuda vacation.

HAROLD RODEN, executive of Warner Brothers Service Corp., has left New York for the Coast.

SAMUEL HACKER, head of Film Audit Service, is en route to the Coast from New York.

SIEGFRIED BUCHER, Columbia producer, will leave New York for Havana today.

BERNARD GIANNINI of the Bank of America is in New York from Los Angeles.

DICK POWELL is in New York from the Coast.

GREGORY RATOFF is due to arrive here today by plane from the Coast.

Ben Kalmenson, Warner Brothers vice-president and general sales manager, left here by plane last night for the Coast. Roy Havens, Western division sales manager, is en route to Denver from New York.

JULIE BREASLER, home office assistant to M-G-M Mid-Western sales manager JOHN E. FLYNN, and IRVING LCanfield, home office assistant to West Coast district sales head GEORGE A. HICKLEY, will resume field trips on Monday.

E. O. WILSCHKE, Altec operations supervisor, is confined to his home this week with injuries sustained recently in an automobile accident in Philadelphia.

JOE INGERS, head booker and manager of Brandt Theatres, is expected to return to his desk on Monday following an attack of the grippe.

STEVE BODRY, president of Monogram and Allied Artists, and Edward Green, vice-president, are due here today from Toronto.

JASON S. JOY, 20th Century-Fox studio personnel director, is in Washington from the Coast en route to New York.

RICHARD F. WALSH, IATSE international president, is due in New York after a visit to Mexico City on Monday.

C. S. LUNDY, new Altec Detroit district inspector, has established headquarters in Lansing, Mich.

F. A. BASKIN and his wife, COBY, reside in Vineland, N.J., are in New York for the Easter holidays.

WILLIAM C. GEERING, 20th-Fox Central sales manager, is due here from Florida on Monday.

RUBE JACKER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, was here yesterday for Florida on business.

WILLIAM B. JAFFE, film attorney, has returned to New York from Montreal and Schenectady.

G. W. (Bill) HOSAN, Boston branch manager for Warners, is in New York.

BARRA STANWYCK is due here from London on April 3.

CLARENCE BROWN will leave here for the Coast today.

Luncheon for Loy

Motion Picture Daily editorial colleagues of Tom Loy will be his hosts at luncheon this afternoon prior to leaving the publication to assume public relations duties with the IATSE at its headquarters, here, on Monday. Loy will also assist in the promotion of the “IATSE” publication, The IATSE General Bulletin. Tomorrow is Loy’s birthday.

MGM Film to Festival

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is entering an English print of “The Yearling” in the World Film Festival to be held at Brussels from June 1 to June 30. Entry of American films in the festival has the endorsement of the Motion Picture Association.
**Coming Events**

March 31—Annual meeting of the Motion Picture Association, New York.

March 31—Fox Midwest convention, Kansas City.

April 1—Republic annual directors meeting.

April 2-3—Republic regional sales meeting, New York Athletic Club, New York.

April 9-9—Republic regional sales meeting, Hotel Blackstone, Chicago.

April 14-18—Republic regional sales meeting, Hollywood.

April 14-15—Television executives meeting, the Hotel Commodore, New York.

April 20—Theatre Equipment and Supply Dealers meeting, Hotel Drake, Chicago.

April 21-22—North Central Allied convention, Minneapolis.

April 21-25—61st semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Hotel Drake, Chicago.

April 23—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers luncheon-meet, Hotel Astor, New York.

**Rank to Toronto**

On Contract Suit

Toronto, March 27—British industry leader J. Arthur Rank is due here in mid-May to enter discussions revolving around breach of contract charged against him and his interests by Empire-Universal Films, Ltd., and United World Pictures of Canada. The two companies have protested Rank’s transfer of distribution rights to Eagle-Lion Films of Canada, Ltd.

Rank is expected to confer with Paul L. Nathanson, former president of Odeon Theatres in partnership with Rank, who now heads the plaintiff companies. Last year it was reported that Rank bought Nathanson’s interest in Odeon for $2,000,000.

**Muni in Refugee Short**

Paul Muni is featured as narrator in “The Will to Live,” a new documentary depicting the story of the reconstruction of Europe’s 5,000,000 Jewish survivors through rehabilitation and resettlement. The film was produced by RKO-Pathé for the $170,000,000 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal, headed by Henry Morgenthau, Jr., as general chairman.

**Monogram Unit to London**

Hollywood, March 27—“The Bowery Boys in London” will be filmed in London, Jan Grippo, producer of the Monogram series, announces here. Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall and the other Bowery Boys will be taken to England for the shooting, tentatively set for midsummer.

**Boasberg Cited at Exhibitor Luncheon**

Theatre owners of the New York area will be given a yesterday luncheon to Charles Boasberg at the Hotel Astor here in recognition of his production of “Ride the Divide.” Boasberg was presented with a silver tray, Some 750 attended.

Harry Brantlet was chairman, with other guests including William Leit- berger, Ray Moon, Fred Schwartz, Sam Kinzler, S. H. Fabian and Len Cohen. Among the dental stars were Leo Brencher, Joseph Seldner, Robert Weitman, Leon Rosenblatt, Edward Rudoff, Arthur Minter, Leon Karzinger, Robert Wolf, Robert Boasberg, Sam Rosen, Sol Schwartz, Oscar Doob, William Hedges, Frank Dumas, Edward Lachman and Julius Joelson.

**New Marshall Grant Company Sets Two**

John Garfield will star in the screen version of “Moonrise,” novel by Theodore Straus, former New York newspaperman, it was announced here yesterday by William D. Sattel, chairman of the Board of Grand Pictures. This first production of the recently-formed company will start on May 15 with Charles F. Haas in charge of production and William A. Wellman directing.

Grant has a second picture in preparation, titled “The Loop.”

**Capital Variety Club Will Honor Wheeler**

WASHINGTON, March 27—The Washington Variety Club will sponsor a testimonial dinner for Samuel N. Wheeler, Film Classics’ sales manager, at the Mayflower Hotel here on Monday evening. New York industry members will fly here in a chartered plane that afternoon. Among Film Classics’ home-office executives attending will be: Jules Chapman, Eugene Aristin, Al Zinzbisht, George Waldman, Sydney Weimer and Thomas McCue.

**Monogram Sets Italy Tie-Up for 10 Films**

ROME, March 21 (By Airmail)—Although Republic and Producers Releasing have not as yet established representation in Italy, Monogram currently has 10 features in release here through G.D.B., a company which owns dubbing studios and which formerly distributed R.U.P.

G.D.B. also has five features for release here through another, unnamed, company but is expected to release 15 to 20 additional features here this year.

**Paramount Adds 3 To ‘46-’47 Lineup**

Three additions to Paramount’s 1946-1947 schedule were announced here yesterday by Charles M. Reagon, vice-president in charge of distribution.


**Feldman To Do ‘Macbeth’**

Hollywood, March 27—Ozcom Wells will be starred in “Macbeth,” the second film to be made by Charles K. Feldman Group Productions under its deal with Republic. Will also produce and direct the film.

**AMPA Anniversary Committees Named**

The Associated Motion Picture Ad- vertisers, Inc., committee for their 30th anniversary celebration are now functioning. The event takes place at the Waldorf Astoria on April 24, and will honor presidents of industry companies.

Ruggers Nielson is AMPA president.

Arrangements are in the hands of a general committee of which Phil Williams is chairman. Co-ordinators are: David Bader, Blanche Living- burg, Arnold Stolza and Clarence Lee. Also on the committee are William Ferguson, David Wesliner, Gordon White, Si Seidler, Jack Kopstein, Lynn Farnol, Jock Lawrence and Nielson.

Other committees follow: Arrangements: Charles Alcoate, chairman; Harry McWilliams, Beatrice Ross, souvenir journal; Herman Schleier, chairman; David Bader, editor; and Milton Silver, Avian Moses, George Frazer, Charles Zunker, Jack Fuld, Irving Shiffman, George Gomperts, Phil Wilcox, Hap Haldy, Stanley Siegel, Leonard Wilsbacher, chairman in absence of Chester Fried- man, on the tack list; George Harvey, chairman.

Also, publicity: Harry Blair, chairman; Sid Gross, Jerry Dale, John R. Shays, Jr., George Held; radio; Will Voll, chairman; Marvin Kirsh, advertising; Emesion, Poote, chairman; Allen Gilven; photography: M. Leftoff.

Decorations are in charge of Hadley, working with the art directors of each company.

**Release War Films To Public gratis**

Army documentary films of World War II are being made available to the public in 16mm. and 35mm. Combining Stars and Hodges of the Army Service Office, Army Office, announces here. Included among them are: “Prelude to War,” “The Battle of Britain,” “America First,” “United States to the Navy,” “The Negro Soldier in World War II,” “Cotton at War and Peace,” “The Bullets.”

The films may be obtained without cost from the First Army Film Library in New York.

**CPA Halts Building Of Drive-In Drive**

MANSFIELD, O., March 27—The Civilian Production Administration has halted work on Harold Nuss- baum’s drive-in theatre here, charging that it was begun last Nov. 15 without authority. Con- struction may not be altered until specific authorization is granted.

**Seeing-Eye Bill Vetted**

ALBANY, N. Y., March 27—Gov. Dewey has vetoed the Fino Bill which would have made it a misdemeanor for a theatre, hotel or restaurant to discharge against people com- panied by seeing-eye dogs. Dewey lauded the measure’s purpose, but said that “unfortunately all problems that would arise are not adequately covered.”

**Painters Say ‘No’ To Walsh Meeting**

Hollywood, March 27—Progress toward settlement of the strike appeared further impeded today following a telegraphed reply sent by the Screen Actors Guild stating the latter’s position with re- gard to the strike. SAG has proposed a meeting with the national president Richard Walsh and the Painters’ international president to discuss the situation. Walsh, who said the SAG statement is “filled with confusion, half truths and outright lies,” adding: “We again state that we have no other avenues of approach regarding or opinions or ambitions of any international unions.”

**Philadelphia UJA Division Is Set**

PHILADELPHIA, March 27—A Motion Picture Division of the United Jewish Appeal is being organized under the leadership of Ted Schlaeger, A. M. Ellis and Sam Gross, today set up. The division will operate at $200,000. This represents an increase of more than 100 per cent over the amount raised last year. The local campaign got under way at the Hotel Warwick here last night at an organizational meeting addressed by Barney Balaban, national chairman of the film division of the UJA.

At that meeting initial gifts were announced totaling $19,000. Those contributing this amount last year gave $19,000.

**Siritzky Buys Boston House, Their Fourth**

Siritzky International, in line with its plans to acquire a nationwide circuit, has purchased the 850-seat Old South House in Boston, which will be opened on April 5 as The Rex, Sam Siritzky, vice-president, reported here yesterday. Besides three other houses, the New York Ambassa- dor, the Majestic, Brooklyn, and the Guild, on West 44th St., is expected to open in a month.

**Amusement Project Site Is Changed**

CHICAGO, March 27—Elmer Balaban, president of Harry and Elmer Balaban Theatres, discloses here that the site of the projected multi-million dollar “Amusement City” embracing a complete shopping and amusement center and to be known as “Drive-In City” is being changed from Stockton Avenue to the 25th Street in suburban Melrose Park to Mannheim Road and a new site may be possible, the President said.

**Sprenger Signs Nugent**

Hollywood, March 27—Elliott Nugent has been signed by Milton Sprenger, head of United States Pictures, to direct “Ever the Beginning.” He will report to the studio here on April 20.
Radio's Greatest Programs are on the Bandwagon for LUX RADIO THEATRE - BOB HO
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FFY'S TAVERN • BING CROSBY • EDDIE CANTOR • VICTOR BORGE • BENNY GOODMAN
Yugoslav Monopoly Slates Six for '47

By JOSEPH B. KANTUREK

PRAGUE, March 21 (BNAirM.)—Six features and a number of shorts, documentaries and newsreels will be produced by the Yugoslav monopoly during 1947. Plans also call for the construction of studios near Belgrade during the nation’s five-year plan.

Meanwhile, three producing and distributing companies have been formed and are now operating, Triglav in Lublana, for Slovenia; Jadran, in Zagreb, for Croatia, and Zvezda, in Belgrade, for Serbia. The respective Ministries of Education are in charge of all motion picture affairs in these regions.

MGM House in Chile

The President of Chile and other government officials have been invited to attend the gala opening of Chile’s new Metropolitan Theater, Valparaiso, this evening, it was announced here by Morton A. Spring, first vice-president of Loew’s International Corp.

Ascap (Continued from page 1)

the subject, reiterating Paine’s previously published remarks that the present rate structure was inaugurated in the midst of the depression era, 1933, and has yet to be altered. He said that negotiations with theaters will begin “at the proper time,” but did not elaborate on this further.

Ascap’s gross income for the past year came to $9,000,000, constituting an increase of about $600,000 over the previous year, Deems Taylor, president, reported. Although this was not discussed, administrative costs are known to amount to about 20 per cent of the gross. The non-profit organization now has a membership of 2,151 writers and publishers, Taylor said. A number of radio industry executives were guests at Ascap’s annual banquet, which was held last night following the business meeting.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Friday, March 28, 1947

H. Schenck in New Post

ALBANY, N.Y., March 27.—Tri-State Automatic Candy Co. has named Albert Schenck Albany district manager, to take the place of Joseph Goetschel, who is leaving the company to go into business with the company to devote his entire time to the conduct of the Eagle, sub- sidiary house in this city. He owns it. Schenck worked for Warners Theatres in Utica, Syracuse and Elmira.

Spotlight on Suit

(Continued from page 1)

W. Davis, Loew’s; Ralston R. Irvine, RKO; John Caskey, 20th Century-Fox; and Joseph Prentice, Loew’s, are scheduled to go into effect today.

Columbia asks a stay of single sales which, along with bidding, are slated for July 1. That company has the “arbitrary refusal” injunction postponed.

Universal augments its request for a bidding stay by asking postponement of the enforce ment of all injunctions which would invalidate existing contracts, notably franchises and the sale of a year’s product in advance.

Robert L. Wright, special assistant to Ascap counsel at this time and expected to present to opposing all of the applications.

Company attorneys attending the hearing, in addition to the various spokesmen, will include: S. Hazard Gillespie, Loew’s; Louis Phillips, Paramount; Robert W. Karter, Warner, and George Raftery, UA.

Justice Reed is expected to discuss the applications with the other members of the high tribunal tomorrow and may hand down a ruling on Monday.

Names in the News

(Continued from page 1)

000 for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of European Union survivors.

McCullough to Represent Industry at Truman Meet

WASHINGTON, March 27.—John B. McCullough, acting director of the WPA Conservation Department, will represent the film industry at President Truman’s Conference of Allied Nations which opens in Washington on Tuesday. The appointment was made in reply to an invitation from Major General Phillips, WPA, chairman of the conference.

PCC Withdraus RC, Paralysis Offers

Bollywood, March 27.—The Hollywood Permanent Chari- ties Committee has aban- doned its efforts to get the American Red Cross and the National Federation of In- fantile Paralysis to accept its donations of $245,783 and $10,000 respectively. The PCC will seek authorization from its constituent guilds and unions to allocate these funds to other charities.

Robison Gets Post

Hollywood, March 27.—David H. Robison, vice-president and assistant editor at RKO-Radio, has been appointed to the same post at United States Pictures’ production organization at the Warner Bros.-First Artists. Robison succeeds Michael Uris, who resigned.

Daylight Saving Sails

MINNEAPOLIS, March 27. — The Minnesota legislature has rejected a proposal allowing cities and villages to adopt daylight saving time when they so desire.

U-I and GFD Meet

(Continued from page 1)

H. Seidelman, president of U-I. Also present at the conference were GFD’s co-managing director, John Woff, U-I’s vice-president Al Drift, the executives and managers of GFD branches from all over the United Kingdom, Harold Sugarman and For- tuman Barron, foreign manager of the film division and director of publicity of U-I, respectively.

In a speech lasting two and a half hours, Seidelman reviewed the changes made in 1946 in the Universal organization and outlined for the GFD men 25 pictures which they will be handling this season.


Seidelman emphasized the need for the sale of all products and sell all the new U-I product on better terms, just as U-I is doing with Rank in the United Kingdom, and other Latin American. He also stated that it is common knowledge that soaring production costs in Hollywood require every source of selling effort to re- cover those costs.

In reply speeches, GFD co-managing directors Carr and Stolz out and sell the U-I executive that they would get the new product.

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Clearance Case to New York Tribunal

Bringing to four the number of cases pending before the New York tribunal, the Melpa Theatre Co., which operates theatres in New York and New Jersey, has filed an arbitration suit naming 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, M-G-M, RKO Radio and Warner Brothers as defendants in a clearance case which involves the Savoy and Congress theatres, also of Newark.

The suit, which maintains that clearance held by the Congress and Savoy is unreasonable and should be abolished, points out that the defendants made a 14-day’s clearance to the Congress and that M-G-M imposes a one-day clearance on the Savoy, in favor of the Congress.

Gilbert Gets Four For Foreign Films

Los Angeles, March 27. — Marc Gilbert’s exchange here has acquired the booking franchise for four first-run theatres in Los Angeles and San Francisco. They include, in downtown Los Angeles, the Mayan, and in Hollywood, the La Paloma. The latter will open with foreign product in April. Both are owned by Sidney Pink.

In San Francisco, Gilbert has acquired the Foreign exchange at the Portola, a theatre of the Blumenfeld Circuit, and the El Presidio Theatre, owned by Nathan and Barrow.

Maas to Berlin

(Continued from page 1)

and distribution of U. S. films in Germany.

Foremost on the agenda will be formulation of plans in anticipation of early transfer to MPEA of distribution controls which have been in the hands of the Military Government since the start of occupation. Provisions of the transfer are expected to follow the pattern set in Austria early this year with MPEA taking over all phases of operation, MPA retaining only the right to exercise censorship of subject matter released.

Another matter to be taken up stems from the recent Anglo-American economic merger in Germany and the necessity for working out plans for inter-zonal film distribution.

Representing MPEA and the American film industry at the conferences in addition to Maas, will be Joseph H. Seidelson, president of Universal International; Wladimir Lissim, RKO European general manager; Fay W. Alpport, MPA European manager, and Robert E. Vining, MPEA representative.

It is likely that other international executives of MPEA member companies will participate in the Berlin conference. The omission of the right-hand side of the round table will be AMG officials headed by Brig. Gen. Robert A. Murr, director of information, and eight other generals and other United States military officers, will visit Berlin to attend the conference.

If you can recognize greatness
in a motion picture ... you'll recognize it in

M-G-M Gives $5,000 To London Flood Aid

London, March 27. — More than $5,000, representing receipts from the opening performance of “The Other Love” in London, has been donated by M-G-M, which is distributing the “Enterprise” product abroad, to the Lord Mayor’s fund for the relief of flood victims.

The Motion Picture Association yesterday gave $39,000 to the distress fund, on behalf of member companies.

Cinecolor Promises No Price Rise Now

Hollywood, March 27. — Cinecolor Corp., in a letter signed by treasurer Karl Herzog, has informed its customers that its prices will not be increased at this time. However, the letter concludes with a warning that should further increases in labor and other costs take place, our increased production fail to be maintained, we would have to recompute the situation.

The Cinecolor statement follows action taken last week by Technicolor Inc., increasing the price of film and developing one-half cent per linear foot.

Other Love’ (Continued from page 1)

way to Heaven” several months ago.

The automobile bearing Barbara Stanwyck and Robert Taylor was rammed on its arrival. It was necessary for policemen to carry Taylor into the theatre, and although Miss Stanwyck’s star, had been escorted by a bodyguard of 10 officers, was on the verge of fainting and required the attention of physicians before participating in an international broadcast.

The police, despite considerable maneuvering, were completely over-run by the mob.

Cabinet ministers, members of Parliament, foreign ambassadors, and British and American stage and screen celebrities, including Noel Coward, Constance Collier, John Gilbert, Burgess Meredith, Paulette Goddard and Margaret Lockwood, attended the opening. Miss Goddard’s entrance into the theatre, whose doors were smashed during the general excitement, required the assistance of 30 policemen. The film was loudly applauded by the audience. “The Other Love” is reviewed on this page.

SOPEG Elected at CRI

The Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, UOPOA-CIO, was certified yesterday as collective bargaining agent for “white collar” workers at Confidential Reports, Inc., in a election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board. Of 49 employees eligible to participate, 48 voted in favor of the union, 15 against.

M.P. Associates to Meet

Selection of the winner of the “Penon Award,” conferred annually for meritorious and patriotic service, will be made Monday at a luncheon meeting of Motion Picture Associates at the Hotel Piccadilly here.

Theatre Owner Robbed

Denver, March 27. — More than $30,000 was stolen from Mrs. Allie N. Jay, owner of the Arvada Theatre in Arvada, when a safe was taken from her home in Littleton.

Italian Film Here

“Two Anonymous Letters,” produced by Lux Films in Italy, will be released here by Film Rights International, Ltd.
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<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>MONO.</th>
<th>PRC (Eagle-Lion)</th>
<th>REPUBLIC</th>
<th>RKO RADIO</th>
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<td>Richard Dix</td>
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<td>Dick Powell</td>
<td>3/27/47</td>
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<td>Sonny Tufts</td>
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<td>Evelyn Keyes</td>
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<td>Gypsies George Gay Nelson</td>
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<td>69 mins</td>
<td>THE GUILTY</td>
<td>Clifford Penn</td>
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<td>Robert Armstrong</td>
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<td>Penny Singleton</td>
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<td>Jimmy Walker</td>
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<td>Rosalind Russell</td>
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<td>HIGH CONQUEST</td>
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<td>Fuzzy St. John</td>
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<td>Glenn Ford</td>
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<td>LITTLE MR.</td>
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<td>Spencer Tracy</td>
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<td>Ray Milland</td>
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<td>HARD BOILED</td>
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<td>J. Mack Brown</td>
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<td>BLAZE OF NOON</td>
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<td>Joe Louis</td>
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<td>RIDERS OF RED ROCK</td>
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**Notes:****
- Dates are based on national release schedules and are subject to change.
- Letters denote the following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action.
- Production numbers are in parentheses.
- Rev. refers to Motion Picture Daily Review.
SUPREME COURT GRANTS STAY OF N.Y. DECREES

MGM Meets on New Selling Plan April 28

Competitive Bidding Off, Arbitration to Continue Until Supreme Court Decides All Appeals; May Take Another Full Year

Federal Tax Tops 1946

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Federal admission tax revenue for March, representing February’s collections at theaters, amounted to $34,243,592, compared with $31,466,372 for the same month last year, according to the Internal Revenue Bureau here. The collections represent a normal seasonal drop from Jan., 1947, when the receipts were $37,054,760, compared with $33,741,349 in Jan., 1946. Between 80 and 90 per cent of these figures represent taxes on motion picture admissions.

Nine Promotions in M-G-M Selling Force

The appointment of Samuel J. Gardner as assistant west coast sales manager for M-G-M, appointments of seven branch managers and an addition to the company’s exhibitor relations department were announced by William F. Rodgers, Loew’s vice-president in charge of sales, on Friday.

The Los Angeles, Seattle, Washington, Albany, Boston, Chicago and O’lahoma City M-G-M branches are involved in the managerial appointments, which are effective April 21 except at Washington, where the appointment is in effect now.

Gardner, who will assist George A. (Continued on page 7)

WB, Loew’s Pool in Pittsburgh Ended

The four-theatre Warner-Loew pool in Pittsburgh, which has been operating for a number of years, has been terminated in conformity with the provisions of the Federal Court decree in the industry anti-trust suit. It was disclosed here at the weekend by J. R. Vogel, Loew’s vice-president upon his return from Pittsburgh.

Balaban to Coast for UJA Drive Talks

Hollywood, March 30.—Launching of a West Coast drive to raise part of the $170,000,000 for the United Jewish Appeal this year will take place on the arrival here of Barney Balaban, national industry chairman for the drive, who left New York on Friday. Balaban will discuss plans for the drive with industry leaders here.

Stay Permits Road Shows to Continue

The Supreme Court’s stay of the price-fixing ban decreed by the New York Federal District Court will permit the roadshowing of costly features without resort to renting theaters for the purpose, a practice already begun by Samuel Goldwyn for “The Best Years of Our Lives” and contemplated by several other independent producers. Roadshows, however, may of course, be impossible after next winter if the price-fixing ban is upheld when the high tribunal reaches a decision on the pending appeals.
Personal Mention

A RTHUR KRIM, Eagle - Lion president, Jock Lawrence, U. S. Rank Organization representative, and Robert B. Benjamin, Nizet of the Rank Organization here, have arrived in New York by plane from London.

D AVE GELFEN, Thomas Ledger, Clifford J. Cox, Ashley C. Bates, Arthur and Nellie Nizet of Paramount's British sales organization, returned here from the Coast at the weekend.


F RANCIS A. BATEMAN, Screen Guild Productions general sales manager, has left Hollywood on a tour of key cities which will end here.

H ASSLER MASTERS, Warner-Columbia distribution manager, returned to Toronto over the weekend from New York.

H OWARD L EYNSON and STUART H. AARONS of Warner's home office legal staff, will return here from Buffalo on Wednesday.

J OR HORNSTEIN, New York theatre equipment dealer, has returned here from Florida.

J EREY WALD will leave Hollywood by plane for New York on Wednesday.

W ILLIAM LEABOR has written a play which he will co-produce with Boris Moros here in the fall.

LLOYD L. LIND, vice-president of Pictorial Films, will return here from Chicago today.

M ICHEL C URTIZ left the Coast by train on Saturday for New York.

G APY COOPER is in New York from the Coast.

'Costa' Girls on Tour

The three Costa Rican beauty contest winners who have been here in conjunction with 20th Century-Fox's "Carnival in Costa Rica," will leave tonight on a tour of key cities. Accompanied by Earl Wingart of Charles Schafler's home office publicity staff, they will visit Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia this week. After Easter they will tour the Midwest and the South as the film opens in those regions.

Stage Shows Dropped

CINCINNATI, March 30.—The 3,300-seat RKO Albee Theatre here has reverted to an all-film policy after recent falling of a stage show and picture policy. The all-film policy, it is indicated, may be temporary.

NEW JERSEY theatre operators and exhibitors are moving in a way to the rest of the nation's exhibitors in forming a united front to oppose legislation providing for new taxation in that state.

All elements of Jersey exhibition combined last week in the Federation of New Jersey Theatres for that purpose. Members of all major operators—Loew's, A.E. Horace Theatre Owners of New Jersey, Independent Theatre Owners of New York (which includes Jersey membership), Loew's, Paramount, RKO and Warner theatres, the Walter Reade and Fabian circuits, the Atlantic and Hunt theatres, and numerous small operators—were present.

In addition to forming a common front in a common cause the New Jersey theatre operators will use their most potent weapons to oppose the legislation and bring the fight against new taxation.

This joint campaign of New Jersey exhibition is sound and should prove to be decisively effective in opposing the harmful measures. If by any chance it should fail to do so, it will not be because the most potent weapons were left unused or because the most potent strategy—unity—was ignored.

The Jersey consideration is proof that divergent theatre interests and organizations can unite on a matter of import to all.

Its methods should be observed closely by all exhibitors. It is an undertaking that is vitally needed in many another state if arbitrary and discriminatory legislation is to be discriminated, if defeated, and if our concerns are not to be further weighted with burdensome taxation.

Certainly it is a model for action in New York State where legislation enabling numerous cities and counties to enact five per cent admission taxes was passed during the recent legislative session. That means a statewide campaign, fought on numerous local fronts, to prevent new county and municipal theatre taxes.

Such a fight will require alertness, determination and careful planning, everything that is dependent upon a united exhibitor front within a strong confederation.

Inventories of virtually all major companies are reported to be at an all-time peak. A widely accepted estimate is that inventories today in the major territories are approximately 40 per cent higher than they were last year.

Some financial executives believe that inventories will climb even more due to continued high production costs and the approach of the competitive bidding sales method which is expected to be more conducive to making the necessary funds to proceed slowly with the release of new pictures while familiarizing themselves with the new sales method.

Not that anyone is expecting a recession, but the situation could prove serious for some companies should attendance decline steadily and thereby continue at a low mark for any length of time.

Chatter Department: Have you heard about the theatre big-hitters of the land? The wealthy, rich financial man who were said out on their views of assigning the United Artists president, and that it may be hard for him to know that nothing will materialize and that the hunt goes on, on a brand new track.

Universal International expects "The Egg and I" to be its top grosser of this relatively new year, some executive predictions going as high as $10,000,000. The advertising appropriation for the picture is very close to $1,000,000, based on 10 per cent of the prospective gross.

Compare that with U-T's best grosser of last year, "Canyon Passage." Not entirely played off yet, its gross recently passed that of "The Egg and I," which puts it about $1,000,000 ahead of the runners-up.

President Truman and Governor Thomas E. Dewey will be invited to attend or send messages to the 25th anniversary dinner of the Motion Picture Association in New York, May 8. Current plans are to make the affair a gala one, with plenty of "names" for the distinguished guest list and the best fare the Walt Disney-Astoria can present. Invitations postmarked about May 1 are expected, will total about 1,000,000, to fill the Grand Ballroom. Limited ticket allotments will go to each major company—limited despite the fact that the expenses will be borne among the companies.

Newsreel Parade

T HE MURDERS, The House Investigation of Communist activities and the Big Four at a reception at the State Club are among the current newscasts. Among other items are the search for Mangley Calger, the "Egg and I," and sports and microfilm events.

Complete content follows:


Stanton Grifts to Be U. S. Envoy to Poland

WASHINGTON, March 30—President Truman has named Stanton Grifts as Ambassador to Poland, replacing Arthur Bliss Lane, whose resignation is effective tomorrow. Grifts is chairman of Paramount's executive committee. He was active in Red Cross work during the war and since has been successful in the war, government assignments in Sweden.

PCCloto Invites Top Executives to Meet

Hollywood, March 30.—Invitations to the national convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of the Northwest Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, May 6-8, at the Ambassador Hotel, here, have been extended to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association; Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers; Jack Kirsch, president of Allied States; Abraham F. Myers, general counsel of Allied; Fred Wehrenberg, president of the American Society of Independent Theatre Owners of America, and Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel.

Sales heads of all distributing companies have also been invited.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor; Sherwin Kane, Associate Editor. Published daily, except Sundays. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1928, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.
Metropolitan Stock Suit Dismissed

Suit by Metropolitan Playhouses against the Hanover Bank and Trust Co. for $50,000 alleged, were filed in the New York Supreme Court. A federal court judge, F. H. Griffen, ruled that the complaint is too late and invalid. The plaintiffs are seeking to recover $50,000 from the bank, which is the owner of the playhouse, and the Trust Co., which is the owner of the stock. The plaintiffs allege that the bank and trust company are in default of their duties under the law and that they are entitled to the amount of the default.

Wyler Film for AAF Released to Public

Washington, March 30.—“Thunderbolt,” a 45-minute film made by the Army Air Forces in the Mediterranean Theater during the war, under the direction of Col. William Wyler, Hollywood director, has been approved for release to the public.

Radio Group Begins FM Output Survey

The Radio Manufacturers Association is surveying members for information on actual and planned production for 1947 of FM and AM radio receivers and transmitters. The survey is being made to secure definite information in the face of conflicting predictions and estimates of FM production. Estimates have varied from 2,000,000 to 5,000,000 sets.

Davie Heads RKO Vancouver Office

James F. Davie has been appointed RKO Radio branch manager in Vancouver, British Columbia. Mr. Davie, who was transferred to the west coast last January as assistant manager, has now assumed control of the studio and will handle local and agency business.

College Award to ABC

American Broadcasting is the winner of the College of New York radio network award for 1946. Jack Bannerman, general manager of ABC, was cited for the “most effective promotion of a sponsored regional program, ‘Professor Quiz.'”

N. Y. Capitol Deal For ‘Duel’ in Work

The Selznick Releasing Organization here and the New York Loew-Capitol theatre management are discussing a deal to place the local run of David O. Selznick’s “Duel in the Sun” at the Capitol. Now being being determined for possible consumption of a deal, besides terms, are an opening date, length of run, surcharge scales and number of daily showings.

‘Odd Man Out’ Will Open Here Shortly

“Odd Man Out,” a two Cities British film starring James Mason, will have its American premiere at Loew’s Criterion, New York, between April 23 and May 7. William J. Heineman, general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal, has announced. Before the national release, the film was produced and directed by Carol Reed. An initial budget of $300,000 is being used to finance the US release, which is due for May release. The campaign will start April 12.

Monogram Appoints Brazil Branch Head

Appointment of Joao Carralcasaz to head new Sao Paulo, Brazil, office of Monogram Pictures, recently established along with other branches in that country, under H. Alfredo Steinberg in Rio de Janeiro, has been announced here by Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International.

Industry ‘Aliens” in Mexico Face Ouster

MEXICO CITY, March 30.—The Ministry of the Interior here, which has jurisdiction over the ammonium industry, has launched an attack on all “foreigners” employed in the industry, following complaints by native producers that many who entered Mexico as tourists have taken jobs illegally, thereby displacing Mexicans. Fines and deportations face violators of the law, the Ministry has warned.

Bergman Calls U-I Ad Men to NY Meet

Campaigns for forthcoming Universal-International releases will be the subject of talks to be held next week by field advertising-publicity representatives and Maurice A. Bergman, advertising manager. New York office of the company, including “The Egg and I,” “Time Out of Mind,” “Buck Private Come Home,” “Odd Man Out,” “Stairway to Heaven” and “Great Expectations,” will be discussed.

Johnston’s Annual MPA Report Today

The election of officers and directors of the Motion Picture Association and the announcement of the Annual MPA report by William A. Johnston, president, are on the agenda for the MPA meeting to be held here at 11 A.M. today. Kenneth Clark, director of public relations, and Joyce O. H. Blythe, assistant to Mr. Johnston, will announce the latter to New York from Washington.

Warner Field Men To Meet Thursday

Jules Lapidus, Eastern and Canadian manager for Warner Brothers, will hold a meeting of branch managers and other Central district sales executives on Thursday at the Pittsburgh office. Among those attending will be Central district manager, Charles Rich; branch managers of the New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Cincinnati, and St. Louis districts, and Branch manager, head of the field exploitation staff, before the Pittsburgh session. Lapidus plans to visit all branch offices next month, arriving there tomorrow.

Warner Studio Crew In Boston for Filming

BOSTON, March 30.—A production group from the Warner studio, included in it are John W. Delmer, director; David Goodis, writer, and Al Afdal, unit manager, arrived here over the weekend from the Coast to survey possibilities of filming “Up Until Now” and in around this city. Invitation to make a picture here was extended by Mayor James C. Curley to Jack L. Warner, executive producer of the Warner studio. The studio delegation will spend about two weeks here. Wald then plans to visit New York before returning to the Coast.

WB Branch Head in Charlotte Feated

CHARLOTTE, March 30.—Employees of Warner Brothers branch here honored John A. Bachman, manager, with a farewell party Friday evening in conjunction with his resignation after nine years’ service to become United Artists branch manager in Atlanta.

1948 Campaign To Be Televised: Trammell

ATLANTA, March 30.—National Broadcasting president Niles Trammell says that much of the 1948 Presidential campaign will be televised, indicating that the successful candidates of the future will have to be good “actors” as well as good speakers. Standardization of the day-régional meeting of the network.

Says Govt. Films Needed

SEATTLE, March 30.—Discounting any propagandistic purpose for British government films, John E. Heimann, director of the British Information Service film division, has arrived here from New York to survey local distribution of his government’s product through the consulate office, has been welcomed. He said that the new films are essential. Few of the films deal with political or current events. Baird pointed out. Most are technical and deal with every day life in England.

Building Standards Set

TULARE, Calif., March 30.—The Tulare Planning Commission has set up standards for rural building as a result of the Tulare Theatre Co. announcement that it will build a new office building. The commission emphasizes that it does not intend to prevent the theatre’s construction, but that it wants to establish certain public safety standards.
3 to 10

they all go for ROY

- KING OF THE COWBOYS
- THE SMARTEST HORSE IN THE
- ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE

from Republic
ROGERS and TRIGGER

THE NEW YORK TIMES,
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1946.

COUNTRY'S OLDEST FAN GETS HIS WISH: A COWBOY PICTURE

LINCOLN, Mo., Nov. 16 (UPI)—
Warren Butler of Lincoln, the country's oldest movie fan, got his wish today on his 103d birthday. He saw a cowboy picture, "My Pal Trigger." It is no novelty for Butler to see a Western, but he said: "It's a thrill every time. The wilder they are the better."

He goes to three to a week and gets in every show he can.
MGM Meets

(Continued from page 1)

Rodgers Lauds Trade Press Decree Work

The industry press was commended on Friday by William F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and sales manager, for its “thorough, informative and constructive” reporting of the many facets of the Federal Court decree, appeals therefrom, interpretations and reported opinions of the provisions and their effects.

“The industry has been well informed and well served, and with an absence of hysteria,” Rodgers said.

Ohio Tax Repeal Is Seen Discretionary

COLUMBUS, O., March 30.—Despite warnings of Ohio theatre men that proposed repeal of the state’s three per cent admission tax would benefit only large cities, State Tax Commissioner Emory Glander has advocated repeal of the tax before the House Taxation Committee here. Cities not requiring additional revenue do not have to pass an admission tax, Glander said.

“Proposal for cities in need and not exclusively for larger cities,” he declared.

Theater men have stated that repeal would allow unlimited local admission taxes, some as high as 10 per cent, and that it would cause discrimination between city theatres and those in adjoining suburbs having different tax levies. Glander thought such fears unfounded.

Columbus May Boost Levy on Admissions

COLUMBUS, O., March 30.—City Hall sources expect the administration to propose a local admission tax of from seven to 10 per cent if the State’s three per cent tax is repealed.

The local tax would raise $500,000 a year, as compared to the $155,000 which the city now receives as its share of the state tax. This and other tax increases would allow the city to maintain present services and still permit pay increases, it was said.

Report Vandalism Rise

CLEVELAND, March 30.—Theatre vandalism, subsided during the past six months, has broken out anew. Ernest Schwartz, president of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, states that seat slashing is the most prevailing form of destruction.

New Oklahoma House

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 30.—L. C. Griffith Co. opened its ninth house here Friday night with a gala event at the new 1,000-seat Agnew. A stage show featured CBS “Oklahoma Roundup.” Wesley White, formerly assistant at Bartlesville, has been transferred here as Agnew manager.

Emerson Production Up

Emerson Radio and Phonograph Corp. currently is turning out radio receiving sets at the rate of 2,000,000 per year. Benjamin Abrams, president, states. In October, when the company’s fiscal year ended, production was at the rate of 1,600,000 sets a year.
C. Skouras Drops Offer in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, March 30.—The personal offer of Charles Skouras of last October to purchase $9,900,000 in outstanding bonds and voting stock in the Ambassador Building Corp., and the Missouri Theatre Building Corp., at 100 per cent effective tomorrow, it was stated here.

When he made the offer Skouras and Clarence M. Turley held a contract to buy 35 per cent of the bonds during the winter Skouras is reported to have secured a controlling share of the Missouri bonds and voting stock and to have approached that position with the Ambassador.

Fox Midwest Meeting On Showmanship

KANSAS CITY, March 30.—A convention of the Fox Midwest division of National Theatres will be held here tomorrow, preliminary to the company’s fifth annual showmanship campaign. Charles Skouras, National Theatres president, will speak. Others present from Los Angeles headquarters are Sam Page, John Berter, and Ed Cabell. Elmer C. Rhoden, president of Fox Midwest, will conduct the sessions.

Open Office Here For Foreign Films

Trans-International Films of Los Angeles, headed by Sidney J. Pink, has set up a New York office under Marc Gilbert, for distribution and exhibition of foreign films.

In Pink’s territory, West of Chicago, the organization has 11 houses already converted for exclusive exhibition of foreign product. Gilbert’s plans call for the acquisition of Eastern houses and for a circuit net distribution outlets which even with Trans-International’s Western circuit.

Dozier Plans Two Films

HOLLYWOOD, March 30.—William Dozier, head of 20th-Fox production units, announces the first of two productions to be filmed by Rampart, both of which will star his wife, Joan Fontaine, and both of which will be made at Universal-International for C-L release. One will be Sheridan Gibney’s original, “Possession,” the second will be a dramatization of Stefan Zweig’s noted dramatic love story, “Letter from an Unknown Woman.”

Favor Sunday Films

BENNINGTON, Vt., March 30.—By a vote of 1,482 to 83, residents here have agreed to permit Sunday motion pictures, subject to state laws prohibiting such showings prior to six P.M.

Pass Sales Tax Bill

Baltimore, March 30.—The Maryland State Legislature has passed a two per cent sales tax bill. The measure, a proposed bill that would have imposed a five-cent tax on admissions.

Chase to WCOP, Boston

BOSTON, March 30.—Jack Chase, news editor at WNAX before the war, has joined station WCOP here as night and Sunday news editor.

3 More Arbitration Cases in Boston

In a new flurry of arbitration activity on the eve of what was expected to be the due date for the decision of the motion picture arbitration system, until the postponement was granted on Friday, three new complaints were filed with the Boston tribunal. All three seek elimination of clearance and involve all five participating film companies.

Additionally, in an award by the Boston arbitrator, the Gull Theatre, Winthrop, Mass., complainant, which had been subjected to a 35-day clearance in favor of the Colonial and Capitol Theatres at Augusta, has had that clearance reduced to 14 days. This is to be applicable only to pictures played by the Augusta theatres within 35 days of availability; the Gull may play other product immediately after 35 days from availability to the Augusta theatres without further regard to clearance.

The three new cases bring to six the number on file in Boston, in addition to two pending appeals of awards, Charles S. Wilcox, operator of the Orleans, Orleans, Mass., asks day- and-date runs with the Center and Hyannis theatres, in Hyannis, instead of the one-day clearance in his favor.


Latin American 16mm Activities Progress

Operations in 16mm films in Latin America are developing, with the first year of business showing a definite preference on the part of Latin American patrons for Spanish synchronized films. Seymour Mayer, 16mm sales manager for Loew’s, International reports here following his recent return from a two-months tour of Central and South American countries.

Preference for Spanish films, Mayer said, is noted particularly in South American “back-woods” areas, where titles are not available and there is unfamiliarity with the English language.

Loew’s Buys

(Continued from page 1)

until Dec. 31, 1946. However, the decree provisions covering partnership ownership of theatres implemented identical provisions contained in the Federal Court opinion handed down last June.

Those provisions specify that a defendant in a theatre partnership must agree to sell a five per cent interest in any theatre for not less than a 95 per cent interest, Loew’s owning 66 2/3 per cent of the interest.

Chase to WCOP, Boston

BOSTON, March 30.—Jack Chase, news editor at WNAX before the war, has joined station WCOP here as night and Sunday news editor.
CINCINNATI, March 30.—With the addition of three theatres, Theatre Owners Corp., a buying-booking organization set up several months ago to act as an independent in this territory, now has 46 theatres on its list according to Irving Sochin, general manager.

The additions are the Plaza, local neighborhood theatre; the Auto Inn at drive-in suburban Walnut Hills, and the Dixie Gardens, a drive-in at nearby Covingty, Ky.

LOWELL HOUSE SOLD

Lowell, Mass., March 30.—Tom Verte, owner of the Crown Theatre here, has sold the house to John Anthony, who operates the Modern Theatre, Manchester, N. H.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, March 30

Despite the current slump in production activity, important story properties are still eagerly sought after by producers at a glance at some recent purchases proves. John Steinbeck's newest novel, "The Wayward Bus," has been bought by Liberty Films, and Elliott Lewis has purchased "Missouri Legend," described as an American folk comedy. Joseph Fields and Maxwell Anderson are currently working on it, and the script will be produced by the former as head of Joseph Fields Productions.

Screen rights to Domitrovich's "The Brothers Karamazov," have been acquired by M-G-M. Juliana and Philip Epstein are writing the screenplay, and Robert Sisk will produce. Robert Taylor and Paule Heflin are set for two of the title roles...Warriner recently bought "Rainbow Mountain," original by Stephen Longstreet, who will also develop the screenplay for filming at the "Singin' in the Rain Up," a narrative poem in blank verse by Joseph Moncure March, will be brought to the screen by RKO Radio.

Enterprise has purchased an unpublished comedy by H. Allen Smith, titled "Better Than Never," which will be used as a starring vehicle for Hazel Brooks. Wolfgang Reinhardt has been assigned to produce...And "Robin Hood of Texas," original by John K. Butler and Earl Snell, will serve as C. Aubry's next starring vehicle at Republic...Two recent Warner purchases are "That Hagen Girl," a novel by Edith Roberts, and "Strange Desire," original by Curt Siodmak. Both have been placed on Alex Gottlieb's production slate.

Paramount has completed plans for production of a picture about West Point, entitled "The Long Grey Line." Robert Walker has been assigned to produce. He will have the cooperation of Major General Maxwell Taylor, superintendent of the Military Academy, and of the War Department...Elliott Nugent has been engaged to direct the picture, which is to be produced by United States Pictures for Warner release. Lilli Palmer is set for the stellar role.

Hickey, West Coast division manager, formerly was Los Angeles branch manager. He has been with the company since 1931 and will make his new headquarters in San Francisco. He succeeds Thomas A. Aspell, Jr., succeeds Gardner as Los Angeles branch manager. Aspell, who has been with the company since 1929, was branch manager at Seattle. He will be succeeded in that post by Sam Davis, who has been special representatives and importers for the company on the West Coast. Davis joined the company in 1929.

Jerome Adams was appointed branch manager at Washington, succeeding John S. Allen, who was made a district manager some time ago. Adams has been assistant branch manager at San Francisco. He joined the company in 1934 and at one time was a booker in the Washington office, which now heads. Jack Goldberg becomes branch manager at Albany, succeeding Herman Rips, who was made a district manager recently. Goldberg has been sales manager at Washington. He joined the company in 1928.

Benn H. Rosenwald, branch manager at Charlotte for the past eight years, goes to Boston as manager, filling a vacancy there. Rosenwald joined M-G-M in 1929 as a salesman and has worked at several of the company's exchanges.

Jacques C. ReVille, Oklahoma City branch manager, replaces Rosenwald as a salesman. In turn, Charles D. Lyne, a salesman at Dallas since 1927, has been promoted to succeed ReVille as manager at Oklahoma City.

At the home office, M. L. Simoncs, editor of the sales department house organ, The Distributor, was named assistant to H. M. Richey, head of the company's sales promotion and exhibition and public relations department. With the company for 9 years, Simons will continue his editorial work in addition to the new assignment.

In announcing the appointments, Rogers said that in the coming new sales and business period he believes the exhibitor and public relations department will be of vastly increased importance.

Referring to a number of changes which have been made in the sales staff in the field recently, Rogers explained that the company was overstaffed during the war due to the lack of experience of available personnel at that time and that with the return of former employees from service, it became necessary to both reduce the staff numerically and to make transfers of some personnel.

Cleveland Variety In Carter Hotel There

Cleveland, March 30.—Variety Club has leased space in the Carter Hotel and will be ready for business Tuesday. First project of the club, under Harry Schreiber as chief barker, will be a midnight pre-release and stage show to be held at the RKO Palace Theatre on April 25. Oscar Kantor, Warner city salesman, is chairman of the committee on arrangements. All proceeds go to charity.

DeVry Names Sheldon

Chicago, March 30.—The DeVry Corp., theatre projection equipment manufacturer, has appointed the Shelton Theatre Supply Co. of Dayton, as factory distributors for its line in Ohio. Sheldon is a new organization, headed by Stewart Sheldon, formerly in charge of DeVry theatre equipment sales for Dayton Films, Inc.

Kerman Gets Rights

Moe Kerman, Favorite Films Corp. president, has acquired reissue rights to "Gay Desperado" and "One Rainy Afternoon" from the Pickford-Lasky Corp. Favorite has also secured reissue rights to Dennis Morgan in "Sea Bandits" and "Revolts of the Zombies." Kerman recently returned from a four-week Coast trip.

Hoffeld Heads Club

Denver, March 30.—M. Hoffeld, film buyer for Fox International Theatres, is now the president of the Rocky Mountain Screen Council, succeeding Tom Bailey. Other new officers are: Joe Deldeker and Robert Hill, vice-presidents; Joe Ashby, treasurer; William Agren, secretary.

Managers Shift in N.C.

Charlotte, March 30.—Charles Thomas, manager of the Temple in Gastonia, for the Wilby-Kinney circuit, is expected here to assume management of the State Theatre. He succeeds Dick Horton who is being transferred to Durham as manager of the Rialto.

$35,000 to Variety Club

San Francisco, March 30.—Individual donations toward a new local Variety Club total over $35,000 according to James O'Neal, chairman of the collecting committee. The club is expected to open sometime this summer.

'Baker's Wife' Re-issued

Marcil Pagnol's French-language picture, "The Baker's Wife," recently acquired for reissue in the U. S., by Siritzky International Pictures, will be released on a percentage basis only in first-run foreign-film and "art" houses.

Louis Kuttnerau, 49

Chicago, March 30.—Louis Kuttnerau, Southern Illinois salesman for United Artists, who died in Vanbuls on Friday, March 26, Louis Kuttnerau, 49, was previously with Republic and Paramount in St. Louis and with RKO in Des Moines.

Melnick in Cleveland

Cleveland, March 30.—Saul Melnick has arrived here to take charge of the sales office of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" on April 4 at the Lower Mall and University theatres.