Showmen Vote Crosby Tops in Poll

Grable, Bergen, Cooper, Bogart Among 10 Leaders

Hollywood, Jan. 1. - It's Bing Crosby again!

For the fourth successive year the Paramount star emerged in 1947 as top-performer of the poll in the annual Motion Picture Herald-Fame poll of exhibitors, with both independent and circuit divisions of the poll in agreement on his selection.

In the sixteen years of the poll's existence, no other player, except Shirley Temple last year and Glassy McCullough this year, has held No. 1 rank four times. This is Crosby's eighth listing among the “Top Ten” stars whose pictures earned the most money for U. S. exhibitors. His films during 1947 were “Blue Skies,” “Welcome Stranger,” “Variety Girl” and “Romance on the High Seas.”

In the “Western Stars” division of the poll, Roy Rogers was voted No. 1.

Showmen Vote Crosby Tops Again in Poll

Grable, Bergen, Cooper, Bogart Among 10 Leaders

Hollywood, Jan. 1. - General Omar Bradley, newly-appointed chief of staff of the Department of the Army and former director of the Veterans Administration, has thanked the film and other fields of entertainment for its war-time activity as well as its postwar service to men in Occupation Armies abroad and to the hospitalized.

General Bradley thanked the motion picture industry for its war work.

FCC Delays Para. Television Status

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1. - The Federal Communications Commission has postponed from Jan. 1 to Mar. 9 the date for hearings to determine whether Paramount controls Allen B. Dumont Laboratories and other video subsidiaries of Paramount.

At stake are applications of Paramount subsidiaries for five new television stations. The FCC held that these five would give Paramount and Paramount-controlled companies a total of nine-four more than the maximum allowed. New England Theaters, Inc., a Paramount subsidiary, asked the commission to postpone the hearing until Feb. 10, but apparently this date was filled, and the FCC set March 1 instead.

Italy Decrees No Film Quota

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

Rome, Jan. 1. - The Italian government has decreed a quota-less 1948 for motion picture imports.

Disputing fears in some quarters that film restrictive measures were impending, the government yesterday announced that imports will in no wise be limited in the new year, Italy will, however, continue to block funds, but will permit the expenditure of profits from American and other foreign films, with the permission of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, for the following purposes:

- From Paramount's studios and otherwise reconstructing them;
- Producing Italian films and also for the production here of films in behalf of U. S. or other foreign companies.

Import Favor for UK in Canada Ends

Toronto, Jan. 1. - Canada's preferential tariff on film imports from the United Kingdom came to an end today under the Geneva trade and tariff convention. Thus, the duty on motion pictures from countries which became standardized at a reduced rate.

The levy on negatives is reduced from 25 to 15 per cent, and on positive prints from 20 to 24 per cent, while the excise duty on prints from countries which became standardized at a reduced rate was reduced from 25 to 15 per cent, and on positive prints from 20 to 24 per cent per foot.

With discontinuance of the British preference of 50 per cent which is applied.

Canada Operating 67 Rural Circuits

OTTAWA, Jan. 1. - National Film Board of Canada in 1946-47 operated 67 rural film circuits, each of which covered a minimum of 20 points per month, giving a total of 1068 exhibitions during the year.

The board also assisted provincial and local agencies in operating 50 supplementary circuits. The total rural audience reached during the year was 2,760,443. At showings held for students, in schools the average monthly audience was 1,500.

FPC to Set Up Its Own Video Outfit in Canada

TORONTO, Jan. 1. - Famous Players Canadian Corp., Paramount Circuit affiliate, will organize in Canada a television production company which will be separate and apart from the Canadian television subsidiary, Television Productions, Inc., it was disclosed here today by J. J. Fitzgibbons, FPC president, who recently returned here from New York where he discussed television plans with Paramount officials. This is understood to preclude Television Productions' entry into operations in this country.

But Fitzgibbons, who discussed also in New York the introduction of visual broadcasting in Canadian theatres, said he was not certain as to when theatre television will appear in Canada.

Canadian television developments are awaiting action by the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., the government company which holds licence control over video.

Meanwhile, in his capacity as chairman of the National Committee of Motion Picture Exhibitors Association of Canada, Fitzgibbons announced that the second meeting of the group will be held early in January for preparation of a brief calling for repeal of the Dominion's 20 per cent war excise tax on theatre licences.

A brief will be presented to the Canadian Finance Minister D. C. Abbott.

M-G-M Record Firm Hit by Petrillo Ban

All instrumental recordings by M-G-M Records, the platter division of Loew's, ceased at midnight on Wednesday as the ban on AFM members performing for discs was put into effect by James Caesar Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians.

M-G-M Records is the sole disc subsidiary in the motion picture industry. Its recordings, on the market only since last March, have drawn upon the services of outside artists as well as talent appearing in M-G-M pictures. The company is understood to have built up a backlog of recordings expected to last for a number of years.
Personal Mention

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, will stop off in San Francisco next week for a Bank of America board meeting on route to Hollywood where he is expected on Wednesday. He is currently at his home in Spokane.

Mrs. Oren Root, Jr., daughter of 20th Century-Fox president Spyros P. Skouras, gave birth to a son, Oren Root, III, on Tuesday at Doctor's Hospital here.

Edna Higgins, secretary to C. N. Ouel, head of Paramount's press department, was married this week to Fred Strauss. The couple is on a Southern honeymoon.

Leo J. Baranger, RKO Radio sales and motion manager, will address the annual convention of United Theatre Owners of Illinois in Springfield, Jan. 8-9.

Charles J. Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox's advertising-publicity director, will arrive in New York on Monday from Miami Beach.

Michael Balcon, British producer, has been knighted by King George VI.

Enid Cantor will celebrate 39 years in show business tomorrow.

Second E-L Meeting

Tomorrow, Sunday

A. W. Schwallberg, Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president, has set a second regional sales meeting, which will be held tomorrow and Sunday, in Dallas. The meeting, which will follow the same general pattern set in Cleveland meet-ings two weeks ago, will be presided over by Harold S. Dunn, assistant general sales manager, the Max E. Youngquist, director of advertising publicity, and Frank Soule, in charge of branch operations.

QP Chicago Offices

At New Location

Effective today, the Chicago editorial and advertising offices of Quigley Publications will be moved from 624 South Michigan Ave. to 120 South LaSalle St. (Chicago, Ill.). Urban Farley is the Chicago advertising representative of Quigley Publications.

Harry Peck, Jr.

Toronto, Jan. 1—Harry E. Peck, Jr., a 30-year veteran, and a member of Famous Players' 25-Year Club, died this week in St. Joseph's Hospital here. He helped, where he had been with the Palace Theatre for some time. He is survived by the widow, a son, two brothers and two sisters.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

If not for recent events, Fred V. Weidhagen's comment that admission prices in his year-end statement would have found its last resting place in the Read and Noted Department. What he foresaw was this:

"We must remember that the phenomenal success of the industry has been due entirely because it has been the entertainment of the masses. If, for any reason, we price motion pictures out of the mass market into the class market, it could well prove disastrous. For, as the admission charges go up, the competition from other forms of entertainment will increase.

"The comparatively low ad-missions for motion pictures caused the decline in the number of theatres with stage shows—dramatic, musical, vaudeville and burlesque. But too many $1.25 motion pictures could very quickly bring about the strongest kind of competition.

"One of the persisting difficulties confronting this industry, and we suppose others as well, is the temptation in ignoring the distinction between opportunity and results.

"Opportunity is constantly at the beck and call of the industry provided it remains alert enough to recognize the signs. There is opportunity in strengthening the place of the exhibitor and his theatre in the community. Never wanting is opportunity for the industry to re-form and to expand the links of its public service functions.

"With vision, this industry can ever widen its horizons even as it carries forward its primary function of entertaining a public whose allegiance is assured.

"Too little realized, however, is the obligation which the industry owes this public. In the last year and for the first time in our experience, many exhibitors openly challenged the opportunistic spurt in "$1.25 attractions with this:"

"If we have to exact a price premium ranging from 200 to 4001 per cent in order to get $1.25 from our audiences, we ought to be consistent by handing back the premium when we play a stinker as we frequently do."

"It becomes an unfortunate state of affairs for a producer to find himself beautifully stuck with a negative cost in seven staggering figures. Within rea- son, he has some right to look to the exhibitor to help him out of his jam. But there is nothing in the book which suggests such an expectation exceeds the public by demanding admissions two to four times greater than prevailing scales.

"The distributor often is in a position to wrap his sales formula around the neck of the exhibitor, for he cannot pass it along to a public wise enough to stubborn enough to resist. Four million dollars poured into an attraction are enough dollars to guarantee placement of products value, but no assurance that the result is entertainment warranting an unconscionable step-up in prices."

"This is a lesson in opportunism which the industry is yet to learn."

Take It—Up With The Home-Office Note:

In the case of Hitt vs. Texas Theatres, 203 SW [2] 963 a theatre manager deliberately set fire to a theatre. The building and contents adjoining the theatre were destroyed. It was instituted by the adjoining building owner for damages. It was held that there would be no recovery first, because the setter of the fire was not acting within the scope of his employment and second, the theatre owner had not ratified or condoned the act of the manager in wilfully burning the theatre—Reported recently by the TOA.

What gives Phil Reisman that wistful look?

Ecuador, according to Nate Green, public relations, Department of Commerce, is almost perfect market for American films. There is no competition there from natively produced films. No trade barrier against Ameri-can films exist. Quotas are non-ex. Taxes are moderate. Censorship is lenient.
The most acclaimed picture in the history of the screen!

and now...

THE NEW YORK FILM CRITICS’ AWARD...

“THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR”

Darryl F. Zanuck presents

GREGORY PECK
DOROTHY McGUIRE
JOHN GARFIELD

in Laura Z. Hobson’s

Gentleman’s Agreement

CELESTE ANNE JUNE with ALBERT JANE DEAN SAM
HOLM REVERE HAVOC DEKKER WYATT STOCKWELL JAFFE

Produced by DARRYL F. ZANUCK
Screen Play by MOSS HART
Directed by ELIA KAZAN

20th CENTURY-FOX
Crosby Tops Poll

(Continued from page 1)

1 for the fifth consecutive year, and Genie finishes the same from the previous year's third place to the second. Betty Grable finished as runner-up to Crosby. Her fifth poll appearance, she is the first poll this year to ever toppled the poll (1943), and rose from ninth place in 1946. Ingrid Bergman, Cary Grant, and John Wayne are tied in the latest poll despite the fact that she did not have a single new picture this year. These three stars are ranked in the top 10 categories, in the order named, are: Cary Grant, Humphrey Bogart, Bob Hope, Gregory Peck, Claudette Colbert, Ladd and Gable. Third in the Western Division is William Boyd, followed in this order: Bill Elliott (George (Gabby) Hayes, Charles Starrett, Smiley Burnett, Johnny Mack Brown, Dale Evans (first feminine player to "crash" the heretofore 100 per cent masculine company of money-making Western stars), and Eddie Dean.

Circuits Put Bergman Second

Miss Bergman ran second to Crosby in the poll ranking for independent exhibitors; Gary Cooper took No. 2 spot in the voting of independent exhibitors; both circuit and independent exhibitors voted Miss Grable third place, but by virtue of the total number of votes cast for her she emerged second in the polls. The next seven spots in the circuit voting were taken, respectively, by Bogart, Grant, Colbert, Ladd and Gable. The independent exhibitors placed the next seven in this order: Abbott and Costello, Van Johnson, Spencer Tracy, Miss Bergman and Miss Colbert. The circuit and independent voting in the order named, follow: Cary Grant, Rogers, Johnson, Tracy, Larry Parks, Abbott and Costello, Mays, Rita Hayworth, Margaret O'Brien, Tyrone Power, Joan Crawford, Barbara Stanwyck, Dana Andrews, Esther Williams and Cornel Wilde.

Crosby Canadian Choice

Crosby was first also in the Canadian poll, Canadian exhibitors picked also Crosby for their top ranking, respectively. Miss Bergman Bogart, Miss Grable, Cooper, Hope and Peck and came up with Wilde, Parks and Rogers, respectively. In the number of places, respectively. Next 15 in the Canadian voting were, in order of appearance: Grant, Miss Hayworth, Abbott and Costello, Miss O'Brien, Bette Davis, Gable, Maureen O'Hara, Ladd, Power, Miss Stanwyck, Tracy, Miss Colbert, Betty Hutton, Miss Williams and Miss Crawford.

No Theatre Changes Reported by Big 5

No changes in theatre holdings were reported by the five theatre-owning defendants in the Paramount, et al. New York anti-trust case, as they filed their reply to the Government's inter- nal report with the New York Fed- eral Court here Wednesday.

As Miss Williams and Miss Crawford have declared their intention to await the U. S. Supreme Court's decision on appeals before changing on theatre holding adjust- ments.
Cripps Awaits U. S. Solution
On Advalorem

TEN CENTS

ON BASIS OF $20-MILLION REMITTANCE LIMITATION

LONDON, Jan. 4.—With the British government seemingly still determined that remittances to the U. S. shall not exceed 5,000,000 pounds ($20,000,000) annually under an ad valorem tax settlement, Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is said to be awaiting the presentation of a settlement formula, and is convinced that it is not beyond American ingenuity to arrive at one.

Although the American Motion Picture Association’s F. W. Allport is still awaiting further

Resumption of ‘Red’ Probe Seen Delayed

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Hollywood is unlikely to be getting too big for the House Un-American Activities Committee’s plans.

In a five-point program outlined by chairman J. Parnell Thomas for the coming session of Congress, including Communist activity in the Panama Canal Zone and the spread of fascism, the resumption of Hollywood hearings “will depend on other developments.”

Legion Citations for Friendly Witnesses

Hollywood, Jan. 4.—“Friendly” witnesses in the recent Un-American Activities Committee hearings in Washington will receive citations from the American Legion at the Hollywood Legion Stadium on Tuesday.


$5,586,877 in New Canadian Construction

More than double the Previous Year’s Total

OTTAWA, Jan. 4.—New theatre building and additions during 1947 climbed to $5,586,877 in cost last year, the Canadian government reports.

New construction amounted to $4,049,175, and alterations and repairs cost $1,537,702, compared to $1,543,300 for new construction and $1,338,741 for alterations, for a total of $2,892,261 in the preceding year.

Sharp increases were registered in all parts of Canada, including the following, with the preceding year’s figures being given in brackets: Nova Scotia, $400,167 (353,315); New Brunswick, $163,142 (357,761); Quebec, $1,836,499 ($1,077,290); Ontario, $2,593,516 ($380,640); Manitoba, $33,308 ($227,738); Saskatchewan, $300,857 ($19,644); Alberta, $389,921 ($490,695); British Columbia, $348,972 ($934,399).

E-L Will Increase Its Ad Budget

DALLAS, Jan. 4.—Eagle-Lion Films will continue and expand its policy of sharing advertising and promotion costs, dollar for dollar, with all theatres over the normal house budgets on every major film released by the company, declared advertising-publicity director Max E. Youngstein, ad

(Continued on page 7)

E-L Released 56 Features in ’47

A total of 56 features were released by Eagle-Lion during 1947, according to A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-president.

Following is a breakdown of product handled: 23 black-and-white features made in Hollywood; one black-and-white made in Canada; two color features: one musical; six reissues of Edward Small “Screen Masterpieces”; 19 Westerns, and four J. Arthur Rank features.

Weekly Grosses Up to 25 Per-cent

Weather over New Year’s and at the weekend continued to be an arch of theatre business, repeating the growth in grosses from the first run and subsequent run box-offices. Where a record snowfall routed grosses in the first run, it proved an all-clear at first run and subsequently on box-offices. Where a record snowfall routed grosses in the first run, it proved an all-clear at first run and subsequently on box-offices.

The CEA, when meeting with Wilson, will claim that 40 features is a more probable figure in determining what British studios will produce this year, thus attacking Wilson’s estimate that 75 features will be made. Ex- tended playing time at first runs will necessarily skim the cream off business at the expense of second runs, the CEA will contend.

Treasury Admission
Tax Study Delayed

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—A Treasury Department study of admission taxes, originally scheduled for publication shortly after Jan. 1, has been indefinitely postponed, a Department official reveals. Effect of the postponement of the admission tax report is that Congress will probably have to make a decision on the tax without the benefit of the Treasury study.

He said that one expert working on the study has resigned and another assignment, causing the target date for the admission tax study to be pushed back two to three months.

Supreme Court Will Hear ATA, CSA

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The U. S. Supreme Court has allotted one and one-half hours for arguments of two intervenors, American Theatre Association and Confederation of Southern Associates, in the New York industry anti-trust suit appeals scheduled for hearing during the week of Feb. 9.

The time is to be divided equally

(Continued on page 7)

Film Industry Aided
In Canada Austerity
By UK’s ‘Progress’

TORONTO, Jan. 4.—In a statement on current conditions in Canada, J. Earl Lawson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada, has asserted that in view of the situation of the film industry on the other side of the border, it would have been at any previous period.

Until 1945 virtually all entertainment had to be paid for with dollars, he pointed out, adding that, in the sight of British ability to supply at a greater speed, Canada’s position would be stimulated toward the more sophisticated types of theatre equipment.

Touching on the construction of the new theatres, Lawson declared that the program to meet public demand is “much larger than is either practicable or possible under present conditions.”

GWTW Tops M-G-M Reissue Grosses

Heavy grosses on some of its reissues are reported by M-G-M. Leading is “Gone With the Wind,” understood to have pulled in $1,000,000 on its fourth trip to the nation’s screens, with the totals expected to hit between $1,000,000 and $3,000,000. “Rage in Heaven” and “The Great Waltz,” each stand to gross $1,000,000.

It’s practice of pre-testing pictures listed for pre-release is credited by M-G-M with the success of the reissues.
Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. ROGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, will leave New York on Wednesday for a Florida vacation.

HERB DRAKE, vice-president and director of promotion for MacFadden Publications, will reach New York at the weekend for Hollywood, where he will make arrangements for the Photoplay Magazine Oscar banquet to be held there on Feb. 16.

EDWARD T. CHEVITZ, assistant to Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston, left Washington yesterday for Hollywood, where he will remain for several weeks.

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations chief, will leave tomorrow for Springfield, Ill., to attend the convention of the United Theatre Owners of Illinois on Jan. 8-9.

Benjamin Thau, M-G-M studio executive, has been hospitalized on the Coast following an automobile accident.

William R. Ferguson, M-G-M exploitation head, is due back in New York today from Ogpunet, Me.

Charles Schlapper, 20th Century-Fox director of advertising-publicity, is due here today from Miami.

Ben Goetz, M-G-M production chief in England, is due here shortly from London.

Johnston of MGM’s New York Exchange

Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Louis Johnston, in charge of M-G-M’s service department at the New York-New Jersey exchange, at Our Lady of Carmel Church, Astoria, L. I. He had been in ill health for several months and succumbed to a heart attack Friday at his home in Astoria.

Johnson joined the old Goldwyn company in 1926 and was transferred to M-G-M with the merger in 1924. For 10 years he had been president of the Film Employes Exchange, Local B-51, resigning last October due to poor health. Johnston is survived by his widow, Adel; two daughters, Mrs. Piette, N. Apollo head; and Mrs. George Cervenko, and a son, Louis, Jr.

Frank Ryan, Family Die in Train Crash

Hollywood, Jan. 4.—Director Frank Ryan, his wife and three children were among the 14 killed in the New Year’s Day Missouri train wreck, it was announced here.

The Universal director started in Hollywood as a gag man and writer and began directing in 1942. Among his pictures were “Can’t Help Singing,” “Give Me Love” and “Patrick the Great.”

Tradewide...

By SHERWIN KANE

NOW that the organized industry is showing evidence of active concern over its public relations problem is some possibility that during this new year attention may be given to conditions within the industry, most especially within the exhibition branch which contributes to—when they are not wholly responsible for—inter-industry conflicts damaging to the public’s impressions and opinions of the institution of the motion picture.

Not once but several times individuals or organizations within in the industry have taken up their grievances to the public by way of哚杰'action.

Theatre screens in all parts of the country have been used to inquire about the public that advanced admission prices are imposed upon the exhibitor by producers and distributors and are not the voluntary policy of theatres exhibiting such pictures.

Local and regional newspapers carry stories of the attacks upon industry policies and practices by exhibitor convention orators.

Constant publicity is given around the land to a never-ending series of court actions and the accompanying charges by members of the industry against other members.

The continuing conflict between segments of the exhibition branch of the industry, and between it and other branches of the industry, constitute an ancient and continuing charge of injurious publicity for the whole industry.

Perhaps, by its very nature, it is an incurable ailment. If so, that should be determined by competent and serious studies.

Certainly, it is important enough to warrant investigation by the Motion Picture Association’s newly organized public relations committee. With Nate J. Blumberg, an able and experienced theatre operator, as well as head of a producing and distributing company, serving as chairman of that committee, it would seem that it is most fortunately constituted to undertake such a study.

If the causes of conflict within exhibition’s ranks and between industry and branches cannot be eliminated, perhaps they can at least be reduced in number and seriousness.

That, too, is most desirable. Elimination, itself, should be willing to join in such an endeavor.

There is little basis for any hope of exhibitor unity, however desirable that may be from both an industry and a public relations viewpoint.

There is, however, a very large area of interest and activity within much of the exhibition field. If it were so minded, it could find common cause without sacrificing individuality.

Federal and local admission taxes, censorship and all manner of public relation affect the exhibition, music, performance licensing fees, industry public relations which affect theatre attendance problems and many more problems which would be far more effectively confronted and dealt with by united exhibitor action than, as now, by the rival and divergent attentions of divided exhibitionists.

A common approach to problems such as these does not require the elimination from the scene of any exhibitor organization. It requires nothing more than the honest leadership and cooperation of the existing organizations.

If they could be had a signal contribution would be made not only to the best interests of exhibition itself, but to the public relations of the whole industry, as well.

And once begun, it is not unreasonable to believe that such cooperative experience could lead ultimately to new and more effective approaches by exhibitors and to exhibitor-distributor harmony on the sharper-edged problems in the realm of trade practices.

There will be no beginning as long as any segment of exhibition regards itself as separate and distinct from other segments. That is a destructive and hopeless belief that nothing but more and greater dimensions and heals no existing ones. It maintains that segment in an armed camp opposed to the industry of which it is a part.

It is the responsibility of the organized industry to eliminate, insofar as it is able, whatever lends credence to that belief.

Perhaps the public relations committee could start there.

Newsreadel Parade

TWO of the reels are devoted entirely to sports highlights of 1947 and a third to current year’s news events. The remaining two reels covered such up-to-the-minute events as the Miami train wreck, New York City out of the atmosphere, sports and fashions. Complete contents follow.

MOTION PICTURE NEWS, No. 37—Highlights of the year in sports.


Frequentist.


WARNER BROTHERS, No. 40—Roundup of 1947.

Services Held for Gus Schlesinger

Gus Schlesinger, for years an industry figure in foreign sales most of which he spent as general manager of foreign operations for M-G-M, died Monday until illness forced his retirement, died Thursday night at his home in Orange.

Funeral services were held yesterday at the Goldsticker Funeral Parlor in Newark. He is survived by two brothers, Leon and Mayer and a sister, Flora.

Excess Profits Tax Is Ended in Canada

OTTAWA, Jan. 4.—The advent of 1948 marked the end of the Canadian excess profits tax on earnings. Elimination of the tax comes as a boon to the Dominion’s film industry, which like others, was compelled to surrender 15 per cent of its excess profits during 1947.

WANTED: $100 from 2000 People

To establish The SAMPLIZING Plan. Individuals are invited to invest in the tremendous potential profits of the new and revolutionary national SAMPLIZING Plan. Original investment unconditionally guaranteed and repaid in ten years. You cannot lose. These securities are believed to be exempt and therefore have not been registered under the SEC. Consequently SEC has not approved or disapproved these securities or considered the accuracy or completeness of this statement. Total fund raising expenses not to exceed $5,000 or $2.50 per unit.

CHARLES W. CURRAN
33-15 80th St.
Jackson Heights, L. I., N. Y.

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., 1220 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York, N. Y. Martin Quigley, President; Red, Kern, Vice-President; Martin, Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary James P. Quigley, General Manager; and K. A. Banning, Executive Manager. The Motion Picture Herald, Better Theaters, published every fourth week as a continuation of the Picture Motion Picture Herald. Published by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1220 Sixth Avenue, New York, N. Y. Entered as second-class matter November 16, 1915, 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.
"An Ideal Husband
has to think of
his future....... 
A woman has to
think of her past!!!!"
The First
Alexander Korda Production
for 20th Century-Fox!

PAULETTE GODDARD

Alexander Korda's production of
Oscar Wilde's Most Scandalizing Comedy!

An Ideal Husband

Color by TECHNICOLOR

with MICHAEL WILDING · DIANA WYNYARD

Glynis Johns · Constance Collier · Sir Aubrey Smith · Hugh Williams

Produced and Directed by ALEXANDER KORDA
...and coming soon from ALEXANDER KORDA for 20th Century-Fox

Anna Karenina
Starring VIVIEN LEIGH
with Ralph Richardson • Kieron Moore
Directed by JULIEN DUIVIVIER

The Lost Illusion
Starring Ralph Richardson • Michele Morgan
Directed by CAROL REED
Based on a story by Graham Greene

Bonnie Prince Charlie
TECHNICOLOR
Starring DAVID NIVEN
Directed by ANTHONY KIMMINS
Screen Play Written by Clemence Dane

Cyrano de Bergerac
Starring ORSON WELLES
From a script by BEN HECHT

The Devil's Delight
Starring CARY GRANT
Produced and Directed by CAROL REED
Script by Alan Melville

I Will Repay
A PIMPERNEL STORY
Starring REX HARRISON
Based on a story by the Baroness Orczy
MPA Church Series Goes Into Release
SPokane, Wash., Jan. 4.—Release of the first two of a new non-profit series of films, "The Eyes of the Church," was announced here yesterday by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association.

Launching the series, designed to meet the need for applying basic religious principles and important national and international issues, are: "The Nuremberg Trials, the Churches and International Justice," running 15 minutes, and "The People in the Atomic Age," running 18 minutes. The 10omm. films were produced by the cooperation of officials of the MPA, especially of Arthur H. Debra, director of the association's community relations department. Production was financed by a gift from the G. F. Jewett of this city. Distribution will be handled by the Spokane Film Forum of Spokane.

The project, begun seven years ago, was interrupted by the war. The films are now being shown in churches as well as non-church discussion groups. "The Motion Pictures Association is keenly interested in the need for the application of moral and religious principles to problems of contemporary life," Johnston said. "It is another evidence of the desire of the motion picture industry to contribute in a practical way to the welfare of humanity, and to the survival of the spiritual and moral values upon which civilization depends.

Cripps Awaits
(Continued from page 1)

instructions from MPA president Eric Johnston before resuming his settlement conferences with Britain's Sir Wilfred Eady, a British treasury official said at the weekend that it is expected another meeting between the two will take place this week.

A new American approach toward a settlement—an approach based on the British government's remittances to Canada, which are said to be holding up the resumption of American film imports. Up to now, it is said, MPA has insisted on the payment of the 75 per cent tax as a prerequisite to further negotiation, and British government spokesmen, surmised at this point that it is "curious" demand that the British government alter a law at the insistence of the non-profit-production association. The British government, evidently, is determined not to accept dictation from the MPA.

It is also reported that the door is open to discussion of any tax alternative embracing the conditions that remittances do not exceed 5,000,000 pounds.

Red Probe Delay
(Continued from page 1)

according to Thomas. Top priority will be given to the Canal Zone and foreign investigations this month, he said.

Although the committee has completed its research on Communism in Hollywood for the previously-announced resumption of its probe, it appears now that no early reopening of the film hearing is planned.

Herald - Fame Poll Highlighted in UK
London, Jan. 4.—Results of the annual Motion Picture Herald-Fame "top ten money-making stars" poll of British exhibitors was announced here to unequalled nationwide interest here, with newspapers emblazoning with headlines that stars and films dominate Britain's screens, and with the British Broadcasting Corporation making announcements of the poll's outcome.

Clinchy To Speak At NCCJ Luncheon
Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, will be the principal speaker at a luncheon of the amusements division of the Conference to be held at the Waldorf Hotel, London, yesterday. It was announced by Spyros P. Skouras, president of Twentieth Century-Fox in the U.K. and chairman of the committee for "Brotherhood Week," which is being observed Feb. 22-29.

Clinchy, who recently returned from a European tour, will discuss the work of the International Council of Christians and Jews. Skouras will tell the big house of the "true international spirit" which, he said, was expressed by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, how they can do their part in supporting brotherhood. After the luncheon, J. Robert Wood, president of Loew's, Inc., a chairman of the Amusements Division of the Conference and David Weinstock, of Raybord Theatres, is campaign head.

E-L To Increase Ads
(Continued from page 1)

dressing a weekend regional sales meeting here.

Before an audience which included Herrman Beiersdorfer, recently promoted to the post of Western sales manager, and sales and executive personnel from New Orleans, San Antonio, Phoenix, Oklahoma City, Atlanta, Charlotte and Dallas, Youngstein renewed the old saw that there is no substitute in any way, but rather to augment and increase all sums allocated for promotion to any amount deemed suitable for any individual engagement.

The two-day meeting, which was also addressed by Harold S. Dunn, as- signed to the Western sales manager, and Frank Soule, in charge of branch operations, was devoted to a discussion of the policy on forthcoming Exhib- lion releases, with special emphasis on "T-Men," for which the largest promotional budget in the company's history has been started.

Appeal Theatre Ban
San Jose, Cal., Jan. 4.—An appeal has been filed with the county board of supervisors by Traveltalks Corporation, to rescind a decision by the county planning commission denying the building of a $1,000,000 multiple amusement place. T. and D., intended to erect a drive-in theatre and recreation and shopping center, but landowners adjacent to the tract claimedclerosis of the enterprise jeopardized the value of homes in the neighborhood.

Mason Again No. 1
At UK Box-Offices

By PETER BURNUM

London, Jan. 4.—For the fourth consecutive year, James Mason has been voted No. 1 British "Money-Making Star" in the annual Motion Picture Herald-Fame poll of British exhibitors. In the latest poll, however, Mason was somewhat shaken from his top spot by the formidable and current top money-making favorite.

British exhibitors' voting for the 1947 "top ten" produced marked differences from last year's poll. Only five stars, including Mason, were held to estemme during the last 12 months. Of the survivors, Anna Neag- le is top female star, Lockwood was held a little higher in the international classification. Now he places second to Bing Crosby, America's favorite for the current "top ten" money-making favorite.

Mason's latest is "The Uptown Girl." Miss Neagle had two of her credit appearances in "Courtneys of Curzon Street" and "Piccadilly Incident." Miss Lockwood was starred in "Sons and Lovers," "Great Expectations," and Granger appeared in "Caravan," and the recently released "Captain Boycott."
Exclusive First!

CINECOLOR is proud to have cooperated with WARNER BROS. in filming the FIRST COLOR NEWSREEL SEQUENCE featuring the entire New Year's Day Tournament of Roses activities. This Cinecolor scoop will reach the nation's screens through Warner Bros.

TOMORROW JANUARY 6th
Holiday Week Grosses Here Hit Seriously

Expected Receipts Cut 20-40% By Bad Weather

The Christmas through New Year's Week, ordinarily a peak prosperity-plus period for New York's Times Square theatres produced grosses which were barely average by non-holiday standards. Usually during the holiday those houses expected to increase to 40 per cent increase over normal. This year the record 258.8-inch snowfall which blanketed the city and environs on Dec. 20, and which followed less than a week later by an ice storm, found the

Cut in Canadian Excise Tax Expected

OTTAWA, Jan. 5.—The Canadian government may examine its whole position in regard to excise taxes before the next budget, forecasts having been heard here that some tax relief may be forthcoming this year. Excise taxes, including the amusement tax, brought in over $17,000,000 in 1946-47 to the Federal government. Last year theatrical circles were somewhat surprised that no action was taken by the government to lessen the tax; the latter concentrating almost exclusively in eliminating or reducing income taxes. With a substantial surplus now a certainty for this fiscal year and action on excise taxes already overdue, it is believed that relief in this respect may be on its way.

Arraign Ten Friday; New Probe Likely

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Justice David A. Pike today refused to reconsider his ruling of Dec. 15 that the 10 Hollywood men cited for contempt during the House Un-American Activities Committee's hearings must appear here for arraignment on Friday instead of on the date of trial. The appearance is expected to be set for late this month or early in February.

Defence attorneys had asked the District Court last Friday to postpone the arraignment. After Pike's action today, defense lawyer Robert Kennedy

Holiday Week Grosses Here Hit Seriously

Disney Profits Up; New Selling Plans

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 5.—Net profit of Walt Disney Productions, after all charges, amounted to $306,075 in the year ended Sept. 27, 1947, compared with $199,602 in 1946, Roy O. Disney, company president, reported here today. The 1947 net was equal after providing for preferred dividends, to 43 cents a share on the 625,000 shares of outstanding common stock. In 1946 net income was equal, after preferred dividends, to 26 cents a share on the common.

Current obstacles to "business as usual" in many countries have caused the company to initiate alternative methods of marketing abroad. Disney stated. One alternative plan is to sell outright to distributors in foreign countries, for an immediate dollar consideration, the right to distribute Disney products in a given territory for a fixed period of years. RKO Radio distributes Disney products.

Progress is being made in this direction, it was said. It is expected that this change in sales policy will be a considerable extent, offset loss of income from abroad.

Commenting on 1948 releasing

NCA Disavows MPF; Terms Plan 'Vague'

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 5—Holding the Motion Picture Foundation plan to be "vague" and confusing, the board of directors of North Central Allied pictures unanimously disapproved the project and went on record as being unwilling to participate in it.

Stanley Kane, NCA executive director, said the idea had "no support whatever" here and added: "We want no part of it."

Industry Faces Favorable State Legislative Year

Call for Expansion of M. P. Associates

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Six state legislatures will open this week, leading off a small 1948 group, according to Jack Bryson, Motion Picture Association legislative specialist.

The Kentucky, Mississippi, and Rhode Island legislatures will convene tomorrow, with Massachusetts, New York and Missouri opening Wednesday.

According to advance reports, Bryson said, there will be no legislation unfavorable to the industry in any of these states, and there is a possibility that a bill may be introduced in Kentucky to repeal the state admission tax.

Denmark Ban Off; Sweden Norway Yield

MPA-Scandinavia 1-Year Deal Precludes a Tax

American film companies have vacated their ban on shipment of Hollywood product to Denmark and also have come to terms with Norway and Sweden. Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, announced yesterday through the MPA office here.

The negotiations, which were negotiated by Gerald M. Mayer, chief of the MPA's international division, during his recent visit in Scandinavia, are described by Johnston as meeting the problem overseas without one of the three countries resorting to a tax.

Amount of money U. S. companies may remit to their home offices from all three countries is that agreed to by Johnston in his report to Johnston as "the best"

Del Giudice Visit Unofficial, U. K. Says

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Jan. 5—Filippo Del Giudice is on his way to the United States to discuss a settlement of the ad valorem tax situation with American film chiefs on the authority of the British government, according to a statement made by the producer prior to his sailing aboard the S.S. Queen Elizabeth, and denied in some official quarters.

Both the British Treasury and the Board of Trade immediately denied

Mundt Bill Given Senate Priority

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The Senate policy committee named the House-approved Mundt Bill as one of three pieces of priority legislation for consideration early this session. Passage is considered certain.

It has been hoped that the bill, authorizing the State Department's overseas information program, might be used as authority to help U. S. film
G RADWELL L. SEARS, United Artists president, and George J. Schaefer, Empire distribution head, have returned here from Hollywood.

RICHARD D. HAYES, Paramount salesman in Albany, N. Y., for more than 20 years, has resigned, effective Jan. 15, to enter another business. He will be honored at a dinner given by the Albany Variety Club of which he was a former officer.

DR. THOMAS H. JAMES and Dr. GERTRUDE KORNFELD of Eastman Kodak's Rochester research laboratories, have been elected fellows in the New York Academy of Sciences.

FILIPPO DEL GIUBICE, JAMES E. PEKINS, NOEL COWARD and WILLIAM PETERBAUER are among the passengers on the S.S. Queen Elizabeth, which has left England for New York.

EDWARD CHERVITZ, assistant to MPA president ERIC JOHNSTON, has arrived in Hollywood, JOHNSTON is expected there tomorrow.

GEORGE F. DEMOW, National Screen Service vice-president and general sales manager, has returned to New York from Hollywood Beach, Fla.

JACK C O H N, Columbia executive vice-president, has returned here from Miami Beach.

WALTER READE, Jr. and MRS. READE have returned to New York from a vacation.

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, left here yesterday for Chicago.

A. SILVERSTONE HEADS 20th's CANADIAN SALES

Arthur Silverstone, formerly joint assistant managing director of 20th Century-Fox in London, has been appointed assistant managing director of that company's London branch, to succeed Harry Johnston, who has joined the company's sales department as assistant to Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox's general sales manager. Silverstone, whose appointment is effective immediately, replaces Sydney Samson who is on an indeterminate leave of absence.

Silverstone will make his headquarters in Toronto. Smith left here yesterday to serve as host there today at a luncheon to introduce Silverstone to representatives of the Canadian trade.

NEW CANADIAN FIRM

OTTAWA, Jan. 5.—Letters of patent have been issued by the Secretary of State to Palmer Pictures Corp., a private company with a head office at Montreal.

NEW POST FOR IRETON

OTTAWA, Jan. 5.—Glenn Ireton has been named head of Renaissance Film Enlarging Co., New York.

JULIUS KLEIN, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans, U.S. Army, yesterday ordered the action of the American Legion in honoring Americanism contributions of motion picture leaders.

NORMAN O'NEILL, national commander of the Legion: "The American Legion's constructive action of July 31, 1938, arrangements for the open meeting, the Democracy of motion picture leaders will greatly hearten those who have fought, and those who are fighting, for Democracy, devoted efforts to further doctrines of true Americanism." He added:

"A score of Hollywood leaders and talent will receive the Legion's citation today at ceremonies on the Coast.

Republic Holds Premiere

"In Frisco to Aid CARE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 5.—Before a capacity audience of high military and civil officials as well as cultural representatives of 14 European nations, "In Frisco," a film for the motion picture industry, was shown yesterday at the premiere held at the St. Francis Theatre, here, with the playing of The Flame, Pearls, and a typewriter, all three of which had all the fanfare of a typical Hollywood opening, have been given to CARE. The proceeds of the openings were made through the cooperation of Herbert J. Yates, Republic president, and Jerry Zigman, assistant general division manager for Paramount Theatres.

BELL AND HOWELL'S COMMON JUMPS FROM 60 CENTS TO $4.80

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—With sales at a recent peak-time high, Bell & Howell Co.'s 1947 earnings are expected to approximate $4,800 a common share compared with 69 cents in 1946. Having overcome the almost paralyzing effects of the 1946 shortage of essential parts, the company, one of the leading producers of motion picture camera and projection equipment, is expected to report 1947 sales of about $18,000,000, compared with $17,000,000 in 1946. The company in the last quarter believed to have maintained the average established in 1945 with the result that the first quarter's end income should be over $2,300,000 compared with $442,945 a year ago.

NEW KAY EXCHANGE MANAGERS NAMED IN NEW ORLEANS AND D.C.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 5.—Robert E. Helms is the new manager of Kay Films for New Orleans. Helms was formerly with RKO Radio and Universal; he was with RKO Radio from 1922-1947. He has moved here from Dallas.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. Harry Cohen, formerly with M.G.M., has assumed the management of the Washington Kay Film Exchange, according to the Kay officials. Harry Katz, Kay officials, who visited the office and inducted Cohen into the organization.

ARBITRATION sessions in the wage dispute between Loew's and the American Federation of Motion Picture Employees Guild wound up at the weekend at American Arbitration Association headquarters here. The board granted the union's request for a 45-day extension of the deadline for settling their wage disputes in five major film companies. The board's decision in the five cases will be held on Jan. 17. Columbia hearings are set for Jan. 7-8; RKO Radio, Jan. 14-15; Warner Bros., Jan. 26-27 and Jan. 29-30; Paramount, Feb. 2 and other days during that week; 20th Century-Fox, Feb. 9-13, and National Screen Service, Feb. 16-17 and Feb. 19-20.

Stern and Cummings Will Open MGM Meeting Today

First of the three-day M-G-M field auditors meetings will get under way here today at the Astor Hotel with Charles K. Stern, Loew's assistant treasurer, and Alan F. Cummings, in charge.

In attendance will be Harold Postman, assistant to Cummings, Carl Bell, Charles Bell, Oliver C. Broughton, Carl Kentzel, Willard Gillllan, Arthur Sklar, Edward Urschel, Harold Malmgren and Charles W. Rogers, distribution vice-president, will be on hand for tomorrow's session. On Thursday, a number of home office executives will attend a get-together luncheon.

Ask to Raise Damage Claim as Trial Objection

BUFFALO, Jan. 5.—Trial of a suit for damages which one Olean, N. Y., theatre claims it suffered during the last six years of a 17-year fight against producers and distributors opened today before a jury and Federal Judge Harold P. Burke. The theatre诉求 that the amount it lost is $163,000, but as the trial opened William A. Gray, Philadelphia attorney, argued that the plaintiffs, Borden Bros. Theatres, Inc., Olean, are permitted to raise the amount to $300,000. The court reserved a decision on this, saying that he will not rule on that phase of the plaintiffs were forced to compete with theatres controlled by Warner
tours.

U'SALES DRIVE FOR DAFF'S ANNIVERSARY HEADED BY COHN

Distribution forces of Universal International Films, Inc., will launch a 20-week worldwide 'Daff Anniversary Sales Drive' on Jan. 11, concluding May 29, in honor of Alfred E. Daff, foreign sales vice-president.

Ben Cohn, home office executive, will be captain of the drive, which will mark Daff's 28 years with "U." Pickford Heads Children's Drive

Mary Pickford will launch the campaign, the "Canadian Appeal for Children" sponsored jointly by the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO and the United Nations Committee for Children, setting in motion a worldwide drive for $100,000,000 to further the worldwide work of the UNICEF.
Del Giudice (Continued from page 1)

that Del Giudice had spoken to either Giuseppe Basso, Dino De Laurentiis, Exequiel, or Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade. Wilson added that the producer had approached officials suggesting he might find a tax solution in America. Del Giudice was then told that the board would consider the plan only if he could or accept any responsibility that his American negotiations would be accepted. Del Giudice, in his statement on Monday, saying that the producer could bring back any suggestion he liked, added, "anybody can do that." The board's executive said he had discussed the matter with Cripps, in consequence of which he proposes to set up a new plan whereby Americans and British would respectively retain 75 per cent of profits from the screening of each other's product.

Statements in the Daily Mail attributed to Del Giudice said that following the producer's American talks, the Motion Picture Association would give instructions to the MPA's F. W. Pickard that would implement the discussions here.

The statements evoked a furor in the entire film trade here, with the point made that British and American producers were given virtual plenipotentiary powers to Del Giudice's scheme. Del Giudice's last board plan whereby Americans and British communities would think on its split with J. Arthur Rank, and in view particularly of the Parlia- ments and the forthcoming declaration of earlier talks with Cripps.

Expressions of opinion by industry spokesmen here as to whether Del Giudice's proposed barter plan would be in violation of the American distributors' embargo, which has been dis- carded in the League of England were not available last night.

Scandinavian Deal (Continued from page 1)

possible deal under the present difficult economic conditions.

These agreements exceed one year. They became effective on Jan. 1. Mayer said the reason for this is that he has been in touch with the British government, which is optimistic about 1948 and are encouraged especially over the Marshall Plan.

The British, Denmark, which was confirmed by the Danish government yesterday, renews a way for American films that has been closed since last October. At that time an impasse was reached between the U. S. industry and Denmark because the American companies refused to revise an industry-old practice and sell prints outright in the Denmark market. Denmark, which the London Daily said last a relic in the Russian industry, has been a basis and a remittance plan.

MPA Hits Charges by French Reds as 'Lies'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The Motion Picture Association today characterized as "outright lying" French Communist press reports that U.S. film companies are taking $30,000,000 a month out of the American market.

"The truth is," an MPA statement said, "that American motion picture companies are taking money out of Europe—not even for out-pocket expenses. No dollars have been remitted from that country since last March, when our member companies received a token payment on funds blocked in France since 1937."

M. J. Meehan Dead, Owned K-A-O Shares

Funeral services for M. J. Meehan, former Wall Street broker who five years owned a majority of the preferred stock of Keith-Albee-Orpheum Corp., were held at St. Vincent Ferrer Church, New York. Meehan, who was 56 years old, was stricken with pneumonia on New Year's Day and died Feb. 25th last.

During the 1920's his spectacular trading in Radio Corporation of America stock reportedly netted him a large fortune.

Max Cohn, Brother Of Harry and Jack

Funeral services will be held here today at Riverside Memorial Chapel for Maxwell (Max) Cohn, Columbia short subject producer, who died in New York Saturday. He is survived by the widow, Rita; two daughters, Mrs. Leonore Rosenstiel and Mrs. Judith Wolff, and three brothers, Harry Cohn, president of Columbia; Jack Cohn, executive vice-president; and Nat Cohn, New York division manager.

Ray C. Hickman

MARIETTA, O., Jan. 5.—Ray C. Hickman, 52, co-owner of the Washington Theatre Co., this city, died suddenly here yesterday. He had been in the theatre business for 30 years, having started with his own Auditorium Theatre here and later formed a partnership with Mort Shea. In addition to the widow he leaves a son, Capt. Jack Hickman, in the Army in Germany, and a daughter.

Friedland Stricken

CLEVELAND, Jan. 5.—Hyman O. Friedland of the Alhambra Theatre was stricken with a heart attack upon his return home from the theatre New Year's Eve and from which he failed to recover.

May Turn First-Run

CLEVELAND, Jan. 5.—The Fairmont Theatre, 1,600-seat de luxe house located in the city's North Side, is negotiating with distributors for first-runs, to play simultaneously with downtown houses.

Del Giudice (Continued from page 1)

M.P. Associates (Continued from page 1)

along with a program allowing for expected

Arthur Mayer, incoming president of the MPA, pointing to the "unchal- lenged and almost automatic" administration of welfare, added: "The business was doing well enough to permit an over three per cent, and on the basis of $85,000 grossed New Year's Day through the first Friday, a $33,250 distribution for the fifth and final week of "Good News" plus its Christmas stage pre-

N. Y. Grosses (Continued from page 1)

dramatic business that was 20
to 40 per cent below the expected.

However, the holidays had less of a hollow ring for some first-runs than for Waldorf Astoria, Radio City Music Hall lived up to its reputation as the "showplace of the nation," weather notwithstanding. It presented a new production, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," to place to per cent, and on the basis of $85,000 grossed New Year's Day through the first Friday, a $33,250 distribution for the fifth and final week of "Good News" plus its Christmas stage pre-

Sterling Grosses (Continued from page 1)

"The Fugitive" is due to gross $30,000 in a second week. The Palace was reported grossing a poor $22,000 first week for "Tyrconn," is expected to brighten into a fair $23,000 second week, and "Blind Date," at the Astor, was off about 20 per cent, but the fourth week, on the basis of a very strong Saturday evening, is viewed as making $1,500,000, $31,000 from the third week's $47,000.

"Senator" Gross Rebounding

"The Senator Was Indicted," at the Criterion, is also on the rebound following the weather-cooled holiday week, and the first week's $32,000 is expected to be bolstered second by $8,000, Friday through Sunday, having registered $25,000. The High and the Madding Crowd, with its hand on stage at the Capitol, is due for a good $72,000 in a second week, compared to the film's $25,000 for the first (holiday) week. "Body and Soul" appears to be holding up well at the Globe, with $25,000 expected to be comfortably ahead of the first "Gentlemen's Agreement," at the Mayfair, made a galling showing during the following week, and it is expected to produce $54,000 in its eighth week. At the Winter Garden, "The Exile" is on the way to a mild $55,000 second week, and at the Gotham, "Fabulous Texan" has an unimpressive $7,500 second week in store. Sixth week for "Nicholas Nickleby" at the Little Car-

Mundt Bill a Must

companies get frozen funds out of Europe. A senate foreign relations subcommittee is scheduled to meet to-morrow in an attempt to broaden the bill to cover any such plan.

ead further content from the page...
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Franchot Tone · Janet Blair

in

I LOVE TROUBLE

with

JANIS CARTER
ADELE JERGENS · GLENDA FARRELL
STEVEN GERAY · TOM POWERS

An S. SYLVAN SIMON Production · Screenplay by Roy Huggins
From his novel, "The Double Take" · Produced and directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON
ALL SMART,
ANGE CASE OF MURDER!
“A Double Life”

[Universal-International-Kanin]

Distinguished Entertainment

Hollywood, Dec. 23

The greatest performance in Ronald Colman’s long career would be in itself enough to carry this Michael Kanin production to impressive grosses, but is not required to do so, since production, direction, script, and matching performances by Signe Hasso, Edmund O’Brien, Shelley Winters, Ray Collins, Philip Loeb and supporting players round out a powerful, fascinating, innately theatrical attraction which is sure to make its mark in any market. Strictly adult in subject and treatment, it is at once a character study, a literary work and a melodrama, and, in the aggregate, distinguished entertainment.

Colman portrays a famous stage actor, beloved by some who know him and despised by others, who co-stars in “Othello” with Miss Hasso, from whom he has been divorced for two years but with whom he is still in love. He concentrates on his characterization so profoundly that his own personality and conduct become indistinguishable by him from those to the insanely jealous Shakespearean nobleman who slays his wife in the play. His suspicion that Miss Hasso is in love with the play’s press agent, O’Brien, leads him to the point of murdering her, but his own personality intervenes to the extent of diverting his murderous impulse to another girl with whom he has had a secret affair. When, by interesting complications and developments, the crime is traced to him and he is about to be arrested in mid-performance, he makes Othello’s onstage suicide his own real one.

The script by Ruth Gordon and producer Kanin is an extremely well balanced and effective presentation of cause and effect, and George Cukor’s masterly direction makes every scene and sentence of dialogue count importantly in the sum total.

Scenes from Shakespeare’s “Othello” figure vitally and substantially in the film, but do not shunt the picture into the “arty” classification. By no means for children, the film is a quality job in every respect and a fine cinema experience for adults.

Running time, 103 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

William R. Weaver
Production at Capacity in 1948: Warner

12 Before WB Cameras In First Quarter

Warner Brothers will launch a "capacity" production schedule for 1948 with 12 pictures slated to go before the cameras in the first quarter of the year, Jack L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production, announced yesterday.

Although no information on the number of releases for the year was mentioned, the Warner statement said that more than 40 pictures are in various stages of preparation now.

The list includes Cagney Productions' "The Stray Lamb" and "A Lion".

Meet Here on MPF Financing Jan. 14

The Motion Picture Foundation's special finance committee, headed by J. St. Fabian, will sit for the first time on Jan. 14 in New York to determine methods of fund raising and to set up the financial administration of the Foundation.

The committee also includes Leon Goldstein, Harold Field, Karl Holztlzle, Richard F. Walsh, Ted Curtis, Albert Warner, Arthur Schoenstatt, and Fred Wehrenberg.

Goldstein Dep't. Is Eliminated by RKO

RKO Radio Pictures announced yesterday that "intra-organization changes have made necessary the elimination" of the post of Eastern studio representative, which has been held by Jack Goldstein for the past two years.

The company said that with the abandonment of Goldstein's department...

WB Profit in '47 Was $22,094,000; $2,670,000 Rise

Warner Brothers' consolidated profit for the year ended Aug. 31, 1947, was $22,094,000, compared to the previous year's $19,424,000, according to data disclosed yesterday. The increase was $2,670,000.

Last year's profit was equivalent to $3.02 per share on 7,295,000 shares of outstanding common stock, compared with $2.62 per share on the 7,401,000 shares outstanding in the previous year.

Profits recorded for individual quarters of the year ended Aug. 31 last, before deducting income taxes, contingent liabilities and equity in undistributed foreign earnings, were: first, $11,603,000 (an increase of $2,786,000 over the corresponding previous year); second, $10,810,000 ($972,000 increase); third, $8,621,000 ($2,573,000 increase).

Would Cut Ticket, Equipment Taxes

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—Rep. Harold C. Hagan said today that either this week or next he would introduce a bill cutting the Federal theatre admission tax to 10 per cent.

Rep. Gordon L. McDonough today introduced a bill designed to abolish the 20 cent tax on the manufacture of motion picture equipment produced by a company for its own use.

McDonough, who represents the Hollywood district, specifically cited the tax on Technicolor equipment as the type which his bill would remove.

‘Arch’ and Other Films to U. A. in Enterprise Pact

Delay Thomas Probe For Trial Results

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—House Un-American Activities Committee Chairman Thomas said today that he would not resume the Hollywood investigation until after the trial of the first witness cited for contempt in the last committee hearings. This would make a resumption before mid- or late February unlikely.

The 10 Hollywoodites cited for contempt will be arraigned here Friday and presumably will be assigned for separate trials, with the first beginning...

Fitzgibbons Sees Bright Prospects

Toronto, Jan. 6—We look forward with great confidence to good business during 1948 because of the anticipated high level of payrolls and steady employment which is forecast by the continued great demand for building materials and all kinds of consumer and durable goods," states J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corp.

UK May ‘Sacrifice’ Film Imports

LONDON, Jan. 6—More severe British treatment of film imports, point- ing to outright, unqualified sacrifice of U.S. and other foreign product, will be an inevitable result if the nation’s critical dollar position does not take a turn for the better in the near future, according to official sources here.

A financial crisis of the first magni- tude may grip Britain by April, it was said, if emergency financial aid is not en- route here by then. Such a crisis would drive the British government to switch its trade toward self-sufficiency, a policy which would run counter to the European cooperation plans agreed on in Paris. Britain’s dollar deficit is now estimated to be approximately $225,000,000.

The Labor Party cabinet is con- sidering with balancing present plans against emergency aid coming some time in the future. The Treat—

Aid to Films In Multid Bill Seen Dropped

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee late tonight apparently had aban- doned its attempt to broaden the Multid Bill to include schemes to aid film companies and other information media get frozen funds out of Europe.

The subcommittee, which is sched- uled to report to the full committee tomorrow, took this action for two reasons: Because it lacked enough in- formation on the problem, and because it feared inclusion of such a pro- posal would slow the passage of the bill, with its vital provisions for expanding the State Department’s overseas in- vestigations.

All members of the subcommittee agreed that the problem of blocked currency deserved “full and early con- sideration” and some expressed the in- tention of introducing separate legis- lation on the matter, on which hear- ings could be held and all information brought out.

It was understood that the State—

ATA Intervenes on ‘Auction’ Bids Only

Arguments of American Theatres Association counsel Thurman Arnold in ATA’s plea in the appeal of the Government’s New York trust suit will be confined to opposition to com- petitive bidding. The U. S. Supreme Court has already granted the ATA’s request for oral argument on its plea for intervention at the appeal hear- ings which start on Feb. 9.

The Confederacy of Southern As- sociations, which filed a parallel...

NCCJ Film Unit Goal Is $200,000

A goal of $200,000 for the motion picture division of the National Council of Christians and Jews was announced at a luncheon-meeting of the division at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here yesterday, at which Spyros P. Koutras, chairman, presided.

Culmination of the drive will be...
Personal Mention

MAX E. YOUNGSTENGLE, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity director, has returned to New York from sales meetings in Dallas.

PAUL WHITE, Western European sales manager for Selznick Releasing Organization, Mrs. White and Zutty Kogan and other passengers due here today from Europe on the SS Miamanteur.

A. J. BALABAN, executive director of the Roxy Theatre, here, and Mrs. Balaban, announce the engagement of their daughter, CHERIE, to HAROLD ROBINS of New York City and Spring Valley, N. Y.

MAX MENSEL, sales head for Film Classics of the Americas, a subsidiary of Film Classics, will leave here today for his first trip to Mexico, South and Central America.

JAMES VAN HORN, formerly in 20th Century-Fox's home office, New York, has become salesman in the New Haven branch.

AUSTIN KROUG, Paramount general counsel, is in New York Hospital for a physical check-up.

MILES SHERER, head of Sherer Enterprises, has left here for a business tour of South America.

REVE O. STROCK, chief of recording engineering for the New York Film. will leave here today for the Coast.

GEO FOWLER, Jr., Universal-International producer, is in New York from the Coast.

4 Theatre Meetings For Jan. and Feb.

Four theatre owners' meetings are scheduled to be held this month and next.

The United Theatre Owners of Illinois will meet tomorrow and Friday at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, Ill. Among the scheduled items will be Fred Werdenberg, chairman of Theatre Owners of America; Robert W. Coyle, executive director of TOA, and Herbert Levy, general counsel.

The board of Tri-States Motion Picture Theatre Owners is scheduled to meet at the Charlotte Hotel, Charlotte, on Jan. 27. Coyle will be among those present.

Members of Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina will assemble for their annual meeting at the Charlotte Hotel, Charlotte, on Feb. 1. The convention will run through Feb. 3. Ted Gamble, president of the TOA, Coyle and Levy will be on hand.

On Feb. 3 and 4 the Texas Theatre Owners will hold its annual convention in Austin. Attending will be Gamble and Coyle.
It started with a rip-roaring World Premiere at Radio City Music Hall, with hundreds of simultaneous New Years bookings throughout the nation. It's a tonic in Technicolor, hailed by trade press and newspaper critics for the fun and the song hits, the beautiful girls and the wild and wonderful dancing, the mad and merry cast of youthful stars and the sheer pace of it. Happy Good News Year!

**June Allyson • Peter Lawford**

**Patricia Marshall • Joan McCracken**

**Ray McDonald • Mel Torme**

Screen Play by Betty Comden and Adolph Green • based on the Musical Comedy by Lawrence Schwab, Lew Brown, Frank Mandel, B. G. DeSylva, and Ray Henderson

Directed by CHARLES WALTERS • Produced by ARTHUR FREED
9 Scripts Ready For Industry Series

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—Nine scripts for the industry’s short series were given a sign for future production in Hollywood when the directing committee for the program met under the chairmanship of Dr. Charles D. Bordenaro.

Motion Picture Association officials said they thought production would get under way on several of the shows within 60 days, and that some would be ready for distribution in 90 to 120 days. Distribution and exploitation details will be worked out in New York.

Plans for the screen editorial series—which will be off the press “Behind the Nation”—now center around getting each major producer to include a news story on the “problem” short in his short program for the coming months. MPA officials will then work with each producer on whatever subject it is decided to undertake.

Bordenaro on Stand In Upstate Suit
BUFFALO, N.Y., Jan. 6—With the first witness, Alexander A. Bordenaro, treasurer of the American Motion Picture Employes’ Union, still on the stand, the trial of Bordenaro’s $300,000 damage suit against major producer distributors, which began Tuesday afternoon, will end tomorrow morning.

Today’s session was marked by legal argument concerning the admissibility of the receipts of a candy counter in the theater as a factor in the bill for the alleged defrauding.

Indications are that the trial will take several days and may be followed by litigation that would carry it to the higher courts to test questions concerning trade practices.

Bordenaro, asserting that he had to take new reels and short subjects that he said he neither wanted nor needed in order to obtain feature pictures, recommended negotiations over a period of months with representatives of the defendants.

Trucolor Available To Industry; Yates
Hollywood, Jan. 6—Trucolor, the color process publicly predicted to be Republic’s, is now available to the entire industry, Herbert J. Yates, Republic president, disclosed today. He also said that the $3,000,000 laboratory expansion program will make the process available throughout the world eventually.

ATA Argument

(Continued from page 1)

position to ATA and collaborated with ATA on strategy, also has been granted time for oral argument.

Though ATA was unsuccessful in getting the Supreme Court justices, in my opinion, the choice of an intervenor as an appropriate party for exhibiting exhibitors rather than some other remedy, Robert W. Coyne, former executive director of the American Theatre Owners of America, told the court.

This at least assures that the voice of exhibition will be heard by the high court and should be a salutary qualification to all exhibitors, he said.

ATA, following the formation of TOA remained in corporate existence for the sole purpose of pursuing its plea for intervention in the New York case.

Review

“The Treasure of the Sierra Madre” (Warner Brothers)

THE idea that gold can corrupt the souls of those who crave it too desperately is given a broad groundwork of plot in “The Treasure of the Sierra Madre.” The film is a roaring outdoor action drama that does not easily slip into standard categories; it has much to commend it. It has an all male cast (except for some bit parts) headed by Humphrey Bogart, Walter Huston and Tim Holt. On a slow start, it sweeps along with unshaken intensity. Merchandising angles offered seem numerous and profitably exploitable.

The story’s main plot has the three men, all in various stages of dereliction, meeting in Tampico, Mexico, deciding to go into the wild country on a gold-prospecting expedition. The trip proves a punishing one, interrupted by bandits and beset with surprises. Along the way, scenes of heightening excitement, touched by irony and connected humor, are so well photographed. Gold is finally found, but greed and mistrust steadily tighten its hold. Bogart, finally believing he has killed Holt, takes off with the bag of gold, only to learn the terror of the hunt. The finale plays an ironic trick on all three.

Bogart is very much at home in his role, replete with the grime and words that come whistling through his teeth. He performs quite well, except for a sequence on the hammy side which calls for him to deliver a consciously crazed soliloquy. Huston is outstanding in his role as the bumbling old rascal who winds up a happy medicine man of an Indian tribe. In rounding out the trio, Holt delivers a competent job.

The John Huston screenplay, based on the novel by B. Traven, seems to suggest some hidden wisdom which does not come off too clearly. The film also has some early sequences which, while brief enough, do not seem necessary. It totalled 126 minutes. Direction by John Huston is adroit. Henry Blanke produced.


New Zealand Will Less Film Time Is Probe Its Industry Scene for Portugal

By R. USMAH

Wellington, New Zealand, Dec. 29 (UPI)—A government committee empowered to inquire into the motion picture industry here has set up under the chairmanship of the Minister of Industries and Commerce.

Sitting on the committee with the minister will be 10 members of the New Zealand Parliament. The inquiry will be conducted during the coming sessions of the Parliament, and will include examination of film tax, film rentals, the licensing system, working conditions generally, the alleged trend toward Hollywoodism, and any other matters listed among matters to be taken up by the inquiry.

Films for 10,000 War Veterans Posts

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6—The Veterans of Foreign Wars has set up a film distribution service, which will use the “Sherman Plan” for distribution of 10mm, sponsored films to its 10,000 posts and 3,500 ladies’ auxiliary chapters.

A preview committee will pass on films, and a committee of VFW members will consult with the distributor. The committee consists of Al Sherman, film consultant and originator of the distribution plan; Meritt F. Walters, special representative of the World War I and national chaplain of the VFW; Nat D. Golden, Commerce Department representative, and three VFW officials.

New Coast Producer

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Jan. 6—Articles of incorporation have been filed here for a new independent producing company, Eronal Productions, Inc., by W. R. Eronal, president; Walter D. Compton, vice-president; and Sam Z. Abarbanel, secretary-treasurer.

Industry Films to Quakers for ‘DPs’

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The American Friends (Quakers) Service Committee will use American films in their program of displaced persons scheduled to enter this country from the U. S. zone of Germany, according to Mr. J. Eric Posner, motion picture association president Eric Johnston.

The films made available by the industry is “Land of Liberty,” produced by Cecil B. DeMille.

The industry has offered the committee the use of a number of other films for the pre-entry educational program, MPA said.

UA-Enterprise

(Continued from page 1)

Harry Sherman will deliver his com- mentary in front of the River “Arch” U. A., thus giving the distributor four new productions for its release schedule.

The U. A. Enterprise agreement was reached following a series of meetings between Grantwell L. Sears, president of the company, and John F. Schaefer, Enterprise distribution head, paid tribute to U. A.’s handling of “Body and Soul.” He said that U. A. is the bulwark of independent production and there is reason to have great confidence in the future of the company. Schaefer said that U. A. is concentrating on making independent films and will concentrate on its marketing exclusively. Sears will convene a special sales meeting in New York in the near future to discuss his release plans for “Arch.”

An additional $4,000,000 will be added to the production budget for “Arch,” bringing the total for its campaign to more than $1,000,000, it was said.

George C. Schaefer, Enterprise distribution head, pointed out the “distinction of Body and Soul.” He said that U. A. is the bulwark of independent production and there is reason to have great confidence in the future of the company. Schaefer said that U. A. is concentrating on making independent films and will concentrate on its marketing exclusively.

Sears will convene a special sales meeting in New York in the near future to discuss his release plans for “Arch.”

Pickford Here Today

Mary Pickford is due in New York today from Hollywood for conferences with United Artists officials on plans for the release this month of “Sleep, My Love,” her latest production.

NCCJ Film Unit

(Continued from page 1)

American Brotherhood Week, Feb. 22-29. During that week theaters throughout the country are invited to show brief films depicting incidents illustrative of brotherhood. The films will be prepared by and appended to the program with the exhibitor employing different subject matter.

Speakers at the meeting who discussed and approved the amendment and described and praised NCCJ work included former Governor Herbert Lehman, New York; Senator J. Robert Rubin, chairman of the NCCJ amusements division; Dr. Everett R. Weisbrod, NCCJ counsel; and David B. Weinstock, chairman of the motion picture division finance committee.

Will H. Hays and Howard McCracken, NCCJ executive secretary.

Dr. Clinchy described progress being made in extending Conference activities in Germany and Europe.
START THE NEW YEAR WITH
THE MOST IMPORTANT 2-REEL
SUBJECT IN YEARS...

"1947–The Year
of Division"

19 SCREEN MINUTES TO THRILL
EVERY AMERICAN—PRODUCED BY

Paramount
News

(Issue 37)

For years Paramount News' annual year-end summary of news events has been so superior to all others that it has been booked as a special extra attraction by thousands of theatres in excess of the regular contract list.

This year Paramount News' recapitulation of 1947 is greater than ever—far more than a collection of highlights—a great and inspiring fighting story that every American will cheer.

"1947—THE YEAR OF DIVISION" will promote the prestige of your theatre—and of your country!

Whether or not you have a regular Paramount News contract, don't fail to play—and to play up—this newsreel diary of the year's top events, topped by the top story in American history... the blasting open of One World into the Division of the East and West.

AVAILABLE FOR SPOT BOOKING SO THAT
EVERY THEATRE IN AMERICA CAN PLAY IT
Six WB Directors Up for Relection

Six directors of Warner Bros. will be up for reelection at the annual stockholders' meeting in Wilmington, Del., on Feb. 17. They are Harry M. Warner, vice-president; Jack L. Warner, production, vice-president; Albert Warner, vice-president and treasurer; Robert W. Perkins, vice-president, secretary and general counsel, and Waddill Catchings and John E. Bierwirth, comptroller.

The stockholders will be asked to vote on the board's proposal that the capital of the corporation be reduced through the cancellation of $18,500,000 of shares of treasury stock which was bought in the open market.

Terms of five other directors do not expire this year.

Common stock owned by directors up for reelection is as follows: Harry M. Warner, $11,000 shares; Jack L. Warner, 485,500; Albert Warner, 43,000; Perkins, 1,000. Neither Bierwirth nor Catchings owns stock.

Some 130 company employees, excluding officers and directors, received during the last fiscal year a distribution in excess of $20,000 but not more than $50,000; 45 received in excess of $50,000 but not more than $100,000, and 13 in excess of $100,000, according to the company's statement.

Directors and officers received remuneration last year as follows: Harry M. Warner, $182,100; Jack L. Warner, $182,150 (an increase of $50 over the previous year); Albert Warner, $104,600; Harry M. Kalmine, $127,700 ($5,356 increase); Ben Kal- mine, $134,200 ($7,545 increase); Samuel Schneider, $91,700 ($4,050 increase); Perkins, $87,300 ($12,550 increase); Henderson, $78,000; Mort Blumentorn, $69,200 ($6,950 increase); S. P. Friedman, $65,700; Samuel Carlisle, $50,620.

Goldstein (Continued from page 1)

ment, its specialized, necessary duties, would be divided among others in the home office. The announcement said that Goldstein and the com-
mendations of N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, and Ned E. Depinet, vice-president, Goldstein, a veteran advertising executive, was installed in the post by the late Charles Koerner, former head of the RKO studio, and was continued therein by Dore Schary, present studio head. Before joining RKO, Gold-
stein was a direction publicity direc-
tor for David O. Selznick.

Thomas Probe Delay (Continued from page 1)

in late January or early February. The actual trial, jury deliberation, and sentencing may take several weeks afterwards. Thomas’ decision is said to be based on a request by his attorney that the courts will act on any future committee contempt citations.

UK May ‘Sacrifice’ (Continued from page 1)

Department is currently conducting an inventory of the nation’s dollar assets, particularly in view of recent Washington statements that Congress will not complete passage of the Euro-

But the British government, it is said, is determined somehow to see the country through a crisis, with or without emergency aid.

Allport Denies Johnston Will Visit London; Cracks Unaware

London, Jan. 6—W. F. Allport, manager of the Eagle-Theatricals, said that the representative here, has de-
med that MPA president Eric A. Johnston plans to visit British Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps in London in February, and Sir Stafford’s secretory reports there is no knowledge of such a trip. All-
port is meanwhile awaiting instruc-
tions from Johnston before resuming his official post which talks with British government’s Sir Wilfred Eady.

British treasury officials said today that Eady’s understanding, since his visit last year with Johnston in Wash-
ington, that Johnston will appear in London during March, and Eady had completed preliminary talks.

No Johnston Trip, Says MPA

Washington, Jan. 6—“Nothing to it,” was the comment made by Motion Picture Association officials here on a report that MPA president Eric Johnston is to visit Britain and London. Johnston, they said, “has no plans to go to Europe soon.”

Mundt Bill (Continued from page 1)

Department opposed including any frozen fund provision at this time if the passage of the Mundt Bill might be delayed as a result.

A State Department official said meanwhile that the Department has made no further efforts in working out a plan to release some of the blocked funds. “One of our main difficulties,” he said, “is that we have no facts or figures from the industries affected. We don’t have a complete picture of how frozen, how fast blocked balances are accumu-
lating, or where they are accumu-

This official stated that “we haven’t got the information to go on, so how can we go any place. At the same time, we’d like to hold up the Mundt Bill until we get this information. It’ll be better all around if we leave this go for a separate bill, when we can dispose of the provision and a concrete solution to present to Congress.”

New Canadian Film

Ottawa, Jan. 6—A new film in the “Canada Carries On” series, entitled “Down the River” by Dewey’, has been leased by the National Film Board and distributed by Columbia Pictures.

WANTED

Secretary-Editorial assistant for motion picture trade publication. Write giving experience, refer-
ences, salary desired.

Box 403, Motion Picture Daily

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Wednesday, January 7, 1948

TUNE IN "STORM IN A TIN CAN" NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 11th

FORD HOUR — N.B.C.
The Classic Hour with William Lundigan and The Fine Art of Rock and Roll

DEVONSHIRE FILM COMPANY
100 Devonshire Street
Braintree, Mass.
THE BRILLIANT crater in the positive carbon of a “National” High Intensity Carbon arc, regardless of size or type, contains all the elements of an invisible rainbow.

Direct this white light through a prism and you can see! The beam breaks up into a vivid spectrum—bands of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet—with approximately equal values in all bands.

This “spot rainbow” insures the projection of your color pictures on the screen in the full rich colors your patrons want and expect. The best film ever made is worthless without a light of the proper color balance.

No other light source for film projection can match the almost perfect color distribution found in “National” High Intensity Carbon arcs. No other “point source” packs so much light into a small area. For example, the quarter square inch area in the positive crater of a 170-ampere High Intensity arc emits more light than 75,000 brightly burning candles. Your patrons get excellent color and clear bright visibility. They like it!

WHEN YOU ORDER PROJECTOR CARBONS
— ORDER “NATIONAL”!

The term “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
"To take its place with the big money-getters of the season"

REVIEW OF NEW FILMS

"A Double Life"
with Ronald Colman, Signe Hasso

Kanin-U-I

104½ mins.

ANOTHER HIGH SPOT OF THE SEASON; THIS ONE IS LOADED WITH KNOW-HOW. SHOULD TAKE ITS PLACE WITH THE BIG MONEY GETTERS OF THE SEASON. CUKOR'S DIRECTION TOPS, SUPERB SCRIPTING AND MASTERCUL ACTING WITH COLMAN.

Another mid-season peak number is offered in "A Double Life." This is a sock drama treatment with a number of fine roles solidly cementing the story content. Ronald Colman, always a box office draw through these years, has a role here that any actor would give his right arm for and he does masterfully by it too.

This, also, is one of the first of the major numbers to be given that New York Look. Much of the story was shot on actual locales in and about the city. What comes up for comparative viewing when the synthetic realism of the Hollywood set is introduced at once gives the film a new distinction that, happily, is becoming more and more a practice rather than an innovation.

This "Double Life" is a brand new treatment of the Jekyll and Hyde theme with the leading characters being actors on the legitimate stage and their immediate circle of co-workers. Also, it is the study of an actor, a rakehell and general heel whose intensive application to the role of "Othello" in the Shakespeare work causes him to assume a positive homicidal identity with the Venetian figure and go out and commit murder. He is a mental case.

Garson Kanin and Ruth Gordon in writing their screenplay evince keen understanding of the characters they have peopled their work with and there is never a false theatrical note. It is a powerful and knowing job they have fashioned replete with some of the best lines and situations of a rather notable season.

In the cash exchange sense as far as the filmgoer is concerned, "A Double Life" will easily take its place with the finest dramatic pieces of the past few months—and there have been some fine ones which are racking up large gross figures.

A celebrated player of light roles, Colman essays "Othello" with Signe Hasso, also playing his ex-wife, in the role of "Desdemona." He applies himself intensively. Opening night his performance is acclaimed one of the masterworks of the contemporary stage. But the acclaim is too much for him. He returns to a night of love in the Lower East Side slum area and what with one contributing factor and another he strangles her with "The Love Kiss," his big moment in the stage play.

A press agent, played by Edmond O'Brien, who is in love with Miss Hasso in a remote sense, begins to add up the details and facts after a brief talk with one of the reporters who was on the spot when the body was found.

Identifying witnesses are rounded up. They are brought to watch Colman. In his last scene Colman, realizing his number is up, stabs himself to death.

It is a not pretty story but it is some of the best miming of these times. Miss Hasso is superb in a brand new role aptly fitted for her talents. As an actor who becomes wholly the man of the role he is portraying, Colman delivers up another profoundly telling performance. In support there is a fine cast that adheres strictly to the intent and purpose of the story. In directing George Cukor bid high, achieved results.

The exhibitor will do well to encircle "A Double Life" as another one of the really good ones of this season.


CREDITS: A Kanin Production; Written by: Ruth Gordon, Garson Kanin; Produced by Michael Kanin; Director, George Cukor; Photography, Milton Krasner; Art direction, Bernard Herzbrun, Harvey Gillett; Film editor, Robert Parrish; Sound, John Austin, Special photography, David S. Horsley, Advisor, "Othello" sequence, Walter Hamonden, Music, Miklos Rosza.

DIRECTION, Splendid.

PHOTOGRAPHY, The Best.
Thomas Again Says Hearings Will Resume

He Mentions ‘Very Near Future’ but No Date

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—House Un-American Activities Committee Chairman J. Parnell Thomas today continued waving a big stick at the motion picture industry.

In a radio address from here over the Columbia Broadcasting System, the New Jersey Republican said he wished to serve notice on the industry and to advise the public that the committee’s investigation of Hollywood is “far from over.”

“In the very near future the records of many more top salary Hollywood figures will be spotlighted,” Thomas said, “and we shall, for it is sheer folly to permit the Communists and their fellow travelers to remain here.”

4,000 Theatres to Back ‘Dimes’ Drive

More than 4,000 theatres in the U. S. already have agreed to cooperate with the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis 1948 “March of Dimes” drive by holding audience collections during the week of Jan. 24-30, Foundation headquarters announced here yesterday.

Latest circuit to pledge audience collections is Butterfield Theatres, all of whose Michigan houses have enrolled, according to word received by the Foundation yesterday from L. E. Gordon, Butterfield president, in Detroit.

Meanwhile, David Newman, chairman of the Foundation’s theatre committee of Wayne County, Mich., reports 100 per cent cooperation in the drive by all houses receiving from theatres in that county, which includes Detroit.

Col. Stockholders’ Meeting March 9

Date for the annual meeting of Columbia stockholders has been set for March 9. Harry Cohn, company president, is expected to come to New York from Hollywood for the meeting.

Columbia’s board of directors, at a meeting held here yesterday, declared a quarterly dividend of $1.06 per share on the $4.25 cumulative preferred stock, payable on Feb. 14 to stockholders of record on Jan. 31.

D. C. MPTO Votes TOA Affiliation

Washington, Jan. 7.—The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Metropolitan Washington voted today to affiliate with Theatre Owners of America and named A. Julian Brylajewski, president of the local group, a TOA director.

The unit voted to take this action some time before the TOA convention, but then affiliated theatres here opposed joining, and there was considerable doubt on a final stand.

Del Giudice Barter Plan Discounted

Official industry sources yesterday cast doubt on the value of the film barter plan which Filippo Del Giudice, British producer, who will arrive here today from England aboard the S.S. Queen Elizabeth, proposes to offer to company heads here as a possible means of resolving the Anglo-American film tax impasse.

Del Giudice’s proposal would permit American and British producers to retain 75 per cent of the profits from the exhibition of each other’s product.

One top executive said that the Del Giudice plan is “out of the question.” He expressed the opinion that the British film industry is “much too small as stacked against America.”

Foreign Language Films At All-Time Peak Here

With the number of foreign-language films currently at an all-time peak, in downtown houses in New York, and in some other metropolitan cities, an even greater volume is forecast for the next 12 months. According to present estimates, foreign film distributors will release some 190 foreign productions in the U. S. in 1948, compared with 120 last year. These figures are exclusive of British films.

To create the needed shows for their exhibition, numerous houses have been converted to foreign-film palaces.

There are said to be some 250 houses in the U. S. exhibiting foreign product, with this figure expected to reach 300 at the end of this year. This compares with 100 houses in 1946.

Gov. Dewey Urges N. Y. Tax Extension

ALBANY, Jan. 7.—Continuation of the “controversial” local permissive tax program to include smaller cities than those now eligible to impose them, and which includes a five per cent amusement tax, was urged here today by Gov. Dewey in his message opening the 171st session of the state legislature.

At the same time it has been re-
Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M
distribution vice-president, will leave here today for a month's vacation in Miami, and will go from there to the M-G-M studio.

LOUIS PHILLIPS, Paramount counsel and partner in the industry law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krinsky, returned to desk here yesterday after a week's illness.

Fred Meyers, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, is on a visit to Pittsburgh and Cleveland from New York.

F. J. A. McCarthy, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales chief, has left here for Memphis.

TED GAMBLE, president of Theatre Owners of America, is due back in New York from Portland, Ore., on Jan. 20.

JULES LAPIUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, is due back in Cleveland, Indianapolis and Pittsburgh.

NATHANIEL L. HALFEN, assistant to Columbia Broadcasting vice-president FRANK STANTON, will fly to the Coast from New York Saturday.

ANDREW W. SMITH, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, is due back in New York today from Toronto and Chicago.

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation manager, is in Boston from New York.

Production News

At 22 on the Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 7.—The production level, continuing at low ebb with an index of 22, remained unchanged from last week. A few more firsts among the films were started while an equal number were sent to cutting rooms. Substitution of "A Day at College" (a Charles K. Feldman Group-Marshall Grant Production), Republic; "The Chair for Martin Rome" and "Apartment for Peggy," 20th Century-Fox and "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid," Universal-International, continued.

Shooting initiated on "The Tenderfoot," Allied Artists; "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House," Selznick; and "Are You With It?" and "Another Part of the Forest," U-I.

Mrs. Mattie Greenfield

Funeral rites for Mrs. Mattie Greenfield, mother of Felix Greenfield ofWarren, Ohio, and former office publicity department, will be held today at the Midwood Memorial Chapel, Brooklyn. Mrs. Greenfield died on Tuesday.

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 Circle 7-5100. Cable address: "Quigeutco, New York, N. Y.

Radio-Video Marks 60% Physical Rise

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The number of standard broadcast television stations slated to render commercial broadcast service increased about 20% this year, according to the annual report of the Federal Communications Commissions released here. There were 1,270 on June 30, 1946, was up to 2,779 by end of fiscal 1947. More than 1,000 of authorized stations of all types went up from 2,439 to 3,351.

National of FM stations rose from 55 on July 1, 1946 to 238 a year later. Total authorizations doubled during the year—from 456 to 918.

Six television stations held licenses at the close of the year, with 60 construction permits outstanding and nine applications pending.

B. and K. Asks FCC to Renew 2 Video Licenses

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Balaban and Katz Corp. and Federal Communications Commissions to renew their license for two experimental television stations in the Chicago area.

Two New Film Firms Are Formed in N. Y.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 7.—Tiberia Film Distributing Corp., has been incorporated to carry on a distribution business in Kings County. Incorporators are George L. Gatti and Mario Coleccia, all of New York. Guy H. Puca, Brooklyn, was incorporated at New York.

Manhattan Films, Inc., has been incorporated to carry on a motion picture business in New York. Incorporators are: Edgar Loew and Harry R. Mark, New York, and Fernand C. R. Matthey, Alexandria, Va., Friedman and Barden, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Legion Classifies 3; One Is A-I, Two A-II


Decel Gets 19 Films

Detroit, Jan. 7.—Nineteen more features have been added to the banner of Albert Decel Productions, it was announced by Albert De Cel, president. All are picture sources, 11 are Westerns. The entire purchase was acquired from Stage and Screen Productions, and are being re-released by Decel.

Pekor Rejoins CBS

Charles F. Pekor, Jr., will return to CBS as assistant to the director of press information, effective Jan. 5, it was announced here by George Cran- the director of press information, appointed from the staff of Variety to rejoign CBS.

CONDEMNING Universal-International's

HOUMA, La., Jan. 7.—Third Circuit Court here has upheld the award of $375,000 in treble damages made in the suit of Mrs. William Goldman Theatre

RICHARD F. WALSH, IATSE

TORONTO, Jan. 7.—"Television

Detroit, Jan. 7.—The number of

Washington, Jan. 7.—The number of

Mrs. Mattie Greenfield, mother of Felix Greenfield of Warren, Ohio, and former office publicity department, will be held today at the Midwood Memorial Chapel, Brooklyn. Mrs. Greenfield died on Tuesday.


Decel Gets 19 Films

Detroit, Jan. 7.—Nineteen more features have been added to the banner of Albert Decel Productions, it was announced by Albert De Cel, president. All are picture sources, 11 are Westerns. The entire purchase was acquired from Stage and Screen Productions, and are being re-released by Decel.

Pekor Rejoins CBS

Charles F. Pekor, Jr., will return to CBS as assistant to the director of press information, effective Jan. 5, it was announced here by George Cran- the director of press information, appointed from the staff of Variety to rejoign CBS.
TREASURE OF SIERRA MADRE

TREMENDOUS OUTDOOR SPECTACLE AND A SWEEPING NEW EXCITEMENT ROLE FOR HUMPHREY BOGART

WITH WALTER HUSTON

TIM HOLT · BRUCE BENNETT

DIRECTED BY JOHN HUSTON
PRODUCED BY HENRY BLANKE
SCREEN PLAY BY JOHN HUSTON · BASED ON THE NOVEL BY B. TRAVEN · MUSIC BY MAX STEINER

TRULY A TREASURE FROM WARNER BROS.
Motion Picture Daily

Thursday, January 8, 1948

Short Subject

Pasadena Rosebowl (Warner Pathe News) (With Cinecolor)

Marking another milestone in newsreel development, Warner Pathe News, as part of its current release, presents in Cinecolor the Pasadena Rosebowl football game and the Tournament of Roses Parade that preceded the contest. The color certainly enhances this job of pictorial reporting, catching the parade with its varied floats in all its spirit of brightness and frivolity.

As for the game itself, the color differences in the garb of the opposing teams make the game easier for the viewer to follow. When the cameras caught some of the longshots, however, the color seemed a bit hazy. All told, it appears obvious that color lends an enhancing effect to special outdoor events. This reel has been described as "the first practical step" towards a regular newsreel in color. The remainder of the newsreel footage, in black and white, is devoted to scenes of Tojo on trial, French children getting friendship food, the "new look" turned back to primitive tribes, and additional football games. M.H.

Del Giudice Plan (Continued from page 1)

to make possible the success of such a proposal.

The industry sources considered the Del Giudice trip to this country as a strictly personal one and not sponsored by the British government, and the producer indicated prior to his sailing from England.

That Del Giudice was headed here to discuss a settlement of the ad valorem tax situation on the authority of the British government, was disputed in some official quarters in London. Among those issuing denials were Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Harold Wilson, president of the British Board of Trade.

Frozen Funds (Continued from page 1)

problems, but felt that they are too great to be tackled on to the Muntz Bill without having had public hearing. He felt that such action would be a danger prompt passage of the bill, which authorizes the State Department to conduct and management of such clubs. The government's plans follow the presentations of educators, sociologists and others that films are potentially harmful to the British churchmen who attend theatricals.

Foreign Pictures (Continued from page 1)

midtown New York number 25, including British films.


Current British films, predominantly distributed by Universal-International, include "Black Narcissus," "Frieda," "Nicholas Nickleby," "I Know Where I'm Going," "Great Expectations," "Brief Encounter," "This Happy Breed," and "Henry V," "Menu." These films, and other educational programs, information activities, will be shown on a regular basis next cropping the Overseas Information Service's "voice" program.

Truman Proposal (Continued from page 1)

with the estimated $3,200,000,000 revenue loss offset by an increase in taxes on corporate profits.

Republicans in Congress immediately denounced this as destroying the source of "our jobs," and planned to go ahead with their own tax reduction bill.

The President in his "State of the Union" message today again urged enactment of his 10-point anti-inflation program, which includes Gov-ernment purchase of all surplus and fixed prices on scarce materials. He also asked the minimum wage be increased from 40 cents to 75 cents an hour and that the Social Security System be broadened.

N. Y. Tax Extension (Continued from page 1)

ported that exhibitors may fight the extension of taxes to communities of less than 50,000. The American Theatre Owners Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America unanimously opposed the proposal, saying that the Social Security System be broadened.

UK Probes Films' Effect on Minors

London, Jan. 7—The British government has appointed a committee to probe the effects of film attendance on children, especially on children's motion picture clubs, in order to expedite the conduct and management of such clubs. The government's plans follow the presentations of educators, sociologists and others that films are potentially harmful to the British churchmen who attend theatricals.

Thomas Hearings (Continued from page 1)

in strategic positions in such a powerful medium of propaganda, education and entertainment as the movies, which draw over 85,000,000 spectators to the United States each week.

Thomas admitted that the industry had fired the 10 employees charged by the committee with Commission, and had "somewhat belatedly" set about putting its house in order. But he made it quite plain he was still satisfied.

Rites 'Dupes' and 'Innocents'

He again attacked "certain prominent dupes and innocents in the motion picture industry" for aiding and abetting the committee to expedite the committee's investigation. Declaring that the scope of the campaign showed the Communists in the United States, Thomas said "they did not succeed, however, and the recent action of the Industry and certain recanting individuals in it, speaks louder than words as to the effectiveness of our hearings.

According to what the very near future means as far as a date for resuming the Hollywood hearings, Thomas did indicate that they would not be held before mid-February, if then. Resumption of the Hollywood probe was listed by Thomas as one of 12 items on the agenda for full committee meetings coming up soon in District Court here.

Thomas listed for hearings before subcommittees late this month the subjects in secret by statute activity and legislation to curb Communist activities. Early in February, hearings will get under way before the full committee on subversive propaganda among Negroes. On March 1, the full group will start hearings on Communists illegally in the U. S.

Johnston, on Coast, Plans Talks on Policy on Subversives

Hollywood, Jan. 7.—Motion Picture Association of America's President, Eric A. Johnston, upon his arrival here today from Spokane, began mapping a series of conferences with industry officials of talent guilds and others on industry problems and projects. Among matters expected to command the full attention during Johnston's 10-day stay is the question of reconciling the views of the guilds and unions with respect to the application of the industry policy on employment of subversives.

Citations Are Restored on 21 'Friendly Witnesses'

Hollywood, Jan. 7.—The American Legion last night bestowed citations of honor on 21 "friendly witnesses" who testified before the Thomas House Committee, at ceremonies presided over by national Legion commander James F. O'Neill.

Patterson Expanding

S. A., Jan. 7.—Purchase of the old Metropolitan Hotel site has been made by Robert Patterson, who will erect a central office building there, who will erect a 500-seat theatre at the location at an estimated cost of $75,000.
Through him...West meets East

ACROSS his "front page" the world parades...before the eyes of moviegoers on Main Street. There, West and East do meet—through the highly specialized efforts of the newsreel editor.

He sifts the facts and foibles of the world...and presents in one short reel the significant, the human, and the odd—the news that helps the world to know itself.

To his objectivity...his sense of the newsworthy...his feeling for concise and graphic storytelling...the newsreel owes its unique place in American journalism.

Yet the newsreel editor would be the first to give due credit to his staff of cameramen...and to the Eastman motion picture films which help them cover the news—and help him present it so effectively.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
Eagle Lion Films presents

JOHN HODIAK
SYLVIA SIDNEY
ANN RICHARDS

who found... THERE'S DANGER in

LOVE FROM A STRANGER

"Taut, tense melodrama of impending murder. Great entertainment for all types of audiences!"
—Showmen's Trade Review

"'Love From a Stranger' develops into one of the most terrifying thrillers you ever sat through. The suspense of the last part of the picture is almost more than you can stand!"
—N. Y. Daily Mirror

"If you're looking for chills and thrills see 'Love from a Stranger!'"
—Hedda Hopper

"Sylvia Sidney always excellent...John Hodiak fine as the menace, building to his killer role skillfully from a quiet, self-effacing type to the maniac!"
—Daily Variety

JOHN HOWARD ISOBEL ELSOM
ERNEST COSSART • PHILIP TONGE • ANITA SHARP-BOLSTER • FREDERIC WORLOCK
Screenplay by Philip MacDonald - from a play by Frank Vesper - Based on a Story by Agatha Christie
DIRECTED BY RICHARD WHORF • PRODUCED BY JAMES J. GELLER
Studio Strike Hearing Set In Washington

House Subcommittee Calls Film, Union Heads

**WASHINGTON**, Jan. 8.—Representative Carroll D. Kearns will open public hearings here Feb. 17 on the Hollywood jurisdictional strikes, at which Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston and MPA company presidents would appear, along with Hollywood union leaders. Kearns, who is chairman of a House labor sub-committee which has been investigating the studio strikes, said he hoped the week-long hearings would result in “satisfactory settlements of existing jurisdictional strikes in Hollywood.”

The Pennsylvania Republican said also that if such results were not obtained, the committee would attempt to “fix the responsibility” and “recommend remedial legislation to Congress.”

Subpoenas are being issued to presidents and other, officials of major

---

Sorrell Bars Terms Attributed to ‘IA’

**Hollywood**, Jan. 8.—Terms under which IATSE assertedly would withdraw claims to jurisdiction over studio painters and communicated by Painters' international president L. P. Lindelof to Herbert K. Sorrell, business agent of Local No. 644, today were denounced by the latter as “the same old deal we could have made a year ago.”

Among terms cited by Lindelof were the elimination of Sorrell and

---

Schmidt Named Col. Ad-Publicity Head

Arthur A. Schmidt, Hollywood advertising counsel for Columbia Pictures and assistant to Harry Cohn president, since Sept., 1945, yesterday was named director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for Columbia, effective Feb. 15.

Schmidt succeeds Ben H. Serko-wich, who resigned after holding the

---

Univ. Has 40 ‘Top’ Films on Schedule; Cuts Jan. Dividend

Universal will have a minimum of 40 “quality pictures,” either for release or in production during 1948, the company said yesterday in a statement to its stockholders.

Simultaneously, it was announced that a dividend of 25 cents per share had been voted by the company's board of directors, payable Jan. 31, to holders of record on Jan. 19. The payment compares with a dividend of 50 cents a share paid quarterly by Universal during the past several years. The reduction was effected to conserve cash resources in view of “unsettled

(Continued on page 8)

Liebeskind in New Set-up with Gomez

Nat Liebeskind, former general manager of RKO Radio in South America, will enter distribution on his own in Brazil and Argentina shortly through a company organized recently in Mexico City. He will handle American and foreign product.

The Mexican company, Cia Mexicana de Peliculas, is a partnership with Max Gomez, for 10 years manager for RKO Radio in Mexico, and it has made an exclusive deal to handle English, French and Italian product controlled for the Western Hemisphere by Foreign Screen Corp., of New York. Four pictures already have been released. Next is “The Adventures of Don Juan,” a Carmen Miranda film produced by Lou Jackson at the Pathe studios in London.

(Continued on page 8)

Del Giudice Arrives Here With ‘Reciprocity Idea’

President Confirms Allen Appointment

**WASHINGTON**, Jan. 8.—President Truman confirmed today the appointment of George V. Allen, present ambassador to Iran, as Assistant Secretary of State for public affairs.

This is the post vacated last Oct. 1 by William Benton. Allen’s tasks will include supervising the State Department’s overseas information program, including the film section, and working out some solution of the frozen funds problem.

That he is in the United States on his own initiative in a “strictly private capacity” to conduct negotiations on a “reciprocity idea” to encourage a movement of good pictures between this country and the United Kingdom was emphasized by Filippo Del Giudice, British film producer, on his arrival in New York yesterday from London on the S.S. Queen Elizabeth.

Del Giudice indicated that should his mission succeed, he would test his idea in the marketing of products of the British motion picture industry.

Says No Settlement of Problem Is in View; Embargo To Continue

**HOLLYWOOD**, Jan. 8.—The present British position affords no basis for detailed negotiations to work out a satisfactory arrangement to replace the ad valorem tax, and the British government has given the Motion Picture Export Association no choice except to continue its policy of withholding shipment of pictures to Great Britain until an alternative to the confiscatory tax is worked out, Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Industry Association, said here yesterday.

He confirmed that London discussions looking toward a settlement of the tax problem are continuing, and that recognition of MPA’s F. W. Allport and England’s Sir Wilfred Eady “have come to a standstill.”

During these preliminary discussions, Johnston said, “the British stood firm on the tax and summarily rejected in principle any alternative to it. They declined,” he added, “to receive or consider mutually beneficial proposals we were prepared to

(Continued on page 8)

Film Hearings Top Thomas Unit Agenda

**WASHINGTON**, Jan. 8.—The Hollywood hearings still have top priority on the House Un-American Activities Committee’s agenda, and other hearings now scheduled will be rearranged to make way for the film probe just as soon as a verdict is handed down in the first contempt trial in District Court here, according to a top ranking committee official. This official said that other hearings were being

(Continued on page 8)

20th-Fox Lists 22 Of 48 for New Year

Twentieth-Century-Fox yesterday listed 22 of its 48 pictures scheduled for the new year as either ready for release, being edited, or in production. The 22 reported by Andy W. Smith, general sales manager, follow:

“General’s Agreement,” “Captain

(Continued on page 8)
**Personal Mention**

**R. B. WILBY.** President, of Wilby Theatres, was host at his birthday party yesterday at the Piedmont Driving Club, Atlanta.

**BURGESS MEREDITH.** and his wife, PAULETTE GORDON, will sail for Europe today on the SS Queen Elizabeth from New York to personally supervise the opening of the play they are producing in Britain, France and, possibly, Italy.

**E. J. HIELE, manager of the Well¬er Theatre, Los Angeles.** Mrs. HIELE is recovering from injuries sustained in an auto accident.

**EDWIN NEEDLES, son of Henry L. NEEDLES, Warner district manager in Hartford, has been named account executive at Gross Advertising, that city.

**MORT NATHANSON, Paramount home office publicist, has been visiting the Atlanta branch from New York.

**LEO SCHNITZER, Republican exchange manager in New Orleans, has returned to that city from the Coast.**

**ALBERT DEZEL, president of Albert Dezel Prod., is in Chicago from New York.**

**Production Code in Italy Is Attacked**

Rome, Jan. 4. (By Airmail). — An attack on the Italian Production Code, Il Codice per la Cinematografia, has been launched by the Communist newspaper L'Unità and the extreme right paper Risorgimento Liberale. The Italian code was adopted in 1943 by the Fascist, or National Socialist, party. The idea of the code was to protect the Italian film industry in the face of foreign competition. The attack on the code was made by Martin Quigley, Jr., who then was in Rome, and was directed at the Headquarters of the American Legion. With the assistance of Quigley, the code was drawn up by General Gino Monza, head of the ANICA. A number of experts contributed to the adaptation of the American Code for the Italian industry.

The recent attacks follow an article in the Rome newspaper, Il Popolo, by Giulio Andreotti, Italian Under-Secretary for the Entertainment Industry, in which producers and directors were urged to re-read the code so that films which would have pernicious influence, especially on youth, would not be made.

**Scout Drive Co-chairmen**

Martin Quigley and John W. Al¬docate are co-chairmen of the amuse¬ment industry organizations committee support of the 1946 fund-raising cam¬paign for the Boy Scouts of America. Leonard Goldenstein and Emil Fried¬lander are co-chairmen of the amusement division.

**EVERYONE knows that oper¬ating a large picture company is a multi-million dollar enter¬prise. But how many mil¬ions? According to Loew's financial report for the year ending Aug. 31, 1947, M.-G.-M.'s production inventory column was a staggering $81,955,730. Films under contract were $40,746,845, completed, but unreleased prod¬uct, another $20,162,298, and films released, less amortization, $21,086,586. With a tidy addition of $183,000 in operating re¬ceipts books and rights, the final total reaches a huge $89,179,380, at cost.

For the same fiscal period, Warner's inventory was less formidable, but formidable enough, at $45,135,466. Like this one, it was, and as yet unmar¬keted product was tallied at $24,391,622; production in progress, plus charges to future films, an¬other $10,171,034, and re¬leased product, less amortization, $10,527,810. If film rights and unproduced scripts are added on —$2,447,110 in this classification—the total production in¬ventory rises to $47,582,585, at cost.

Or, $136,761,965 for two com¬panies which had a total income of $345,985,036 from distribu¬tion, theatre admissions and other¬wise. In the case of Loew's $176,342,036, the gross included M.-G.-M. Records [phonograph]. Warner's total from the same sources, but not records, ran to $164,643,000.

Big industry, isn't it?

The “Movie News Letter,” blossoming under Howard Dietz's tutelage as source ma¬terial for motion picture columnists around the land, is in the mood of Macy's telling Gimbel's or “Miracle on 34th Street.” Full of surprises, too, and maybe in the mood of telling too much occasionally.

For instance, in what is de¬scribed as the “How Well Do You Remember 1947?” depart¬ment, this: “Forever Amber” was the most discussed woman of 1947; just as she made her screen de¬but, she tripped over the censors. She fell from her box-office and the entire industry tripped over the British tax.”

And this: “The big men of the movies who haven’t been able to point with too much pride during the past year for fear of having their fingers snapped off will be able more to feel the pride of achievement.”

The Dietz entrepreneurs find the opening months of ’48 promising but un¬certain. Crediting Me¬tro with the determination always to lead the production of fewer but better pictures, the newsletter thereafter proceeds to find merit in the product of com¬po's competitors, too. Like 20th-Fox, with "another Techni¬color super duper in 'Captain from Castile.'" Like Paramount, which “will erupt with ‘Road to Rio.’” Le Universal, with “a sensational laugh hit in The Senator Was Indiscreet.” Like "Brothers Warner have an im¬pressive lineup." Like RKO, which can “do a bit of pointing-with-pride,” supported with a list of attractions to go pridetl over.

It’s different, anyway.

For Immediate Release, "Please," is a three-paragraph item from Eagle-Lion in the in¬terest of an attraction titled "Cowboy Alley." It deals with the "racy fashion of the season," a strapless nightclub, so-called, which Marsha Hunt presumably wears in the film. Coupled is the precise detail pre¬sumably by which Miss Hunt contrives to keep it placed. We spare you the detail.

In the first instance, no doubt it’s all a pipe dream. In the second, there’s no chance of its being included in the released film if it ever got into the pro¬duced film. In the third, which is what really counts, the eager ones at Eagle-Lion evidently have to be reminded that motion pictures and peep shows don’t mix. Nor are motion pictures to be thrown into dubious association with the strip-tease and burlesque. Not ever, and certainly not in 1948.

**Radio City Music Hall**

Rockefeller Center

Gregory Peck, Charles Los Angeles, Charlie "Dandy" Holmes, Sunday, January 9, 1948, 8 P.M.

**Orchestra**

Conducted by David Rose

**Singers**

Kathryn Grayson, Red Skelton, Dinah Shore, Gene Krupa, Tony Martin, David Rose, President, Sung by His Orchestra, and His Singing Stars

**Thursday, January 10, 8 P.M.**

**Billie Holiday**

An all nighter with this great woman who is considered the greatest of our time.

**Friday, January 11, 8 P.M.**

**Nancy Wilson**

An all nighter with this great woman who is considered the greatest of our time.

**Saturday, January 12, 8 P.M.**

**Golden Theatre**

A 24th Century-Fox Picture

**Nate King Cole**

An all nighter with this great man who is considered the greatest of our time.

**Sunday, January 13, 8 P.M.**

**Bing Crosby**

An all nighter with this great man who is considered the greatest of our time.
Weaker White Bill In Congress Is Due

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8. — Senate Commerce Committee is all set to report a watered-down version of the White Bill during the Federal Communications Act.

Senator White has talked with Sen- ate kinmates and it looks as though they are going to carry out his promise to bring the bill to the Senate floor early in this session.

The bill supposedly has been rewritten to meet most of the objections that have been laid down by the radio and allied industries during hearings last year. The bill has been, as reported, watered down, and is counting on the more Conservative Senate to knock out some of the sections to which it still objects, including the section that the FCC may be required to consider a station's previous programming in renewing or not renewing its license, and the section on the bill that remains the biggest question mark.

One of the more controversial sec- tions of the White Bill that has been removed in the new version is that limiting the number of stations any one company could hold to no more than 11 for the country as a whole.

Now there is no limit on ownership in the law. Most of the net- work executives have also been eliminated, and the sections on identification of news sources have been toned down. A new feature permits direct access to the U. S. Supreme Court whenever a license is revoked or not renewed.

11,500,000 in Japan See U. S. Product

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8. — More than 11,500,000 people are estimated to see showings of some 11 U. S. Government and privately produced documentary films since July 1, 1946, the U. S. Army reports. The 11 have been shown some 220,000 times.


Schmidt Named

(Continued from page 1)

post since Jan., 1946. The company announced his resignation with regrett. Schmidt entered the industry as a theatre manager in Indianapolis, joined old First National in an exploitation capacity; was advertising-publicity director for Paramount Mexican theatres and, prior to World War II, in which he served in the Navy, was with Loew's advertising-publicity department.

Dezel worked for the company in 1919. He was in charge of advertising—publicity for Bahamian and Katz in 1924, later joining Paramount and RKO Theatres department. Prior to his affiliation with Columbia he was in charge of promotion at the Capitol Theatre, New York.

Argentina Film Festival in March

Washington, Jan. 8. — The Argentine Film Industry will hold its first film festival in March, 1948, according to Commerce Department film consultant Nathan D. Golden. The festival, to be held at Mar del Plata, will be solely for theatrical production, and will feature a special "Argentine Film Week," during which all the theatres will be requested to exhibit only domestic films. Preparations are already being made, Golden said, for an international festival in 1949 with all producing countries invited.

Good Record Earns Financing: Bogeaus

Number of independent producers in Hollywood is being reduced to those having a "background of stabil- ity and record of performance," Benedict Bogeaus, representative of United Artists, said here yesterday. Such producers, Bogeaus asserted, can get financing backing from banks.

Bogeaus said he has just turned over to U. A. his new "A Miracle Could Happen," adding he would probably make several more for U. A. this year, "Miracle" is set for release in late February or early March.

Bogeaus said that if independents are to survive, they must reduce production costs without impairing film quality. He suggested shorter shooting time and greater selec- tiveness in material. Top talent in time will realize that it, too, must contribute to lowered costs, he said.

He has a picture based on the life of Charles Dickens now in the working stage. Bogeaus will return to the Coast next week.

Jack Votion To Produce

LONDON, Jan. 8. — Jack Votion, hitherto production representative in Europe for RKO Radio, is leaving that company to independently produce a series of six pictures based on the life of Dick Turpin, Britain's legendary horse thief. He plans to use studio space and world-wide distribution set, with announcement of both to be made later.

Margolies Names Peirce

Hollywood, Jan. 8. — William Peirce, Jr., has been engaged as publicity head of Transatlantic's production "Rope" being made at Warner's under the direction of Alfred Hitchcock. Peirce is en route here from New York following conferences with Albert Mar- golies, Transatlantic's production chief.

Shaffer, Chant Win

(Continued from page 1)

Just as we predicted, "WALK" has started TALK about Hal Wallis' greatest.

Showmen's Trade Review says:
"Splendid boxoffice. Fine performances, top production and skillful direction make it absorbing, action-packed entertainment for everybody."

Louella Parsons in Cosmopolitan Magazine says:
"One of the best pictures of this type. Great entertainment. I give it an award."

Film Bulletin says:
"Tense, spine-tingling, closely-knit, sumptuously mounted, it will roll up handsome boxoffice returns."

Variety says:
"Suspenseful, hard-boiled melodrama. Tension hits hard...to unfold gutty action, red-meat ingredients...potent values."

Daily Variety says:
"A-plus for thrills. Gangster stuff streamlined and brought up to date with new twists—looks like ready cash in boxoffice. Production of Hal Wallis, strictly on the deluxe side, is tops in mounting and showmanship. Fight scene as fully realistic a bit of mayhem as the screen will take."

Hollywood Reporter says:
"Conspicuous accomplishment is that it brings the Wallis discoveries of the last few seasons together in the same picture. Each puts his best foot forward. Lancaster does excellent job. Scott cuts attractive figure. Kirk Douglas dominates his every scene. Wendell Corey excellent and Kristine Miller colorful."

*And there'll be more TALK about its sensational torch-song, "Don't Call It Love," recorded by top-flight singing stars for top-drawer radio promotion.
masterpiece of suspense!

BURT LANCASTER
LIZABETH SCOTT
HAL WALLIS’ Production

"I WALK ALONE"

With
WENDELL COREY
KIRK DOUGLAS
KRISTINE MILLER

And
George Rigaud • Marc Lawrence
Mike Mazurki • Mickey Knox
Byron Haskin

Here’s more entertainment than the screen has known… when a man with a gun tangles with a woman twice as deadly!

Directed by Byron Haskin

Screenplay by Charles Schnee • Adaptation by Robert Smith and John Bright • Based upon an original play “Beggars Are Coming To Town” by Theodore Reeves • Produced on the Stage by Oscar Serlin
LOOK at these reviews...

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"...should attract initial customers...word-of-mouth will keep others coming."

EXHIBITOR

"Impressive marquee names and exploitation angles, sensibly designed to hit wide and popular appeal. Should have an especially lucrative take."

"The greatest performance in Ronald Colman's long career...a powerful, fascinating attraction which is sure to make its mark in any market."
Business
uble Life

"There's murder, suspense, psychology, Shakespeare and romance all wrapped up into one polished package of class screen entertainment."

"Should win loud acclaim"

"Another high spot of the season; should take its place with the big money-getters."

KANIN PRODUCTIONS Presents

Ronald Colman

"A Double Life"

with

SIGNE HASSO • EDMOND O'BRIEN

SHELLEY WINTERS • RAY COLLINS • PHILIP LOEB

Written by RUTH GORDON and GARSON KANIN
Directed by GEORGE CUKOR • Produced by MICHAEL KANIN

A Universal-International Release
Third Bordanaro On Stand in Trust Suit

BUFFALO, Jan. 8—Seeking to show that major film producers discriminated against him in offering them production assignments, Anthony N. Bordanaro, one-time manager of the Palace Theatre in Olean, N. Y., today told at a Board of Investigation Board of Investigation, that he had had branch managers of some of the major producing-distributing companies and a half dozen subsidiaries, today's witness, engaged in a nationwide campaign. "Some day," said L. Lux, former RKO branch manager and now a city official.

The third Bordanaro on the stand in as many days in their $300,000 damages suit filed by the managers of the Palace, was denied the opportunity to continue to purchase a seat on the company's short subjects for exhibition at Saturday matinees. Lux replied, according to Bordanaro, the RKO, Friedman, Warner representative, had protested, and that he couldn't anything about it because Friedman "was his accuser."

In 1942, Bordanaro also asserted, Sydney Samson, 20th Century-Fox representative, told him, "K. your brother has gone in the Army and your father and uncle are growing old, so why don't you do the right thing and arrange to have the corporation take it [the Palace] over?"

Bordanaro will be cross-examined tomorrow.

In cross-examination yesterday, Benedict H. Bryan, counsel for exhibitors, brought out "Gone With the Wind," "Mrs. Miniver," "Meet Me in St. Louis," and "The Lone Star"—all so-called big box-office attractions—at the Palace. When asked by Edward C. Raftery, New York attorney who was formerly president of United Artists and is representing Universal and UA in this suit, about the supply of Universal films available to Bordanaro, the witness said he was given a selection of pictures on "a quantity-wise but not quality-wise" basis.

Univ. Has 40

(Continued from page 1)

conditions throughout the world and their uncertain effects upon the company's business," it was stated.

Statement by Ray noted that Universal "is in strong financial condition with a ratio of current and working assets to current liabilities of approximately eight to one."

The statement said that Universal is maintaining full production with 29 pictures in the studio and 25 pictures in production this year and 15 others available for release or in final editing stages.

Universal has already effected "substantial reduction in cost of its product and in operating expenses. As a result of improved production techniques and efficiency of work, the company's statement said.

Two New Coast Rums

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 8—Walter Ray and Walter E. Ray and Walter H. Ray will open another theater soon in Galt, in partnership with Schauer and Spies, real estate men. The new theater, opening of the New Ritz Theatre, 1000-curtin neighborhood house, was held recently. The theater is owned and operated and financed by a corporation associated with M. Nafis of T. and D. Jr. Enterprises.

Review

"The Gay Ranchero"

(Rental)

The traditional Western gets some ultra modern trimmings here, with the villain h-jacling airplane ships of gold. Heading the cast, of course, is handsome Western star, Richard Arlen, in a painting of Westerns, as Rogers has for the fifth consecutive year been voted No. 1 "Money-Maker" in the Western stars division in the Motion Picture Herald Poll. With Rogers is Marguerite Churchill, who photographed in Trucolor, the cast is rounded out by Tito Guizar, Jane Frazee, Andy Devine and Estella Rodriguez.

At the bottom of the disappearance of the gold shipments and the destruction of the property is a villainess独占者的 hope of the villains to get control of the airways and convert it for gambling. The usual action and gunplay is involved before Rogers finally cleans up matters. The plot also concerns a lovers' quarrel between the chief villain, who is a plier with a pleasure, and the latter a dancer and singer of talented parts. A lot of comic business and complicating the film reaches a happy finale. It all turns into a merry romp, with singing from almost every scene in the picture. The Technicolor, Original screenplay by Sloan Xilley has customary, but proven situations. William Witney directed with Edward J. White as associate producer.

Del Giudice in U. S.

(Continued from page 1)

U. K. Stymies

(Continued from page 1)

offer to reduce Britain's dollar expen-

375 per cent of profits from each

sell or not. I am unable to say whether such a pro-

would be a violation of the American film embargo against Great Britain. I have expressed the belief that the idea would not be hindered by the tax situation.

Del Giudice said that Pilgrim Pic-

tures, of which he is managing direc-

tor, would limit itself to four or five

Del Giudice, who was accompanied by Alan Jarvis, a member of the Pilgrim board, is expected to go to the London office of the company at the end of his trip. The Pilgrim group is in England to plan for the production there of the RKO-Rank picture, "The Captain Was a Lady." He will leave for Hollywood tomorrow.

22 of 20th's 48

(Continued from page 1)


20th Century-Fox pictures are being made available to him. The fact that the company was able to make available to him the witness said he was given a selection of pictures on "a quantity-wise but not quality-wise" basis.

Film Hearings Top

(Continued from page 1)

scheduled first only to fill in the time until the committee can see how the court proceedings go and that once the hearings are over the Hollywood hearings will be scheduled for immediate resumption. The official made the statement when asked the question on just when the committee could fit in the film hearings in view of hearings scheduled by Chairman Thomas.

Thomas today set Feb. 5 as the date for the second round of hearings looking toward legislation to curb Communists in this country.

Film Strike Probe

(Continued from page 1)

companies, Kearns said, and he also expects the attendance of the presidents of the unions involved, who will bring with them Hollywood representatives of their unions.

Kearns, who expects to conduct the hearings Friday before the Executive Secretary and his Assistant, George Hutchesson, president of the Board of Trustees and, Paul Pazzini, of the Associated Actors and Actress of America, will testify. In addition, he stated, he expected the presidents of the producers, painters, cameras, rangers, drivers and engineers and the head of the IATSE, head of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, would be called to testify.

This statement sub-committee previously conducted investigations on the subject in Hollywood and held public hearings in Los Angeles last August. Much of the testimony received at that time was conflicting, Kearns indicated, and stated he hoped the February hearing would clarify it.

Sorrell Bars Terms

(Continued from page 1)

"four or five others," "I'd resign any time it would help my fellow workers, but not at the instigation of strike-breakers and racketeers," Sorrell said.

The letter from Lindelow did not offer recommendations and said the proposal had reached the board from "IATSE" but did not name any individuals.

On February, following a telephone conference with IATSE President Richard F. Walsh, international representative Roy Brewer issued a statement declaring that discussions had been held between Lindelow and IATSE officers. He added that settlement could only be reached by agreement between the international presidents to provide against recurrence of the type of trouble account-

Film Hearings Top

(Continued from page 1)

sented the idea that the MPAA should pay the government taxes on the value of stock at full value at the time the picture is imported and before it is shown. This requirement to pay millions of dollars in taxes in advance of the film's release would be comparable to our cost of operations.

In light of these facts, we cannot understand how President Eisenhower, text of the British government could expect us to do business under the tax. We should be caught for any British attitude of our oft-repeated assurances to the British government that we were most anxious to find an accommodation that would ease Britain's dollar stringency," Johnston said.

"Other Onerous Burdens' in Levy

"Moreover," the MPAA president said, "the tax imposes other onerous burdens. It requires the companies to put up with the government as taxes three-fourths of the receipts when a picture is imported and before it is shown. This requirement to pay millions of dollars in taxes in advance of the film's release would be comparable to our cost of operations.

In light of these facts, we cannot understand how President Eisenhower, text of the British government could expect us to do business under the tax. We should be caught for any British attitude of our oft-repeated assurances to the British government that we were most anxious to find an accommodation that would ease Britain's dollar stringency," Johnston said.

Canada Circuit Pays S7

OTTAWA, Jan. 8—Eastern Theatres Ltd. has declared a dividend of $1, payable Feb. 7 to shareholders of record on Jan. 15.
Set Talks on US Producing In Dominion

Fitzgibbons To Represent Industry at Howe Confab

TORONTO, Jan. 11.—As chairman of a committee representing the film industry, J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., is scheduled to visit Ottawa tomorrow to confer with the government of C. D. Howe on arrangements for film production in Canada by Hollywood companies under the Ralston-saving program of the Dominion.

The suggestion originally came from Howe, who is charged with the responsibility of enforcing import restrictions to conserve Canada's cash. It is his theory that U.S. production should be developed in Canada to reduce the flow of money across the border.

Government Files Scophony Brief

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The Department of Justice sold the Supreme Court in a brief filed over the weekend that Scophony, Ltd., was doing business in New York and was therefore within the jurisdiction for purposes of suit under the anti-trust laws.

The Government pointed out that Scophony had entered into exclusive licensing arrangements with two companies.

Dutch Govt. Urges 45% Ticket Levy

Amsterdam, Holland, Jan. 4 (By Air Mail).—The Dutch Minister of the Interior has advised all municipalities to raise their entertainment taxes by 45 percent of the gross. The present rate is 20 percent, which will be maintained for the performances of stage plays.

The government's desires have raised a storm of protest from exhibitors, who point out that there is now a very noticeable decline in attendance. Business in Amsterdam in 1947 was off about 25 percent from 1946.

Illinois UTO Joins TOA; Reelects Zorn

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 11.—United Theatre Owners of Illinois voted at the weekend to affiliate with the Theatre Owners of America, and elected George Kerassos national TOA director. The action was taken at the final session of the organization's two-day convention here which saw re-election of Edward Zorn as president along with all other officers of UTOI.

Also highlighting the convention were discussions on public service, public relations and self-protection against excessive taxation. Some 150 attended.

The case for TOA affiliation was presented to the gathering by Robert Gove, TOA executive director. Herman Levy, general counsel and Fred Wehenberg, board chairman. Zorn was announced as TOA president for 1948 (Continued on page 2)

589 Theatres Are In Detroit Exchange

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—There are 589 theatres with a seating capacity of 435,830 currently in operation in the Detroit metropolitan area, according to a new theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

The 20th in a series of 31 directories, it reveals that 212 theatres with a capacity of 208,894, are in the area's three largest cities: Detroit, Grand Rapids and Flint. Detroit has 167 theatres with a capacity of 172,499 or an average of 1,013 seats per house.

In the Detroit territory, 151 theatres are located in 147 towns with a population of 2,500 and under. These account for a total capacity of 53,634, or an average of 365 seats per theatre.

Senate to Debate Mundt Bill Friday

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The Senate on Friday will debate the Mundt bill the pending order of business, and scheduled floor debate to start on it next Friday.

The bill, which authorizes the State Department's overseas information service, has been already approved by the House. Originally it had been hoped that the bill could be used by the State Department as authority for putting into effect a solution of the industry's frozen funds problem. However, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee dropped this plan.

Film Producers Look to Radio for New Material

The motion picture industry is described as displaying new interest in radio as a source of story material as a result of Columbia Broadcasting System's decision to make its scripts available for the screen, reports Nathan L. Halpern, assistant to the network's president, Frank Stanton.

All majors have submitted requests to look at the CBS material available. Halpern said, expressing the possibility that the potential success of the project might create a trend by film producers to radio material for screen stories.

The proposal now applies to current and future properties as well as scripts aired over the past 20 years. Halpern disclosed that the network is preparing a present future programs to film companies for consideration as screen vehicles.

The large pre-sold audience provided by radio, an audience that often totals 30,000,000 in the case of certain programs, is believed by Halpern to be the deciding factor in the industry's interest in the network's plan.

It was revealed that already one CBS property, “The Argyle Album,” one of the “Suspense” mystery dramas, has been disposed of, the buyer being a new producing company, Errol Productions.

Less Than 20 New US Films Now in Britain

May Be Exhausted By March; Reissues Appearing

The supply of unreleased Hollywood features in Great Britain has dwindled to less than two months' supply. On Aug. 7, when the British Treasury issued its order imposing a 30 percent ad valorem duty on imported films, payable at the time of their importation, some 125 new U.S. pictures were on hand in England and, therefore, not subject to the tax. No American films have been sent to England since then, and it is estimated now that fewer than 20 unreleased American films remain.

British theatre attendance has declined for the past several months with the result that runs of both British and American films are shortening and more than the normal amount of product is consumed.

Reissues have already made their appearance.

Alternate Tax Basis Cited by BFPA Head

LONDON, Jan. 11.—Although holding to the principle of the ad valorem film tax, the British government is "willing to discuss adjustments which would allow the American industry to retain revenues earned in the United States by British pictures in addition to amounts earned here by American pictures after the ad valorem duty has been paid, according to Sir Henry French, president of the British Film Producers Association.

The statement, issued by the BFPA, added that French recognizes this as an important clarification of the atti-

Contempt Trials To Start on Feb. 9

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Ten Hollywood figures indicted for contempt of Congress pleaded not guilty Friday and were ordered to stand separate trials in Federal District Court here beginning March 24.

John Howard Lawson is slated for the first trial at that time and will be followed on Feb. 16 by screen
Charles C. Moskowitz
Lowtreasurer and vice-presi-
dent, is due in Hollywood today from
New York.

Barbara Anne Aaron, daughter of
M-G-M assistant general sales
manager Edwin W. Aaron, and
Herbert S. Nuremberg, former
banker and Monogram studio
legal aide, have announced their
engagement. Miss Aaron is a
member of the Eagle-Lion publicity
department here.

Nathan Halpern, assistant to
ColumbiaBroadcasting President Frank
Stanton, has postponed his trip to
the Coast from New York until Fri-
day.

Mervyn LeRoy, M-G-M di-
rector, is expected here today from
the Coast.

Larry Morris, general manager
of Famous Players' Capitol, has
offices here, and Mrs. Morris
are parents of a daughter born at Doc-
tor's Hospital, New York.

Terry Turner, RKO Radio na-
tional exploitation director, left here
yesterday for a tour of exchanges in
the United States and Canada.

Herman Ripps, assistant Eastern
sales manager, is on a tour of
New England exchanges from Albany,
N. Y.

Jack Nelson, manager of Famous
Players' Capitol, left here Thursday
for N. Bay, Ontario, has been elected
an alderman in that city.

William Gleicher, head of M-G-
M's theatre auditing division, has
returned here from New Haven.

Oliver A. Unger, vice-president of
Distinguished Films, has left here for
Europe.

Leo J. Ramseyer, RKO radio
sales promotion head, returned here
from the weekend at Springfield, Ill.

H. M. Richer, M-G-M exhibitor
relations director, is due back in
New York today from Springfield, Ill.

Scully and Bergman
To Confab

William A. Scully, Universal-Inter-
national distribution vice-president,
and Maurice A. Bergman, head ad-
vertising-publicity director, left New
York at the weekend for Hollywood for
a series of studio conferences on
upcoming releases.

Following the conferences, Scully
will launch a series of sales meetings
with his company's field forces.
The first meeting is to be held in
San Francisco, followed by meetings
in New Orleans and Chicago, Bergman
said. His company Scully to the reg-
ulars.

Grant 20th-Fox Motion

New York State Supreme Court
Justice Henry Clay Greenberg,
granted 20th-Fox its motion to
preclude arbitration proceedings by
the Screen Publicists Guild growing
out of the firing of some people by
the company in August. It was held
that under the guild contract, discharge
for economic or business reasons
is not arbitrable.

Sleep, My Love Held
Aid in Drug Control

Albany, Jan. 11.—In announcing
he would introduce a bill tomorrow
to give the state of sleeping
gills, N. Y. State Senator Thomas C.
Desmond said on Friday that the
long fight against drug laws stands to
be "enormously helped" by United
Artists' release of "Sleep, My Love.

The legislation that the motion picture
film "will highlight the need for more rigid
control of barbiturate and hypnotic
drugs.

The production was seen by
Desmond's staff at a recent preview
in New York.

Illinois UTO

(Continued from page 1)

the importance of more careful atten-
tion to the problem of municipal taxa-
tion. He declared "petty industry
economies" as not adequate to keep
motion pictures within the exhibitor's
reach.

Senator C. F. Carpenter, UTO's
national legislative advisor, testified,
that the group that their failure to
develop public good relations in their
own community handicaps their
legislative "friends."

Other speakers were Claude Mundo,
president of the Independent Theatres
Association; Harold A. Burman, RKO
Radio, Henderson M. Richer, M-G-M,
and producer Charles
Budy Rogers.

Rules Against Ascap
In Washington Case

Skatell, Jan. 11.—Washington State
Supreme Court ruled that the Ameri-
can Society of Composers, Authors
and Publishers has failed to comply
with a state law requiring that it file
a list of its copyrighted works and
names of agencies before being
allowed to do business in Washing-
ton.

So doing, the high court reversed a
lower court decision granting a de-
claratory judgment to the effec-
t that Ascap had complied with the
law. Ascap asserted that compliance en-
titled it to collect fees for public per-
formance of its musical compositions
through its affiliated stations, restaurants
and other groups.

The case had been appealed from a previ-
ous lower court ruling by the Ameri-
can Society of Composers, Authors,
and Publishers to the Washington State
Supreme Court.

FCC Gets 11 Bids
For Video Stations

Washington, Jan. 11.—Eleven
applications for new commercial
television stations were filed here
by the Federal Communications
Commission.

Applicants are: Scraps-Howard
Radio, Inc., at Canton; Carroll
Carlson Co., Rochester; Clark As-
ciates, Binghamton, N. Y.; WOW,
Inc., Omaha; Donrey Broadcasting
Co., Springfield, Mo.; Universal-
Publishing Co., Youngstown, O.;
Easton Publishing Co., Easton, Pa.;
Philco Broadcasting Co., Red Bank,
N. J.; Time Life, Inc., Beverly Hills,
Calif.; Pam Newspapers, Canton, O.;
Toledo Blade Co., Toledo, Ohio;
Major Networks, Inc., New York;
and L. G. Syndicated, New York.

50 FM Stations a Month

Washington, Jan. 11.—New FM
stations will go on the air during
January at the rate of 50 per
month, officials of the FM Assoca-
tion predicted at a meeting with
the Radio Manufacturers Associa-
tion. More than 50 FM stations a
month, officials of the FM Associa-
tion predicted at a meeting with

**Personal Mention**

**NEWSREEL PARADE**

President Truman's report to Congress highlights near-east events. Other items include King Michael of in exile, and sports and fashions.

MOVIEWATCH, Jan. 11.—President
Truman reports to Congress on the
"State of the Union." Michael of
Rumania forced to abdicate by Red
Government seizes throne, or not by
purchase or absorption of other
companies.

Fight Over Canadian 20% Admis-
sion Levy Is Resumed

Toronto, Jan. 11.—After being
re-elected for a fourth term, Mayor Rob-
ert Saunders of Toronto has resumed
his personal crusade against theatres
by urging the Dominion government
to relinquish its 20 per cent war tax
on grosses and earmark it for munici-
palities.

Meanwhile, the National Com-
mittee of Moving Picture Exhibitor
Associations of Canada, of which J. J.
Fitzgibbon is chairman, is campaign-
ing for the abolishment of the Fed-
eral tax, without an alternative levy.

**USO-CAMP SHOWS IS GIVEN
**HONORABLE DISCHARGE**

by Truman

Washington, Jan. 11.—USO-Camp
Shows, which has been disbanded, be-
ing in the Veterans Hospital here.
Camps Shows, was awarded an "hon-
orable discharge" on Friday from
President Truman. Among those who
witnessed the ceremony were Abe
Lastofsky and Lawrence Phillips,
assistant and vice-president, respec-
tively, of the two organizations, and
directors of the USO.

Hannibal Regional Theatre
Meeting Delayed to Jan. 29

St. Louis, Jan. 11.—The Hannibal,
Mo. regional meeting of the Motion
Picture Theatre Owners of St. Louis
Eastern Missouri and Southern Illi-
nois has been postponed from Jan. 15
to Jan. 29. This is due to the winter
meeting of the Motion Picture Foun-
dation's finance unit in New York.

New Consolidated Theatres
Stock

Torolet, Jan. 11.—Consolidated
Theatres, an affiliate of Famous
Players, has made a public
offer of 75,500 shares of class "A" stock
at $9.50 per share, plus a
fractional class "B" stock bonus, the divid-
end rate being 50 cents per year. The
company has theatres in Montreal.

John Tassos Quits 20th-Fox

John Tassos has resigned his post
with 20th-Fox in Bogota, Colombia,
to become an executive of Hudgins,
Inc., owner of the largest islands in
the Florida keys which will be
developed into a resort, it was dis-
closed here at the weekend.

Bar Theatre Parking

Louisville, Jan. 11.—A state fire
regulation officer has modernized
theatre, churches, hotels and other
public places has been held valid by
attorney General Eldridge.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Shawne Kaze, 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 Circle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpoho, New York City," New York. Copyright 1948 by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc. Reprints: Rear, J. K., President; Mary Quigley, Vice-President; David Hahl, Managing Editor; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Pedersen, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Wise-Deep Building, William S. Wernick, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street, Editorial and Advertising. Urban Failey, Advertising Representative, Washington, J. D. O'Brien, 2235 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Square, London W1; Switzerland, Telegraph: "Quigpoho, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac; Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 21, 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 copy, 10c.
"'T-Men', the new Thrilluloid!"
   —Walter Winchell

"The Pick of the Pictures. Best Picture of Week!"
   —Jimmy Fidler’s Coast-to-Coast Broadcast

"Exploitation natural should click heavily with audiences!"
   —Daily Variety

"Red-blooded, hard-boiled drama can be expected to deliver handsome returns!"
   —Boxoffice

"Ranks with best, not excepting 'House on 92nd St.'"
   —M. P. Daily

"Unlimited possibilities for top exploitation... headed for top grosses everywhere!"
   —Showmen’s Trade Review

"Box-office natural, equal if not superior to 'House on 92nd St., 'Brute Force', and 'The Killers!'"
   —Film Bulletin

"Dynamic, smashing entertainment... a winner!"
   —Hollywood Reporter

"One of most interesting pictures of the kind I have ever seen!"
   —Louella Parsons

"What 'House on 92nd St.' did for the FBI, 'T-Men' does for the Treasury agents!"
   —Variety

"Has what it takes to pull customers off streets!"
   —Independent

"Solid box-office click... not a dull foot of film!"
   —Film Daily

EDWARD SMALL presents

starring DENNIS O'KEEFE with MARY MEADE • ALFRED RYDER • WALLY FORD
JUNE LOCKHART • CHARLES MCGRAW • Produced by AUBREY SCHENCK • Directed by ANTHONY MANN
Written by John C. Higgins • Suggested by a Story by Virginia Kellogg • An Eagle Lion Films Release
Contempt Trials
(Continued from page 1)

writer Dalton Trumbo. The last trial is scheduled on March 24 for Lester Cole.

Chairman J. Parnell Thomas of the House Un-American Activities Committee has announced that 10 be charged with contempt after they avoided questions on their political affiliations at the committee's Oct. 7 hearings, thus violating the "second phase" of the committee's hearings on Hollywood would not be brought to court had decided at least the first case.

Friday's arraignment, Robert Kennedy, attorney for 10 defendants, was granted 10 days in which to file a motion to inspect the minutes of the Grand Jury which indicted the 10, and 15 days for Blue Sky Radio charging miss the charges on the basis of the legality of the Grand Jury proceedings. Attorneys for the Government have five additional days in which to answer the motions.

Permit Two to Go Abroad

Kenny received permission from Federal Judge Richmond B. Keech for Edward Cole, Adrian Scott and Edward Dmitryk, to travel to England and return before their trial on espionage charges.

It is expected that Thomas and chief committee investigator Robert E. Stripling, will appear as witnesses at the trial.

Each of the defendants posted a $1,000 bond. A pre-trial schedule calls for continuance running of the trials, with no overlapping. Should some take longer than others, the committee may schedule the schedule will be rescheduled.

Federal Attorney George Fay and William Z. Hiltz, who appeared at the arraignment, are expected to represent the Government at the trials.

Trial Dates' Sequence

Trial dates following Lawson's and Trumbo's are: Feb. 23, Albert Malt: Feb. 24, Alva Bessie; March 8, Samuel Ornitz; March 10, Herbert Biberman; March 13, Edward Dmitryk; March 15, Edward Dmitryk; March 17, Adrian Scott; March 22, John Ring Lardner Jr., and 24, Lester Cole.

Adrian Scott Institutes $314,000 Suit Against RKO

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11.—Producer Adrian Scott has instituted a $314,000 suit charging breach of contract in an action similar to those instituted by Lester Cole, John Lardner Jr. and Edward Dmitryk. The suit arose from dismissals of their refusal to return with the committee's investigation of Congress and the industry's policy on employment of persons who are submarines or do harm to the industry.

Scott's suit, alleging breach of a contract signed Feb. 10, 1937 and terminated Nov. 28, also seeks $50,000 "for loss of outlet for artistic and intellectual property and other expenses totaling $93,000 for 'humiliation and anguish.' The earlier actions by Cole, Lardner and Dmitryk were taken against RKO, 20th Century-Fox and RKO, respectively.

Jersey Theatre Burns

RED BANK, N. J., Jan. 11.—This town's most spectacular fire in a decade demolished the old Empire Theatre Building. The loss was estimated unofficially at $100,000.
Predict Same High Level of Tax Revenue

Budget Bureau Estimates $380-Millions in '48-'49

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Presi-
dent Truman today asked Con-
gress for a 40 per cent increase in funds to enforce the Federal antitrust laws, and at the same time he disclosed that in estimates of income for the coming fiscal year, the Budget Bureau predicted the receipts from admission taxes, excluding cabinet and roof garden taxes, would amount to $380,000,000.

This is the same high esti-
mate it makes for the current fiscal year, and compares with actual collections of $352,800,000 in the year ending June 30, 1947. This would indicate that a sharp

(Continued on page 7)

Fitzgibbons Group Begins Ottawa Meet

OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—A delegation of five Canadian theatremen, headed by J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., gather here today to seek discontinu-
ance of the Dominion’s war tax of 20 per cent on theatre grosses and to discuss plans for modified arrange-
ments on proposed film import re-

(Continued on page 6)

Para. Buys 7,800 Additional Shares

With the purchase of 7,800 additional shares of its com-
mon stock on the open market last month, Paramount wound up the year with 414,433 shares in its treasury, the New York Stock Exchange disclosed here yesterday.

Since Nov. 7, 1946, when the stock-buying program was announced by Paramount president Barney Balaban, the company purchased a total of 603,100 shares. However, during 1947, 135,000 shares were used to purchase Liberty Films, and another 56,567 were used in exchange for the acquisition of Rainbow Productions.

10,393 Film Theatres In 20 U.S. Areas

There are 1,677 more non-circuit theatres than circuit houses in the 20 domestic exchange areas surveyed and statistically summarized individ-
ually by the Motion Picture Asso-
ciation to date. A circuit is defined by the association to include “or more” theatres operated by the same management.

Of the 10,393 theatres in the 20 areas, 6,035 are non-circuit and 4,358 are circuit theatres, according to the 20 MPA terri-
torial directories issued since Oct. 1. Some 433 of the total number are closed, MPA reports.

Additionally, there are 124 drive-in-
theatres in the 20 territories.

Total seating capacity of the 10,393 theatres is 5,516 in the 20 areas. The average per theatre seating is put at 582.

The 20 territorial directories issued this year by the MPA still fail to include full statistical industry break-downs on the following areas: Buffalo, Char-
lotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Des Moines, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New

(Continued on page 7)

Canada Lifts Curb On 35mm. Machines

OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—Notification came to the film industry today that the Canadian government has lifted the ban on the importation of 35mm. projectors, while continuing to exclude lon-
motion machines. This move applies to such imports from all countries, it was stated, but there is the intimation that, effective Feb. 1, the importation of 35mm. projectors will be placed in the category of articles for which permit licenses are required, thus providing a system of government control.

Young Becomes Sole Owner of Du-Art

With the purchase of the entire in-

of Jack Goetz and Arthur Gott-
lieb, A. Young, one of the founders and partner in Du-Art Film Labora-
tories, here, has become sole owner of the company. At the same time, it was disclosed, Young has purchased a substantial interest in the building where the company is located with a view to early expansion of facilities.

22 Chairmen Named For ‘Brotherhood’

J. Robert Rubin, national chairman of the amendmens division, and Spy-
ros P. Skouras, national chairman of the film division, yesterday named 22 committees for American Brotherhood Week, Feb. 22-28, to be sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. President Harry S. Tru-

(Continued on page 6)

PARAMOUNT SUES BRANDT CIRCUIT

Gov’t Will Serve Briefs This Week

Proofs of briefs in the indus-
try’s appeal from the stat-
utory court’s decision in the

Company Seeks $563,265 In Percentage Action; 162 Others Are Named

PARAMOUNT yesterday instituted a

$563,265 fraud action in N. Y. Su-

preme court against Brandt The-
atres and 162 other exhibitors and officers of exhibitor companies in the

The complaint consists of 33 sep-

arate causes of action. It charges the defendants with having made false box office returns on percentage pic-
tures and having offered fraudulent statements during the period begin-
ing Jan. 6, 1942, and continuing up to the present.

The action, being prosecuted by

Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Kips, attorneys for Par-

mount, alleges that the “de-
fendants Harry Brandt, Ber-

nard B. Brandt, Louis Brandt and William Brandt, doing business under the name of Brandt Theatres, in collaboration with the other defendants” allegedly conspired “to defraud the plaintiff by making, or causing to be made...false and inaccurate statements of the gross admiss-

Company Seeks $563,265 In Percentage Action; 162 Others Are Named

PARAMOUNT yesterday instituted a

$563,265 fraud action in N. Y. Su-

preme court against Brandt The-
atres and 162 other exhibitors and officers of exhibitor companies in the

The complaint consists of 33 sep-

arate causes of action. It charges the defendants with having made false box office returns on percentage pic-
tures and having offered fraudulent statements during the period begin-
ing Jan. 6, 1942, and continuing up to the present.

The action, being prosecuted by

Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Kips, attorneys for Par-

mount, alleges that the “de-
fendants Harry Brandt, Ber-

nard B. Brandt, Louis Brandt and William Brandt, doing business under the name of Brandt Theatres, in collaboration with the other defendants” allegedly conspired “to defraud the plaintiff by making, or causing to be made...false and inaccurate statements of the gross admiss-

寒冬已至，而你仍在奋斗。
High Court Hears Scophony Motions

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—In an hour-long argument today the Department of Justice asked the Supreme Court that if it did not get the relief it sought against Scophony, Ltd., in New York District Court, it could not get it anywhere else.

Sigmund Timberg, Justice Department attorney, declared that Scophony, benefit to be shown given by British Tele-Productions, Inc., and General Precision Equipment Corp., to form a new company in the United States. The British company's control of the new corporation constituted doing business in New York. Therefore, he argued, Scophony could not be sued in any Federal judicial district and should be subject to an anti-trust suit.

Scophony Side Today

Attorneys for Scophony will argue the company's case tomorrow. However, in a brief filed today, Scophony declared that the Government never made valid service of process on Scophony because the British company was not in business in this country when service was attempted. A 1942 master agreement, the brief stated, provided for exchange of technical and patent data in the television field, but did not call on Scophony to perform any action within the United States.

On the dates when service of process was attempted, Scophony, Ltd., did not have any office or agency here, own any property, or have any employ-ees, either direct or indirect, to receive or make any sales, the brief said.

‘Trading’ Basis of U. S. Case

Under questioning by Justice Frankfurter, Timberg said that the Government did not contend it had made valid service of process on Scophony directors Levey and Elcock, because they were residing in New York at the time the process was served, but rather because they were carrying on Scophony, Ltd., business.

The Government said that the master agreement was the main basis for its anti-trust proceeding and that the suit could not be filed satisfactory unless the agreement was noted and the court orders Scophony, Ltd., to give up its interest in Scophony Corp. of Great Britain. The attorney claimed, is a corporate instrumentality and not a subsidiary.

Eyssell Honors Vali

Vali, Italian star featured in David O. Selznick's "The Paradine Case," which is currently showing at Radio City Music Hall, was the honorary guest at a trade press reception to be given by G. S. Eyssell, Music Hall's president and managing director, on Thursday afternoon in the theatre's studio apartment.

Named 'Dimes' Chairman

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 12.—Sam J. Svitow, of the Switow Company, Inc., has been named chairman of an advisory committee for a March of Dimes Campaign meeting which will be held Jan. 25 at the Jefferson County Armory.

Personal Mention

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, returned to New York yesterday from Coast conferences with Universal-International executives.

CHARLES REagan, Paramount distribution chief, and Hugh Orown Exchange and Southern division sales manager, left here yesterday on a tour of Southern exchanges.

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Sales promotion manager, is in Washington today in connection with the "Scatterbrain; he is back here tomorrow.

Ann Bonaventura, publicity for Loew's Newark and Jersey City theaters, has returned to her post after being hospitalized.

George D. Burbows, Monogram Allied Artists vice-president and treasurer, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

Charles Allocato, Film Daily executive, underwent minor surgery yesterday at Post-Graduate Hospital.

Jules Weill, Masterpiece Prod. Prod., is to leave here today for a tour of company offices.

Sid Seitz, American Eagle-Lion foreign sales manager, is on route to Rio Janeiro from Montevideo.

George A. Hickey, M-G-M Western sales manager, will be in Portland, Ore., Thursday from Seattle.

Godfrey Wynn, British columnist and screenwriter, has arrived in the United States from Engeland.

Robert O'Brien of Loew's advertising department has resigned to enter another field.

Norman Nibel, motion picture editor of the Columbus (O.) Citizens, is in town for a visit.

Rank May Visit U. S. in March, Not Before

LONDON, Jan. 12.—J. Arthur Rank said today he may make a trip to the United States in March, at the earliest, but added his plans are not definite as of now. His visit will have no connection with the film tax problem although naturally he would be prepared to discuss possible solutions if none have been found by then and if the subject is broached to him.

Walker Film Completed

"Mr. New York," depicting the highlights of the life of the late Mayor James J. Walker in his new career, has been completed by the Fox Movietone studio here. The film, produced for the James J. Walker Memorial, will have its premiere at a memorial dinner at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria tomorrow night.

Oscar A. Doob, Loew Theatres vice-president, is confined to his home with a cold.

Stanley Kane, executive director of the National Allied Motion Picture Ass'n, has been reelected town counsel of Golden Valley, suburb of Minneapolis.

Filippo del Guercio, British producer, accompanied by his assistant, Alan Jarvis, went to the Coast from New York.

Alan F. Cummings, head of M-G-M exchange operations, left here yesterday by tour of the company's Western exchanges.

Louis and Joseph Ansell and William Rolando, producers, have arrived here from the Coast to confer with attorney William B. Jaffe.

Clarence Brown, M-G-M producer-director, will return to the Coast tomorrow from New York following a tour of the South.

Herma Rips, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, has arrived here from Alabama, will spend a month at the home office.

Milton Livington, Universal-International trade press contact, is confined to his home here with a cold.

Rudy Berger, Southern sales manager for M-G-M, is in New Orleans from Atlanta.

Irving Berlin has been presented with the Cross of Knighthood of the French Legion of Honor.

James R. Grainger, Republic distribution vice-president, has returned to the South from the Coast.

Mervyn LeRoy, M-G-M director, is in town from the Coast.

Lewis Milestone, director, is en route to Hollywood from New York.

PetriU Hearings To Resume Today

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—All sections of the television, radio and recording industries will be able to be heard at the hearing on James C. PetriUo's activities in the American Federation of Musicians when the House Labor Committee resumes hearings here today.

Rep. Kearns said that the hearings would probably last two weeks or more, and would go into "all restrictive practices" employed by the AFM. The NAB's broadcasting unit, Gruin Broadcasting, FM groups and recording and transcription companies are expected to testify, he stated. PetriUo will probably take the stand Monday. Jan. 19, Kearns said.

Hearings are to be held before the full labor Committee, and not the Kearns sub-committee.
Selznick to Make Films in Europe

David O. Selznick is augmenting his Hollywood film production and will produce in Europe starting in April, it was announced here yesterday by the Selznick Releasing Organization.

"We will make pictures in the English language abroad," Selznick said, "by way of creative and production assignment to the European and American film industries in the producing fields in full departments.

First Selznick-International European Productions will be Ibsen’s "A Doll’s House," going into production on April 1, with Jack Johnstone. Studio work will be in Sweden and locations in Norway, Aylgile Nelson, Selznick production manager, will immediately for Sweden as general manager of the enterprise. The film will be released internationally by SRO.

Mass Resignations Threaten on Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 12—Publication of salary raises to studio executives brought threats of mass resignations of stars, directors, and secretaries in local film exchanges, slated for next week. Already, exchanges have lost some key employees.

Disatisfaction over the present low wage scale has provoked the situation, and it is felt that a $90-a-week base salary should be established. Similar reactions are being voiced in circuit offices. Nine employees left a major chain this week. Squeezing a few dollars out of several film salesmen, among them men who had been with the company 15 or 20 years, also contributed to the present unrest on Film Row.

Studio Employment And Wages Drop

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 12—Employment in studios during November slumped sharply from October’s 97.8 on California Labor Statistics Bureau’s index to 85. November, 1946 figure was 104. All indexes are based on 1940 as 100. Average weekly earnings in October were $105.33 to $104.74, but still were substantially above the $96.05 of one year ago.

Seligman in Business

Paul Seligman, formerly with Paramount’s New York story department and head of Republic’s Eastern story idea division, is now doing publicity, advertising and public relations work here on his own.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

Manager experienced in theatre operations, film booking, and public relations to operate Minor Littledyke chain of Drive-in Theatres.

Write stating experience, availability and age.

Box 404
Motion Picture Daily
1270 Sixth Ave.
New York 20

News Briefs . . .

W. E. GREEN, president of National Theatre Supply, has appointed Allen G. Smith manager of the company’s New York branch, successor to Roy D. Miller, resigned, and who has been manager for the past nine years. Smith is a veteran in the theatre equipment field, having been appointed to his new position was National’s Chicago manager.

Roy P. Rosser, formerly in charge of oral sound in Los Angeles, was since the war as assistant export manager of the company, replaces Smith in Chicago.

Albany Variety Tent Gives * Barney Ross a Membership

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 12—Barney Ross, former film editor and all-around champion, tonight was presented with associate membership in the Albany Variety Club following his speech at a dinner at the Ten Eyck Hotel. He also was re-elected to his membership in the Pittsburgh tent.

Paul Crain, local bank executive, in a talk paid tribute to Variety, which took over operation of the Albany Boys’ Club summer camp five years ago. Variety has spent more than $13,000 in building and equipping the camp site, he said.

Chief Barker, Harry Lamont announced that this year’s "Dental Day" campaign surpassed all previous drives, with more than $13,000 being raised.

San Francisco Variety Club Reelects; Baltimore Installs

An election at the San Francisco Variety Club reelected Abe Blumenfeld, head of the Blumenfeld Circuit, as chief Barker for a second term. Also returned to office were Jimmy O’Neil, assistant chief Barker, Jack Marpole, second assistant; Rosso Harter, President, and J. Leslie Jacobs, doggy guy.

Variety Club, Baltimore Tent No. 158 held its annual initiation meeting (Nick) Werns as chief Barker, during special ceremonies and a buffet supper night.

16mm. Taxes, Ascap Before N. J. Allied Meet Today

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold a general membership meeting today at Newark Athletic Club. Newark, to weigh a report from distributors on their handling of 16mm. releases. The organization will also examine threats of municipal admission taxes in New Jersey, review the Ascap license fee situation, and conduct a product survey.

Edward Lachman, president, will preside.

Stars Aid Marine Corps

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 12.—Screen stars Robert Mitchum, Robert Alda, Paul Henning and Bob Crosby flew here from Hollywood yesterday for the national Marine Corps Day celebration. The session has an audience of 17,000 persons attended, including such civic and military dignitaries as Gov. Thomas C. Earhart, Gen. Clifton B. Cates, commandant of the Marine Corps, and former Pacific Fleet Admiral William F. Halsey. Crosby was master of ceremonies.

EXHIBITORS in the Utica, N. Y. area will be told of the goals of Theatre Owners of America by temporary area chairman Harry La-Prince. Chairman of the Utica TOA unit tomorrow at the Hamilton Hotel in Utica, N. Y.

Pickford Continues Tour Of Canada for UNESCO

OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—Mary Pickford left tonight for Montreal for additional speeches and broadcasts in behalf of UNESCO. The film leader who opened this fourth leg of the Pickford Peace Tour, has left for Canada to open a new tour for the United Nations Peace Appeal for Children and the screened today at the National Council for Peace and Recovery’s flagship through exhibition throughout Canada, and the United Nations Appeal for Children.

She will be the guest at Montreal’s City Hall at a luncheon to be given by Mayor Camilien Houde and his council. Later in the day she will be the guest of a grand social party given by Arthur Hersh, president of Consolidated Theatres of Canada.

Public to Vote on St. Paul $5 Admission Tax March 9

ST. PAUL, Jan. 12.—Following a ruling by the city attorney that the primary election in a general election this spring, the city council has set the March 9 primary election for a vote on the recently-enacted five per cent tax on amusement admissions. The city’s theatres and other affected in- terests have filed a complaint against the new tax ordinance by petition of voters.

First move of affected interests will be to send out letters to exhibitors having reference to the tax but urging eligible voters to register.

Rocky Mountain Allied Is Skeptical Over Foundation

DENVER, Jan. 12.—Skepticism over the application of the Motion Picture Foundation to independent exhibition is being expressed by the Rocky Mounta- nian Independent Theatres in a current bulletin.

The organization believes "the Foundation will plainly go to the cash- ews employees of the distributing companies," according to the bulletin, that the new tax ordinance will be used against other industries or become theatre operators themselves upon ending theatre employment.

ABC Radio Theatre Here To Be Shored By "Art" House

Siritaky International has acquired from American Broadcasting the 595-seat ABC Radio Theatre here which, prior to its being taken over by the network two years ago, was known as The Filmart. The fourth theatre to be added to the Siritaky U. S. circuit, will be known as "the" theatre on Jan. 28, with "Fanny," French-made film imported by Siritaky.

Schleifer to Chicago on "Northside" Premiere Plans

Plans for next month’s world premiere of "Call Northside 777" took Charles Schleifer, 30th-Fox’s advertising-publicity chief to Chicago yesterday. He was accompanied by Sidney Blumenstock, the company’s assistant exploitation manager.

Austrian Industry Advances Hampered

BY H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN
Vienna, Jan. 8 (By Air Mail)—Austria’s industry must cooperate closely with Germany and with the U. S. Government to realize the con- sidered opinion of producers and theatre owners in the capital and main provincial towns.

The Austrian industry, shattered by the general breakdown of the Greater German economic system, with which it had been linked until 1945, has not yet been able to reorganize fully. Yet its achievements appear to be noteworthy.

By the end of 1946, 10 pic- ture films and 13 shorts were released, and production may reach 25 in the first half of 1948.

About 58 producers are competing for the limited studio space at three main centers. More than 100 producers are, almost literally, wating at the courthouse gates for permits and currency regulations are still hampering production. The Rosenhubel Atelier, under the Austrian film expert, Leo B. Kroll, was supplied with raw film and equipment by the Soviets. The British are supplying American pictures, the Austro-American Society in Vienna is continuously organizing special exhibitions of popular American pictures.

Cresson Smith Will Leave RKO Radio

Cresson E. Smith, assistant to Phil Reisman, RKO Radio foreign vice- president, will leave the company as soon as he can wind up his affairs, it was learned here yesterday.

Smith joined the film industry in Pittsburgh, then successively was an exhibitor and film salesman. He was previously with RKO and United Artists, with whom he was associated. He and in 1946 returned to RKO as division manager of Africa with headquarters in Johannesburg.

Aleman Move Benefit To Mexican Industry

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 12.—The in- dustry expects considerable benefits to result from the move to Mexico by the Senate granting President Miguel Aleman fuller facilities to legislate throughout Mexico in cinematographic matters. President Aleman told film men when he was a presidential can- didate that he would do all he could for the industry.

Alfred Sack Elected

AUSTIN, Tex., Jan. 12.—Alfred N. Sack, general manager of Sack Amusement Company, was elected president of the Texas Asso- ciation of Visual Education Dealers in session here. Other officers are: J. R. Riley of Houston; vice-president; and Reed Morgan of Dal- las, secretary-treasurer. C. A. Rea- gun of Austin, and John Gunter of Dallas were elected directors.
in its suspenseful

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
ROBERT YOUNG * MARGUERITE CHAPMAN
RELENTLESS

with WILLARD PARKER - AKIM TAMIROFF
BARTON MAcLANE - MIKE MAZURKI - ROBERT BARRAT - CLEM BEVANS
Screenplay by Winston Miller
Directed by GEORGE SHERMAN - Produced by EUGENE B. RODNEY
encounter... defiance love...
Brands Sued
(Continued from page 1)
rate statements of the defendants' expenses were furnished to the plaintiff with the result that the plaintiff was induced to "grant licenses which probably commanded a royalty far less than the plaintiff would have required to be paid."

The complaint charges that some of the defendants "induced checkers by bribery, deceit and other means, to sign the checkers' receipts containing the box office receipts of percentage pictures" and that the defendants acted "wilfully, deliberately and fraudulently committed."

Charge Falsified Records
The specific charge is made that such defendants "falsified the books and records of the...atre by... the defendants." The complaint goes on to allege that the falsification charge was "effectuated by the following methods" in detail.

"By crediting as received from flat rentals a portion of the receipts from the exhibition of some of the percentage pictures of the plaintiff; by using the defendant's non-operating theatres, defendant[s]...[exempting]...from....flat...rolls; by selling tickets out of commission; by lowering standard accounts; by switching ticket rolls between different theatres in the same circuit; submitting to the plaintiff altered statements daily reports, and by attributing portions of the gross receipts to other sources and hiding portions of the gross receipts reported."

Allege Padded Expenses
Concerning the "split figure ar-
rangements" based on the exhibitors' expenses, the complaint alleges some defendants padded their expenses by "paying excessive theatre rentals to wholly...orporations..." and that the corporate defendants were "claiming as operating costs certain non-existent items of expense; claim-
ing expense for operating costs in non-operating or extraneous sources; claiming certain personal non-busi-
ness expenses of officers of the de-
fendants for the defendants' operating costs, and by claiming sums in ex-
cess of the actual expenses incurred."

The complaint also charges that the alleged under-reporting of receipts and exaggeration of expenses "fol-
lowed a common pattern" in all "methods and devices used."

The summons accompanying the complaint noted that defendants have 20 days from date of filing to which answer.

Paramount Here Announces Suit
Beginning of the action was re-
ported by Paramount yesterday in a two-page news release from the com-
pany's home office publica-
department.

The complaint contends that the defendants Harry Brandt, Louis Brandt, Bernard B. Brandt and Wil-
liam Brandt, individually and/or under the name of a group of non-operating members of the defendants in the opera-
ton of their theatres, including book-
ing and ticketing operations; report-
ings from percentage pictures; re-
porting expenses in connection with split-arrangements; supervising books and records and negoti-
ating for adjustments. The complaint charges that defend-

Brand Reply
(Continued from page 1)
booked by the Brands, and theatres named in defendant made any contracts with Paramount.

"The other charges will be proved to be equally false and inaccurate," Brandt said. It is high time that some of the monopolistic industry practices which have caused the de-
ceptible confusion and upon which the exhibitor be given a thorough airing. I welcome this suit because it affords the public a chance to see this day the circumstances surrounding the monopolistic practices to which inde-
pendent exhibitors are subject. It will be a revelation to the world as to the facts of this case are aired in court. It will show the extremes to which some of these companies are willing to go in their greed for control over the independent exhibitor, to the extent that they must rule or die. This exhibition should once and for all be free of these onerous prac-
tices. I am positive that those clear-
thinking industry executives who have the best interests of the future of the industry at heart will support this suit. The decision is hastened.

Fitzgeralds Group
(Continued from page 1)
strictions including a suggested film producing program by Hollywood companies in Canada to ease the dol-
lar situation.

Fitzgeralds said he might be here most of the week, thus forcing him to postpone the company's "25-Year Club" tonight.

The deputation includes A.J. Mason, Springhill, Nova Scotia, represen-
ting exhibitors of the Maritime Provinces; Charles Bourassa, Mon-
treal with National Theatres of Canada; Industries; Floyd Runtum, Forest, Ontario, representing the Motion Pic-
ture Theatre Owners Association of Canada; and P. W. Mahon, Regina, for the theatre owners of Western Canada.

22 Chairman Named
(Continued from page 1)
man and Robert P. Patterson, former Se
canada Imports
in a Sharp Drop
OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—Canadian film imports are suffering a sharp decline in November, dropping to $302,000 compared with $257,000 in the corre-
sponding period last year, according to the External Trade Branch of the Can-
adian government here. However, imports were higher during the first part of the year than they were in the same period of 1938, when $254,000 compared with $2,285,000 in the preceding year.

This six-months time span of 1938, the official report emphasizes, film imports amounted to $88,000 in November and $1,221,000 in the 11 months of that year.

Cincinnati House Blast
CINCINNATI, Jan. 12.—Damages es-
estimated at $75,000 were caused by an explosion in the furnace of the Royal Theatre here. Cause of the blast is not known but it was reported that the house is a unit of Associated Theatres.

Cross Theatre Burns
New Orleans, Jan. 12.—Fire swept the Hut Theatre, at Marrero. Built several months ago and valued at $30,000, the building formerly was a naval Quonset hut. Frederick Cross

Cincinnati House Blaze
(Continued from page 1)

Szwartz in Sarini Deal
MILWAUKEE, Jan. 12.—Don Szwartz has closed a deal under which his Independent Film Exchange will dis-
tribute the series of six pictures in the Milwaukee area. The initial release will be "Fighting Mustang," set for Feb. 1.

Fire Hits Ottawa House
OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—Fire that fol-
ollowed a furnace explosion on Friday caused damage estimated in excess of $10,000 to the Paris Theatre here. Plans are being made to rebuild.
New York Grosses (Continued from page 1)

replace "Daisy Kenyon" at the Roxy tomorrow, and "Secret Beyond the Door" will follow "The Exile" at the Winter Garden on Thursday. Third and final week for "Bicycle Shopping." Launy Ross on stage is expected to bring $75,000. "The Exile" is due to mark only $60,000. "Bicycle Shopping." Ross' new stage show will feature sognatess Ilona Massey.

Business at other theatres is expected to shape up as follows: "Where There's Life," plus Vic Damone on stage, Paramount, third week, $70,000; "Captain from Castile," Rivoli, third week, $76,000; "Ballad of a Bluebird," first week, $40,000; "Body and Soul," Globe, 10th week, $22,000; "Gentleman's Agreement," Mayfair, ninth week, $41,000; "The Senator Was Indiscrret," Criterion, third week, $28,000; "The High Wall," plus Tommy Dorsey's band on stage, Capitol, third week, $65,000; "My Wild Irish Rose," with Herb Fields orchestra, showing the ballroom, third week, $41,000; "The Fugitive," Victoria, third week, $23,000; "Voice of the Turtle," Warner, third week, $16,000; "Tycoon," Palace, third week, $21,000; "I Know Where I'm Going," Sutton, 21st week, $4,000; Nicholas Nickleby," Little Carnegie, seventh week, $5,000.

First Ga. Video Permit

ATLANTA, Jan. 12—First television permit for Georgia to be granted by the Federal Communications Commission was received by Radio Station WGST. Managing Director James E. Bailey announced that the transmitter will begin immediately, with completion expected in six to eight months. Project will cost between $400,000 and $750,000.

Hooper Joins NBC

Richard Hooper, promotion manager for RCA Victor and a pioneer in television promotion, has been appointed national television promotion manager for National Broadcasting. Noran E. Kersta, NBC director of television operations, announces.

More Video Applications

HARTFORD, Jan. 12—The FCC has postponed television hearings in Hartford from Jan. 19 to Feb. 16. Seven applications for Hartford area television channels will come up.

Reviews

"Tenth Avenue Angel" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood, Jan. 12

DURTIVE Margaret O'Brien is the mainstay of this little story about New York's Tenth Avenue and its people, with George Murphy, Ann Dvorak and Peggie Castle as principal personality. Production by Ralph Wtheonorg. Excellent version by Roy Rowland. Script by Harry Ruskin and Eleanore Griffen are all fashioned with a view toward placing the whole burden of entertainment upon Miss O'Brien's small shoulders, wherefore the other highbrow groups off In the areas where her own talent-dominated story is most widely appreciated.

Miss O'Brien delineates with striking skill the emotional reactions of an ordinary young girl and is always giving the feeling that some of the pleasant stories told her by her elders—such as that mice turn into money, and that stamping white horses make wishes come true—are not facts. The script provides plenty to strain her belief in parental veracity, and her story is a tale of independence with a fine message of hope, and, in the romance of "The Fugitive" and "The High Wall",...

"Women in the Night" (Southern California Pictures-Film Classics)

SOUTHERN California Pictures, in which are associated Louis K. Ansell, a devoted exponent of the country Western type of film, and such independent producers as the late Al Siegel, has supplied the backbone for a story offering exploitation possibilities without limitation. There is ample evidence that "Women in the Night" was produced with a sharp eye to the box-office requirements of showmen.

A community of the brightest and the boldest of the Western frontier, the late war not touched upon before, the Ansell-Rolland presentation will probably talk calculated to enhance its grosses. It is to be understood that a week or two, the production will be well into its stride, and the message of the loneliness of war could not do less than make its prime appeal to adult entertainment seekers.

The story of the heroic conduct and unparalleled courage of many of the women who fell into Axis hands and of the abuse they were compelled to endure in their struggle to save the war undertake the terms of the story included a group of girls held captive in a German officers' house in Berlin, with the action being telescoped within the space of a day and a half.

The tragedy of these hopeless trapped girls furnishes potential melodrama to the fullest extent. The stage of the action and the backbone of box-office chances are enhanced by the insertion of a romance involving one of the girls and her husband, a member of the Office of Strategic Services, posing as a German officer.

Rowland of Rowland, who also did the original, carries impact, moves the story along at lightning pace, and provides furious action. Ansell commands respect for his work as producer. Robert Sinclair and Edward Z. Bitter are the song-players. A cast headed by Tala Bireolle, Willy Varga, Virginia Henry, Christine Richard, Loo Loo, Loo, Gorden Richards and Berenice Walters hard work to give the picture standing as box-office entertainment.


"The Flame" (Republic)

IN "The Flame," Republic has a melodrama that should warn the coconuts of the world that the chance can now come to their hearts. The going may dry up, but a few months to live. Robert Paige is the fellow whose anticipated death is awaited. Chief conspirators are John Carroll, his brother, and Vera Fulton, who are lovers. The idea is to promote Miss Rafton's marriage to Paige so that the two may later enjoy the money inherited by the girl upon Paige's death. The scheme fails when loves gives Paige a new lease on life and the girl does a haddan, not to mention, abound, justice takes care of all, the heroine and the villain are captured, and a hero is saved, and drives him to panic. Auer is listed as director as well as associate producer. The screen play was written by Lawrence Kasden from an original by Robert T. Stackhouse.

Running time, 97 minutes. Adult audience classification.

Tax Revenue

(Continued from page 1)

drop in admissions is not expected by the Bureau. The total budget for 1948-49 is $38,600,000.

In his annual budget message, the President asked that the Justice Department and the Federal Trade Commission get $7,000,000 during the fiscal year 1949 for "strengthen enforcement of the anti-trust laws and resist the growing controls over the industries of importance and importance." This compares with $5,000,000 during the current fiscal year.

An expanded anti-trust division would almost inevitably mean more scrutiny of many phases of the film industry by the Justice Department. The motion picture industry is one of the most important industries. This comparison is based on $3,000,000 of the current fiscal year.

The budget released today contains small appropriations for liquidating the Office of Government Reports and for the Department's motion picture project. Both of these were voted out of existence last session.

The Commerce Department motion picture consultant post called by Secretary of Commerce and the comparable State Department job, soon to be vacated by George Canty, remain unchanged in the new budget, an official said.

The President asked for an increase of almost $6,000,000, to $18,500,000, in the budget for the Department's information program. Expansion of the program's motion picture activities will be one of the first things to be done, with the budget and additional funds, according to the message.

The President again asked for authority to issue regulations that would govern the prices of scarce materials, and set aside $80,000,000 for an anti-inflation program.

10,393 Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

omaha, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Long Beach, Calif., and D. C. In 1948, MPA will issue reports on the 11 remaining exchange areas to complete its studies of the entire 31 territories. Of the 20 surveyed areas, Minne- apolis has the greatest number of theatres in operation, while the area that has the least, 191. However, the Minne- apolis area has the greatest number of towns, a total of 66, while the New Haven area has the smallest, 88. There were 92 closed theatres in the Cincinnati area, the largest number of any for any of the tabulated areas, while New Haven had only seven closed, smallest number.

Non-circuit theatres as defined by the MPA, predominate in all of the territories surveyed, except Buffalo and San Francisco, which have more circuit houses. MPA lists no drive-ins for four areas, Denver, Minneapolis, Omaha and Portland. The largest number of drive-ins, 36, is in the Charlotte area.

Tri-States Meet Jan. 30

MEMPHIS, Jan. 12—Officers and board of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana met at the Chamber of Commerce Hotel on Jan. 30. Among those in attendance will be Robert W. Cowe, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America.
- DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR...
- PATRON FOR PATRON...
- YOU CAN'T BEAT
- THE BOX-OFFICE VALUE
- OF A TRAILER! - *

*"Trailers draw 31% of your Patrons"
...says Woman's Home Companion in authoritative 1947 Movie Survey!
Local Filming To Liquidate ‘Frozen’ Funds

Arrangements Made in Six Countries Abroad

American film producers may liquidate dollars now blocked in at least six foreign countries by producing pictures in or sending companies on location to any of the following: Italy, France, Holland, Norway, Sweden and Australia. This was revealed here yesterday by Gerald M. Mayer, chief of the international department of the Motion Picture Association of America, in a report submitted to Eric Johnston, MPAA president.

All of these countries also would welcome an opportunity to participate financially in such American production activities within their boundaries, Johnston was informed.

Mayer expressed the belief that the American film industry may become definitely interested in such foreign locations. (Continued on page 4)

‘Frozen Fund’ Hearing Seen

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee in a report on the Mundt Bill filed today said that the problem of “frozen funds” abroad belongs to the film and communications industries might soon warrant special hearings and specific legislation in connection with the discussions of economic recovery programs.

The report said that the shortage of dollars abroad and blocked currencies “threaten the continued or expanded (Continued on page 4)

Resume Talks On French Offer: Rank

LONDON, Jan. 13.—The alternate basis suggested by Sir Henry French, president of the British Film Producers’ Association, for approaching a settlement of the ad valorem tax imposed was described by J. Arthur Rank today as a suitable basis for continuation of settlement negotiations between Motion Picture Association of America’s W. W. Alport and the (Continued on page 4)

Goldwyn Sees Divorcement As Essential to Industry

Hollywood, Jan. 13.—Divorcement of affiliated theatres and the breaking up of other strong exhibition combinations is essential to the health of the industry, Samuel Goldwyn declared here today on the eve of his departure for a vacation in Honolulu.

Expressing his views on a wide range of current industry topics, the veteran independent producer whose pictures are distributed by RKO Radio, expressed confidence in the workability of competitive bidding and scored exhibitors generally in what he regards as their unwillingness to pay fair film rentals for the encouragement of better picture production.

“Exhibitors ought to realize,” Goldwyn said, “that basically they are in the real estate business and they should be satisfied with a reasonable profit on their investment.

The exhibition end of the business has always received the lion’s share (Continued on page 6)

Eagle-Lion Slates 55 to 60 for ’48

Eagle-Lion plans to release 55 to 60 pictures in 1948, Max Youngstein, advertising-publicity director, announced yesterday following his return from Hollywood

Approximately 20 “top A’s” are on the program. Among them are “T-Men,” “The Adventures of Casanova,” “The Man from Texas,” “Northwest Stampede,” “The Noose Hangs High,” (Continued on page 7)

Spain Considering New Import Ruling

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The Spanish government is contemplating changes in the present system for granting film import licenses, the U. S. Commerce Department disclosed.

Under the present system, licenses to import films are granted only to Spanish producers, and the number of (Continued on page 4)

Kranze to Take Over As FC Sales Chief

BERNARD G. KRANZE, newly-appoint- ed executive and general sales manager of Film Classics, will take over his new duties here on Monday.

Formerly assistant general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank Organization division of Universal-International, Kranze enters FC in a post especially created for him. He has been vacationing in Florida.

ASCAP May Extend Rates 30 Days More

Board Meets Tomorrow; May Cut Per-Piece Rates

Prospects of another extension, probably for 30 days, of the effective date of new theatre music licensing rates appear good as the board of directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers prepared for a special meeting tomorrow at which it is expected the further time extension will be acted upon.

Presently, ASCAP’s current contracts are scheduled to expire on Feb. 1. The probable new extension would continue present music license rates in effect until March 1.

ASCAP officials reportedly are preparing a new theatre licensing formula embodying lower rates than those in (Continued on page 5)

20th-Fox Sets Chicago Plan

A new method of distribution in the Chicago general release area for 20th-Century-Fox, beginning with “Daisy Kenyon” and “Captain from Castile,” and which will allow flexible clearance without call for competitive negotiation for runs, was announced yesterday by W. A. Smith, jr., general sales manager, and Jack Lo-rentz, central division sales manager.

Exhibitors in the Chicago area have been informed of the new plan by letter mailed from the company’s (Continued on page 6)

796 Theatres Are In Philadelphia Area

There are 796 theatres with a capacity of 674,652 in operation in the Philadelphia territory, according to the Philadelphia theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

The 21st in a series of 31 directories covering all 48 states and the District of Columbia, the Philadelphia book has 199 (Continued on page 7)
Personal Mention

LOUIS K. ANSELL and William Rowlan was nominated to leave New York for St. Louis today.

JAY EISENHORN, M-G-M legal-sales liaison, will be in Washington next Monday for a meeting with RUDY BERGER, Southern sales manager.

ERWIN BECK, M-G-M head booker in Charlotte, has resigned, effective Feb. 1, to join Ed HALEY’s circuit in the Carolinas.

AMEL KROGER of RKO Radio’s insurance department and Mrs. Miller are parents of a daughter, born at French Hospital here.

MARTIN LEVINE, general manager of Brandt Theatres, has returned to New York from a vacation in Boca Raton, Fla.

HENRY A. LINET, Universal-International’s Eastern advertising director, will lecture tonight at the American Theatre Wing screen seminar here.

DAVID A. LIPTON, Universal-International national studio coordinator of exploitation, is in town from Hollywood.

N. E. SAVINI, Atlanta representative of Astor Pictures, is here for a meeting with his brother, ROBERT, head of Astor.

FRANK RUFFLE, Altec field manager, has returned to New York from New Orleans following a trip through his territory.

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew’s vice-president and treasurer, is due back here next Monday from the Coast.

ROBERT HELLS, Kay Films branch manager in New Orleans, has returned there from a trip through Florida, Alabama and Louisiana.

FAXY RICE has resigned from Loew’s publicity department here to attend the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

HELEN NORK has been appointed manager of the Hilland Theatre, Baltimore, which was recently taken over by WALTER GETTINGER.

PAUL HOLLISTER, RKO Radio’s national publicity director, left New York yesterday for Hollywood.

WALTER READ, Sr., theatre circuit executive, has been in New York for an annual vacation in Florida.

E. Z. WALTERS, telecine company controller, and MAX WALTER have returned to the Coast from New York.

BEN OLMSTEAD, recently appointed manager of the Laffmado Theatre, Baltimore, has resigned.

News Briefs

TRUSTEES of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatres will hold their midwinter meeting in Seattle Feb. 17-19. Included on the agenda are presentation of the PCCITO film rental formal and the decision to form a trust suit and the decision on the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers made by the PCCITO at its May convention.

Richards Challenges NCA, Rocky Mt. ITOA on MFP

Asserting that critical statements by NCA, the Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres on the Motion Picture Foundation “are entirely unfounded in fact,” R. I. Richards, MPF president, yesterday declared: “I know that the Motion Picture Foundation was launched with the best motives and for the best interests of all of the people of our industry.

For all that, “wait in good faith until final plans have been formulated before indulging in any premature or unwarranted criticism,” he continued.

That, contrary to charges by the two exhibitor organizations, there has been no “effort to shift the burden from one phase of the industry to another.”

Mitchell Becomes Treasurer Of Berkshire Enterprises

Curtis Mitchell will become associated with the Berkshire Foundation as treasurer when he leaves Paramount this week as national advertising-publicity director, he disclosed here yesterday.

Berkshire plans to give away records as an aid to theatre grosses, and is prepared to put its program into operation after tests in New England. Premium deals with theatres will be involved in the new company.

Mitchell will work out of the company’s headquarters in Pittsburgh, where he is resident, with the firm of William T. Powell, president, and James C. Fletcher, board chairman.

Columbia and National Broadcasting System

First 1948 meeting of Columbia Booking System’s affiliates advisory board will be held at CBS headquarters in New York tomorrow and Friday. Board members represent the 107 independently-owned stations affiliated with CBS.

With the growing of the National Broadcasting stations’ planning and advisory committee will be held in New York Jan. 20-21. Niles Trammell, NBC president, will welcome the new committee, which was elected last month.

Reception for ‘Rio’

“Road to Rio” will be previewed aboard the liner S.S. Argentina at Pier 32 this afternoon at a cocktail party given for the press, shippers and passengers by Moore-McCormack Lines, Inc.

MORT BLUMENSTOCK, Warner vice-president in charge of advertising, has been here for Hollywood tomorrow for conferences with Jack L. Warner on plans for the picture of Sierra, “Sister, Sister, Girl Tisa,” “The Voice of the Turtle,” “I Became a Criminal,” British-made, and “April Showers.”

He will be gone about two weeks.

Justin Miller Hits Petrillo For ‘Interlude’

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13—Judge Justin Miller, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, told Congress today that American Federation of Musicians President James C. Petrillo was “educating a generation of television broadcasters in how to program and to televise without the use of music.”

Testifying before the House Labor Committee on the opening day of his petrillo's recording ban, Miller declared that if television is permitted to develop without musicians, “the whole tide of American musical restriction” against the use of live music for television programs, musicians may lose potential jobs.

Name 7 Asst. Superintendents At Eastman-Kodak Park Works

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 13.—Appointment of seven assistant superintendents at Eastman Kodak has been announced here by C. K. Flint, general manager. They are: Richard L. Clark, cine processing department; James P. Culhane, film planning and record department; Wesley T. Hanson, Jr., color process development; Floyd L. Hertle, film testing department; Lewis H. Mcclashan, sensitized paper; Gordon L. Waasborg, baryta department; Lot S. Wilder, film testing.

‘Land of Liberty’ in Tieups With ‘Freedom Train’ on Coast

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The Freedom Train and ‘The Land of Liberty’ are joining forces.

The Motion Picture Association of America reports that the University of California is hosting a free show, with screenings of “Land of Liberty” in Los Angeles and San Francisco during the week of Feb. 27 and in San Francisco the week of Feb. 29.

Brownout Threatens

HARFORD, Jan. 13.—The Governor’s fuel oil advisory committee said today that Connecticut theatres and radio stations have been advised that electric signs face a brown-out if present oil conditions continue.

Olympics Film Screening

A special screening of “Kings of the Olympics” will be held at Radio City Music Hall’s private studio here Friday evening. The show was arranged by the New York Olympic Committee. A reception will follow.

Secretary Marshall appearing before a Senate committee is a renewal highlight in current releases. Other items include films of Haile Selassie, sports, fashions and an air show. Complete contents follow:

MOVIESTORE NEWS, No. 4—Secretary Marshall before Senate committee. French group wins first hard time. Skis. Ski champions. All American air maneuvers.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 18—Secretary Marshall before Senate committee. French group wins first hard time. Skis. Ski champions. All American air maneuvers.

WARNER PATHES NEWS, No. 44—“Ex-Press Assurance on trip ends trip to Michael, Italy welcomes Friendship Food. Secretary Marshall before Senate committee. French group wins first hard time. Skis. Ski champions. All American air maneuvers.

Argentine Owners Oppose Stage Bills

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The U.S. Commerce Department predicts that by this week stage performers will be taking compliance with a bill recently proposed to oblige all motion picture theatres in the country to include a list of the companies in their programs in addition to films.

The bill, recently submitted to the Argentine Chamber of Deputies, provides that stage performances must be offered at least three days weekly during at least one hour a day.

The Commerce Department report, presented to the picture industry by Patrick D. Golden, points out that there is hardly enough talent to perform the number of one thousand the theatres in the country. More important, it says, the question of division of earnings is left in the hands of the company and film distributor would become more complicated.

First-run theatres have often tried to introduce stage performances on the same program with films, the report says, but audiences do not take to mixed programs.

Seven More Features Get Legion Ratings

Two of seven films reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classed “Not Recommended,” the Legion’s “The Valley,” Columbia, and “Tenth Avenue Angel,” M-G-M.


MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor, Published daily, except Saturdays, since November, 1899. A monthly book, “Quigley’s Motion Picture Trade Review,” is published also. Address, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.
WEATHER FORECAST: Good Box-Office Weather For M-G-M Exhibitors

M-G-M STARS HEADLINE THE NEWS AT NATION'S BOX-OFFICES!

"Good News," "Dolphin Street," "Timberlane," "High Wall," "Killer McCoy" Big Everywhere!

There is rejoicing at M-G-M box-offices. Never in the long career of Leo the Lion has he started a New Year with such an array of solid audience attractions. "Good News" splashed its Technicolor joy from Radio City Music Hall across the nation in hundreds of theatres. Business was terrific with holdovers all over. "Cass Timberlane" in its first few dates revealed its class with top receipts and "Green Dolphin Street" continues to pack them everywhere. "Killer McCoy" a new entry is already showing Chapman form. And now watch "High Wall's" high grosses as it generates high-tension thrills on your screen. Happy M-G-M Year to you!

HELP POLICE!

It was "Good News" at Radio City Music Hall for everyone but the cops who had to handle the crowds stretching around the block!

SHORT POEM

M-G-M's Great
In '48

M-G-M Tom & Jerry Cartoons in Technicolor (Fred Quimby, Producer) tops in Boxoffice Barometer and Showmen's Trade Review Leaders polls. Pete Smith "live-action" Specialties tops in STR poll and for 5th consecutive year tops in Fame (Quigley Magazine) vote.
Mono.-Pathe Deal Awaits Tax Break

Proposed deal between Monogram-Allied Artists and British Pathe company, which joint U.S.-U.K. production-distribution arrangement has been tabled by the companies pending a settlement of the U.S. ad valorem tax dead-lock; Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International, reports here. The proposal, announced here by Monogram-A.A. president Steve Brody upon his return from Great Britain last October, was designed for the mutual sponsorship of production of four pictures in the U.S. and four in England, with profits from worldwide distribution of the British-made films to be shared equally by both companies in dollars and pounds.

Local Filming (Continued from page 1)

activity when it is aware of all the facts which he has been able to gather from his recent surveys of the foreign market.

"Wherever close scrutiny discloses production costs on location not too high, it would be advantageous for American film producers to consider taking crews abroad," Mr. Everard said.

Besides economic factors, Mayer believes international understanding would be aided by such location trips. Production activities in countries where studio facilities are adequate, "I have found," he added, "that the American film industry is quick to realize it had to gear post-war production to changed conditions in countries that had experienced the war. There is gratifying evidence that this is being done."

Yamins Adds Another

Hartford, Jan. 13.—Nathan Yamin, who operates six Fall River, Mass., theatres, has taken over the Embassy in that city.

Grosses Go Higher With Devonshire

JOHN MILLS—ROBERT NEWTON

“THE GREEN COCKATOO”
A Graham Greene Mystery Thriller
Your Devonshire Man in Pittsburgh Is Max Shalgold

DEVONSHIRE FILM COMPANY
185 Devonshire Street Boston, Mass.

Spanish Considerings (Continued from page 1)

licences depends on the number and type of films they in turn produce. The producer can use the licences to import films under his own name, or may sell the licence at whatever the going market price is. The current price for an import licence is approximately 300,000 pesetas (about $30,000).

In a report prepared by motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden, the Commerce Department says that one alternative being considered is to abolish import licences and substitute, say, a 200,000 to 300,000 peseta tax (about $20,000 and $30,000) on imported films. Proceeds would then be used to subsidize domestic producers.

Another possibility, the report says, is to award import licences to anyone, but give Spanish producers registering permits in proportion to their output.

The report points out that films from several countries get preference in Spain over U.S. films. Two British or European films may be imported on one import licence, while only one U.S. film can be imported per licence. Films produced in Spanish-speaking countries do not have to pay a dubbing tax.

Largest competitor of U.S. films in the Spanish-produced film, Golden reports, followed by British and Italian pictures. Criticism of American features is beginning to grow, however, with the most important criticism that they are not timely and that several years separate the time the film is made and the time it is shown in Spain.

New Documentary Tieup

Plans for collaboration between the National Board of Review and Cinema 16, newly formed institution for the presentation of documentary and experimental films, were announced here yesterday. The board will aid in the selection of programs to be presented by Cinema 16.

See Canadian Film Policy as Flexible

OTTAWA, Jan. 13.—In framing poli-

cies affecting films in the present Canadian fiscal year, the government has informed here that Canada may not emphasize the "restrictive" angle of its international trade policies, such as "flexible" as possible, even in the temporary emergency period. In addition, helpful advice in the industry itself is said to be welcome in framing such policies. Officials are reported seeking this co-operation.

In September, it was revealed that if the American film industry will "play ball" in spending more in Canada, the government will try to facilitate the process in the country, such work team would considerably eliminate the possibility of restrictive measures such as witnessed in other countries suffering from dollar shortages.

Fund Hearing (Continued from page 1)

-selling operations of America’s mass communications industries," declaring that the problem was too complex to be handled by the Mutual funts board. The report of the latter be delayed, the report assured the film and other communications industries that the committee was sympathetic with their plight.

In the present international situation, the report notes, the U.S. is in a position of being said in favor of giving special consideration to the mass communications industries whose products and services are "of prime importance to humanity among foreign peoples." It declared that various aspects of the problem have not yet been sufficiently studied, and urged both industry and Government to continue to pursue the subject.

Government Seeking to Help

Even though the frozen funds section was dropped from the Munde Bill, industry officials were hopeful that some relief might be obtained through another section of the bill ordering the State Department to use public information agencies wherever possible in carrying out the overseas information program. They are working on schemes for the Government to take over film companies’ out-of-pocket expenses in countries, which, they say, "will be some help, though still leaving quite a problem."

Just how far the State Department could carry this would of course depend on the appropriations Congress is willing to grant for the information program. The temper of Congress now does not hold out hope for any large appropriations.

Report Stresses Film Role

The committee report throughout treated the motion picture industry on a par with other communications media, and in one place urged the greater use and dissemination abroad of a “wide range of quality” (film) product used and produced by Americans for themselves." The report said that the Senate should encourage the private enterprise—for example, motion pictures—have been especially successful abroad, and that others are on the way now beginning to develop a large and appropriate role.”

A debate on the Munde Bill is scheduled to start Friday. The Senate version is slightly different from that which passed the House at the last session.

French’s Plan (Continued from page 1)

British government’s Sir Wilfred Eady.

Sir Henry had indicated that the British Treasury is prepared to consider adjustments which would allow the American industry to retain revenues earned in the U.S. by British producers, which are now lost to Canada, as the American picture after the ad valorem duty has been paid.

Right now, it remains, that a solution to the tax will be reached “when the industry’s leaders have had the opportunity to face to face.” He declined to say whether he plans to put his contemplated March trip to the U.S. to that advantage, but added: “I am always at the disposal of the interests of the industry of both countries.”

‘Silence’ from U. S. on Proposal

Meanwhile, British Treasury officials report that no American reactions to Sir Henry’s alternate have been received.

Sir Henry announced on Sunday that he had been assured that his declaration does not take into account America’s “static position” of the tax which has assumed ruinous proportions through its synchronization with a world-wide economic depression.

Treasury spokesmen agree unofficially that Hollywood is faced with a peculiar situation through the virtual impossibility of gaining over the night its industrial machine, which has been operating at top level, to the industries to which the tax creates. Nevertheless, they protest that the French declaration is a sincere endeavor for both sides in keeping the door of negotiations open.

Seek to ‘Cushion Blow’ to U. S.

British Treasury spokesmen pointed out that the French declaration makes no pretense that earnings of British films in America in any way approach what would be the value of the ad valorem tax, but reiterated that it is the British government’s desire to cushion as far as possible a blow of the kind. The concern has been expressed here that the full implications of French’s suggestion was not conveyed to America.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Motion Picture Association of America officials have referred today to Sir Henry French’s declaration in the absence of MPAA president Eric A. Johnston, who is in Hollywood.

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, who was today attending a Bank of America board meeting in San Francisco, was unavailable for comment on the proposal by Sir Henry French, head of the British Film Producers Association. But American producers consider the addition of American earnings of British films to the $20,000-30,000 ad valorem burden in England as a possible basis for settlement of the ad valorem tax impasse.

Mr. Johnston, however, that John-

ton had no comment to offer when Sir Henry’s offer was made known here yesterday.

Johnston will return to Hollywood tomorrow. On Thursday he will address the Los Angeles Town Hall meeting at the Biltmore Hotel on “The Common Cause of Freedom,” with the Marshall plan as the principal topic.

The Bank of the Motion Picture Industry

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System
Coming Events

Feb. 1-3—Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina annual meet at Charlotte Hotel, Charlotte.
Feb. 3-4—Texas Theatre Owners Annual convention, Adolphus Hotel, Dallas.
Feb. 22-29—American Brotherhood Week.

April 6-8—Annual Convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners. St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco.
April 12-17—International Variety Clubs 1948 convention. Roney Plaza Hotel, Miami Beach, Fla.
May 7-8—Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska convention, Des Moines.

21 Inducted Into FP-Canadian Club

TORONTO, Jan. 13.—In the absence of president J. J. Fitzgerald in Ottawa on matters of state affecting the film business, vice-president R. W. Bolstad and division manager Morris Stein performed the honors for the fourth birthday party tonight of Famous Players-Canadian "25 Year Club." When 21 more veteran employees were inducted into membership, these were the Ontario and Quebec employees who have been associated with the company for 25 years. Another 18 will be initiated at banquets in Winnipeg and Vancouver later this week.

Many prominent trade executives and their wives were special guests at the dinner which was held at the King Edward Hotel.

Sokolov Resigns as Para. Story Chief

Hollywood, Jan. 13. — Richard Sokolov, head of Paramount's story department here, has terminated his contract by amicable agreement with the studio, as was announced today.

Prior to being named to the Paramount post in 1946, Sokolov was story editor at the Columbia studio.

Atlanta Video Permits

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Federal Communications Commission has announced the granting of construction permits for two new television stations in Atlanta. Recipients were the Atlanta Journal Co. and Atlanta Constitution Publishing Co. The Commission also announced that National Broadcasting had been granted temporary authorization to operate three experimental television relay broadcasting stations between Philadelphia and Baltimore.

New Sack Ad Chief

DALLAS, Jan. 13.—Charles D. Fair, former director of advertising-publicity for the Southwestern Medical Foundation, Dallas, has been appointed a similar post with Sack Amusement Enterprises, producer-distributor with its home office in Dallas. Fair will handle all publicity and trade paper advertising for the Sack branches in Dallas, Atlanta, New York, New Orleans, Cincinnati, Los Angeles and Chicago.

File Counter Suit Over Percentages

In answers filed by Jesse Stern and Abe Levy, New York exhibitors, to percentage suits brought by Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Warners, it is claimed that film contracts were violated Federal New York State anti-trust laws, that a counter claim against the plaintiffs and Confidential Reports, percentage checking company, alleges a conspiracy to violate the state anti-trust act by exchanging information concerning theatres.

The suits are pending in the New York Supreme Court here. Monroe Stein is attorney for Stern and Levy. Louis Nizer represents the plaintiffs.

ASCAP Rates

(Continued from page 1)

nounced late last summer. However, the new formula has not been completed and indications are it will not be ready by Feb. 1, thus necessitating a further time extension. The new formula is being prepared following Ascap meetings with Theatre Owners of America.

Extension Through N. Y. Suit

A 30-day extension of present rates from Feb. 1 already has been granted by Ascap to Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York members who are plaintiffs in a monopoly action against the Society now pending in Federal District Court here. Ascap was required to ask a postponement of the hearing in the ITOA action scheduled for Feb. 3 and, in doing so, consented to the time extension on current license rates to the litigants.

It is also learned that Ascap, at the request of the Department of Justice, is preparing a new rate schedule for "per-piece" music licenses. Indications are that the new schedule will embody rates considerably less than those on file in the states of Washington and Florida, where state laws require that the per-piece licensing method be made available for prospective licensees.

Federal Decree Also Holds

The Federal consent decree under which Ascap operates also requires the Society to make available per-piece licenses to applicants who apply for them.

Allied States demonstrated to the Justice Department recently that the per-piece rates established by Ascap were so costly as to be of no practical value to exhibitors who might prefer the system to blanket licensing. It is believed that the Department, as a result of prodding by Allied, prevailed upon Ascap to draft the new per-piece formula, embodying more equitable rates, and which is now in work.

City Tax Passed Up

DANVILLE, Va., Jan. 13.—City Council passed up the proposed amusement tax in Danville for 1948 at a special meeting here. The tax would have levied one cent on each ten.
Goldwyn

(Continued from page 1)

of the total profits of this industry and has never taken any of the risk involved in the production of pictures. No exhibitor has to create a new thea-
trical week, but Hollywood must take all of the gamble involved in creating
new attractions to keep the theatres open.

"A theatre," Goldwyn observed, "is only as valuable as the cans of film
that are delivered to it. All of the producer's barbs were aimed at exhibition. He re-
served a few for Hollywood and the industry at large.

'Revolutionary Changes' Needed

In the next 12 months, Goldwyn believes, Hollywood must make "com-
pletely revolutionary changes" in its objectives and methods. Quality must be
doubled and costs cut in half, he said.

"Inefficiency must be rooted out of high places as well as all other ranks.
It is a startling indictment of our industry that with employment
throughout the United States at its highest peak in history, box office re-
cipts have been going down," Goldwyn remarked. "Unless a thorough
and honest housecleaning takes place, the difficulties our industry has
experienced of late will fade into insignificance by comparison with those
ahead.

"There is no surer road to ruin for
the industry than poor pictures pro-
duced at high cost," he declared.

Stresses Planning, Efficiency

Costs can be reduced without im-
pairing picture quality, Goldwyn be-
lieves, by careful preparation of
scripts; advance planning by produc-
ers and directors to accomplish
50 per cent of the work "before a camera
turns," and by the reduction of gen-
eral overhead through efficient man-
agement.

"Our picture makers must realize," he said, "that the greatest spectacles
are not those produced by vast sets
and huge crowds, but by whatever
touches the hearts of the audience."

Goldwyn expressed his conviction that good pictures can realize profits in
the domestic market alone.

"A producer who today counts on
any foreign revenue to pay off his
costs is inviting disaster," he ob-
served.

Goldwyn believes the industry is in
a chaotic condition and be sees it as
being too preoccupied with "a variety of
expedients" to effect readjustment
while giving too little attention to the
making of better pictures which are
essential to the solution of its prob-
lems.

"Story Can Make Stars"

He regards stars with drawing power as "important," but believes that a "fine"
story needs no stars and often creates them. "Ask whether he will believe me that
Hollywood is a "dry of ideas" he suggested that the question be answered to everyone's
satisfaction after a mental review of
the product released in 1947.

Goldwyn said the industry lacks a
long-range view of its public relations
problems

"Good public relations start with
good private relations," he said. "We
must put our own house in order be-
fore we can hope to win the genuine
good will of the public. If we have

20th-Fox Plan

(Continued from page 1)

office there and signed by Joe Neger,
branch manager.

The plan is designed to meet local
complications arising from the recent
Chicago Federal Court decision in
the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust
action.

The plan is experimental and may
be changed or modified from time to
time or abandoned by 20th-Fox at
its discretion.

16 Major Zones in Territory

The Chicago territory and adja-
cent suburbs, including Gary and
Hammond, Ind., exclusive of first-
runs in the Loop, have been divided
into 15 major key zones. All com-
parable theatres in each of the zones
and in sub-key zones will be given
opportunity to buy a run on each picture in competitive negotiation with
every other theatre in the respective
zone which desires to compete for a
run. Thus, 15 theatres will be given
an opportunity to play 20th-Fox pic-
tures day-and-date on the same avail-
ability.

The major key zones have been
divided in turn into sub-key zones
in which additional runs subsequent
to the first-run in the major key
zones will be offered also on the ba-
sis of competitive negotiation.

The first-run in the Loop area will
be granted a first-run clearance of
seven to 14 days, and in some in-
estances the seven-day clearance may
be reduced to a one-day run. The rea-
son for this flexibility is to allow sub-
sequent-run theatres a greater oppor-
tunity to book.

Explain Clearance Flexibility

There may be some theatres un-
able to play a picture if the clear-
ance were fixed at a definite seven
or 14 days, and this flexible clear-
ance will give them more opportu-
nity, it was said. Also, the first-run
in each of the 15 zones will be granted
a clearance of seven to 14 days over
the next run, and so on down the line,
with seven to 14 days' clearance
granted each prior run.

Pictures would then be quickly available to the
successing run seven to 14 days after the end of the preceding run. Here
again the clearance in some instances may be reduced to merely a prior run
so as to meet the booking situation.

In sumgmatizing the plan, however,
the clearance on "Drakkenyon" will
be 16 days and on "Captain from
Castle," 15 days, in order that these
titues may complete present runs and offer
sufficient time properly to establish
the new plan.
"Jenny Lamour"
(Continued from page 1)

Anderson to Work On Building Code

Henry Anderson, manager of the insurance department of Paramount Theatres, has been named chairman of the special committee on codes and ordinances of the Theatre Owners of America, by Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director.

Anderson has been authorized to confer with the National Board of Fire Underwriters in connection with the preparation of a building code which, among other things, will include provisions relating to theatres.

55 to 60 from E-L
(Continued from page 1)

"Prelude to Night," "Mickey," "Cork-screw Alley" and "The Spirituals." All but the last-named are finished. J. Arthur Rank product already set will comprise "Smugglers," "Take My Life" and "October Man."

A's to be contributed by Walter Wanger include "Bastille," "Tulsa," "Lady Pirate" and "Blank Wall."

"Hollow Triumph" and "Let's Live a Little" are other top films on the program, which also is expected to include at least three more Rank films, possibly five.

Other pictures will be "Heading for Heaven," "Enchanted Valley," "Assigned to Danger," "The Cobra Strikes," "Open Secret," "Close-up" and "Linda, Be Good." All but the last will be among 23 "exploitation specials," half of which will be turned out by independent producers.

Among the B's will be a series of Eddie Dean Westerns.

Pictures in the top bracket will be budgeted at a minimum of $1,000,000. Those listed as exploitation specials will cost from $250,000 to $400,000 and the Westerns and other "B's" product from $100,000 to $150,000.

Poster Operators Meet

CHICAGO, Jan. 13.—Mutual problems of the nation's independent poster operators will be discussed at a meeting at the Sherman Hotel here, Jan. 31.

New Jersey Allied
(Continued from page 1)

disfavor the exhibition of 16mm. films in the state's restaurants and taverns, Edward Lachman, Jersey Allied president, told today's meeting.

Lachman said Jersey Allied, upon learning recently that exhibition of 16mm. pictures is spreading rapidly in restaurants and taverns, to the point where theatres are facing serious competition, protested to the ABC board and was informed that the board opposes the practice. Jersey Allied members will begin at once to survey their respective areas to determine extent of the practice and data collected will be turned over to the New Jersey ABC board.

CSA Again Applies
(Continued from page 1)

796 Theatres
(Continued from page 1)

Theatres with a capacity of 194,189, or an average of 976 seats per house.

In the Philadelphia territory, 132 theatres are located in 126 towns with a population of 2,500 and under. They account for a total capacity of 57,585, or an average of 436 seats per theatre.

4 More File for Video

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Four applicants for new commercial television stations are reported by the Federal Communications Commission. They are Manhattan Radio Co., Boston; E. Anthony and Sons, Boston; Kansas City Star Co., Kansas City; WJW, Cleveland.

Sells Film Transfer

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 13.—Charles E. McCarthy has sold his Film Transfer, exchange business chain, service to William Alexander, who is retiring from business.
“THREE GOOD NAMES CAN BE SOLD TO ANY AUDIENCE!”
—Film Daily

“ENGROSSING TALE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL MURDER!”
—Motion Picture Daily

“IMAGINATIVE MURDER STORY ... LUKAS EXCELLENT!”
—Showmen’s Trade Review

HATRED BURNED HIS SOUL!

FEAR WAS IN HER HEART!

MURDER WAS ON HIS CONSCIENCE!

“WHISPERING CITY”

Helmut
DANTINE
Mary
ANDERSON
Paul
LUKAS

“WHISPERING CITY”

MIMI D’ESTEE - JOHN PRATT - LUCIE POITRAS - JOY LAFLEUR

Directed by FEDOR OZEP - Produced by GEORGE MARTON - Executive Producer PAUL L’ANGLAIS

Original story by George Zuckerman and Michael Llanos - Screenplay by Allan James and Leonard Lee

an EAGLE LION FILMS release
French's Plan Is Received Coldly in U. S.

MPAA Citers Low Earning Power of UK Films Here

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

J. Arthur Rank's suggestion that a resumption of British ad valorem tax settlement talks between the American film industry and the British government was possibly center around Sir Henry French's declaration stipulating retention here of British film earnings in the U. S. is being received without enthusiasm in the U. S. industry as is Sir Henry's proposal itself.

A top Motion Picture Association of America official said here yesterday that earnings of British pictures in the U. S. are so small as to make the French proposal one which is hardly a basis for resuming negotiations.

He said, too, that with Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps (Continued on page 7)

US-Industry Meet On Blocked Funds

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Representatives of the film and other communications industries today gave a new push to the movement for State Department aid on the frozen funds problem.

At a closed luncheon meeting at the Hotel Statler, officials of the Motion Picture Association of America, and book magazine, and newspaper industries met with State Department officials.

Chief result of the meeting, apparently, was a promise on the part of (Continued on page 7)

UA Managers Open Meeting Here Today

United Artists will hold a two-day district managers meeting at the home office starting today and presided over by Gradwell L. Sears, president, and C. J. Unger, general sales manager. Among others present will be Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager; Maury Orr, Western (Continued on page 4)

Financing Progress Reported by MPF

Motion Picture Foundation's special finance committee, following its first meeting yesterday at the Harvard Club here, reported it had made "definite progress" toward determination of fund-raising methods and financial administration of the Foundation. Hereafter the committee will meet at regular three-week intervals until a full financial program is set up for the consideration of MPF trustees, it was reported at the conclusion of the meeting by committee chairman Sir Fabian and Leonard Goldenson.

Today's meeting was attended also by Barney Balaban, MPF treasurer; Spyrus P. Skouras and Neil E. Depinet, MPF executive committee members, and Louis A. Novins, assistant to Balaban.

Finance committee includes, in addition (Continued on page 7)

Kelly Leaving U. K.; Deal Near Closing

LONDON, Jan. 14.—Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists executive vice-president, who has been here for the past six weeks on a business visit, plans to leave for New York on Saturday. Kelly is expected to conclude a deal before his departure for UA's seven remaining unreleased features which were in England in advance of the imposition of the 75 cent ad valorem duty on imported films. Indications are the deal may be set with the G-B Circuit.

Trust Suit Briefs Exchanged Tomorrow

The Government and major distributors, with the exception of Columbia and United Artists, will exchange briefs tomorrow in the appeal from the statutory court's decision in the anti-trust suit. Briefs already have been exchanged between the Government and Columbia and United Artists.

The appeal is scheduled to come up for argument before the U. S. Supreme Court on Feb. 5.

Truman's Tax Bill Given to Congress

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—The Administration's tax bill was introduced in Congress today but stands little chance of passage, it is generally believed.

In addition to the $40 per capita income tax credit called for by President Truman in his state of the union message, the bill would partially restore the excess profits tax. The measure was introduced by Representatives Dingell of Michigan after he and other top Democrats met with the President. Dingell, in the special session, introduced a bill halving the admissions and other excises. Dingell (Continued on page 7)

Independents Also Firm On UK Film Boycott

Seek Arnold for Indicted Writers

Hollywood, Jan. 14.—Screen Writers Guild membership last night voted down a resolution which would have bound the organization to demand reinstatement of the writers discharged for disserv- ice to the industry following the recent Thomas committee hearings and to furnish financial backing for them until reinstated. At the same time the Guild announced it is negoti ating with Thurman Arnold to represent the Guild as amicus curiae at the trials of the writers indicted for contempt of Congress.

Independents and Motion Picture Association of America members will continue in their boycott of the British market. This is indicated here following the Jan. 9 Hollywood declaration by Eric A. Johns- ton, MPAA president, that the association has been given no choice by the British government except to continue withholding shipments of pic- tures until an alternative to the ad valorem tax is worked out.

Non-MPAA companies, which united with the MPAA in establishing the boycott shortly after Britain imposed the confiscatory tax, last August, will continue to stand with MPAA companies on the boycott because "it is in their best interests to do so," according to a spokesman of that group. "It would be sense less to do otherwise," it was said.

Principal non-MPAA companies in (Continued on page 7)

U. S. May Ask Standards for Film Exports

Smith Says Censorship Is Not Suggested, but

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—One of the first steps to be taken by the State Department when Congress authorizes its overseas program may be an attempt to get the motion picture industry to tighten its standards for films sent overseas.

This was indicated at a press confer ence today by Senator Smith, who is managing Senate action on the House-approved Mandt Bill, which authorizes the program.

Emphasizing that he and his fellow senators were not supporting censorship and had nothing but praise for the job which the film industry has been doing abroad, Smith said that nevertheless there are some films "showing the seamy side of America" being exported, and that he thought the State Department would at an early date set up a study group to "relate the kind of picture which the (Continued on page 7)

Court Gets Malco Suit Settlement

MEMPHIS, Jan. 14.—An order an nouncing that the $3,787,000 suit against M. A. Lightman, Paul W. B. Zell and Malco Theatres and eight major film companies had been settled by agreement was filed in Federal Court here today.

It was understood the case was settled for $200,000. The suit was dismissed with prejudice, which means that it cannot be refiled at a later date.

Filed in Federal Court here under the Sherman and Clayton Anti-Trust Acts by a group of neighborhood theat res in Aug., 1946, the suit charged the (Continued on page 7)

Brandt Answers in Para. Suit Due Feb. 2

Answers of Harry Brandt, Bernard B. Brandt, Louis Brandt, William Brandt and 162 other defendants in the Brandt Circuit are scheduled to be filed on, or before Feb. 2 in New York Supreme Court to Paramount's complaint charging them with fraud in connection with percentage
Personal Mention

FRED WEIHRENBerg, board chairman of Theatre Owners of America, died yesterday of a stroke suffered from St. Louis, was prevented from making the trip by an attack of myopathy.

Patsy Ruth Broussard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Broussard, owners of the T-U Theatre in Jeanerette, La., and the Youngsville in Youngsville, La., was married Easter Sunday to Pepper Elzey, son of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Elzey, head of the Delta Theatre Supply Co., New Orleans.

Rosalie Ross of Rutgers Nelson's publicity contact at RKO Radio here, will be married to ALFRED JACOB on Jan. 24. The couple will go to Johannesburg, South Africa, in mid-February, where Jacob is in business.

A. M. Weinberger, office manager of the Warner exchange here, will lecture tonight on "Showmanship and Motion Picture Distribution" at New York University here.

Robert Case, city manager of Walter Reade Theatres in Kingston, N.Y., has been named chairman for theatres for the Ulster County, N.Y., Marsh of Dimes drive.

Ed Hischey, head of the Warner home office playdate department, will be in Boston tonight from New York and is expected back tomorrow night.

John Joseph, Universal-International-Eastern Western publicity director, is expected here from the Coast in mid-February.


Doyle Maynard, general manager of the John George Corp., was a New Orleans visitor last week from Shreveport, La.

Carlos Plaza, Monogram distributor in Venezuela as well as a circuit operator in that country, is visiting in New York.

J. J. Donohue, Paramount Central division sales manager, has returned to New York from a vacation in San Francisco.

Mort Pfeffer of American Display Corp. has returned to New York from a two-week honeymoon in Miami.

Frank Jones, manager of the Strand Theatre, New Orleans, and Mrs. Jones are parents of a son.

Edward Jentz of Film Distributors Auditors Co., New York, was in New Orleans last week.

Emerson Yerke is in Detroit from New York on a film production television deal.

Insider's Outlook

By RED RANN

SAM GOLDWYN is en route to Honolulu. According to his custom, that means a going-away appraisal of the state of the film. On the high seas, he can exorcise his fear from the hall and brimstone, Goldwyn probably will be hearing from exhibitor associations on such of his productions as are the worst:

1.—"Exhibitors ought to realize that, basically, they are in the real estate business and they should be satisfied with a reasonable profit, not a lion's share of the profits. But in this land of free enterprise, and unfettered as he is by the Government suit, Goldwyn is free to move in and, in fact, already has in a couple of key cities. If and when he should acquire more houses, it will be interesting to note whether further trouble will follow in reviewing the state of the film as a producer or as an exhibitor. Or, perhaps, a Goldwynesque combination of both.

On production, where this hibred of Hollywood is on safer ground, Goldwyn appears certain costs can be reduced by 50 per cent, without impairment of the picture's merit. And careful preparation of script, pre-production planning to the tune of half the final job before the original returns, reduction of general overhead by more efficient management.

Fine, brave comment. The way to prove it, however, is to do it. Goldwyn ought to start with Goldwyn.

Ronald Reagan, president of the Screen Actors Guild, reviewed the state of the actor at the meeting here on Sunday evening. Of the SAG's enrolled membership of 8,500, he stated only 600 performers are under studio contract today. The Associated Press thereafter reported his reasons for "much of the blame for the actors' economic straits. The reasons: Greatly increased theatre attendance but failure [whose?] to construct additional theatres with the result films are held for longer runs and there is less home use of pictures.

The facts: Theatre attendance is down, not up. Construction of new theatres, of course, is prohibited by Federal regulation. Runs are shorter, not longer.

Ask the exhibitor. Ask the distributor. Ask the exhibitor.

Sees Better Films

In Use of Economy

That better pictures will result from the industry's economy program was the belief expressed yesterday by Jack Wrather, independent producer releasing through Monogram.

The present situation is doing pictures "as a sort of good," he said, and called the statement made at an interview at the Monogram offices here, "It's forcing Hollywood to do better pictures."

Wrather asserted that the size of a picture's budget "has very little to do with the actual quality of a film," holding that "the difference between A's and B's is the ideas put into them." He criticized the theory that good pictures require good budgets. It's possible to make good pictures with less money, Wrather maintained, citing recent examples.

Wrather's next picture to be made for Allied Artists for Monogram release will be "Strike It Rich," a story of the Hollywood contract system, and the three-color Cinecolor process. The film, set to go into production on March 15, is budgeted at $750,000. Bonita Granville (Mrs. Wrather) will have the top female role.

An untitled "exploitation picture" will follow "Strike It Rich." Wrather said he also hoped to do a film version of a "broad society" religious novel by Charles Sheldon.

UA Plans 'Biggest' Releasing Schedule

United Artists will embark on the "biggest releasing schedule in its history" during the early months of this year. The release of six films, it was announced here yesterday by Gradwell L. Sears, company president.

Three additional completed films, he said, will also be released in 1948, as will seven others, including five "Hollywoodian" features, which are now being edited. Two other UA releases are before the cameras, and another is scheduled to begin shooting next week.

Jack Darrock Stricken

Jack A. Darrock, short subject production supervisor for 20th Century-Fox, here is critically ill at St. Vincent Hospital, Westchester County, from a cerebral hemorrhage suffered Tuesday morning. Darrock, former reporter and newsman with Pathé News from 1925 to 1930 and joined Movietones in 1930.
MY WILD IRISH ROSE

SOMETHING TO SING ABOUT!

465 OPENINGS!

ALL TERRIFIC!

STARRING

DENNIS MORGAN

AND A GIANT MUSICAL CAST • COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

with

ARLENE DAHL • ANDREA KING • ALAN HALE • GEORGE TOBIAS
GEORGE OBRIEN • BEN BLUE • SARA ALLGOOD

Directed by

Produced by

WALTER BOSLEY
WILLIAM JACOBS

WARNER BROS. MUSICAL!
SAG Members Back 'Red' Disclaimers

**News Briefs . . .**

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 14—With a vote of $1,007 to 157, the Screen Actors Guild membership has adopted a resolution requiring all guild officers, directors and committees members to sign individual disclaimers stating that they are not members of the Communist Party. Conducted by mail, the vote was taken at a membership meeting last November which lacked a quorum.

SAG members also voted in favor of a suit against The Taft-Hartley Law, for taking a resolution seeking to link the guild with other labor groups in devising a plan for collecting royalties from reissues, to establish a committee on unemployment problems, against placing restrictions on guild members who are not U.S. citizens, against establishment of a permanent standing committee to act on problems of racial and minority groups.

The membership vote on 21 resolutions, with recommendations by the SAG board.

**House Group Told AFM Retards Video**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14—American Federation of Musicians' conditions on music for television unquestionably have reduced the value and public interest of television programs, Bong Gadies, executive vice-president of the Radio Manufacturers Association, told a House labor committee holding hearings to develop legislation to curb the AFM and AFM presmt. James C. Petriolo.

Gadies said continuity of the broadcast would be impossible in the industry believe will be an even greater new American service and industry than radio.

**Petrillo Is Acquitted of Lea Act Violation**

CHICAGO, Jan. 14—James C. Petriolo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, today won acquittal in the $500,000 suit on a charge of violating the Lea Act. Judge Walter J. La Bury ruled that the $1,000 fine assessed in the case. The decision cannot be appealed.

The Government contended that Petriolo had flouted the law by trying to force WWA, Chicago radio station, to engage more musicians than it needed.

**SPG Asks Reappraisal**

Herman Glickstein, attorney for the Screen Publicists Guild, has applied for reappraisal of the case in which New York State Supreme Court Judge Henry C. Greenberg ruled in the case of Paramount Pictures. The Guild is in favor of arbitration procedure, growing out of the company's firing of two employees on charges of fraternizing with agents.

**Grant 'U' Extension**

Universal Pictures, Nate J. Blumberg, president, and the directors of Universal, were granted an extension yesterday Jan. 23 to file answers in the Bertha T. Aine stockholders' suit, according to a formal filing in the U.S. District Court here. The suit seeks to collect for the corporation over $250,000, said to have been made by the five on Universal stock.

**TOA in Jersey Hits Film Influence Poll**

NEWARK, Jan. 14.—The New Jersey chapter of Theatre Owners of America has returned the validity of an independent public opinion research poll which contends that three out of five New Jersey filmgoers believe that pictures influence children also believe that the influence is "bad." The poll was conducted by a telephone to newspapers requested that newspaper printing the survey's contentions also publish the exhibitors' sentiments.

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey also has joined in TOA's protest, it was reported today by a TOA spokesman.

Announcing that the poll appeared to be “a compilation of scattered opinions without reference to the qualifications or background of the persons interviewed,” TOA added that since four-fifths of New Jersey's children were going to the movies that three out of four parents consider movies a bad influence would lead to the conclusion that parents do not pay scant attention to their children's welfare. This is a conclusion which the survey's findings made on behalf of patrons, TOA said.

Maury Miller of Passaic signed the telegram as president of the TOA unit, Arthur Held as secretary, and Walter Reade, Jr., Red Bank, as director.

**UA Meet On Today (Continued from page 1)**


Also present will be the following district managers: Jack Ellis, New York; William J. Denton, New England; Fred M. Jack, Southern; Moe Dudelson, Central; W. E. Callaway, Western district manager; Charles S. Childs, city manager.

Branch managers will include Nat Nathanson, Chicago; and Ralph Gerber, Midwest. Jack Wies and Jack Wies from the home office will also be present. Among films to be shown here are "A Miracle" and "A Miracle Can Happen."
The biggest opening of the year

ATLANTA
BOSTON
PROVIDENCE
ROCHESTER
SYRACUSE
BUFFALO
COLUMBUS
DAYTON
CLEVELAND
AKRON
CANTON
TOLEDO
HOUSTON
INDIANAPOLIS
EVANSVILLE
LOUISVILLE
KANSAS CITY
NEW ORLEANS
HARRISBURG
READING
PITTSBURGH
MEMPHIS
ST. LOUIS
BALTIMORE

NORFOLK
RICHMOND
NASHVILLE
SAN FRANCISCO
LOS ANGELES
PHILADELPHIA
TORONTO
MINNEAPOLIS
ST. PAUL
SEATTLE
SPRINGFIELD
WORCESTER
HARTFORD
DETROIT
DENVER
WILMINGTON
The first BIG picture of the year...

Mary Pickford presents the cast of the year

CLAUDETTE COLBERT • ROBERT CUMMINGS • DON AMECE

in

"Sleep, my Love"

with RITA JOHNSON • GEORGE COLOURIS • RALPH MORGAN and

HAZEL BROOKS

Produced by Chas. Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn
Associate Producer Harold Greene • Directed by DOUGLAS SIRK
Screenplay by St. Clair McKelway and Leo Rosten
Director of Photography Joseph Valentine, A.S.C. • A Triangle Production

Once again in the Top Ten in Fame's '47 Poll

WIDE AWAKE EXHIBITORS ARE BOOKING "SLEEP"... thr UJ
**MEMORANDUM**

**Dec. 29, 1947**

Mr. Justice Mlchy.

I am gratified to know that the Supreme Court has decided the case on the one appeal and has overturned the decisions in the other.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>OBLUMINA</th>
<th>EAGLE-LION</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>MONO</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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>LAST DAYS OF BOOT HILL D</td>
<td>THE CRIME DOCTOR'S GAMBLE D</td>
<td>SHADOW VALLEY D</td>
<td>(Nov. Releases)</td>
<td>THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Color)</td>
<td>Esther Williams</td>
<td>(Nov. Releases)</td>
<td>THE FLAME (Color)</td>
<td>Vera Ralston D—97 min. (628)</td>
<td>(Rev. 13/18)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>IT HAD TO BE YOU D</td>
<td>Ginger Rogers D—85 min. (Rev. 10/28/47)</td>
<td>CHEYENNE TAKES OVER “Lush” La Rue D—58 min.</td>
<td>Jiggs and Maggie in Society</td>
<td>Roy Rogers G—72 min.</td>
<td>(Rev. 1/9/48)</td>
<td>UNDER THE TONTO RIDGE</td>
<td>Tim Holt Nat Leslie D—61 min. (805)</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/15/47)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>DEVIL'S SHIP D</td>
<td>Richard Lane D</td>
<td>ROSE OF SANTA ROSA</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/16/47)</td>
<td>Road to Rio Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour D—100 min. (707)</td>
<td>(Rev. 11/27/47)</td>
<td>RIFF-RAFF</td>
<td>Pat O'Brien Don Castle D—80 min. (82)</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/3/47)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>THE SWORDSMAN</td>
<td>(Color)</td>
<td>LARRY PARKS</td>
<td>D—81 min.</td>
<td>(Rev. 10/17/47)</td>
<td>TIMBERLAND</td>
<td>Spencer Tracy</td>
<td>I WALK ALONE</td>
<td>Burt Lancaster Linabeth Scott D—95 min. (4708)</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/16/47)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>PRINCE OF THIEVES</td>
<td>(Color)</td>
<td>DONALD BARRON</td>
<td>D—57 min.</td>
<td>(Rev. 11/18/47)</td>
<td>CHECK YOUR GUNS</td>
<td>Eddie Dean D—55 min.</td>
<td>DICK TRACY</td>
<td>Burt Lancaster Dan Evans D—55 min. (902)</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/17/47)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>THE ESMEGULLS</td>
<td>Michael Redgrave D</td>
<td>TENTH AVENUE ANGELS</td>
<td>(Allied Artists)</td>
<td>SONG OF MY HEART</td>
<td>Frank Sandstrom O—85 min. (4)</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/15/47)</td>
<td>WILD HORSE MEAS</td>
<td>Tim Holt O—85 min. (802)</td>
<td>(Rev. 11/24/47)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>THE TENDER YEARS</td>
<td>Joe E. Brown D—81 min. (803)</td>
<td>(Rev. 12/18/47)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[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 Release Date.]
Plan Millions Cut in Canada Film Revenue

Fitzgibbon-Hove Parley Outlines Dollar Saving

TORONTO, Jan. 15.—An agreement on measures to be adopted whereby several millions of dollars would be cut from Canadian film revenue going to American companies was reached in Ottawa between J. J. Fitzgibbon, chairman of the Canadian film industry’s “dollar saving” committee, and C. D. Howe, Dominion Min-
ter of Reconstruction and Supply. It was disclosed here today following Fitzgibbon’s return from the Canadian capital.

Fitzgibbon, who is president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., was—(Continued on page 3)

Talks with Hughes Disclosed by Odlum

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 15.—Following reports of negotiations for purchase of part or all of the 935 shares of RKO stock controlled by Floyd Odlum’s Atlas Corp., Odlum today confirmed that Howard Hughes has recently had some general and tentative conversations with him relative to purchase of the stock.

“...but this conversations could hardly be classified as negotiations,” he added.

Atlas Corp., since completion of its reorganization more than a year ago, has been willing to step out of its control position “to the right people at the proper price” but at no time has it either offered its present holding for sale or fixed a price that it would accept, he said.

Under today’s almost panic conditions in the production end of the film industry, it is doubtful if any person or group of “substance within the industry has the combined money and nerve to meet the faith of Atlas Corp. in the future of the industry,” Odlum declared.

Chamie Named Aide To AMP’S Boren

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 15.—Alfred T. Chamie has resigned as United States attorney here to become as-sistant to Charles Boren, vice-presi-
dent in charge of labor relations for the Association of Motion Picture Producers.

Pact Soon On NY Operators

A mutually satisfactory settlement of the long-standing wage rate dispute between the American Federation of Radio Artists and the National Association of Broadcasters is expected to be reached on Feb. 8, it was reported today by a “306” spokesman following the union’s review of last Tuesday’s negoti-
ations. Some 306 projectionists and 125 theatres are involved.

Only a couple of minor items” have yet to be ironed out, and apparently the next negotiation meeting will be the final one preliminary to the signing of a new contract, it was said.

Sen. Smith said he under-
stands the State Department has estimated it would need an additional $5,000,000 in its budget for 1948-49 to apply the Munidt Bill, which would authorize the Department’s overseas information program. A $40,000,000 budget would be needed for 1948-49, it was said.

New Theatre Bldg. Planned Here

A new 13-story office, theatre and restaurant building is planned on the fringe of the Times Square area here under $15,000,000 deal announced yesterday. Estimated to cost $6,000,000 for construction, the projected building will contain a 3,600-seat theatre equipped for television presentations and will be convertible for motion pictures or plays.

The block, bounded by Seventh Avenue and Broadway, 15 and 52 Streets, is now the site of a building which houses Harry Brandt’s Re-
public Theatre.

TOA Wins Added Time; Effective Date for Rates Is Now March 15

Board of directors of the Ameri-
can Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers at a meeting here yesterday agreed to extend the effective date of new national licensing rates 45 days beyond Feb. 1, the date on which Ascap’s current contracts were scheduled to expire. The new effective date will be March 15.

Word of the board’s decision was communicated to Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America, who said that the extension was made by Ascap’s board on the recommendation of TOA officials when it became apparent that the negotiations between the two or-
ganizations, now in progress, would not be completed by Feb. 1.

The negotiations are said to embody the preparation by Ascap officials of a new theatre licensing formula involving lower rates than those announced—(Continued on page 3)

Code Contemplated In US German Zone

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The Film Producers Association in the United States zone in Germany is contemplating a film Production code similar to the one in the War Department said here today.

The code, which would be voluntary and self-enforced, as in the U. S., would be designed to eliminate censor-
sorship by the German government.

The War Department also reported the passage of an allied Control Council law repealing two Nazi statutes dealing with films. The first—(Continued on page 3)

Congressman Asks PCA for Video

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The tele-
vision industry would do well to adopt the same kind of voluntary, self-enforced production code as the mo-

At the afternoon session of the—(Continued on page 3)
Personal Mention

RICHARD F. WALSH, president of IATSE, is due back in New York today from Detroit, where he attended the 40th anniversary celebration of "The Truth" (Local No. 38).

J. R. McPherson, co-managing director of National Screen Service's London office, will sail on the S.S. Queen Mary after a month's stay in New York.

John G. Kempe, M-G-M manager in Milwaukee, and Hazel Anderson, M-G-M office manager at Omaha, were married Nov. 21. It was disclosed yesterday.

Harry Michaelson, RKO Radio short subject sales manager and RKO Pathe president, left here yesterday for Chicago en route to Hollywood.

Donald Hyde, United States Pictures vice-president, is in New York for conferences with Warner executives.


Morris Goodman, Discina International president, left here yesterday for Toronto for conferences with Empire-Universal, Ltd., executives.

Rube Jackson, Columbia assistant sales manager, will leave here Sunday for Philadelphia.

Jay Richard Kennedy, of Kennedy-Buchanan Pictures, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

R. N. Henry to Advise State Department

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The State Department has chosen R. N. Henry, a veteran foreign service officer with wide experience in Latin-American countries and in the Department here, as its film adviser to succeed George Canty.

Henry is at present first secretary of the Embassy at Mexico City. He will take over his new job on Jan. 26.

Steele Appointed FC Production Chief

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 15.—Fred Steele, who resigned from Monogram recently after 22 years' service, has been appointed Film Classics production supervisor by FC president Joseph Bernhard. Steele's headquarters will be at Mason Studios.

$1.06 Univ. Dividend

Universal Pictures' board yesterday declared a regular quarterly dividend of $1.06 per share on the company's four and one-quarter per cent cumulative preferred stock, payable March 1, on the common stock, to be recorded on Feb. 16.

Motion Picture Daily

Dismiss 'Rebecca' Plagiarism Case

Federal Judge John Bright yesterday dismissed a plagiarism suit brought against Daphne Du Maurier, British novelist, charged Mrs. Du Maurier with infringing of a short story written by Mrs. MacDonald in 1924 and a novel in 1927.

Eysell Host to Vally

Gus Eysell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, was host at cocktail party for Vally at the Music Hall's radio apartment here yesterday. Guests included trade and metropolitan press representatives, Messrs. and Mrs. LeRoy, Martin Quigley, Jack Aliche, Robert M. Gillham and others.

‘Life’ Music Hall Run

Universal-International's "A Double Life" is not the first U-I picture to be booked into the Music Hall, here, as reported yesterday, but, rather, is the first to play the Hall since that company's "The Egg and I."
Utica Owners Hear Dewey Tax Assailed

Utica, N. Y., Jan. 15.—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey’s recommendation to the legislature that the state’s five percent enabling tax on amusements be extended to include all cities of less than 100,000 population was sharply attacked here yesterday by Harry Lamont, temporary chairman of the Utica Owners of America’s Albany unit, before a meeting of Utica area exhibitors in the Hotel Martin here.

Mr. Lamont, who explained to the meeting TOA’s aims and purposes, urged the exhibitors to join with the Albany TOA promptly so that they may oppose effectively the legislation which is the special permissive local taxing program.

St. Louis Exhibitors Sue City on 5% Tax

St. Louis, Jan. 15.—The city and license collector Frank A. Britton were named defendants in a suit contesting the validity of the new five per cent city tax on theatre admissions.


Regional Coverage By ‘Reels’ Asked

Kansas City, Jan. 15—Complimenting some new reel companies for supplying regional news, the board directors of Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association today voted to request film companies to put more new reel men in the field to step up coverage of news of regional interest. The board, which approved the lease of their new headquarters here, also is setting up legislative committees in Congressional districts of Kansas and Western Missouri.

UTA Board Meet

Salt Lake City, Jan. 15.—A meeting of the board of directors of the Utah Theatre Association will be held in the 20th-Century Fox screening room here on Jan. 20, Ralph Trahan, secretary, announces.

Ascap Extension

(Continued from page 1)

late last summer. MOTION Picture Daily reported that no new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.

Yesterday’s extension was the second which has been made by the Ascap Board. The first was for three months, February 15, and the second was stimulated originally, to Feb. 1.

Coyne expressed gratification at yesterday’s development, and said he hoped that the additional perils to the home theatre, and the new order in which new formula had been completed, and that a time extension, therefore, was in the offing.
"No other distributor enters 1948 in a greater blaze of glory than CENTURY-FOX — because all of these great attractions are in release NOW!"
GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT
10th WEEK, MAYFAIR, NEW YORK
10th WEEK, APOLLO, CHICAGO

The Most Acclaimed Picture In Screen History!
Darryl F. Zanuck presents GREGORY PECK, DOROTHY McGUIRE, JOHN GARFIELD in Lauro Z. Hobson's "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT" with Celeste Holm, Anne Revere, June Havoc, Albert Dekker, Jane Wyatt, Dean Stockwell, Sam Jaffe • Produced by DARRYL F. ZANUCK
Screen Play by MOSS HART • Directed by ELA KAZAN

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE
Color by TECHNICOLOR

Now Setting Records Throughout The Land!
Darryl F. Zanuck presents "CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Starring TYRONE POWER with JEAN PETERS, CESAR ROMERO, JOHN SUTTTON, LEE J. COBB, Antonio Moreno, Thomas Gomez, Alan Mawbray, Barbara Lawrence, George Zucco, Roy Roberts, Marc Lawrence • Directed by HENRY KING • Produced by LAMAR TROTTL • Screen Play by Lamar Trotti • From the Novel by Samuel Shellabarger

DAISY KENYON

The Woman And Man Picture Of The Year!
JOAN CRAWFORD, DANA ANDREWS, HENRY FONDA in "DAISY KENYON" with Ruth Warrick, Martha Stewart, Peggy Ann Garner, Connie Marshall, Nicholas Joy, Art Baker • Produced and Directed by OTTO PREMINGER • Screen Play by David Hertz • Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Janeway

FOREVER AMBER
Color by TECHNICOLOR

Motion Picture Herald Boxoffice Champion!
Darryl F. Zanuck presents "FOREVER AMBER" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Starring LINDA DARNELL, CORNEL WILDE, RICHARD GREENE, GEORGE SANDERS as King Charles II with Glenn Langan, Richard Haydn, Jessica Tandy, Anne Revere, John Russell • Directed by OTTO PREMINGER • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • From the Novel by Kathleen Winsor • Screen Play by Philip Dunne and Ring Lardner, Jr. • Adaptation by Jerome Cady

CALL NORTHSIDE 777

It Beats With A Pulse That Becomes Your Very Own!
JAMES STEWART in "CALL NORTHSIDE 777" with RICHARD CONTE, LEE J. COBB, HELEN WALKER and Betty Garde, Kesia Orozowski, Joanne de Bergh, Howard Smith, Moroni Olsen, John McIntire, Paul Harvey • Directed by HENRY HATHAWAY • Produced by OTTO LANG • Screen Play by Jerome Cady and Jay Dratler • Adaptation by Leonard Hoffman and Quentin Reynolds • Based on Articles by James P. McGuire

YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME

The Love, Songs, Laughter Of That Wonderful Flapper Age!
JEANNE CRAIN, DAN DAILEY in "YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME" with OSCAR LEVANT, BARBARA LAWRENCE, Selena Royle, Percy Kilbride, Herbert Anderson • Directed by LLOYD BACON • Produced by FRED KOHLMAR • Original Screen Play by Elick Moll and Valentine Davies

AN IDEAL HUSBAND
Color by TECHNICOLOR

From Alexander Korda!
PAULETTE GODDARD in Alexander Korda's Production of Oscar Wilde's "AN IDEAL HUSBAND" • Color by TECHNICOLOR with MICHAEL WILDING, DIANA WYNWARD
Glynis Johns, Constance Collier, Sir Aubrey Smith, Hugh Williams • Directed by ALEXANDER KORDA • Screen Play by Lojas Biro • From the Play by Oscar Wilde
AS A RESULT OF THE SENSATIONAL RECORD on the RKO Metropolitan Circuit, the INVISIBLE SHOW was moved into the Gotham Theatre for an extra Broadway run.

Also, terrific grosses in Cleveland, Boston, and in Detroit where it played ten theatres day and date.

REALART PICTURES PRESENTS
TWO BOX OFFICE HITS ON ONE GREAT PROGRAM

THE INVISIBLE MAN RETURNS

STARRING

CLAUDE RAINS

W. HARRIGAN

DUDLEY DIGGES

UNA O'CONNOR

HENRY TRAVERS

FORRESTER HARVEY

Directed by JAMES WHALE

with SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE

VINCENT PRICE

NAN GREY

JOHN SUTTON

CECIL KELLAWAY

Directed by JOE MAY - Associate Producer KEN GOLDSMITH

REALART Pictures, Inc. 2 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK (16) N. Y.
MURRAY HILL 5-7428

Available NOW at these REALART franchise holders

Albany, Buffalo, New York
Principal Film Exchange Inc.
630 Ninth Ave., N. Y. C.

Atlanta
United Film Distributors, Inc.
164 Walton St, N.W., Atlanta Ga.

Boston, New Haven
Embassy Pictures Corp.
16 Fiedenmann St., Boston, Mass.

Charlotte
Screen Guild Productions of the Carolinas, Inc.
300 West 3rd St., Charlotte, N. C.

Chicago
Henri Elman Enterprises, Inc.
1277 So. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Cincinnati, Indianapolis
Popular Pictures Corp.
1632 Central Pkwy., Cin., O.

Cleveland
Realart Pictures of Cleveland
2108 Payne Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

Dallas
Screen Guild Productions of Texas
308 So. Horwood St., Dallas, Texas.

Denver, Salt Lake City
Embassy Pictures
258 East First Street, S. S., Salt Lake City, Utah

Des Moines, Kansas City,
Omaha
Selected Pictures, Inc.
114 West 17th St., Kansas City, Mo.

Detroit
Allied Film Exchange
2310 Cass Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Los Angeles
Realart Pictures, Co. n. So. Cal.
1928 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.

Minneapolis, Milwaukee
Independent Film Distributors
111 No. 11th St., Minneapolis, Minn.

New Orleans
Screen Guild Productions of La.
218 So. Liberty St., New Orleans, La.

Oklahoma City
Screen Guild Productions Inc., of Okla.
P. O. Box 1561, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Philadelphia
Box Office Pictures, Inc.
1301 Vine Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Pittsburgh
Screen Guild Productions of Pittsburgh, Inc.
415 Van Broom St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Seattle, Portland
Favorite Films of California
2231 Second Ave., Seattle, Wash.

St. Louis
Screen Guild Productions of St. Louis,
3324 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo.

San Francisco
Favorite Films of California, Inc.
261 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, Cal.

Washington, D. C.
Equity Film Exchanges, Inc.
1001 New Jersey Ave., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.
Third Quarter Gross Totaled $149,155,000

Figure Is Exclusive of Paramount, W. B. Sales

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Gross sales of seven film companies in the third quarter of 1947 totaled $149,155,000, slightly lower than the $150,713,000 in the second quarter of 1947, and the $151,605,000 for the third quarter of 1946, according to a report of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Universal was the only company to gain from the second quarter of 1947 to the third quarter while Columbia and RKO sales dropped most sharply. Warner Brothers and Paramount did not report. The other six major companies and Republic are included.

Following is a breakdown of the figures for the seven production companies:

Columbia: 1947, third quarter, $5,475,000; second quarter, $9,080,000; third quarter 1946, $5,574,000. Loew’s.

Skouras to UK on GB-Odeon Merger

Prior to his departure for England aboard the S.S. Queen Mary on Saturday, Spyros F. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, said the purpose of his visit is to discuss with J. Arthur Rank the proposed merger of the Gaumont-British and Odeon circuits and Twentieth-Fox has a substantial interest in GB.

Accompanying Skouras were Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-Fox International, and Otto Koege, general counsel.

Skouras denied reports that his visit

Smith-Mundt Bill Passed By Senate

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—By a voice vote the Senate passed late Friday the Smith-Mundt Bill minus any provision for Government relief on the film industry’s frozen funds problem, but with some urging for slight Government aid to film distributors.

Basis for Arguments Disclosed as Gov’t, Majors Swap Briefs

Issues to be argued by major companies before the U. S. Supreme Court in their appeal from the statutory court’s decision in the Federal anti-trust action were disclosed on Friday when appellant briefs were exchanged by the defendants and the Government in Washington.

The appellant briefs will be filed with answers in the Supreme Court by both sides on or before Feb 2. Arguments are scheduled to open on Feb. 9.

Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox and Loew’s charged that the District court erred in exempting the exhibitors from their theatre interests. The companies denied the existence of monopoly, and saw no reason for divestiture. It was asserted that the court was wrong in directing the termination of interests held with (Continued on page 2)

Filming Costs Seen Higher by Pressnell

Hollywood production costs must be lowered or there will be a drastic reduction in the number of pictures made, producer Robert Pressnell, Sr., with U/A, reported. Production releases through Film Classics, said here at the weekend. He added, however, that costs, now up 33 to 40 per cent over last year, are apparently heading further upward. Pressnell is in New York from Hollywood for conferences with Film Classics executives.

Pressnell reported that New York and Coast banks are backing “deserv

Upper Prices for U-T’s ‘All My Sons’

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 18.—Universal-International has set “All My Sons” for advanced admission price, road show engagements, William A. Scully, president, and general manager, announced here at the weekend. Policy will be discussed at the first of a series of regional sales meetings to be held in San Francisco, Feb. 9.

Asserting that the present domestic market requires “specialized treatment,” the company said that the exhibitor, as well as the distributor, to get maximum results," Scully emph

Both Parties Silent On Admission Tax

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—There is only one thing that Democratic and Republican Congressional tax plans have in common as of this writing: no mention of reducing the admission and other excise taxes.

All the controversy so far has been on how much individual incomes taxes should be cut. There has been no talk of excise tax cuts from any Congressmen, or Government officials who have anything to say about taxes. If any excise are cut, they will probably be the widely-felt taxes on transportation and communications.

The House Ways and Means Committee on Friday heard Secretary of the Treasury Snyder oppose the Knutson tax reduction bill and urge the Administration’s plan.

Snyder said the community property principle, increased exemptions, and percentage tax cuts of the Republican bill were a “major threat to the Nation’s financial integrity and economic stability.” The Republican members of the committee, and several of the Democrats, made it quite clear, on the other hand, that the Administration’s revised excess profits tax is not going to make much progress in Congress either.

U. A. Proposes $6,000,000 UK Production

Creates British Company To Make 35 in 7 Years

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president of United Artists, who is en route back to New York board the S.S. Queen Elizabeth, is leaving with him a completed plan under which UA would launch a British production program involving 1,500,000 pounds ($8,000,000).

When Kelly was here four months ago, he completed similar negotiations whereby the same sum would be provided by substantial British interests for UA production here, but the British Treasury at that time refused consent to the deal, maintaining it would be an infringement of last October’s Exchange Control Act.

However, the present plan, which is a revamped version of the original one, has been approved by the British government. It calls for formation of an exclusively British company, with subsequent contracts providing for UA assistance and distribution. It would operate for seven years with a yearly production of five films, all using American scripts, producers and one American star.

Kelly said UA producers, for example

Seek ‘Loop’ Decree Contempt Citations

CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—Jackson Park Theatre attorneys on Friday asked Federal Judge Michael Igoe to order major distributors to “show cause” why they should not be cited in contempt for violation of the Jackson Park decree. U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals recently upheld a lower court’s injunction against alleged

Canada Tax Going, Ontario’s to Return

TORONTO, Jan. 18.—Mayor R. H. Saunders disclosed here that Finance Minister D. C. Abraham of the Dominion government had notified him that the Federal 20 per cent war excise tax on theatre grosses would be abolished as soon as possible so that the
Personal Mention

William R. Ferguson, M-G-M exploitation head, will leave here tomorrow by plane for Cincinnati and Chicago.

Mark N. Silver, Pennsylvania-Wash. district manager of United Artists, has returned to his Philadelphia headquarters after attending a district managers' meeting at the home office here.

Charles Schneider, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, will return here today from Chicago, accompanied by Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager.

Max Miller, Warner managing director in London, and Mrs. Miller were among passengers who arrived here at the weekend from England on the SS Queen Mary.

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, has gone to New York today from a West Coast trip.

Money Goldstein, Monogram Artists' manager, has resigned, returned to New York at the weekend from an Ohio tour.

Jack Schelchman, assistant to 20th Century-Fox manager of branch operations Clarence Hill, who has been confined to his home here by illness.

Margaret Eyrig, industry public relations counsel, is due here today from the Coast for a three-week stay.

Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew vice-president and treasurer, will return to New York today from Hollywood.

A. Kaplan, Brand Theatres district manager, will return here today from a vacation.

Chi-T-Men' Promotion

Max E. Youngstein, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity chief, is due to return to New York today from Chicago where he finalized arrangements with William Hallohan, publicity head of Balaban and Katz circuits, and other Chicago circuit executives for a new U-I particulars projection of Edward Small's "T-Men," which E-L is releasing.

U-I Roadshow

(Continued from page 1)

sized that the quality of the production makes "road show and advanced mileage packaging" unnecessary. The picture will be in the exchanges Feb. 1, but will not be released until April 15 to go for its promotional campaign, he said.

"The present-day market certainly can no longer withstand this specialized type of distribution, particularly when the grandeur of the theme in such a picture cannot be put into proper focus unless the picture is given wide exposure about its merits," Scully declared.

Tradewise...

BY SHERWIN KANE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN, discharging for publication last week, offered some observations on the industry's public relations, which he found easy to agree, regardless of how much they differ with him on other subjects on which he also expressed his views.

Goldwyn of industry public relations:

"We are not taking a long range view of the problems we confront. Good publicity can correct conditions which are obviously wrong, and we must put our own house in order before we can hope to win the genuine good will of the public, on which good public relations are based. . . . The fault is not one-sided by any means and it must be corrected by the cooperative effort of all us.

"We have neglected private relations and productions, good pictures our public relations will take care of themselves."

"Good public relations too often are a substitute for good press relations, or simply with a "good press." In consequence, an altogether disproportionate amount of effort is expended upon the attention and approval of reporting agencies."

It may be assumed that Goldwyn had something of the sort in mind when he asserted that the industry lacks a long range view of its public relations problems.

The real public relations problems of the industry, as Goldwyn suggests, are concerned solely with its customers and with itself.

It is up to Goldwyn's Hollywood to turn out the good picture that will win back the public's faith in the industry's public relations with its customers.

It is up to the entire industry to end, insofar as possible, the causes of internecine strife which pit any branch of it against another branch, or any industry group against another. It is on strife of this kind that the unfriendly press goes to work and from it the unfavorable press results.

This department suggested recently that, since the industry now has bestowed itself into fashioning a permanent public relations committee, headed by Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president, an early attempt at cooperation is needed to help to maintain one segment of the industry in constant antagonism to other segments could be made. It will need cooperation but a great deal of progress could be made unilaterally if wholehearted cooperation sets in. . . .)

Newsrelief Parade

The March of Dimes drive opened with an all-time high attendance. Other items include General Cventhal and his Chinese bride, riots in Rome, and a rescue at sea. Combined.

MOVIENTE NEWS, No. 5—U. S. submarine Burns in battle off Cape of Good Hope in the South Atlantic. U. S. submarine Burns in battle off Cape of Good Hope in the South Atlantic. U. S. submarine Burns in battle off Cape of Good Hope in the South Atlantic.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 4—Silver skates. March of Dimes. General Chimpanzee and bride. The Mustard Effect, a show by Dimes. General Chimpanzee. Motion Picture President open March of Dimes drive.


New Audio Facilities

Opened in Canada

Toronto, Jan. 18—Industry executives and trade press representatives from Canada and the United States were guests at a reception yesterday for the opening of Audio Pictures and recorders and studios of the Allied Film Laboratories here. Arthur Gottlieb is president.

The new unit consists of a streamlined, air-conditioned building with 20,000 square feet of floor space and has all departments for production and printing and setting of negatives. The equipment includes 12 printing machines, four film processing machines and batteries of cameras and lights.

$149,155,000 Gross

(Continued from page 1)

1947, third quarter, $42,750,000; second quarter, $43,371,000; third quarter, $42,000,000; Monogram, 1947, third quarter, $2,176,000; second quarter, $2,241,000; third quarter, $1,770,000; Republic, 1947, third quarter, $7,524,000; second quarter, $7,569,000; third quarter, 1946, $6,570,000.

20th Century-Fox, 1947, third quarter, $44,089,000; second quarter, $46,587,000; third quarter, 1946, $50,249,000; producer-loan company, 1947, third quarter, $16,634,000; second quarter, $16,608,000; third quarter, 1946, $12,085,000.

Gross income of Columbia's foreign subsidiaries reported amounted to $4,889,000 for the second quarter of 1947, $4,273,000 for the first quarter of 1947, and $4,069,000 for the second quarter of 1946. RKO reported earnings of $14,000,000 for its operations in foreign countries as $3,606,000 for the third quarter of 1947; $4,099,000 for the second quarter of 1947, and $3,915,000 for the third quarter of 1946.
4 Firms Cleared of ‘Conspiracy’ in Suit

BUFFALO, Jan. 18—Federal Judge Harold T. Bordonaro dismissed charges against three of 12 motion picture companies involved in a $300,000 damages suit filed by Bordonaro Brothers of Olean, N. Y.

Charges against RKO and Universal were dismissed because they are parent corporations, respectively, of RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. and Universal Film Exchanges, Inc., and were not shown by the evidence to have had any part in the alleged conspiracy to prevent the Palace theatre, owned by the plaintiffs, from obtaining first-run 1) of the court held.

Charges against Warner Bros. Pictures Distribution Corp. were dismissed on the ground that at no time had the plaintiffs attempted to purchase Warner product.

Smith-Mundt Bill (Continued from page 1)

by direct purchase of films or perhaps limited delayment of out-of-pocket business.

A slightly different version of the bill has already passed the House, and the two versions now go to conference. Speedy agreement is expected, since a bill is expected. Any Government aid to the industry will come via a section authorizing the State Department to use private agencies in the Overseas Information Program to the maximum extent practical. The bill originally said, "insurably as practicable," but this was strengthened by an amendment by Sen. Bill, who contended that private agencies should do what the Government--sponsored information programs do.

Once the bill passes both houses the initiative will move to the State Department for working out with industry exactly how the Government can use and help the film companies.

Riley, Manufacturer, Backing del Giudice

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 18—Filippo del Giudice, president of the South American organizations of workers in the film industry, is being helped in a campaign to double the company's output by William Grimalsh, Riley, a Birmingham glass manufacturer.

Riley says he has no acquaintance with del Giudice, who has been backing a plan for an independent film-making organization.

UA British Deal (Continued from page 1)

people Hunt Stromberg and Edward Small, have scripts and stars ready and the plan can be put into operation as soon as UA's board of directors approves the arrangement. Kelly said he hopes the home office will finalize it within a month. "Stromberg's 'Return of the Native," with Hedy Lamarr starring, is likely to be the first picture to go into production under the deal, with a continuous flow of other productions to follow, he said.

Kelly closed releasing arrangements with Gaumont-British for the remaining UA product which was here prior to the imposition of the film tax. However, he said, UA is unable to close a deal with Odeon Circuit for release of future UA product, despite UA's stockholder in Odeon and despite Stromberg's talks here with J. Arthur Rank, who holds the controlling interest in Odeon.

Higher Film Costs (Continued from page 1)

ing" independent producers by as much as 60 to 70 per cent of picture budgets. He held that making pictures in color can compensate immeasurably for the additional costs. "It is an investment in quality," he said. He added, too, that he regards those major companies "footloose" which have purchased an "annual production of 'broad-and-butter.' It means that studio overhead must be absorbed by fewer films, causing a step-up in production values.

Next on ARPI's schedule, Presnell disclosed, is "Sofia," a story of Balkan intrigue written by John M. Shand and presented in color at RKO Radio's Churubusco studios in Mexico City. Presnell's associate is John Reinalt.

'Queen's Film Passengers'

LONDON, Jan. 18—David Rose, Joseph Mankiewicz, David Niven and M. A. P. (Lady) Lil Palmer and Artur W. W. Kelly are among those who sailed for the U.S. today on the 'S. S. Queen Elisabeth.'
Last year it was

This year it's "THE"

DAILY VARIETY

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

FILM DAILY

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

HOLLYWOOD REVIEW

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

INDEPENDENT FILM JOURNAL
"A sharp bead on the next Oscar for sure. Cary Grant in the very finest of his many fine screen characterizations."

"Superbly treated entertainment. Surefire boxoffice. The good taste and artistic scope of the film is a tribute to the directorial guidance of Henry Koster."

"Royal entertainment expertly fashioned into boxoffice fare. In England, the Command Performance picture. On this side of the Atlantic, the Demand Performance film."

"In the best tradition of the screen's prime purpose. In 'The Bishop's Wife' exhibitors have a highly exploitable picture of which they may be proud."

"An outstanding entry in fine entertainment. One of the outstanding moneymakers of the year. Excellent. The screenplay of Robert Nathan's very popular novel was written by Robert Sherwood and Leonardo Bercovici, and to that credit must go the applause for much of the charm and story presentation."

"The seal of Samuel Goldwyn, without variance a warranty of merit. Perhaps there has never been anything to excel it. A happy idea blossoming into a happy picture."

"Builds up an overall pattern of beauty and significance. The net effect is a moving, substantial and constantly entertaining film."

Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.
And in Atlanta, Nashville, Boston, Providence, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Columbus, Dayton, Cleveland, Canton, Akron, Toledo, Houston, Indianapolis, Evansville, Louisville, Kansas City, New Orleans, Harrisburg, Reading, Wilmington, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Memphis, Norfolk, Richmond, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Albany, Milwaukee, San Francisco, Portland

and wherever it plays soon to that Raft kind of business thru
U.S. Companies In London Hit Price Advance

Added Remittances Are Barred Under CEA Plan

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Jan. 19. — American distributors here have reacted vigorously against a proposal that the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association seek the British government's consent to an admission price rise.

Conditions of the proposal are that there will be no entertainment tax embodied in the increase, and that no part of the increase, where American films are involved, shall be remitted to the U.S.

British exhibitors have been clamoring for an admission price increase because of increased film rentals and theatre operating costs. They claim that while they were able to bear such increased expenses during the war,

(Continued on page 4)

CEA Weighs Fight on Tax

LONDON, Jan. 19.—An all-out exhibitor campaign to sell the British public through the medium of the nation's screens the extent to which exhibitors have been harmed by the consequences of the British admission tax on American films is being planned here, according to a Cine- matograph Exhibitors Association spokesman.

Many British exhibitors feel that "the time has passed" when British Chancellors of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps' edicts must be accepted without question. More cautious CEA members, however, hold that the in-

(Continued on page 4)

Rep. Hagen Files for Admission Tax Slash

Washington, Jan. 19.—A bill calling for a cut in the Federal admission tax to the pre-war 10 per cent rate was introduced in the House today by Representative Hagen, who would make the cut effective June 30, 1948.

UK Prepared to Put Freeze On Reissue Remittances

LONDON, Jan. 19.—The British government is said to have prepared plans to freeze remittances on American reissues and all other films imported prior to the imposition of the ad valorem duty last August. If and when an anticipated financial crisis arrives, the government's remittance freeze plans are expected to be put into operation at once.

April will see the end of all Anglo-American film dealings, is the view accepted generally here, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps has indicated officially that if emergency financial aid is not made available to England by then the nation will find itself in the throes of an economic catastrophe.

As pointed out in Motion Picture Daily on Jan. 7, a financial crisis of the first magnitude will force Britain to adopt self-sufficiency methods.

ATA Files Brief On Auction Bids

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—The American Theatres Association has filed its brief on competitive bidding in the U.S. Supreme Court as an intervenor in the Government's New York anti-trust suit against the industry.

In appealing from the decision of the New York district court, ATA attacked the ruling establishing auc- tion bidding as "an invalid exercise of the court's power" which, if enforced, will result in "irreparable injury to appellant intervenors and all other independent exhibitors."

The brief contends the decree failed to achieve its purpose because "it compels buyers in the market for films to submit to most regrettable formulas formulated by the court and enforced by the concerted action of sellers who

(Continued on page 5)

ACLU Brief Asks Theatre Separation

Monopolistic trends in the film industry were held to be a threat to freedom of the press in a brief filed yesterday in U.S. Supreme Court by the American Civil Liberties Union.

Asserting that films, like radio, are part of the country's "press," and that freedom to publish or hear is implied in freedom to publish or produce, the Union's brief supports the Attorney General's demand that the

(Continued on page 5)

I. A. Plans 4 Films At $7,000,000 Cost

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 19—Declaring its faith in the motion picture business, Independent Artists today announced a four-picture production schedule budgeted at $7,000,000 for 1948.

In addition to the completed "The Velvet Touch," the schedule includes an un- titled Dudley Nichols film, "Madly in Love," "New Model," with Rosalind Russell, the latter three at $1,-

(Continued on page 5)

Bill Would Add Music Tax to Film Rentals

Sponsored by Rep. Lewis; Allied Backing Is Seen

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—A bill to force Ascap to deal exclusively with film producers and to release exhibitors of all license or other royalty payments was introduced in the house today by Representative Lewis.

The bill, presumably backed by Allied States, sponsor of a similar one a number of years ago, takes on added importance from the fact that Lewis is chairman of the House Judiciary sub-committee on Patents and Copyrights, which will have to pass on the measure.

Representative Celler, ranking Democrat on the Judiciary committee, has disclosed plans to introduce legis-

(Continued on page 4)

N. Y. Grosses Satisfactory

Business at New York's first-run downtown theatres ranges from moderate to good this week, with "The Parody Case," at Radio City Music Hall, and "An Ideal Husband," at the Roxy, leading the field.

The former, plus a stage show, grossed $86,000 Friday through Sunday, looks like $135,000 in a second week. "Husband," with songwriter Iona Massey on stage, rang up $75,000 Wednesday through Sunday, and the first week is expected to bring in $90,000.

Four new pictures will bow in this

(Continued on page 4)

Jackson Park Case Hearing Thursday

CHICAGO, Jan. 19.—Attorneys for a number of officers, directors and agents of various companies are sched- uled to appear in Federal Judge Michael Igoe's court here on Thursday in an action to show cause why they should not be cited in contempt for alleged violations of the Jackson Park Theatre decree.

The citations were sought last Fri- day against more than a dozen corpo- rations and individuals by Jackson Park attorneys.
May Dissolve AMPA At Meeting Friday

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, 32-year-old industry organization, was composed principally of publicity, advertising and trade press personnel of various companies, and was formed, incidentally, to save the industry from a complete depopulation by a panel of experts.

Officers and members will meet at Headquarters Restaurant here on Friday at a meeting of AMPA to deliberate activities in view of the establishment of the Motion Picture Foundation, and to decide whether AMPA should continue as a social club with officers, much like the AMPEX.

Phil Williams, vice-president, submitted his resignation yesterday, after which, 1.1, to go, with his successor, Max Stein, treasurer, are slated to resign Friday, if it is decided AMPA shall continue as a social club with officers who will be nominated on Friday. AMPA was organized in New York in 1916, the late Arthur James, advertising-publicity director of the old Metro Pictures, was its first president, serving two terms.

The organization's first social function was a "farewell" luncheon for Terry Ramsaye, who, in turn, became advertising-publicity head of the old Mutual Film Corp., transferred his office from New York to Chicago. Ramsaye is editor of Motion Picture Herald.

Skouras Flies to UK Today to See Rank

Due to a last minute change in plans, Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Century-Fox, postponed his departure for England from Saturday and will leave here by plane tonight instead. Purpose of his trip is to discuss with J. Arthur Rank the proposed merger of the Rank-Bravofilm and Odeon circuits. Twentieth-Fox has a substantial interest in Metropolis Ltd. and British Trust, which controls G.B.

Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-Fox International, and Frank Kessel, general counsel, left here aboard the Queen Mary on Saturday.

575 Theatres Are in St. Louis Territory

There are 575 theatres with a seating capacity of 336,215 in operation in the St. Louis territory, according to a new theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing.

The 22d in a series of 31 directories, the St. Louis directory reveals that the territory's three largest cities: St. Louis, East St. Louis and Springfield, have a total of 112 theatres with a capacity of 109,893. St. Louis, at $9,594, has a capacity of 83,386, or an average of 996 seats per house.

In the St. Louis area, 244 theatres are located in 236 towns with a population of 2,500, and under. They account for a total capacity of 79,630, or an average of 324 seats per theatre.

$2,262,147 Record Cinecolor Gross


Net profit for the period amounted to $305,780. After dividend payments, sales for the year showed a 26.5 per cent increase over sales for the previous year, which totalled $880,949.

Due to the increased volume of busi- ness, Cinecolor is believed to be able to increase the price on release printing by one half cent per foot. The company also added $11,177 per cent of living wage increase last year.

William T. Crespinel, Cinecolor president, points out that Cinecolor's color process is well established, and that there is a capacity of 93,881 within the company which has been formed by Sir Alfred Cordova's London Films.

Services for Walt Beninni

Milwaukee, Jan. 19—Final rites for Walter Beninni, 43, M-G-M office manager here, were held yesterday. He died Jan. 15 of a heart attack.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-In-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin K. Keane, 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: 7-3100. Circulation Manager, James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fenker, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Ycas-Vibe Building, William Ward, Manager; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London Wt, Hope Burnup, Manager; other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1926, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 31, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.
Also

THRILL YOUR AUDIENCES

WITH THIS DIFFERENT MYSTERY!

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Franchot Tone · Janet Blair in

I LOVE TROUBLE

with

JANIS CARTER
ADELE JERGENS · GLENDA FARRELL
STEVEN GERAY · TOM POWERS

An S. SYLVAN SIMON Production

Screenplay by Roy Huggins
From his novel, “The Double Take”

Produced and directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON
Smith-Mundt Bill Sent to President

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—The House today sent to the White House the Smith-Mundt Bill authorizing the State Department’s overseas information and broadcasting. Congressional officials hope for some slight aid in their foreign distribution problems under the bill. It is believed that the language adopted will include authority for the State Department to aid producers get frozen funds through the Treasury.

The Senate passed the Bill Friday. Approval by President Truman is considered certain, and the initiative for implementing the proposal now passes to the State Department.

Rep. Mundt said he plans a conference with the White House this week that discusses national security.

UK Price Rise (Continued from page 1)

box-office boom, it is virtually impossible for them to do so now that a recession has set in along with the American film embargo.

Following the approach to the British Treasury on the matter, the latter suggested that the CEA submit written objections to the British. Mundt is now asking excise officers to be able properly to discuss the matter with excise officials. CEA is drafting a memorandum and is expected to confer with British officials to testify early this month on the committee’s investigation of Garfield Fairbanks, who has been under consideration as the increase and the conditions proposed. The increase proposed is calculated to provide for exhibitors an additional $500,000 ($1,200,000) weekly. American companies say they will protest the proposed increase as a further instance of discriminatory action against their trading.

CEA Tax Program (Continued from page 1)

industry here should keep clear of politics in its own interest, but there is a growing feeling in the industry that ruthless criticism has now demanded whether or not the government says such action is contrary to the philosophy of national unity by Stalin. The CEA spokesmen said that there is a strong feeling in the organization that Sir Stafford "let the CEA down" in allowing CEA general secretary W. R. Fuller to journey to America late in the year only to refuse to discuss, after his return, proposed alternatives to the ad valorem tax.

There has come up for its second reading in the House of Commons on Wednesday a forceful CEA lobby will be on hand to emphasize the point, parliamentary that discussion of the bill is redundant and unnecessary in view of the American embargo.

Lumbard Rejoins Firm

J. Edward Lumbard, an interim appointee of Governor Dewey’s as Justice of the New York Supreme Court, has regained his old post. Lumbard has rejoined the law firm of Donovan, Leisure, Newton and Lumbard here. The firm is counsel to RKO and Roy W. McDonald has been made a member of the same law firm.

Allied Hits Ascap ‘Per-Piece’ Rates

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Charges that the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is violating the Federal securities decree under which it operates by virtue of excessive rates charged for per-piece licenses for the songwriters and musicians participation in motion pictures, have been filed with the U. S. Department of Justice by American composers and publishers.

In an effort to substantiate its charges, Allied says it has collected detailed information in various parts of the country and has submitted it to the Attorney-General. As previously reported, Ascap is now preparing a reduced rate schedule for per-piece licenses.

Music Tax Bill (Continued from page 1)

lation to curb Ascap in the near future. He was out of town today and could not be reached for comment on the measure.

The Lewis bill provides that “Disposition by the owner or distributor of a copyrighted motion picture of the proceeds of such film for profit shall include the right to reproduce and publicly perform any and all copyright material including copyrighted musical recorded thereon or on discs, wire or other devices accompanying and synchronizing such film, and the distribution of any such copyrighted film shall license the public exhibition of the film in such manner as the time of such license he also possesses the authority to license, and does such license, in good faith, such covers, dialogue, sound effects and music recorded on or synchronized with such film.”

Young ‘Looking’ (Continued from page 1)

last week that discussions had been held with Howard Hughes concerning a new version of the RKO securities held by Atlas. Young’s interest in a U. A. deal has been reported frequently. The studio has been discussing in association with Serge Semenenko, executive vice-president of the First National Bank of Boston, with the ultimate intention of merging Eagle-Lion Films, a wholly-owned Pathe Industries subsidary, with U. A. Probably, the same plan would be involved in any deal which he might make for control of RKO.

Eagle-Lion Board of Directors Meets on Product and Policy

Hollywood, Jan. 19.—The board of Eagle-Lion Productions held its first meeting of 1948, and among subjects on the agenda were the consideration of the company’s product for the year, approval of the studio’s television sales program and the distribution of Eagle-Lion product in foreign countries. The board decided that where 30 new exchanges are being established.

Members of the board in attendance were: Arthur B. Krim, chairman of the board and president of the company; Bryan Fay, vice-president in charge of production; Kenneth M. Young, Robert S. Benjamin, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and Walter Wagner.

Solons Hear Mullen Hit AFM Film Bans

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Television broadcasters must be able to make extensive use of still photography, musical performances can be used for television, Frank E. Mullen, executive vice-president of National Broadcasting, told the House Labor Committee today. The committee is holding public hearings on restrict’ motion for the “Federal Communications Act”.

Declaring that television was “unsurpassed as an entertainment, information, and education,” Mullen listed three types of AFM restrictions on broadcasting of motion pictures—numbers performing in “live” television shows; preventing the use of musicians in making films for television, and television performances of films containing AFM performances.

The NBC executive emphasized that broadcasters want to reach equitable agreements. James C. Petrillo for long-term agreements on employment conditions in all fields of broadcasting. The personal appearance of Petrillo at the hearing, originally scheduled for Wednesday, was postponed to Thursday, the committee said.

N. Y. Grosses (Continued from page 1)

week: “I Walk Alone” will replace “Where There’s Life” at the Paramount; “Thursday’s Film” will be replaced by “If Winter Comes” will follow “The High Wall” at the Capitol; “T-Men” will succeed “The Senator Was Indiscreet” at the Criterion; “Treasure of the Sierra Madre” will replace “My Sister Rose” at the Strand on Friday.

Departing pictures, all terminating with fourth week, are expected to follow these schedules: “Where There’s Life,” $61,000; “High Wall,” $50,000; “Senator,” $40,000; “Thursday’s Film,” $6,000; and “If Winter Comes” will be replaced with “Fugitive” at the Paramount, and Sammy Kaye’s band will follow Tommy Dorsey’s at the Capitol.

At other locations business is expected to shape up as follows: “Cabinet from Castle,” Rivoli, fourth week, $30,000; “Secret Beyond the Door,” Winter Garden, first week, $24,000; “Gentlemen’s Agreement,” Mayfair, 10th week, $37,000; “Body and Soul,” Globe, 11th week, $19,000; “The Road to Glory,” Astor, sixth week, $43,000; “The Fugitive,” Victoria, fourth week, $21,000; “Voice of the Turtle,” Warner, sixth week, $14,000; “The Palace,” Palace, fourth week, $17,500; “Women in the Night,” Gotham, second week, $5,500; “I Married You Last Summer,” 22nd week, $4,600.

Arbitration Budgets (Continued from page 1)

arrangements would be made for its continuance. The system has been budgeted at $300,000 annually, exclusive of salaries of appeals board members. Arrangements have also been made for extension of leases on office quarters for local arbitration tribunals, pending the Supreme Court decision.
N. Y. Critics Confer '47 Film Citations

Appealing on behalf of Darryl Z. Zanuck, Jack Garfield accepted the New York Film Critics' award voted to "Gentlemen's Agreement" as the best film of 1947. Elia Kazan, director of "Gentlemen's Agreement" and "Boomerang," was also on hand. Miss Palmer held at Leine's, here, to receive the critics' citation for his work on both 20th Century-Fox pictures. Other awards went to Miss Powell as best actress and Deborah Kerr as best actress and "To Live in Peace" as the best foreign film of the year. The chairman of the Film Critics' council and film reviewer for the New York Herald Tribune, president.

Marti Elected Head Of Eastern SDG

Gene Marti, former treasurer of the Screen Directors Guild in New York and Eastern test director for Paramount, has been elected president, succeeding Powell who was named honorary president.

Other officers elected at the SDG's thirty-eighth convention were: Martin B. Hackett, president; William Van Dyke, first vice-president; Leslie Rouss, second vice-president; Jack Glenn, recording secretary; Sidney Kaufman, corresponding secretary; Emerson York, treasurer. In addition to the guild officers, the board of directors includes Pollard, Al Altman, Boris Kaplan, Leo Seltzer and Marvin Rothenberg.

Legion Classifies 7; Condemns 'Volpone'

"Volpone," Sirisisky International's French import current showing at the distributors' Ambassador Theatre here, has been given a Class C (Condemned rating) by the National Legion of Decency.

Of six other films reviewed, two were placed in Group A-1: "Bandits of Dark Canyon" and "The Gay Ranchero," rated A-I; while "Christian Love," "Underworld," "Sons of Darkness," "Victory" and "Harley Davidson" were given the Group A-I rating (All Hope)."My Girl Tisa" (United States Pictures-Warner)

DARING to venture into story realms so infrequently entered as to seem, outside this effort as fresh and new, producer Milton Spering comes up with a fitting reward in "My Girl Tisa." He has a heart-warming attraction, generously endowed with laughs and sentiment and performed by one of the best ensemble casts in Cinematography comes in quite a time. The East Side of New York is the place and 1905 the year; it was different 42 years ago, and the difference had its points. Lilli Palmer, Hungarian immigrant, works in Akin Tamirroff's toy factory and wherever else she can find a job. She's saving to bring her father to the bright, new land of her adoption. Sam Wanamaker is the neighborhood braggart but basically a good guy, dreaming big dreams about love and politics and started along the road of opportunity by the time the film ends. Stella Adler runs the boarding house where most of the principals live. Hugo Haas is the shady travel agent who victimizes greenhorns and almost succeeds in having Miss Palmer deported on trumped-up immorality charges. But Wanamaker breaks up a dockside ceremony to meet an incoming crowned prince and manages to inject President (Teddy) Roosevelt into the situation with happily ending consequences.

"My Girl Tisa," based on a play by Lucille S. Prumns and Sara B. Smith, and worked into an adept and very knowing script by Allen Boretz, is a recounting of small adventures and small crises in the lives of this human and likable group of little people. To them these adventures and crises loom large, of course. It is to the wide credit of those identified with this film, never eschewing the comprehending direction of Elliott Nugent, that the serene and humorous shadings are so honestly and captivatingly caught. What transpires is sincere and believable although the final piece of business which brings in the President for a chat is very tall in the President admiring Miss Palmer is excellent. Wanamaker, attracted to Hollywood—this is his first picture—for his work with Ingrid Bergman in the stage play, "Joan of Lorraine," makes a favorable first impression; his performance indicates a player of genuinely soft-hearted type who may well steal classics moat of his scenes. Miss Palmer very dramatically does likewise with hers and so, too, Hugo Haas with his. The rest of the supporting players are so competent and so much an integral part of the whole proceedings that it becomes a dutiful and pleasurable obligation to name them: Sidney Blackmer, John Quall, Alan Hale, Fritz Fled, Benny Baker, Gail Robbins, Tom Dillon, Sumner Getch, Sid Tomack and John Baker.

"My Girl Tisa" tells a story of America, the melting pot, with understanding and appreciation. It is a first-class, first-time, entertaining, to the democratic process.


A CLU Brief (Continued from page 1)

producers be forced to give up their alleged monopoly of what the public can see.

The brief was signed by Harold J. Sherman and H. William Fite, both of the New York bar, as counsel for the ACLU, appearing as a friend of the court. Also signing were Wendell Berge, former Assistant Attorney General of the division, and Charles P.騺oron and the ACLU, appealing as a friend of the court. Also signing were Wendell Berge, former Assistant Attorney General of the division, and Charles P.騺oron and the ACLU, appearing as a friend of the court.

ATA Files Appeal (Continued from page 1)

control the major part of the supply, taking advantage from independent exhibitors "their former right to enjoin such concerted action on the part of the defendants." It was also declared that the statutory court's decision departs the independents of their former power to recover damages under the anti-trust laws on a showing that the operation of the plan has caused "injury" and authorizes and compels major distributors to establish relationships with independent distributors which have no taint of illegality whatever.

3 More Legislatures Open, Nine Meeting

Washington, Jan. 19,—Three more state legislatures convened, bringing the current total to session in nine, according to Jack Bryson, legislative assistant to Eric Johnston, head of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Only two more are scheduled to hold sessions this year, Bryson said; they are California, which will open on March 1, and Louisiana, due to start May 1. Those that are newly opened are Virginia, South Carolina and New Jersey. Already in session are Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York and Missouri. So far no adverse legislation is expected in any.

Audio of Canda Will Produce Two a Year

Toronto, Jan. 19,—Audio Pictures, Ltd., whose new studios were opened here on Saturday, will launch its production program with two features a year, using Hollywood stars, the company's own technicians and Canadian story background. Arthur Gottlieb is president of Audio; Hans Tieler is vice-president in charge of production.

Goldstein Sues for Pay

Springfield, Mass., Jan. 19.—Suit for $75,000 has been entered in Superior Court by Nathan E. Goldstein against Wesnas Candy Corp., subsidiary of Western Massachusetts Theatres, seeking to recover $52,000 allegedly owed him for services as president, general manager and executive supervisor from March, 1941, to March, 1946. Goldstein, former president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, is now owner of the Arcade Theatre.

Leo Brecher

president, 58th Street Plaza Theatre, Inc.

New York, says:

"WE CONSIDER ALTEC SERVICE AS REAL FRIENDS OF SHOW BUSINESS"

"The motion picture industry today has got to meet serious challenges to its hold on its customers. You've got to meet these challenges by improving your entertainment every way you can. Getting the most out of the sound is certainly a "must" today. The Altec people, over the years, have proved they are working for the best interests of the theatres."
Another Signal Honor for a Very Wonderful Motion Picture

Universal-International is extremely happy to announce that "A Double Life" will be the next attraction at the Radio City Music Hall.

It is another signal honor to add to those already paid to this wonderful motion picture by all who have seen it.

"The greatest performance in Ronald Colman's long career...a powerful, fascinating attraction."
—Motion Picture Daily

"Designed to hit wide and popular appeal."
—The Exhibitor

"A polished package of class screen entertainment." —Variety

"Should win loud acclaim."
—Box Office

"Another high spot of the season."
—The Film Daily
Thomas Heads New Company; 22 in 1st Year

Equity Pictures Formed With Welsch, Schwarz

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 20.—Another independent producing company has entered the field here with the announcement by Harry H. Thomas, veteran film executive, of the formation of Equity Pictures, Inc. The company, which will be headed by Thomas as president, and Howard Welsch, former executive producer at Universal Studios, as vice-president, plans to turn out 22 pictures during its first year, including six in color. The entire program will be released through Eagle-Lion Films. Other officers of the company are Jack Schwarz, independent producer.

(Continued on page 4)

MPAA Plans Parley On Foreign Impasse

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Exhaustive, top-jurisdictional discussions of the foreign situation will be on the agenda of a two-day meeting which Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston is endeavoring to convolve here for some time next week. Company presidents and, possibly, foreign managers, have been sent invitations.

While MPAA officials declined any more details of the agenda than that.

(Continued on page 4)

Name 22 to Serve ‘Brotherhood Week’

Some 22 acceptances from exhibition leaders who will act as state chairman have been received for “American Brotherhood Week,” sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Theatre leaders and the territories.

(Continued on page 4)

Two Chicago Trust Suits Are Filed

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—Two northwest theatres today sought $900,000 in treble damages against 16 distributors and others in suits filed here in U. S. Dist. Court. Both charged they were damaged by booking and pricing practices outlawed recently by the U. S. Supreme Court in the legal action brought by the Jackson Park Theatre.

The new suits were filed for Saul Meltzer, owner of the Rivoli and the Rockne theatres. He seeks $600,000 in the Rivoli case and $300,000 for the Rockne.

Meltzer charged the defendant companies gave precedence to films in theatres owned or controlled by them, and allowed neighborhood houses to exhibit outstanding motion pictures only after lengthy, profitable Loopy runs.

U.S. Asks ‘Diversity’ Of Films in Appeal

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Divestiture of theatres and a 10-year ban on cross-licensing will make for greater independent film production and more exhibition outlets willing and able to show pictures with different outlooks not available to the public at large, the Department of Justice argues in its appeal brief filed last week with the Supreme Court in the industry anti-trust case.

Contents of films, the Government says, must necessarily be conditioned by the prejudices and preconceptions of those controlling the channels of distribution, regardless of who produces.

(Continued on page 4)

M-G-M Drawing Up New Chicago Plan

A new distribution formula to apply to the Chicago general releasing area is being devised by M-G-M. It is one which will provide for flexible clearance and competitive negotiation for runs. Formulation of the new plan was undertaken to meet complications resulting from the recent Chicago Federal Court ruling in the Jackson Park trust action.

20th-Fox Victor In Coast Salinas Case

Ruling that only parties to the decree in the industry anti-trust suit can bring court actions on alleged violations of the decree, Federal Judge John Bright upheld in U. S. Dist. Court here yesterday a motion by 20th Century-Fox and National Theatres that the New Salinas Theatre Corp. of California is not qualified to bring proceedings against the decree companies.

New Salinas last fall filed action against the company defendants, charging that National’s construction of a theatre in Watsonville, Calif., constituted expansion and therefore was in violation of the decree. National and 20th-Fox claimed building of the theatre was not expansion but was rather a replacement of another house which they had owned.

The case here pointed out yesterday that the petitioner had not made application to intervene in the anti-trust suit.

(Continued on page 4)

Admission Tax ‘Evils’ Charted For Congress

Survey by TOA Will Be Ready in 3 Weeks

The House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee will receive in about three weeks from the Theatre Owners of America “documented facts” on the extent to which the continuing 20 per cent Federal admission tax has been reducing theatre attendance in every section of the country. TOA is seeking a cutback to the 10 per cent pre-war levy.

Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, said here yesterday that TOA officials, in every state have been requested to make comprehensive surveys of their respective areas on the impact of taxes on theatre attendance, and to supply TOA headquarters here with details. TOA general counsel Herman Levy in Washington will present the document to Congress, Coyne said.

TOA has backed the Dinged Bill which provides, in part, for a 10 per cent reduction in the present 20 per

(Continued on page 4)

Another House Bill Calls for Tax Cut

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—A bill cutting the admission tax to the pre-war 10 per cent rate was introduced in the House today by Rep. Gordon McDonough of California. This is the second such bill in two days. Rep. Harold Hagen of Minnesota introduced a similar one yesterday.

Action on either bill is considered unlikely, however, with leaders of both parties concentrating on cutting income taxes.

Feb. Hearings Seen On Anti-Ascap Bill

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Rep. Earl R. Lewis (R, Ohio), who yesterday introduced a bill in Congress to curb the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, said here today he would hold hearings on the bill “possibly next month.”

Lewis, who is chairman of the House Judiciary sub-committee on

(Continued on page 4)

“The Naked City”

[Hellinger - U-I] — A Real One About New York

The late Mark Hellinger conjured up an adventure drama of unforgettable impact. It is a picture that soars into the highest brackets of box-office material. Bearing the mark of craftsmanship in every detail and setting, the picture, photographed in New York, chronicles one lurid tale of murder in a teeming city of 8,000,000. Jules Dassin has done an able job of direction, as testified by the suspense which builds up to a looming crescendo. The splendidly-performing cast is headed by the lovable old rogue, Barry Fitzgerald, and includes Howard Duff, Dorothy Hart and Don Taylor. Exhibitors need not be concerned about any lack of abundant marquee names, for this is one picture that will linger in memory and be talked about and that is a showman’s finest exploitation angle.

The picture opens in the early morning hours as the camera roams casually, picking up landmarks of the metropolis. As part of varied and multi-versus things happening within the scope of 24 hours, is a murder. Now the story begins in earnest and one of the screen’s most thrilling manhunts results. As homicide police department lieutenant, Fitzgerald
Personal Mention

News Briefs

MALCOLM S. ROSS, president of the Screen Guild of America and chief negotiator for the Screen Guild for the new labor contract recently concluded, is expected to be at the opening of a new full-color television station in Chicago.

MOVIE NEWS, No. 8 — The 20-millimeter motion picture in color, which was first exhibited in Chicago in 1936 and later shown in New York, is being televised in Europe and America.

Cramblet Named UA Midwest Manager

Cramblet will operate out of Chicago and will supervise the territory including Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, and St. Louis.

House Labor Group to Quiz Petrillo Today

WASHINGON, Jan. 20 — Production of television and radio receivers, including FM, in 1947, the Radio Manufacturers Association reported today. A year-end tabulation showing a total of 17,695,677 sets produced by RMA member-companies in 1947. Preliminary.

Columbia Will Distribute New Cantinflas Feature

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 20 — Cantinflas (Mario Moreno), said to be Mexico's biggest money-making film comedian, will start a new picture on Jan. 27. Posa Films is his producer and Columbia will handle worldwide distribution.

Healy Joins N. W. Ayer

William Healy, until recently executive assistant to Austin Keoghl, president, to the president's office, has been appointed advertising manager, it was announced.

Film Truckers Fined $2,500

For Violating ICC Rules

MEMPHIS, Jan. 20 — Film transit, Inc., has entered a plea of nolo contempo after a hearing for its alleged failure to pay the charges of Interstate Commerce Commission regulations in Federal Court here and was fined $2,500.

Plan Victoria Alterations;
Selznick Bids for the House

City Investing Corp., which owns and operates Broadway theatre, is planning to rebuild and restore the house and to increase its seating capacity from 700 to over 1,000. Work was begun today and will get under way in the summer.

Four Sales Executives Win Promotions at Eastman Kodak

ROCHESTER, Jan. 20 — Frank L. Andrews, has been advanced to general manager of the Eastman Kodak Co., responsible for all sales division, and the following have been named his divisional managers in new positions: J. J. Riemen, professional film sales division; Frank R. Obergrother, professional color sales division, and Fred E. Richardson, sales manager, paper and photo-finishing sales division.

Michael Felt succeeds Davis
As Philadelphia Chief Barker

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 20 — Michael Felt was installed as chief Barker of Variety Club here at a dinner in the Bellevue-Stratford hotel. The club honored retiring chief Barker Al Davis of Monogram.

It was announced that the club had raised $39,000 for its Heart Fund campaign.

EXTRAS GUILD ASKS ELECTION

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 20 — Asserting that it had complied with all provisions of the Taft-Hartley law, the Extras Guild filed a petition with the National Labor Relations Board for an election which would authorize negotiations with employers for a collective bargaining agreement.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Assistant Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 7th Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York, N. Y., Telephone 3T-T 3100. Cable address "Quigley, New York." Vice President, Martin Quigley; Secretary-Treasurer, James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Peake, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, 925 Vine Street, Los Angeles, California; Advertising Representative, Washington, D. C. - Ohio: James B. Rudolph, 2554 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio; in Canada, James B. Rudolph, 405 Queen Street, Toronto, Ontario; in Mexico, James B. Rudolph, 100 Menno Building, Mexico City, Mexico; in Australia, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigleynews, London." Other Quigley Publications include Picture Herald, Better Theaters, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, etc.

Newsreel Parade

A SPEECH by Gen. Eisenhowen and Gen. Bradley being cited are highlights of current newsmakers and the newsmakers' Do News are among other items covered. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE NEWS, No. 6 — The 20-millimeter motion picture in color, which was first exhibited in Chicago in 1936 and later shown in New York, is being televised in Europe and America.

UNIVERSITY, NEWS, No. 46 — Picturing of fighting in Greece, Gen. Eisenhowen was on a week's Victory tour of Europe.


Cramblet Sees Agreement with Networks and APF by Jan. 31

James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, said here at the weekend, on resumption of negotiations with the networks, that he had an agreement could be reached before very early in the contract on Jan. 31.

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 7th Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York, N. Y., Telephone 3T-T 3100. Cable address: "Quigley, New York." Vice President, Martin Quigley; Secretary-Treasurer, James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Peake, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, 925 Vine Street, Los Angeles, California; Advertising Representative, Washington, D. C. - Ohio: James B. Rudolph, 2554 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio; in Canada, James B. Rudolph, 405 Queen Street, Toronto, Ontario; in Mexico, James B. Rudolph, 100 Menno Building, Mexico City, Mexico; in Australia, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigleynews, London." Other Quigley Publications include Picture Herald, Better Theaters, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, etc. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 21, 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.
"MAY WE LET DOWN OUR HAIR AND TALK FRANKLY!"

M-G-M has more current pictures in the box-office headlines than any other company. *For instance:*

**GREEN DOLPHIN STREET** spectacular audience hit is hold-over champ.
(Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart)

**CASS TIMBERLANE** positively sensational in all early dates. For instance, it's M-G-M's 5-year high in Tulsa!
(Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner, Zachary Scott)

**GOOD NEWS** spreads Technicolor joy across the nation. Good news everywhere!
(June Allyson, Peter Lawford)

**HIGH WALL** is hair-raising! Audiences thrilled at Capitol, N. Y. World Premiere and all first bookings.
(Robert Taylor, Audrey Totter, Herbert Marshall)

**KILLER McCOY** is a socko entertainment delighting the folks from coast to coast.
(Mickey Rooney, Brian Donlevy, Ann Blyth)

Yes, the bald facts are that with these fine current entertainments and a terrific line-up of Big Ones coming, here's the new industry slogan—

**M*G*M GREAT IN '48**
**Personal Mention**

**News Briefs . . .**

NEIL F. AGNEW, president of the Selznick Releasing Organization, has announced that he will hold his annual press conference to be held here tomorrow and Friday at the Warwick Hotel, to formulate a sales release for the new release of Alfred Hitchcock’s “The Paradine Case.”

Agnew will preside at the meeting, which will be reported in a following from the home office: Milton S. Kusel, vice president in charge of sales and publicity; Sam Horowitz, mid-west, and J. E. Fontaine, Eastern.

Agnew contemplates book the film initially in 10 long-run engagements in key spots with advanced admissions.

**Plan Victoria Alternatives:**

Selznick Bids for House

Cary Investing Corp., which owns and operates the Broadway here, is planning to refurbish the house and increase its seating capacity from 700 to over 1,000. Work is expected to get under way in the summer.

Selznick Releasing Organization, which has been reported planning a new release in the U. S., is now negotiating with City Investing for a lease on the theatre. Construction cannot be closed, it was said, and SRO will look elsewhere on Broadway for a showcase.

**Four Sales Executives Win Promotions at Eastman Kodak**

ROCHESTER, Jan. 20.—Frank L. Andrews has been advanced to general manager of the Eastman Kodak sensitized goods sales division, and the following have been named divisional managers in new positions: J. W. Varney, general film sales division; Frank F. Oberkottler, professional color sales division; Kenneth B. Richardson, professional paper and photo-finishing sales division.

Michael Felt succeeds Davis

**As Philadelphia Chief Barker**

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 20.—Michael Felt was installed as chief barker of Variety Club here at a dinner in the Bellevue-Stratford hotel. The dimes honored retiring chief Barker Al Davis of Monogram. It was announced that the club had raised $39,000 for its Heart Fund campaign.

**Extralis Guild Asks Election**

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 20.—Asserting that it had complied with all provisions of the Taft-Hartley law, the Screen Extralis Guild has petitioned the National Labor Relations Board for an election which would authorize negotiations with employers for a bargaining agency.

**Film Trucker Fined $5,200**

For Violating ICC Rules

MEMPHIS, Jan. 20.—Film Transit, Inc., has entered a plea of not guilty to 20-count information charging violation of Interstate Commerce Commission regulations in Federal Court here and was fined $2,500.

A fine of $1,000 was assessed on counts charging engaging of physical- disqualified persons as drivers, failure to have doctors' certificates of physical examination of drivers on file, and charging the firm required or permitted to be on the road an excess of 60 hours weekly. A fine of $1,500 was assessed on the 20th count, an accounting order of $1,000 and reports on hours of service.

$4,000,000 Profit on Records

**Invest $200,000,000 in Groves**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Annual retaill gross of the record industry ran about $200,000,000 in 1947, a House Committee was told today.

Of this, about $100,000,000 represented returns to the manufacturers, and their profits ran about $4,000,000, according to James W. S. Pottinger, president of RCA in charge of Victor Records. He testified before the House Labor Committee investigating restrictive practices by the American Federation of Musicians.

Murray represented Capitol Records, RCA Victor Records and Mercury, in addition to RCA Victor.

**All Records Are Broken in Video, Radio Manufacturing**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Production of television and radio receivers, including FM, broke all industry records in 1947, the Radio Manufacturers Association reported today. A year-end tabulation showing a total of 17,957,675 sets produced by RMA member-companies in 1947. Preliminary figures.

**Columbia Will Distribute New Cantinflas Feature**

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 20.—Cantinflas (Mario Moreno), said to be Mexico’s biggest money-making film company, will start a new picture on Jan. 27. Posa Films is his producer and Columbia will handle world distribution.

**Healy Joins N. W. Ayer**

William Healy, until recently executive assistant to Austin Keough, executive vice-president of the N. W. Ayer advertising agency, has joined the public relations staff of N. W. Ayer and Son, the advertising agency.

**Bernie Maxwell is appointed to Century Theatres**

BERNIE MAXWELL has been appointed to Century Theatres’ board of directors. He is vice-president of the Empire pictures, a subsidiary of Century, and succeeds Ed Schreiber, director of advertising-publicity. Maxwell was a theatre manager in the Seattle area and general manager of J-J Theatres, joining Columbia Pictures’ staff following his release from the army in 1945. Since then he has been on the field staffs of Allied Artists, Samuel Goldwyn and Eagle-Lion.

**MOVIE-TONE NEWS, No. 4—The 20th century-Fox party is scheduled to be held here Tuesday night and the Pickford Dines Drive are among other items covered. Full complete details follow:**


**Cramblit Named UA Midwest Manager**

RALPH Cramblit, United Artists-branch manager, Minneapolis, has been appointed Midwestern district manager by J. Unger, general sales manager.

Cramblit will operate out of Chicago and will supervise the territory embracing Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis.

Cramblit started with UA 18 years ago in the Chicago office. After being promoted to salesman, he was transferred from Chicago to Minneapolis as branch manager there in 1934.

**House Labor Group to Quiz Petroillo Today**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—James C. Petroillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, takes the stand at 10 A.M. tomorrow before a House Labor Committee which has been investigating hearings, for the last week on allegedly restrictive practices employed by his union.

The committee already has heard representatives of standard, FM, and television broadcasting, the chief net- work record manufacturers and transcription companies.

**Petroillo Sees Agreement with Columbia as Key**

James C. Petroillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, said here at the weekend, on resum- ing collective-bargaining talks with the four major networks, that he felt an agreement could be reached before engineers’ strike contract on Jan. 31.

**Motion Picture Daily**

Wednesday, January 21, 1948

**Newsstand Parade**

**A SPEECH by Gen. Eisenhower and Gen. Bradley being cited are highlights of current newsreels. President Truman and the general agreement on the Dives Drive are among other items covered. Complete details follow:**

**DAILY, No. 20—Spotlight on the RKO staff in Boston. Milk-ship for Europe; Gen. Bradleyoble to leave for China. Skiing coarse. Speed skating at New Rochelle, N. Y. Yachting in Australia.**

**Cramblit Named UA Midwest Manager**

RALPH Cramblit, United Artists-branch manager, Minneapolis, has been appointed Midwestern district manager by J. Unger, general sales manager.

Cramblit will operate out of Chicago and will supervise the territory embracing Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis.

Cramblit started with UA 18 years ago in the Chicago office. After being promoted to salesman, he was transferred from Chicago to Minneapolis as branch manager there in 1934.

**House Labor Group to Quiz Petroillo Today**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—James C. Petroillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, takes the stand at 10 A.M. tomorrow before a House Labor Committee which has been investigating hearings, for the last week on allegedly restrictive practices employed by his union.

The committee already has heard representatives of standard, FM, and television broadcasting, the chief net- work record manufacturers and transcription companies.

**Petroillo Sees Agreement with Columbia as Key**

James C. Petroillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, said here at the weekend, on resum- ing collective-bargaining talks with the four major networks, that he felt an agreement could be reached before engineers’ strike contract on Jan. 31.
M-G-M has more current pictures in the box-office headlines than any other company. For instance:

**GREEN DOLPHIN STREET** spectacular audience hit is hold-over champ.
(Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart)

**CASS TIMBERLANE** positively sensational in all early dates. For instance, it's M-G-M's 5-year high in Tulsa!
(Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner, Zachary Scott)

**GOOD NEWS** spreads Technicolor joy across the nation. Good news everywhere!
(June Allyson, Peter Lawford)

**HIGH WALL** is hair-raising! Audiences thrilled at Capitol, N. Y. World Premiere and all first bookings.
(Robert Taylor, Audrey Totter, Herbert Marshall)

**KILLER McCoy** is a socko entertainment delighting the folks from coast to coast.
(Mickey Rooney, Brian Donlevy, Ann Blyth)

Yes, the bald facts are that with these fine current entertainments and a terrific line-up of Big Ones coming, here's the new industry slogan—

**M*G*M GREAT IN '48**
U.S. Appeal
(Continued from page 1)
duces or exhibits. The existing de-
rives the same high cost of pat-
ting their own name, but as long as
that they will control distribution be-cause
they have a certain market, the
brief pointed out and adds that free
control of their own name is needed
to assure full diversity of film con-
tent.
"The past performance of defend-
ants has been one of creating and
maintaining a control of the film mar-
ket..." Hence, one of the primary
demands of the dissenters is the
assurance of a diversity of financial
rewards that the various rivals have
can be thwarted.
In the view of the dissenters, the
"court will have to hold that com-
ping a standard, the courts must
assure the defendant's right to
contest these rules and to throw
them out in court if..." The dissenters
have already won an appeal in this
case, and have set a precedent that
may be followed in other cases.

P.E.L.
(Continued from page 1)
various
rival
interest
owners
dividuals
agreements
New
reiterates
The
of
diversity
in
board,"..." the
an
brief
Welfare
horizontal
document
power
break
in
the
will
Scott),
with
Scott
in-
employed
director
Hathaway

in
Scott
and
the
picture.
its
director
in
the
of
and
its
director
Hathaway
and
its
director
in
the
of
and
its
director
Hathaway

(Continued from page 1)
trust suit here and that this court
do not have the power to intervene.
"The Trolley to Broadway" was origi-
nated by the New York-based film
company, and the ruling that New Salinas was disqualified from
producing the film was unjustified.

AMP A Welfare Will Stay Until MPF Acts
Associated Motion Picture Adver-
sers, in a letter to the MPF board,
"The AMPA Welfare will stay until
the Motion Picture Foundation ap-
proves the same," according to
Arnold Stoltz, AMPA president, who
said yesterday AMPA some time ago
offered its services as a welfare or-
ganization to the MPF. Stoltz will
leave here shortly for an extended
stay in Chicago.

AMP A's nominating committee
will meet here today to complete nomi-
nations for a new slate of officers.

New Pathoscope V-P
Henry Strauss, formerly chief editor
of the film division of the Bureau of
Ships, U.S. Navy, is to become
v-p of Pathoscope Productions, New
York. Strauss will be in charge of
sales and sales promotion
activities for the company.

"The Naked City"
(Continued from page 1)
starts out to assemble clues, piece together fragments of information, and
send his "legmen" scurrying to the city to trace false leads and build up new
leads. As the drama runs its course, it catches many sidelines and little echoes
of everyday life and habits, providing some of the most engrossing moments
in the picture.
"The off-screen voice of Hellinger has been dubbed in, lending dramatic
emphasis and direction to the narrative's development. There is something
excitingly fresh in the way the screenplay of Albert Malte and Malvin Wald
manipulates its dramatic material and brings the relentless hunt to its ex-
ravishing climax. The way it is gradually learned that the woman slain
was a central figure in a ring of jewel thieves.
Here we have a highly polished, commercial piece of merchandising, made
more effective by the excellent photography of William Daniels. A Mark
related to the theme of the film, Jules Buck was a director of the film, with
the original story by Waldo. Running time, 96 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for February
release.

"Call Northside 777"
(20th Century-Fox)
TEN THIRTY-WORLD-FOX this time went to the old master, life,
for its story material, for in "Call Northside 777" it has one of those
unforgettable stories that have brought the firm the confidence and
which, in the past, has been the major vendue's theaters.
"The trial, it adds, should have gone to the majors and to stock
interests to all the major corporations jointly owned with independents.

20th-Fox Victor
(Continued from page 1)
patents, trademarks and copyrights.
"The entire matter has been put on the
committee's calendar" and that he
would "give everyone a chance at the
hearings." He will probably call
Hepburn, Gene Kelly, Lewis, and
representatives of film producers and
exhibitors.
"Call Northside 777," which is backed by the Allied States Association, is
similar to a bill introduced in 1933, which was also supported by Allied. An
data to Allied general counsel Abram F. Myers, however, the current bill
limits the payment of the ASCAP license fee to producers is "much
simpler."
Rep. Celler, N. Y., who has been weighing a bill of his own, told Ascap, said he would have to
study the Lewis Bill before deciding whether or not to introduce his own.

Myers Questions Ascap on Claims on Popular-Drama
WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Allied
States charged today that recent dis-
closures in the State of Washington
suit filed by Columbia and Warner on
music on which ASCAP claims roy-
teams warranted "a thorough investiga-
tion."
Allied counsel Abram F. Myers said
Ascap had filed cards listing 80,000
pieces of music for which the Society
had claims, and that there were 300,
60 cards picked at random by Wash-
ington's Deputy Secretary of State
turned up 10 pieces in the public do-
main.

Brotherhood Week
(Continued from page 1)

"Albuquerque" 
(Champion-Paramount)
IN this Clarion production the producing team of William Pine and William
Scott has produced a full-blown Western which is one of the most
exciting and colorful film turned out by the two. The double Bills have en-
abled the picture with a wealth of assets that should pay off big at the box-
office. Unquestionably they will win the gratitude of Western fans hands
down. For sheer entertainment, "Albuquerque" stands at the top of the long
list of productions which their showmanship-wise talent has created for
great consumer.

The drama develops from a feud between a business pirate (George Cleve-
lend) who controls Albuquerque with an iron hand and his nephew (Randolph
Scott), freshly come to town to join fortunes with him. When he learns of
sheer ruthlessness to monopolize the husting of one Scott emerges triumphant
and teams up with his rival and joins a rival outfit headed by Russell Hayden, with whose
sister (Catherine Craig) he falls in love. After a terrific battle in which
Barbara Britton is used as a lure to get Scott trapped with him, the picture
makes unusually effective use of Cinecolor. The punchy direction
of Ray Enright is sure with the explosive action
(which have gone into the unfolding of the Gene Lewis-Clarence Upon young
faith in "Albuquerque." In "Albuquerque" the exhibi-
tor is offered a picture that sounds a clarion call to Western fans.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. Release date
P.E.L.

MPAA Parley
(Continued from page 1)
of the foreign situation and a number of other problems," it is believed like-
ly that the meeting will devote one call of good offices to agree on a
considerable time to the British situation where events have been moving to-
ward a showdown. Possible Government
ment aid under the Mundt bill may also be discussed.

Tax "Evils" Charted
(Continued from page 1)
cent tax, and may also support the bill
introduced on Monday by Rep. Hagen
of Minnesota in the tax to the pro-
war-state. But the bill, however, has
not yet been completed by the TOA. Coyne said, adding that
the bill has been "altered" on the new bill.

1935.
**MPEA, SIMPP Weigh Impasse Abroad Thurs.**

**Allport, McCarthy Due; SIMPP to Participate**

Top film industry executives, including company presidents, Motion Picture Export Association members and representatives of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will convene in Washington next Thursday for a day-long review of the foreign situation.

That the British tax impasse and, possibly, European frozen funds will bulk large in the discussions was given credence by the disclosure in Washington that Motion Picture Association of America's European manager, LeRoy Petillo, has been asked to represent MPPA's representative in France Frank McCarthy will leave London by plane Saturday to attend the meeting, which has been called by Eric A. John- ston, president of MPFA and MPEA.

Scheduled under MPEA auspices, the parlé will consist of an MPEA (Continued on page 5)

**Did Not ‘Pressure’ Industry: Petillo**

Washington, Jan. 21.—Asked by House Labor Committee Chairman Hartley today if he had not “held a gun” to Hollywood producers in inserting the restrictive television clause in contracts between the American Federation of Musicians and producers, AFM president James C. Petillo replied that he had not, but that it would not have been fair for networks to buy Hollywood pictures for their own shows, thus cutting off possibilities for foreign sales. (Continued on page 4)

**LeRoy Calls Cut in Costs Aid to Films**

Production economies promise to be a boon to motion pictures by forcing better use of the industry’s reserves in the creation of entertainment. This was the view expressed by Mervyn LeRoy, here from the coast on his way to a Florida vacation.

“I don’t think that money alone (Continued on page 5)

**Traditional Slump in Key City Returns**

Key city theatre grosses last month took the same turn downward as in Dec., 1946 and 1945. Reasons for the drop were the same as for the corresponding periods of prior years: the film-going public’s preoccupation with the holidays, and severe winter weather in many sections of the country.

Estimated weekly per theatre average for 1945 was approximately 178 key cities first runs $14,178 for December, compared with $16,292 in November, and $15,886 in December, 1946, according to reports from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents.

As in 1945 and 1946, the last two weeks of 1947 produced record lows (Continued on page 4)

**Split Ruling in McLendon Action**

**DALLAS, Jan. 21.—U. S. District Judge Atwell, ruling in Federal Court here on motions by exhibitor plaintiffs in the McLendon antitrust suit against distributors and Interstate and Robb and Rowley turned down the plaintiffs' request to make each distributor's affirmative plea that the plaintiffs went into court with unclean hands by reason of incorrect percentage returns.

He denied, however, without preju- (Continued on page 4)

20th-Fox May Use Plan in Twin Cities

Minneapolis, Jan. 21.—Twentieth Century-Fox may experiment next in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul in a “flexible clearance plan calling for competitive negotiation of runs similar to the method to be inaugurated in the Chicago area. Ben Friedeman, owner of the suburban Edina, is understood to have recently approached the local 20th-Fox branch for “terms” of an earlier run than now available to the theatre under existing clearance operations, and if the 20th “flexible” clearance plan is widened to include the Twin Cities the Edina may be advised it can enter competitive negotiation with other theatres which may be zoned here by the distributor.

**MPAA Tax Stand Is Wrong: Wilson**

Can not ‘squeeze’ UK Into Giving Ground, BOT Chief Declares

By PETER BURNS

London, Jan. 21.—Proposals made thus far by the Motion Picture Association of America for settlement of the British ad valorem tax deadlock “do not seem founded on a real understanding of the situation,” Harold Wilson, president of the British Board of Trade, told the House of Commons today, in an address supporting a second reading and passage of the national quota bill.

“Those who tell Hollywood,” Wilson said, “that if they believe they can squeeze us into modifying our attitude on the ad valorem tax, they back a loser.”

Wilson held it possible that the American industry faces the issue on the hope that with the passage of time the British theatres need for new U. S. films will drive the British government to drop the duty or modify it considerably. “I would say that if any deals on Hollywood’s part in making proposals to end the deadlock are based on so slender a foundation,” he added.

Conceding that the new quota bill was introduced at a “time of great difficulty and anxiety in the motion picture world,” Wilson said, however, that it has been valuable in determining to a large ex-

**Probe of British Film Industry Planned**

London, Jan. 21.—A British government inquiry into virtually every phase of distribution and exhibition here will be launched as soon as the nation’s international position in terms of film trade has been clarified, British Board of Trade President Harold Wilson told the House of Commons today.

A government committee, he said, will probe whatever monopolies there may be, the circuits’ booking situation compared to the independent’s and also the whole question of production financing.
Personal Mention

ARTHUR W. KELLY, United Artists executive vice-president, and KAY HARRISON, managing director of Technicolor, Ltd., and Mrs. Harry Jenkins, Flying Horse passengers due here tomorrow from England on the SS Queen Elizabeth.

LOUIS JOSEPH BERNHARD, son of Film Classics president Joseph Bernhard and Mrs. Bernhard, was married last week in the Waldorf Astoria here, to Elsie Leone Marks, who is also associated with Film Classics.

GEORGE SMITH, Paramount Western division manager with headquarters in Los Angeles, is on a tour of his territory following a division manager's meeting here.

RUTGERS NEILSON, RKO Radio publicity manager here, has been re-elected to the public relations committee of the Dance Educators of America.

RUDOLPH WEISS, head of Warner's house at the state department, and his assistant, J. LIVY LEVY, left here yesterday for Pittsburgh and are due back tomorrow.

JAY EISENBERG, M-G-M sales-legal liaison, and LEONARD HIRSCH, home office assistant to Southern sales manager RUDY BERGER, will return to New York today from Washington.

A. JACK SHUMOW, Warner Brothers' Chicago branch manager, celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary yesterday.

STEVE BRODY, Allied Artists-Monogram president, will leave here Saturday for the Coast.

WILLIAM R. FERGUSON, M-G-M exploitation head, will leave Cincinnati today for Chicago.

SAM SEDERMAN, Eagle-Lion head of foreign sales, is en route to New York from Hollywood.

WILLIAM B. ZOLLER, head of M-G-M's short subject sales, will leave New York Sunday for Boston.

EDWARD A. GOLDEN, producer, has been appointed a honorary member of the Texas Rangers.

Edward F. Strong, 64, Cleveland Showman

CLEVELAND, Jan. 21.—Edward F. Strong, 64, who in association with Fred Katz and Richard Martin Melbaum built a local theatre circuit now operated by Lenow's, died today in Hollywood of a heart attack. It was learned he was ailing in recent years he had drive-in and amusement park interests. The widow resides. Funeral services will be held here.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

ALLIED thinks a beaux has been hung on Ascap and now arrives at the conclusion of the asymmetrical scene which seemed set to substantiate a thorough checkup of "all of Ascap's pretensions." The situation centers around the decision of the Supreme Court of the State of Washington. The holding the composers' society has failed to comply with a state law requiring it to be a valid state corporation, as well as data on each music title, before undertaking to conduct business there. By this ruling, the high court reversed a lower court which had granted a declaratory judgment maintaining requirements of the state law had been met.

Allied offers this detail: "The law required that Ascap file a list of its claimed copyrights. This, Ascap undertook to do but failed. An appeal, involving about $80,000,000.00, each containing the name of a musical composition. Ascap asked for a declaratory judgment in that the effect that it was in good faith complied with the law. To test the question a deputy secretary of state picked 60 cards out of the file at random. The Supreme Court found that 10 of these cards showed on their face that the compositions were not copyrighted— that they were in the public domain. Out of the total, according to Allied, listed Chopin's Etude, Opus 25, No. 7 in C Minor, and another Beethoven's Minuet in G, Webster's "Stylistic Decision," also according to Allied, says Chopin was born in 1810 and died in 1849; that Beethoven entered this world in 1770 and died in 1827. "Copyrights have and shall have certain conditions they may be renewed for another like period. But 56 years is the limit," Abram F. Myers points out.

All that will remain to Allied if the law which Allied accuses the composition that it's a beaux and the whole state of affairs ought to be pursued further.

The world is American funds now blockaded in Italy, France, Holland, in which, and Australia may be liquidated by U.S. banks in which, and Canada in those countries. Eddie Small was one of the first to get his and is busy in Italy. David Scott has chosen Scandinavia and Ilse.

Aside from the economic, another phase of this circumstance suggests considerable possibility. One of the syncopated scenes is exemplified by "Call Northside 777," which Henry Hathaway directed almost in toto in Chicago, 20th Century-Fox; and also by "The Naked City," produced well nigh to the last scene in New York by the late Mark Hellinger for Universal. Both seem with authenticity and suspense.

The occasional abandonment of Hollywood for the field offers a fresh note which will appeal to eager viewers. Hollywood does on effective job of romancing the world without actually leaving its city limits. But a substitute for any is never quite the same.

By edict, the Hungarian public will have to go along without films in which Robert Taylor, Gary Cooper, Adolphe Menjou, George Murphy, Robert Montgomery and Allan Jones appear. The first five were witnesses at the recent Congressional sub-committee probe of Hollywood. This seems to have caused the Communist Ministers of the Interior at Budapest with enough reason.

Unsubstantiated from any source whatsoever is the report that Montgomery's films are being gored because he called his last one "Ride the Pink Horse." The color appears not to have been deep enough.

It's a reverse pitch at 20th-Fox on "Call Northside 777," a pretty story about a man given 99 year for murder. This consider he never committed. All the events and characters depicted in it are not fictional. Any similarity with personal, living, or dead, is intentional.

The Johnston office nailed a dilly the other day: The report in the French Communist press crediting the American companies with hauling out $20,000,000 in profits from La Belle.

This is a raving at the rate of $240,000,000 a year from France alone which in the last territories in '46 were a record $38,000,000 and at about the same level in early 47 after which they began to drop. A similar figure for U.S. Department of Commerce.

MGM's 'Dolphin' Set For Chicago Showing

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—First M-G-M picture to play the Loop since the Jackson Park decision will be "Green Dolphin Street," which is set for the Chicago Theatre for two weeks. The recent Century-Fox's "Call Northside 777" will follow. Last M-G-M film here was "Copy of the Dance" at the United Artists Theatre.

A new distribution formula, which will probably provide for flexible clearance and competitive bidding for runs, is being mapped by M-G-M for the Chicago area.

Peck in Red Cross Film

The American Red Cross has selected Gregory Peck to star in its annual motion picture appeal for funds, it has been announced by Howard Bonham, vice-president in charge of public relations for the Red Cross. Joe Well, chief of the Peck motion, has arrived in Hollywood from Washington to work with Selznick studio officials who will produce.

Johnston at Luncheon

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America, will address the Protestant Motion Picture Council luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here next Tuesday. The luncheon will mark the presentation of the council's first annual award for the top entertainment of the year.
NEW GOLD STRIKE IN CALIFORNIA!

BONANZA 3-THEATRE WORLD PREMIERE UNDER WAY IN LOS ANGELES NOW! TREMENDOUS START FOR THE BIG NATION-WIDE KEY SHOWINGS THIS WEEK!!!

WARNER BROS. ARE READY WITH

TREASURE OF SIERRA MADRE

STARRING

HUMPHREY BOGART

WITH

WALTER HUSTON
TIM HOLT · BRUCE BENNETT

DIRECTED BY
JOHN HUSTON · HENRY BLANKE

PRODUCED BY

SCREEN PLAY BY JOHN HUSTON · BASED ON THE NOVEL BY B. TRAVEN · MUSIC BY MAX STEINER
**Key City Averages**

(Continued from page 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Ending</th>
<th>No. of Theatres Gross</th>
<th>Average Gross per Theatre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 3-4</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>$6,704,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 10-16</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>$8,003,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 15-21</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>$7,259,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 15-21</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>$2,020,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 5-11</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>$2,856,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 12-18</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>$2,701,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3-9</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>$2,699,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10-16</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>$2,649,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 17-23</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>$2,593,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 7-13</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>$2,111,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 20-26</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>$2,578,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1-7</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>$2,754,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 8-14</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>$2,355,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 15-21</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>$2,290,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 1-7</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>$2,540,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 8-14</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>$2,581,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 15-21</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>$2,625,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 22-28</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>$2,786,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 19-25</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>$2,685,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 26-29</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>$2,859,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 17-23</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>$2,716,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 18-24</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>$2,701,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 1-7</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>$2,097,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 8-14</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>$2,075,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 15-21</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>$2,177,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 22-28</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>$2,416,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 6-12</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>$2,442,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 13-19</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>$2,383,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 20-26</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>$2,157,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Composite key city box-office reports for 1947 compared with those of 1946, follow:

**McLeod & Company**

(Continued from page 1)

Plan U-1 Sales Meets

A. J. O'Keefe, Universal-International assistant general sales manager; E. T. Gomerson, assistant to distributor; Arthur A. Scully, and James Jordan, contract and play-date manager, left here yesterday to open the company's forthcoming series of regional sales meetings which will start at San Francisco, Calif.

Security Plan (Continued from page 1)

Weeks at which details of the plan would be worked out. He indicated that secretaries would be appointed to work out the cooperation of newspapers and television stations, and other media projects would be outlined to the group, and they would decide what type subjects should be kept secret.

**EDWARD STOLLER has been appointed branch manager in Minneapolis for United Artists Theatres. He succeeds Ralph Cranblet, who was promoted to the post of Midwestern district manager this week.**

$250,000 Advertising Budget for UA Artists' 'Prelude to Night' A $250,000 advertising budget has been established for Preluder to Night, starring Tyrone Power and Ann Blyth. It will be handled by the UA Advertising Agency for Eagle-Lion release, following conferences between president Arthur Lyons and Irving Rubine of Producing Artists; Eagle-Lion president Arthur B. Krim; director of advertising-publicity Max E. Youngstein, and studio publicity director Sam Israel, and Clark Ramsay, of the Monroe Advertising Agency.

UA Sub-leases the Broadway For Stage Presentations

United Artists has closed a percentage-of-the-gross deal with stage producer David Lowe for the sub-letting of its 1,269-seat Broadway Theatre here. The theatre, which last year was used by UA from a corporation as a supporting house for "The Best That Is," and which has been blacked-out for the past several weeks, will reopen next Wednesday with Love's stage production, "The Cradle Will Rock."

Ceremonies Mark Premiere of Fitzpatrick Color Subject

WILLIAMSBURG, Va., Jan. 21.—A presentation ceremony marked the Fitzpatrick's M-G-M Technicolor Travelogue, "Cradle of a Nation," will be sponsored today by the Chamber of Commerce.

The subject features scenes of 18th Century Williamsburg. The screening will be followed by a reception and talks by William F. Crockett, president of Virginia Theatres, and Dr. Charles F. Marsh, Chamber of Commerce president here.

Germam, Schwaberg Added to Brotherhood Drive Chairmen

William German has been appointed chairman of the chamber's new film and allied industries groups division in the American Brotherhood Week campaign, while Al Schwaberg, who has been named chairman for independent producers. The drive's appointments were announced at a Hotel Astor luncheon here at which speakers included J. Robert Rubin, David Weinstock, Harry Brandt, Edward Lachman, S. Seidler, Robert Macnir, Robert Coyle, Sam Shen, Oscar Hammerstein II and Brock Pemberton.

Miss Adams Joins Jim Booth

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—Edna Adams has been named to an expanded theatre's advertising department to work in a similar post for Jim Booth, executive vice-president. Miss Adams will succeed Robert Wilson, former assistant manager of the Buckingham Theatre.

Sport Cavalcade in Film

A feature presentation, "Carnival of Souls," as a part of a Sunday evening movie package from the turn of the century to date, will have its premiere today at Brandt's Victory Theatre here.
Says UK Market Is Vital to Hollywood
London, Jan. 21.—Asserting that it is universally known here that the British market is essential to Hollywood, Oliver Lyttelton, speaking in the House of Commons today in behalf of the Tory opposition, said: "It should be recognized that our system of gold-digging, by which we are not to afford dollars anywhere like the extent they (U.S. distributors) hope." He continued that although he would not suggest that the British government relieve its main position on the ad valorem tax situation, he hopes a certain flexibility and goodwill might resolve the present problem.

Wilson on Tax
(Continued from page 1)
tent the "somewhat trifling but so far unproductive negotiations with American producers." The film quota bill, following day-long debate in Commons, was voted a second reading.

Wilson reviewed the British viewpoint in the negotiations, pointed out the import duty. We cannot continue finding dollars to meet the payment of film imports, he said, and asked the trade to make any reasonable arrangement and work out a scheme which will allow extra earnings to be taken out of Britain to the extent to which our films earn more money abroad.

He warned that the supply of American films in Britain could not be maintained for long be expected to attract the British public with the regularity with which they did in the past. He acknowledged that if a settlement of the tax deadlock is not reached, Brit- ish exhibitors will be in a serious posi- tion. Conditions of distribution and double feature programs will be forthcoming as will longer runs, Wilson said, adding that ad valorem tax relief must be granted, for example, the government is not only breaking the government in standing firm.

If the British government expected the deadlock with the United States indefinitely, Wilson declared, the quota bill would not have been introduced. He described the ad valorem tax as an emergency measure dictated only by a lack of dollars and not imposed to confer protection on the British in- dustry. The best of Hollywood films are always welcomed in Britain as are products of European studios, he said.

No Video for Academy
Hollywood, Jan. 21.—Citing technical problems as the reason, Jean Hersolt, president of the Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, has notified television companies that the annual Academy Award ceremonies will not be televised.

Reviews
"Angels Alley" (Monogram)

PUBLISHER Jan Grippo of the Bowery Boys pictures addresses his atten- tion directly to the clever film racketeers Nester Patina over the protection of the hardy young men's experiences, with a result which establishes a new high for the series. It has as much action as the junior trade can reasonably demand, and it hands the young people something to think about at the same time. Mr. Grippo makes a tough, safe-cracker in the title role, but beneath his hard exterior there is a zeni- tial soul. It becomes the duty of Tom Brown, young village priest, to exonerate the ronin, personify- ing the process, and showing thereby how he inspires his childhood friends, Dale Evans plays the town nurse who eventually helps set the patient straight.

The Norman S. Hall and Jerry Gruskin screenplay has Slippy hiding out from the law as a street cleaner. In addition to running down Befriended by the priest and helped by Miss Hile, Slippy figures on going straight. But meanwhile his former henchmen-in-crimes decide to rob the town bank, thus Slippy is blamed for the deed. There is a good deal of com- monsense, fisticuffs, shooting, and suspense before all things turn out right. Based on a novel by Marie Conway Oenler, Albert Kelly directed; Lou Brock was associate producer. Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Jan. 15.

Mandel Herbstman
"Slippy McGee" (Republic)
The familiar story of the hardened criminal who becomes regenerated through wholesome influences of honest townfools is offered in "Slippy McGee." Despite some stock situations, the film has an abundance of action and proves to be fairly interesting drama. Donald Barry makes a tough, safe-cracker in the title role, but beneath his hard exterior there is a zeni- tial soul. It becomes the duty of Tom Brown, young village priest, to exonerate the ronin, personifying the process, and showing thereby how he inspires his childhood friends, Dale Evans plays the town nurse who eventually helps set the patient straight.

The Norman S. Hall and Jerry Gruskin screenplay has Slippy hiding out from the law as a street cleaner. In addition to running down Befriended by the priest and helped by Miss Hile, Slippy figures on going straight. But meanwhile his former henchmen-in-crimes decide to rob the town bank, thus Slippy is blamed for the deed. There is a good deal of com- monsense, fisticuffs, shooting, and suspense before all things turn out right. Based on a novel by Marie Conway Oenler, Albert Kelly directed; Lou Brock was associate producer. Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Jan. 15.

Mandel Herbstman
"The Main Street Kid" (Republic)
"The Main Street Kid," Republic once again employs the services of radio comedy star Al Pearce to win the good-will of family audiences. That the picture succeeds in its purpose is due largely to the warm simplicity and homeyness of both of the comedian's performance and his material. The story has been conceived with sufficient amusement to make it possible to overlook much of its implausibility. The laughs may not be uproarious, but there are enough of them to suit.

The film is directed by director and star Al Pearce, with a story by Howard Estabrook, and adapted from a story by George Arliss. The film is produced by Al Pesce, with scenes by Jack Grunville, and additional dialogue by Bud Folsom. The photography is by Tom Miller, with music by Frank S. Webster. The film is distributed by the Republic Pictures Corporation.

Testing for "Black Hills"
(PRC-Eagle-Lion)

FSTs and bullets fly in all directions in "Black Hills," a standard Western starring Eddie Dean and featuring Roscoe Ates and Shirley Patterson. Three scenes, rendered by Dean and others, give the goings-on an added interest.

The original screenplay, by Joseph Lederer, is one in which the villain of gold deposits on a ranch, and then pays the way towards foreclosing the mortgage. In between, there is the usual shoot-out. But the picture is not without an element of humor, which is provided by the customary slapstick while Dean goes about exposing the badman with proper dash and vigor. Produced by Jerry Thomas and directed by Ray Taylor from beaton material includes "Black Hills," "Punchinello" and "Let's Go Slapin.'"

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification.}

Any Questions On New Export Rule?
Washington, Jan. 21.—Film industry foreign managers having difficulty understand- ing the U.S. Commerce Depart- ment's new order requiring individual validated licenses for all shipments to Foreign Office. These managers stated that their questions answered at the Hotel New Yorker in New York yesterday by the Depart- ment reports.

Experts from the Depart- ment's Office of International Trade were asked to ex- plain the new policy.

MPEA Meeting
(Continued from page 1)
executive committee session during the day and a board of directors meet- ing at night.

With its announcement in Holly- wood yesterday that it will send dele- gates to the conference, the SMPF executive committee, functioning as a governing body pending selection of a successor to Donald M. Nelson, declared:

"There can be no just or legal solu- tion to the British tax problem without full consideration of the rights of independent producers. There can be no adequate solution unless it is implemented by the full weight of the people of the United States through the State Department."

Cost Cut Held Boon
(Continued from page 1)

makes pictures," the M-G-M director said. "The real creative talents we have in our business can do anything if they put their minds to it." He held the problem of producing good pic- tures with less money could be solved by compelling everybody involved to "buckle down.

"Great enthusiasm and closer work- ing ties between producer and director are regarded as vital by LeRoy to the success of screen entertainment under current conditions.

According to the director, the film business today needs "more real cre- ative talent," and that the quality of pictures is being hampered by a shortage of "fresh creators." LeRoy reserved his strongest complaint for the film markets. He said their sole interest today is money. They did not seem to care any more about how their houses are run, he argued.

The director has left for Boca Raton, where he expects to be three or four weeks before heading back to the Coast.
Through him...West meets East

Across his “front page” the world parades...before the eyes of moviegoers on Main Street. There, West and East do meet—through the highly specialized efforts of the newsreel editor.

He sifts the facts and foibles of the world...and presents in one short reel the significant, the human, and the odd—the news that helps the world to know itself.

To his objectivity...his sense of the newsworthy...his feeling for concise and graphic storytelling...the newsreel owes its unique place in American journalism.

Yet the newsreel editor would be the first to give due credit to his staff of cameramen...and to the Eastman motion picture films which help them cover the news—and help him present it so effectively.
Film Dividends Estimated at $80,000,000

Reach an All-Time High, Washington Discloses

Washington, Jan. 22—Publicly reported dividends paid by motion picture companies in 1947 hit a record high of $50,718,000, the Department of Commerce disclosed here today.

This was nine per cent higher than the $46,714,000 reported for 1946. And, if the Commerce Department’s usual estimate holds true, this figure includes only 60 per cent of all dividends paid by motion picture companies—then the total of all industry dividends paid during 1947 may have topped $80,000,000, likewise an all-time high for the industry.

Dividends reported for the month of December dropped sharply, however, with $7,967,000 reported for December 1947, and $10,840,000 reported for December 1946, bringing payments for the last two months of 1947 below those for the similar 1946 period.

1st Managers’ Meet Of NTS in 7 Years

National Theatre Supply plans a meeting of branch managers at New York’s Park Central Hotel, Feb. 2-3, under the direction of Walter E. Green, president.

Although frequent district meetings have been held throughout the country, this is the first general meeting of branch heads since Feb. 1941. All sessions will also be attended by home office executives. The theme of the meeting will be “General Sales Plans and Policies for 1948,” and the agenda will include visits to International Projector’s plant at Bloomfield, N. J., and General Precision’s laboratories at Pleasantville, N. Y.

Lawson Is Head of Canadian Pioneers

Toronto, Jan. 22—J. Earl Lawson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada, was elected president of the Canadian Picture Pioneers at a meeting of the board of directors tonight which followed the annual general get-together of the association. Law-son is head of Canadian Pioneers.

U.K. STAND ON TAX
WRONG: JOHNSTON

Delay Trials of 10 Indicted Two Weeks

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22—Trials of 10 Hollywood writers and directors indicted for contempt of Congress have been postponed for two weeks, with the first trial, that of John Howard Lawson, now set for Feb. 24.

Postponement was due to District Court Judge Richard B. Keech’s granting an extension of time to attorneys for the 10 in which to file a motion to dismiss the indictment. This will undoubtedly move up to March or April the “second phase” of the case.

TOA Leaders Set to Confer in N.Y. Today

Problems affecting members of the Theatre Owners of America will be discussed at a conference at TOA headquarters here today. Participants will include Ted Gamble, president of the TOA; S. F. Fahian, chairman of the executive committee and regional vice-president, and Robert W. Goyne, executive director.

Among subjects up for discussion will be the Ascap situation, tax, 16mm., pictures and television. High on the agenda is expected to be the question of the resumption of meetings with Ascap on new music taxes. Gamble is due in from the Coast today.

M-G-M, 20th, Paramount
Hardest Hit in Britain

London, Jan. 22—Of all American distributors here, M-G-M is in the worst predicament in terms of unreleased film supplies here. With virtually no unreleased product left in its vaults, the company is making frantic efforts to bring out popular reissues.

An up-to-date survey of unreleased U.S. product shows there are left 20 “A’s,” 20 “B’s,” and 10 “average” merits, and about 25 “B’s,” the latter owned by smaller U.S. distributors.

Also hard-hit are Paramount and 20th Century-Fox. However, these two have some British pictures to offer.

Meanwhile, independent British ex-

Pool, Not Merger For G-B and Odeon

London, Jan. 22—J. Arthur Rank’s plan to combine the Gaumont-British and Odeon circuits will result in an operational pooling arrangement and not a complete merger, Sypros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, who is here from the U.S. for conferences with Rank on the deal, said here today. Twentieth-Fox has a substantial interest in Odeon.

Each circuit will maintain its own financial identity. Skouras explained, but practical control, booking operations, and other features will be “streamlined” under one head, probably J. Davis, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization.

Canada 3rd Quarter Taxes Take Increases

Ottawa, Jan. 22—Canadian amusement taxes collected during the third quarter of 1947 were higher than for the corresponding period of 1946. October collections amounted to $1,372,699; November, $1,203,698 and December, $1,150,380. Figures for the corresponding months of 1946 were $1,313,054, $1,242,254, and $1,023,349.
Personal Mention

CHARLES BOASBERG, RKO Radio North-South division manager, sailed Feb. 9 on an exchange tour on behalf of the "1948 Ned DePinne Drive," of which he is co-captain with Walter E. Branson and Norbert Sullivan.

DAVID E. ROSE, Joseph Mankiewicz, Peggy Cummings, Jean Pierre Aumont, David Niven and Mrs. Niven, Douglas Dumbrille and Rex Harrison and his wife, Lilli Palmer, are among passengers due here today from Europe on the SS Queen Elizabeth.

DANNY KAYE will fly to London today for a day or two-week engagement at the Palladium Theatre in London. Commencing Feb. 11, he planned originally to sail tomorrow on the SS Queen Elizabeth.

MILT HOSFIELD, film buyer for Fox International in Denver, has resigned and left for Los Angeles, with his duties being added to Robert Seelig, assistant to the president.

FRANK MARSHALL and Lou SIGEL, Warner theatre executives, left New York February 6th for Washington and will return Monday.

ALFRED CROWN, Samuel Goldwyn Productions foreign sales manager, will leave here by plane Sunday for Mexico.

JOHN FABROW, Paramount director, and his actress-wife MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN, left New York Thursday for Hollywood, her fifth child.

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, is en route to Mexico City for a 10-day visit on company business.

ADOLPH ZUKOR, Paramount board chairman, and Mrs. ZUKOR, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

PAUL HOLLISTER, RKO Radio publicist, has returned from a six-week trip to New York over the weekend.

ARTHUR GREENBLATT, Screen Guild's East Coast president, has returned back here Monday from Detroit.

News Briefs . . .

MAX Youngstein, Eagle Lion director of advertising-publicity, has been selected by the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' nominating committee to succeed Arnold Stolz as AMPA president. Nominating committee's selections are tanta- musing.

Other officers nominated are: David Blum, Loew International, as vice-president, succeeding Phil Williams; Charles B. Wommack, succeeding Max Stein, and Evelyn Nolan, Republic, secretary. In particular, four names further down the list, following were selected for the board of directors: Ray Gallagher, Hap Hadley, Bacall Livingstone, Vincent Trotta and Charles Alcott.

Nominating names will be offered to the AMPA membership at a luncheon at International Contracts here this Tuesday, early February 8. Elections will be held in a month.

Film Classics Buys 24 Features And 4 Serials from Realart

Film Classics has acquired 24 Westerns and four serials from Realart for release.

The Westerns include 10 Johnny Mack Brows, eight Ken Maynard, three Tom Tyler, and four Ballyhullos, "Riders of Death Valley," "Gang Busters," "Junior G-Men" and "Oregon Trail."

International Ticket Co. to Operate 50th Year in 1948

International Ticket Company, New York distributor for several years will observe its 50th year of its existence. The firm will reach the half-century mark with Charles Mabel, its founder, still active in its conduct.

International operates sales offices in New York and other cities.

Skouras Aids Safety

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22.—Following acceptance of the National Safety Council citation for its sponsoring safety throughout the nation, Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, announced that Fox West Coast houses will exhibit half-hour trailers on safety during the next 18 weeks, with all National houses adopting the campaign late February.

20th-Fox, SPG to Arbitrate Tuesday

Twentieth Century-Fox will be the first company to participate in arbitration in the Screen Publicists Guild wage dispute, with hearings starting here Tuesday before the American Arbitration Association. The selection will be retroactive to last September when the wage, reopenin clause became effective. The union is asking a 30 per cent increase.

Arise Interest in Flexer Theatres

MEXICAN, Jan. 22.—M. Lichtman, affiliated with the association, Harry Johnston and Ed Sapin, have acquired an interest in Dave Flexer's Tennessee theatre, The Empoli.

They also will book and buy for the houses.

Setting of Enterprise's "Arch of Triumph" for advanced admission prices has removed the picture from a booking by Radio City Music Hall here. It is understood, G. S. Eysell, president and managing director of the Hall, opposes raising the house's prices, it is said.

George Schaefer, distribution chief of Enterprise, and Gradwell L. Sears, president of United Artists, which will release the 14 art pictures here are looking for another New York first run for an opening at upper prices, which house owner viewed as the likeliest possibility.

SIMPP Executive Commits Drive To Raise Independents' Take

Hollywood, Jan. 22.—The executive committee of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers has announced a vigorous drive to "re-estimate freedom of enterprise and gain a rightful share of box-office income for independents," declaring that "the independent producer was no longer dependent on a free market for his pictures or in a better position to receive the full price which his pictures deserve from the public."

Korda's 'Anna Karenina' Has Cost Antidusted Pressed

LONDON, Jan. 22.—Sir Alexander Korda's 'Anna Karenina,' starring Vivien Leigh, Sir Ralph Richardson and Kieron Moore, was given its premier last night here before an audience which consisted of members of the diplomatic corps, the British Cabinet, and the celebrities. Soeurs P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, attended the opening. Also on hand were J. Arthur Rank and John Davis, managing director of the Rank Organization.

Albany Theatre Files Clearance Complaint Against Paramount

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 22.—Cinemat City Theatre Co. operating the Eagle has filed with the American Arbitration Association a clearance complaint against Paramount, charging the house subject to "double clearance" after the Deline, a Warner neighborhood house, and the Colonial, operated by Freedman and Orson.

Six United Nations Films

Six United Nations films were completed in 1947. "The Peoples' Char-

Gentlemen's Agreement

BRANDT'S 20th-CENTURY-FOX MAYFAIR 7th Ave. & 4th St.

WALT DISNEY'S Bambi

Disney's "Bambi" was released here February 9th by the Hal Rossen, production head for Walt Disney Productions. The film has been grossing well in the two weeks since it opened at the Mayfair Theatre, here Thursday.

BURT LANCASTER LIZABETH SCOTT H.R. WALLIS' "7 WALK ALONE" by ANDY RUSSELL HELEN FORREST at THE GOLDEN THEATRE 4th Ave. & 6th St.}

"A Very Funny Picture"—Says SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents ELSIE GRANT - YOUNG - NIVEN "The Bishop's Wife" ASTOR B/way at 4th St.
Dan was meant to make love to "Margie"

In the picture that's meant for Boxoffice
The love...the songs...the laugh

Jeanne
(“MARGIE”)
CRAIN
YOU
MEANT

OSCAR LEVANT · BARBARA

Directed by LLOYD BACON
Original Screen Play

When everybody went collegiate

IF I HAD YOU · AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' · YOU WERE MEANT FOR
I'LL GET BY · CRAZY RHYTHM · SILV...
of an era that'll never be forgotten.....

Dan
("MOTHER WORE TIGHTS")

DAILEY

WERE FOR ME

Lawrence • Selena Royle • Percy Kilbride
Lee MacGregor • Herbert Anderson

Produced by FRED KOHLMAR

Moll and Valentine Davies

...and sang...

GOODNIGHT SWEETHEART • AIN'T SHE SWEET?
THREADS AMONGST THE GOLD
"CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE"

Technicolor

Darryl F. Zanuck presents "CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Starring TYRONE POWER with JEAN PETERS, CESAR ROMERO, JOHN SUTTON, LEE J. COBB, Antonio Moreno, Thomas Gomez, Alon Mowbray, Barbara Lawrence, George Zucco, Ray Roberts, Marc Lawrence • Directed by HENRY KING • Produced by LAMAR TROTTI • Screen Play by Lamar Trotti • From the Novel by Samuel Shellabarger

"DAISY KENYON"

JOAN CRAWFORD, DANA ANDREWS, HENRY FONDA in "DAISY KENYON" with Ruth Warrick, Martha Stewart, Peggy Ann Garner, Connie Marshall, Nicholas Joy, Art Baker
Produced and Directed by OTTO PREMINGER • Screen Play by David Hertz • Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Janeway

"GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT"

Darryl F. Zanuck presents GREGORY PECK, DOROTHY McGUIRE, JOHN GARFIELD in Laura Z. Hobson's "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT" with Celeste Holm, Anne Revere, June Havoc, Albert Dekker, Jane Wyatt, Deon Stockwell, Sam Jaffe • Produced by Darryl F. Zanuck
Screen Play by MOSS HART • Directed by ELIA KAZAN

"CALL NORTHSIDE 777"

JAMES STEWART in "CALL NORTHSIDE 777" with RICHARD CONTE, LEE J. COBB, HELEN WALKER and Betty Garde, Kasio Orzakewski, Joanne de Bergh, Howard Smith, Moroni Olsen, John McIntire, Paul Harvey • Directed by HENRY HATHAWAY • Produced by OTTO LANG • Screen Play by Jerome Cady and Jay Drater • Adaptation by Leonard Hoffman and Quentin Reynolds • Based on Articles by James P. McGuire

"SUMMER LIGHTNING"

Technicolor

JUNE HAYER in "SUMMER LIGHTNING" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • With LON MCCALLISTER and WALTER BRENNAN, ANNE REVERE, NATALIE WOOD, Robert Vernes, Henry Hull, Tom Tully • Directed by F. HUGH HERBERT • Produced by WALTER MOROSCO • Screen Play by F. Hugh Herbert • From a Novel by George Agnew Chamberlain

"FURY AT FURNACE CREEK"

"FURY AT FURNACE CREEK" starring VICTOR MATURE with COLEEN GRAY, GLENN LANGAN, REGINALD GARDINER, Albert Dekker, Fred Clark, Charles Kemper, Robert Warwick, George Cleveland, Ray Roberts, Frank Orth, Willard Robertson • Directed by BRUCE HUMBERSTONE • Produced by FRED KOHLMAR • Written by Charles G. Booth
Additional Dialogue by Winston Miller • Suggested by a story by David Garth
Sees Palestine as Place to Produce

Palestine was characterized as a highly favorable site for American film companies seeking a place to produce abroad, by Nathan Silberberg, head of Nathan Film Corp., Inc., who was in Tel-Aviv. Silberberg, who arrived here recently to see new pictures and line up product deals, pointed out that "everything in Palestine is favorable to production," including climate and settings, as well as a large pool of artists and technicians.

Silberberg asserted that there are now two studios in Palestine and plans are underway to construct another in Nantucket. Most of the films made there today are shorts and documentaries.

Silberberg disclosed that there are about 120 film houses in Palestine and approximately 80 per cent of their product comes from America. Exploited out to be in recent months there has been a 50 per cent decline in grosses because of the political situation. Discussing audiences there, he said that the Jewish population prefers higher-type dramas and musicals whereas the Arabs are mostly content with outdoor action films. Silberberg expects to return to Palestine in about two months.

Illinois Variety Club Installations Tonight

CHICAGO, Jan. 22.—Walter Immerman, Balaban and Katz executive, will be inaugurated as chief barker of Variety Club of Illinois at installation ceremonies tomorrow night at its headquarters at the Sheraton Hotel here. A Raymer will assume his new duties as chairman of the house committee, while Irving Mack and Bill Baker will take over as co-chairmen of the club.

Among the 500 persons expected to attend will be Gov. Dwight Green, Mayor D'Ailly, who is managing editor of the Chicago Times, and stage, screen and radio personalities.

Entertainment Program Set For Variety Clubs Convention

MIAMI BEACH, Jan. 22.—An extensive entertainment program has been prepared for Variety Club Interna-
tional's annual convention, to be held here April 12-19, at the Roney Plaza Hotel.

On April 12 there will be a gala evening and a first-time party at the Roney Plaza, A Jai Alai night at Biscayne Front, which will be staged on April 13. Scheduled for April 14 is a South Sea party on Key Biscayne. On the program for April 15 will be an outdoor to Tropical Park race track and a dance at the Roney Plaza. On the night of April 16 convention guests will attend dog races. An Agha party will be held on April 17.

McCabe to Ettinger

Tom McCabe, who for the past three-and-a-half years was with the Ted Bates Advertising Agency's press department, has been added to the New York staff of Margaret Ettinger and Co., film publicists. McCabe was associated variably with Richard Condon, Inc., 20th Century-Fox and United Artists.

Walsh May Stay Out Of Coast Wage Talks

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 22.—Current negotiations between screen bosses, producers and workers on a cost-of-living increase for some 15,000 studio employees will probably not develop suitably. Walsh, however, is somewhat optimistic about the progress of the salary talks, which will result in a new slate.

Brewer described the work of the board as being a checkup preliminary to the holding of the American Federation of Labor's executive council meeting. The board declared that the strike of that body is now at the midway point.

One of the main issues in the plaintiff's question calling for a statement of film history on each picture released since Jan. 1, 1948.

Slowedown at RKO Mexican Studio

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 22.—The costly studios at Churubusco, local suburban, hotel, built and equipped by RKO Radio and Mexican interests, and headed by Enrico Azar, are now functioning partially because of the demand by the Mexican Film Workers Union that for every picture made there in English, one must be made in Spanish. The demand has made some Hollywood producers change their minds about producing in Mexico.

Ross-Bart Buys Four Cummins' Theatres

Samuel Cummins, general manager of the Dix Theatre to Ross-Bart Corp., controlled by George Langhant and Harry Rosenberg, both of New York. The theaters are Port and High, Portsmouth, and Place and Parkmount, in Norfolk.

The circuit will be operated under the direction of Langbant, who is charged with the operation of the new screen.

Fugitive' Stirs Press

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 22.—Local newspapers are campaigning against "The Fugitive," which stars Dolores del Rio, who was in Mexico by John Ford, and is now being exhibited in this country, on the ground that it disparages Mexico. The papers are criticizing the government's film censorship department, chief of which is Antonio Castro Local, and urging President Miguel Aleman to view the picture and rule whether it is suitable for Mexicans.

Grainger, Walton at 3 Sales Meetings

James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president in charge of sales force, will leave here today for Chicago, where he will preside at a two-day sales meeting to be held to-morrow and Sunday at the Blackstone Hotel. Sales personnel from the following branches will be present: Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Omaha, Des Moines and St. Louis.

Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager, who has been holding meetings in Denver, Salt Lake City, Portland, and Seattle, will attend the Chicago sessions, following which Grainger and Walton will proceed to Detroit, where they will meet with the Detroit sales force on Monday and Tuesday.

Telenews Reels Initiated in N.Y.

The new Telenews-International News Service newscast for television has made its debut in New York over DuMont station WABD, first of a series of weekly 20-minute newscasts that will be featured regularly on television Tuesday nights. The Telenews-IN5 film presented 12 different news events.

It is said to have marked the first time in newsreel production that an established newsreel organization (Telenews Productions, Inc.), has joined with a worldwide press service to provide current pictorial news programs in motion pictures for showing to the public.

N C B Chicago Video Plans Moved Ahead

CHICAGO, Jan. 22—NBC's television plans for Chicago have been moved ahead four months, and the network expects to be on the air with station WNBV, its Mid-western video outlet, by Sept. 1, 1948, it has been announced by E. I. Showerman, NBC vice-president in charge of the Central division. This schedule is an earlier plan to be on the air by the year's end.

Max J. Jelen, 40

Max J. Jelen, 40, theatrical producer who formerly held extensive motion picture interests in New Jersey, died at his home here yesterday in an explosion that rocked his apartment. Police said it was suicide. Survivors include the widow and his mother.

M.G.M Trade Show

"Piccadilly Incident"

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY

TERRIES ONLY

TUES. JANUARY 27

9:30 A.M.

M.G.M SCREEN ROOM

630 Ninth Avenue — New York City
Reviews

"Panhandle"  (Champion-Al lied Artists)

Hollywood, Jan. 22

TIP-TOP in every department, this Champion production starring Rod Cameron is a powerful picturization of the type of story in which the late William S. Hart won the spurs of cinematic immortality. It is expertly directed by Lesley Selander, the scenario contains all the requirements of Western fans of all ages. It is first grade material for all theatres where major Westerns thrive.

Cameron, in a composed portrayal under the signature of the role of John Sands, a retired outlaw with a price on his head, emerges from seclusion to seek and take care of his brother’s killer. This entails riding into a town dominated by Matt Garson (Reed Hadley) and pursuing his prey in face of disaster. The instance set up by the latter, who now owns past experience that Sands is a fast man with a gun. Attempts are made to bushwhack Sands, to provoke him into fights for purposes of murder, and finally to shoot him down on the spot where his brother was similarly dealt with. All this is handled in the best tradition of the authentic West, in contrast to the quickie style of treatment, and the result is solidly and convincingly entertaining.

Cathy Downs and Anne Gwynne, in casts of far more importance than are usually given the distaff side in Westerns, contribute importantly to the whole. Production is by John C. Champion and Blair Edwards, the two having collaborated on the screenplay, and the latter playing a role in the picture.

Running time, 84 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

William R. Weaver

"Stage to Mesa City"  (PRC-Eagle-Lion)

"STAGE to Mesa City" is one pursuit after another, giving it the very maximum of action. The Western concentrates strictly on movement, with little attention to domestic trivia. John Wayne, will, just as well since the production appears to be aimed at youthful audiences.

Players and horses are driven to the limit in working out the plot to seize a mortgaged stagecoach line. To get hold of the property the villains make2 predatory attacks, but the greed of a mail contract promises to be the salvation of the line. The baddies, of course, go all out to prevent the contract from being awarded. Credit for foiling their plans goes to John Wayne, a U. S. deputy, and Al "Fuzzy" St. John, his partner. They get their main support from Jennifer Holt, George Chesebro and Brad Slaven. Jerry Thomas produced and Ray Taylor directed, from a screenplay by Joseph E. Poland.


P.R.L.

Rank, E-L Linked to Mexican Studio Deal

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 22—Plans are being made by an unnamed English film producer to establish a studio for its own use in or adjacent to Mexico. Announcements Jose Angel Cenicientos, chairman of the Mexican government’s Foreign Trade and Domestic Commerce Board, recently created by President Miguel Aleman to channel investments in Mexico.

The names relating to Row are that it may be either the J. Arthur Rank interests, whose pictures are now distributed in Mexico by Universal-International, or Eagle-Lion, which recently opened a distribution office here.

Canadian Pioneers

(Continued from page 1)

In an unexpected announced, Ray Lewis of this city, only woman member, revealed her retirement as secretary in order to devote her attention to her business, also ran along to Toronto.

Ben Cronk is vice-president. Held at the King Edward Hotel when the meeting, was also informed that the club’s benevolent fund has reached a total of $17,500 and that membership, with the introduction of new members today, is now 485 in this country.

Canadian Pioneers

(Continued from page 1)

son succeeds Oscar R. Hanson in the presidency.

Mormon Church Has New Censor Board

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 22 — The Church of Latter-Day Saints (Mor mon) has started a censorship board. It will be controlled by a board of five pictures which cannot be shown.

Short Subject

"The Cold War"  (March of Time—20th-Fox)

The so-called "cold war," although relatively bloodless "cold war" being waged today in Europe between politi cal factions, is examined by March of Time, which has been selected as the site for the camera’s vivid depiction of the struggle for power which is being participated in by Communists, de Gaulleists, Moderates and Social Democrats. The economic impact of the struggle is emphasized, the French people themselves are graphically demonstrated as the subject penetrates the walls of a lower-middle-class family whose war-bond property, M. G. M. concludes, can be alleviated by the Marshall Plan.

The date for the revolutionary, thoroughly engrossing film, it probes sufficiently below the surface of Europe’s stormy situation to give American audiences a good insight into what is going on. It should be received ap preciatively by patrons. Running time, 90 minutes.

Delay Trials of 10

(Continued from page 1)

House Un-American Activities Committee’s hearings on Hollywood, Com mittee officials have stated that the "second phase" hearings will not open at least before the court has decided on at least one of the 10 cases. Lawson’s trial was originally scheduled for Feb. 9. However, it has been given over to Davis until Jan. 30 to file a double motion to inspect the minutes of the Grand Jury, in order to and to dismiss the 10 indictments it has been brought. Committee attorneys must answer by Feb. 10 and the motion will be argued on Feb. 13.

The date in the revised trial schedule are: Dalton Trumbo, March 3; Albert Maltz, March 10; Alvin Ailey, March 17; Herbert Biberman, March 22; Edward Dmytryk, March 24; Robert Rossen, March 29; Ring Lardner, Jr., March 31; and the rest of Apr. 5.

Dalton Trumbo Sues Loew’s To Have His Job Restored

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22 — Dalton Trumbo, one of the 10 writers and directors indicted for contempt in the Un-American Activities Committee hearings, has filed suit in Federal Court demanding that Loew’s restore his job under the terms of a contract running to Feb. 19, 1950.

The writer says the studio was committed to pay him $70,000 per script and furnish assignments every four weeks if scripts were finished in a timely fashion. The suit demands that the company fulfill its contract or pay him the amount he would have earned under it.

$2,676,487 Loaned By Mexican Bank

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 22—The Banco Nacional Cinematografico, the film trade’s own bank, which was recently closed down for illegal dealings, reported in its Dec. 31 statement a $2,676,487 total profits, credits and discounts of $2,676,487 in 1947. At the end of the year, the bank had $5,350,000 of its bonds in circulation.

Canadian Workers Average Weekly $37.47

OTTAWA, Jan. 22—The employe and production statistics branch of the Canadian government reports that a majority of the Canadian theatres amounts to $37.47.

Wilson’s statement of yesterday declared: “I confidently tell Hollywood that if they believe they can squeeze us into modifying our attitude on the ad valorem tax, they back a loser.” Admitting that nothing could be gained by settlement or compromise, Wilson said he would not permit to go unchallenged the statement that U. S. producers have not offered alternative plans.

“Have we,” he said. “The sensible way to reach a settlement is for both sides to meet and work out an alternative which will enable Britain to conserve dollars and the ad valorem tax situation will sooner or fair basis. On our part, the door remains wide open to working out an alternative.”

May Call Eric Johnston

Before Nixon House Unit

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, will be called to testify before the Nixon legislation sub-committee of the House Un-American Activities Committee, according to committee sources.

Johnston’s name has been suggested by east coasts of the full committee to appear before the Nixon Committee which will open hearings on Feb. 5 on legislation to curb the Communist Party in this countty.

Two Get Eagle-Lion Posts

Eagle-Lion has appointed Frank L. Norris as office manager and head booker for Kansas City and Joel Blue stone as salesman in New Orleans.
TOA Planning
Meetings with
Ascap on Tax

Negotiations Resumed
Here in a Few Weeks

Plans for a series of meetings to be held with Ascap in the next couple of weeks in a resumption of negotiations on proposals to modify the Society's new formula on music
rates, were discussed here on Friday by Theatre Owners of America
leaders at a luncheon conference at the Metropolitan Club. Conferees were:
Ted Gamble, president of the TOA; Si Fabian, chairman of the executive
committee and regional vice-president, and Robert W. Coynne, executive di-
rector.

The conferees also held plans for discussions in Washington with Representative Knudsen
and members of the House Ways and Means Committee, of
which he is chairman, on pro-
posals to reduce the present 20
per cent ticket tax to the pre-
war level of 10 per cent.

First meeting with Knudsen
and members of his committee is sched-
uled for next Tuesday.

Screen Publications
Form Association

A group of publishing
companies has formed the Association of Screen
Publishing Associates, Inc., with head-
quarters in New York. Although the
companies publish other types of per-
iodicals as well, they are represented in the
screen field by a total of 12
monthly publications. Primary pur-
pose of the new association will be
study common advertising prob-
lems.

A.W. Smith Reports
Key Field Changes

Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales
manager of 20th Century-Fox, left
here for the Coast over the weekend
where he will confer with Charles P.
Shouras, president of Fox West Coast
Theatres, and the latter's associates.
He was accompanied by Frank Car-
roll of the home office distribution
department.

Before departing, Smith disclosed
a number of Field Changes.

UA Board to Weigh
British Production
Program Tomorrow

Plans under which United Artists
would launch in England a seven-year
production program involving five pic-
tures a year, will go before the UA
board tomorrow for approval, Arthur
W. Kelly, UA executive vice-presi-
dent, revealed here Friday on his
return from London on the SS Queen
Elizabeth.

Under the plan which has been ap-
proved by the British government,
undisclosed British interests would
form a company that would finance
the deal while UA would furnish pro-
duction assistance, distribution and
the "know-how," Kelly explained. Each
picture would cost about $1,000,000,
and American producers and scripts
would be used, along with some
American actors.

Kelly disclosed that two UA pic-
tures, "Kings Row" and "Blaze in
England," are to be "Just Williams" and "Brass Monkey.
Kelly said he would attend the Mo-
tion Picture Export Association meet-
ing here tomorrow.

Another arrival from England was
(Continued on page 4)

$3,850,000
Loan to Mono.

Hollywood, Jan. 25.—Steve Brody,
vice-president, and George D. Burrows,
vice-president and treasurer, have signed
a new loan agreement with the Security
First National Bank of California.
Under its terms, it runs for one year,
is revolving in form, and the company
will have available a bank credit of
$3,850,000, consisting of direct loans
and loans to its producers. It is cov-
ered by the guarantee of Monogram
Pictures Corp. Notes will bear inter-
est at the rate of four and one-half
per cent.

"Due to the revolving feature of
the credit, it is anticipated that Mono-
gram will use for production purposes,
during the current year, an aggregate of
(Continued on page 6)

State Censor Rejects
'Devil in the Flesh'

Producer Paul Greaves' French
feature "Devil in the Flesh" ("Diable au Corps"), which was brought to the
U.S. in association with Uni-
versal, was shown in New York State license at the week-
end by the motion picture (censor) division of the State Education De-
partment, it was disclosed here on
(Continued on page 6)

Advance Talks
On British
Tax Deadlock

MPEA to Meet 2 Days
Ahead, Tomorrow, in N.Y.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—De-
termined, apparently, to lose no
time in reinforcing its attempts to
unravel industry complications
abroad, the Motion Picture Export
Association board of directors and
representatives of the Society of Inde-
dependent Motion Picture Producers
have advanced to Tuesday the meet-
ing scheduled originally for next
Thursday, and have whitewashed the
meeting locale from Washington to
New York.

The British act of one per cent tax
impasse and the frozen funds are ex-
pected to highlight discussions. The
session, which was supposed originally to have been divided into two parts
—a day meeting of the MPEA execu-
tive committee and an evening gath-
ering of the MPEA board—now has
been telescoped into a single "full-
dress" meeting of both groups.

The meeting will probably get under
way immediately following MPEA
president Eric A. Johnston's Tuesday
speaking engagement at the New
York Cine-Festival’s symposium.

Sees Nationalization
Danger for UK Films

The prediction that the British mo-
tion picture industry "will be in some
form of nationalization" within a year
unless the old revenue tax situation
is solved was made by producer Joseph
Mankiewicz here Friday on his ar-
ival from England on the SS Queen
Elizabeth. In England, Mankiewicz
made one film, "Escape," for 20th Cen-
tury-Fox.

Mankiewicz asserted that both the
United States and England "must
treat the tax situation with more im-
agination and mutual trust." He as-
serted that "it may be smart for Amer-
ica.

(Continued on page 6)

Vogel Names Crouch
Division Manager

Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president
and general manager of Loew's Theatres,
has named Orville Crouch division
manager of Loew's Cleveland division.

Charles Raymon, presently heading
the Cleveland division, is being trans-
ferred to Washington, where he will
assist Carter Barron.
William's Is Named Acting AMPA Head

Phil Williams, who has resided as vice-president of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, here, with- drew his resignation after receiving a letter at the request of the board of directors, and will serve as acting presi- dent during the absence of president Arnold Stolz who is in New York this week for an extended stay in Hollywood. Max E. Youngstein has been nominated for the presidency, but his term will not begin until May.

Following an AMPA membership meeting held in New York on Thursday, an announcement of the organization's meeting will be held on Feb. 20 at the Town Hall Club here under the chairmanship of Youngstein, and will remain in March 2 at the same place for a discussion of "Women in Movie Advertising," un- der the co-chairmanship of Marjorie Harber, Evelyn Kolman and Blanche Livingston. At Friday's meeting Stolz disclosed that its latest spending AMPA distributed $1,915 to aid the needy.

Harry Keller, 52, Was Universal Publicist

Harry Keller, 52, former Universal publicist, has moved to Cincinnati on Thursday, following an operation, according to word received here, to save his right leg at his home office. Funeral services will be held today at Dalton's Funeral Home in Floral Park, L.I., with interment tomorrow at Greenfield Cemetery in Hempstead.

Keller, who served as regional di- rector of the War Production Com- mittee of the film industry during the war and who held many other publicity posts, is survived by his mother, Mrs. Helen Keller, and three sisters.

Jack Sichelman, 33, Years With 20th

Jack Sichelman, assistant to Clence Hill, manager of branch opera- tions for 20th-Fox-Fox-Western here on Friday after an illness of two weeks, Sichelman was 63 and had been with the company for 30 years. He is survived by the widow, Rose, and three sons, Ira, Jesse and Elliot. 

Funeral services today at 3 p.m. at the Riverside Memorial Chapel. Interment was at Beth David Cemetery, Elmont, L.I.

Joins de Rochemont

David Kummins, formerly supervising film editor with M-G-M Inter- national, has joined Louis de Rochemont Associates, Inc., in the same capacity. He will first work on "Your Word Is My Law," now in production in Iceland.

2 More Video Applicants

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Additional applications for commercial television stations have been filed with the Federal Communications Commission. E. D. Rivers, Jr., Atlanta, has filed for channel 8 at New Orleans; and W. V. Anderson, broadcast- ing, Dallas, for channel two.

PERSONAL MENTION

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, left Hollywood at the weekend for New York.

ARNOLD FRESBURGER, producer-director, and MARY CHRISTIAN, actress, are among the passengers who sailed for Europe over the weekend on the SS Queen Elizabeth.

FLOYD FITZSIMMONS, M-G-M explo- ition representative in Albany and Buffalo, has been appointed pub- licity director of the Salvation Army's maintenance camp in Albany.

LEW SCHREIBER, executive assistant to 20th Century-Fox production exec- drector DARYL F. ZANUCK, is in town from the Coast.

MAURY B. OBE, United Artists Western sales manager, is due in Chi- cago today on a tour of Midwest ex- changes.

FRED BUNN, head of the Army Mo- tion Picture Service, has returned to Washington from a survey of AMPS operations in the Pacific.

JOE BOYLE, manager of Loew's Poly- Broadway, Norwich, Conn., is observ- ing the New Year's holiday at the New York home of his mother, Mrs. Helen Keller, and three sisters.

JACK SCHIELMAN, assistant to Clence Hill, manager of branch opera- tions for 20th-Fox-Fox-Western here on Friday after an illness of two weeks, Sichelman was 63 and had been with the company for 30 years. He is survived by the widow, Rose, and three sons, Ira, Jesse and Elliot. 

Funeral services today at 3 p.m. at the Riverside Memorial Chapel. Interment was at Beth David Cemetery, Elmont, L.I.

orders 5th-Walnut Trial Held Here

The anti-trust action brought by Fifth and Walnut distributors against the Los Angeles theatre, Walnut, against 11 distributors, must be tried in U. S. District Court in Los Angeles, N. D. E. C. A. Judge Sylvester J. Ryan ruled here at the weekend.

The court's ruling was made on motion by the defendants that the plaintiff's complaint be dismissed with- out prejudice to permit the suit to be brought in the federal court in Louis- ville. Such a change of venue is not warranted, Judge Ryan held. Distribu- tors opposed the motion, a decision to avoid additional expenses which a New York trial would incur.

Suiit was brought by Fifth and Wal- nut, the two southern distributors controlled by the Los Angeles theatre, to prevent defendants from negotiating for first-run pictures.

Tampa Theatre Reopens

TAMPA, Jan. 25.—Following completion of a $200,000 remodeling pro- gram, the Palace Theatre here has been opened by its new manager, J. M. Daugherty, who is manager of Florida State Theatres, which operates the house. The interior of the theatre was completely rebuilt, he reported.

Paramount Dividend

Paramount's board of directors has declared a regular quarterly div- idend of 50 cents a share on common stock, payable on March 24 to stock- holders of record on March 4.

Quigley to Coast

Martin Quigley is leaving New York for a several-week's visit in Hollywood.
Enthusiastic audience response greets the big Technicolor spectacle of the year — in every post-holiday holdover and new booking! Men love its rousing action, flaming adventure and unusual setting . . . Women go in a big way for its rugged men, its glowing romance — and that ultra-fashionable wardrobe of Miss Day . . . It's the kind of a MOVIE that pays off in highest fan satisfaction . . . A BIG SHOW FOR YOUR BEST PLAYING TIME!

JOHN WAYNE • LARAIN
in
TYCOON

with SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • JUDITH ANDERSON
JAMES GLEASON • ANTHONY QUINN

Produced by STEPHEN AMES • Directed by RICHARD WALLACE
Screen Play by Borden Chase and John Twist
Ros P. Shurias, president of the Century-Fox Film Corp., has agreed to serve as chairman of the New York City campaign committee of the Overseas Aid to Children, headed nationally by Lee Marshall.

In accepting the chairmanship of the New York City campaign, Mr. Shurias announced: "This is a campaign to provide services for millions of children all over the world. The tragic suffering of these children is fearful to contemplate. Without our help, many will die before we grow enough able, healthy bodies and tortured minds, easy prey to ruthless dictatorship."

District of Columbia Calls for Stiffer Operator Examinations

Washington, Jan. 25—A three-man motion picture projectionists examining board has been ordered for the District of Columbia by District commissioners. The board, which will consist of two, District officials and one civilian licentiate, will "aid the director in inspection in determining the qualifications of applicants for licenses.

Under police regulations, all commercial operators must obtain licenses in the District. There has always been some examining authority, but this is the first time anything has been "put down in black and white."

Bengt Janzon Film Recorder
For Swedish Fete in America

Stockholm, Jan. 20 (By Airmail) — Bengt Janzon, Swedish producer and director, has been named by the U. S. Swedish Pioneer Centennial Commission as official film recorder of the June celebration in the U. S. commemorating 100 years of Swedish immigration.

Janzon will also produce and direct a documentary titled "A Swedish Century in America," telling the story of Swedish immigration. The film, made in Swedish and American versions,

Freak Crash at the Woods

Chicago, Jan. 25.—A steel fire curtain which dropped in front of the screen blocking out the picture stopped the showing of "The Bishop's Wife" in the Woods Theatre the weekend. Below-zero weather was said to be the cause when a water pipe on the hydraulic hoisting device for the curtain froze and broke.

Two Promoted by Dezel

Detroit, Jan. 25—Albert Dezel Productions announces two promotions. In Cleveland, Allan Shaw, former booker, has been made salesman to cover the Toledo territory. In Cincinnati, David Littman has been appointed salesman for West Virginia and Kentucky territory.

Freeman Elected 'Dough-Guy'

Oklahoma City, Jan. 25.—Charles Freeman has been elected "dough-guy of Oklahoma City's Variety Club, filling Charles E. Black's place.

Brown Joins Capitol Here

Capitol Motion Picture Supply Corp. of this city has appointed Louis A. Brown sales representative.

Says Lewis Bill Does Not Have a Chance

Representative Lewis's Congressional bill to have producers pay all the music fees to the American Society of Composers and Publishers, and "use the money as a chance," of being reported out of the House Judiciary Committee, a spokesman of a major company declared here last week.

Terming the bill "ill thought through," he said that it "would measure would save exhibitors exactly nothing, "because it would cost the producers hundreds of thousands of additional dollars," and that they "simply pass that on in increased rentals."

TOA to Meet Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

uled for Wednesday. Representing the TOA at the conference will be Gamble, Coyne and A. Julian Brylawski, head of the .TOA's legislative committee.

Among other business discussed at the meeting was the agenda and date of the TOA's annual convention. The conferees also took under consideration an invitation extended by Charles Skouras, TOA treasurer, to make a speech to the site of the next directors' session.

Decision was reached at the luncheon to hold further meetings with film companies this week on the problem of 10mm. competition.

Ascap Seen Leaning To Producer Deals
A proposal similar to that advanced by Representative Lewis on Monday when he introduced a bill in Congress to require Ascap to deal exclusively with film producers instead of release exhibitors of all license or other royalty payments has long been advocated by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Assertedly Ascap's preference for dealing with producers instead of exhibitors was predicated on the theory that it simplified the collection of music license fees from thousands of theatrical theatres.

The feeling here yesterday was that Ascap would welcome an arrangement such as that proposed by Lewis, who is chairman of the House Judicial Subcommittee on Patents and Copyrights.

Smith Appoints

(Continued from page 1)

that J. J. Grady, district manager, has been granted an indeterminate sick leave, and the Cincinnati, Cleveland and Indianapolis exchanges, comprising his district, will be temporarily directed by Howard Minsky, Midwest division manager.

It was also announced that a request for retirement made by Ben Reingold, branch manager in St. Louis, has been granted and he will be succeeded by John Mazer, branch manager in Des Moines. Ralph Pielow, Jr., formerly salesman in the Boston exchange, is promoted to branch manager in Des Moines, succeeding Hal-
TRAILERS COST LESS and SELL MORE than Any Other Form of THEATRE Advertising!

"Trailers draw 31% of your Patrons" ...says Woman's Home Companion in authoritative 1947 Movie Survey!
26 Shooting as Production Rises

Hollywood, Jan. 25—Production activity has gained momentum with 26 films before the cameras, against 25 the previous week. Of the six new projects, four were sent to cutting rooms.


Seven Magazines (Continued from page 1)

lems and to promote their mutual interests.

Homer Rockwell, of Hunter Screen Unit, president of the association, said that the study's findings justified some time for a continuous job of research and study concerning the public's film-going and reading habits—who goes to theatres, etc.

Meetings are now being arranged for the association's publishers, and distributors and exhibition directors, to show them the results of studies already made by the group. The first portion of those findings will soon be ready to be shown to the industry and the association plans regularly to issue marketing and other educational material about motion pictures to the industry.

A three-man board of directors appointed by publishers for the association's program of research and promotion consists of William Patjens, advertising manager of Dell; Herbert G. Drake, vice-president of Macfadden, and Roy Pollock, promotion director of Faywett. Officers of the association, besides Rockwell, are: Philip Keenan, Hillman Publications, vice-president; Allen E. Norman, Faywett Publications, treasurer; and Edward A. Fish, Ida Publications, assistant treasurer; Charles Terveriller, Macfadden, secretary.

Magazines represented include: Modern Screen, Motion Picture, Movie, Screen, Screen Guide, Screenland, Screen Stories, Silver Screen.

Sammis in New Post

Fred R. Sammis has been appointed editorial director of five Macfadden magazines—Modern Screen, Har- old Wise, vice-president and general manager of Macfadden. The group includes Photo-Spy, Sammis, who joined Macfadden in 1940. He succeeds to the editorial director of Photo-Spy and Radio Mirror since 1942.

‘Devil in the Flesh’ (Continued from page 1)

Friday by Dr. Ward T. Bowen, acting director of the division. The picture was produced by Graetz's AFE Productions.

With the advance print of the picture arrived here from France last week, it was held up by the U. S. Collec- tion of Customs, but the picture will be released later of the pro- ducer’s appeal to Washington. “Diable au Corps” won the Brussels Film Festival award last year.

� Reviews

“The Smugglers” (Rank-Eastern)

“There are two forms of Grandma, one with the other, the other more than the other. The story of a girl who gets him involved in the operations of a band of British smugglers more than a century ago has been related with an intimate dealing of the whole more than those who go in for the forceful type of entertain- ment.

In the sense this J. Arthur Rank production, in Technicolor, is the record of a clairvoyant character's involvement in a farce of pitty torn by Voltairienne, and the captain of the ship from which he is a refugee. The captain's search for the youth, who has informed him upon his death, is depicted in terms of a vivid and uncompro- mising drama. The youth's efforts to overcome his character's betrayal by the man who befriended him upon his father's death. The boy wins his salvation when he comes through in a crucial test of courage.

Woven into the story is the part of the youth and the stepdaughter of a customs officer slain by the smugglers. The scenes between boy and girl have been neatly dovetailed into the yarn and are very much a part of it.

The “Smugglers,” the British again demonstrated high talent in the use of Technicolor. Its color serves admirably to heighten dramatic values. Atmospherically, too, the production rates tops. Richard Attenborough, a young Londoner, serves as producer of the age of deep conviction. Muriel and Sydney Box produced and also wrote the screenplay, from Graham Greene's novel, "The Man Within." Tense direction is the contribution of Bernard Knowles. Running time. 85 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date Jan. 31. P.E.L.

"Campus Honeymoon" (Republic)

A charming, but merely pretentious, comedy about college life and the housing problem has been turned out for Republic under the supervision of associate producer Fanchon, Richard Sale, and producer Crack. Hal Hackett, Wilson Wood and Teddy Infurno. Providing experienced support are Stephanie Beach, Edwin Maxwell, Boyd Irwin and Edward Gargan. Aside from one or two scenes, the picture has been produced very much in the fashion of the story, by Sale and Jerry Gruskin, the quality of light-hearted hour's entertainment.

War veterans Crane and Hackett, and co-eds Lyn and Lee, upon arriving at a Tennessee university, find that they cannot enroll until they find a place to live. The only homes they can find are in a veterans housing village where only married couples are permitted. So they pose as being married, even though the girls, paired up, and the boys do not love each other, the "marriages" being for outward appearances only, the boys sharing one cabin and the girls the other. Following a siege of customary complications interspersed with a few catchy tunes, all ends happily with two weddings being rung during 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date Feb. 1. CHARLES L. FRANK

Ackland and Taub Form New Company

Playwright Rodney Ackland, whose play, “Crime and Punishment,” is currently at the National Theatre, has formed with Harold Taub have formed a new motion picture and theatrical production company, here and in London, with headquarters in New York.

Ackland and Taub will be associated producers of the screen version of Ackland’s and Michael Redgrave’s play and Joan Greenwood top a cast that performs in Italy. Efforts to have James Mason portray the lead are being negotiated, it was said.

Monogram Loan (Continued from page 1)

from $10,000,000 to $12,000,000 of bank funds," a company statement discloses; adding: “The funds thus pro- duced will be used in the announced production program of Monogram Pictures as well as Allied Artists, Theatrical Enterprises, United Artists.


CANADA'S PROJECTORS ARE 96% US-MADE

OTTAWA, Jan. 25.—The United States was Canada’s main source for motion picture projectors during 1942, according to the annual report of the Department of Trade and Commerce. Shipments from the U. S. amounted to $1,201,888 out of total imports of $1,308,977 in the first 10 months of the year, despite the temporary ban on projector imports to conserve dollars. U. S. imports led more than 96 percent of the other sources extremely insignificant, such as a mere $6,728 from Canada only and $464 from France.

Likewise, U. S. supplies of film exceeded all other sources in Canada’s imports. Shipments in the first 10 months amounted to 680,033, against 903,856 from all other sources. Imports from France amounted to 45, 212, from Burma, 122, and 162. Imports of cameras and camera parts from the U. S. totalled $1,186, 873, camera parts, $274,856, and camera parts, $167,290.

To Probe Benefits of French Fund Plan

David E. Griffiths, vice-president of Producers Representatives Internationale, said he will leave there for Brussels and Paris on Jan. 30 to determine howinde- pendently and obtain the greatest benefits from the French government's proposal to release $11, 000,000 in frozen American film funds, the company's New York office discussed here at the weekend.

Griffiths has been authorized by the association's board of directors the company, and Seymour Poe, treasurer, to survey activities of French studios and to distribute French film.

Advance MPEA Talks (Continued from page 1)

York meeting of the Protestant Motion Picture Council.

Patjens at the MPEA meeting, with top film industry exec-utives, including company presidents, was well.

MPAA European manager Fayette W. Allport, and MPA's representa- tives, were among those who were scheduled to leave London by plane yesterday to attend the meeting. It was Allport who, on instructions from Mr. Johnstone, had been carrying on nego- tiations with the British government for a settlement of the ad valorem tax deadlock until the negotiations broke down recently.

Danger for UK Films (Continued from page 1)

ican producers to invest in British production. He pointed out that pictures can be made in England at from 60 to 70 percent of the Holly- wood cost. He asserted that there is a measure of truth in these companies are not making pictures there.

Mankiewicz said there was talk in some quarters of the government eventually municipalizing theatres.
Reissues Must Be Identified, Bureau Warns

Better Business Group Cities Ruling of FTC

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 26.—Better Business Bureau has reopened a drive to influence exhibitors to adhere to the Federal Trade Commission requirement that film reissues be so identified in advertising and promotions.

"Complaints are again being received from patrons that some theatres showing old films fail to indicate in their advertisements that they are reissues, or that the word 'reissued' was in such small type that it was not observed until later," says the Bureau.

"This matter was taken up with theatre managers, and, Feb. 1, following similar complaints that patrons selected a show to attend after advertising and learned after the picture was on the screen that they had seen it several years before," it added.

Theatre managers and copy writers... (Continued on page 6)

Para. Experimenting In Chicago Selling

CHICAGO, Jan. 26—Paramount is understood to be applying no hard and fast rule in putting into effect any changes in its distribution procedure here required to meet complications arising from the Federal Court decision in the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust action.

Rather than devise a single plan to cover all cases, the company is said to be feeling its way experimenting in efforts to comply with the court's decision... (Continued on page 3)

Ascap Trust Suit Trial Is Delayed

Trial of the monopoly action brought here by the 165 New York exhibitors against Ascap, which was scheduled to begin in U. S. District Court here next Monday, will not get under way until later.

Reason is that the case is preceded on the calendar by the breach-of-contract case... (Continued on page 6)

New Films Weather Storm Here, But Holdovers Suffer

The weekend's snowstorm—marking the fourth siege of severe winter weather in as many weekends for New York's first-run downtown theatres—took the edge off grosses here, but not enough to matter too much at situations where new product was showing. Holdovers, on the other hand, found the bad weather quite detrimental, as an exception being Radio City Music Hall, where "The Paradine Case," plus a stage show, is expected to bring in a very good $125,000 in a third week.

First week of "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," at the Strand, is aiming for a record-breaking $250,000, following a $36,000 weekend. A solid $90,000 is in store for the first week of "Out a Walk Alone," at the Plaza. At the Capitol, "If Winter Comes" is expected to bring a round $54,000. "T-Men," at the Criterion, pulled in... (Continued on page 6)

Suchman Rejoins E-L In Sales Post

As Suchman has returned to Eagle Lion as Eastern sales manager. Effective at once, he will resume full supervision over all sales and distribution in the territory served by the company's 11 Eastern branches.

In announcing Suchman's return to Eagle-Lion, A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, disclosed that the nation had been divided into two sales regions, with the balance under Herman Beiersdorff as Western sales manager. (Continued on page 6)

Shows 'Stairway' for Free When They Don't Pay to See

Because she liked J. Arthur Rank's "Stairway to Heaven," distributed by Universal, so much, Helen Quinby, operator of the first-run Auditorium Theatre in Fort Wayne, Ind., brought the picture back to the theatre after a disappointing initial engagement and invited the public to see it without charge. Universal home office officials said yesterday.

Showing of the picture "for free" was vigorously criticized by exhibitors in the Fort Wayne area and is characterized in the current bulletin of Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana as an "immoral and unwarrantable"... (Continued on page 6)

Chances Bright For Lifting Building Ban

Relatively Unimportant, Senate Group Is Told

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Chances became definitely bright today for an early end to Federal curbs on theatre construction, when Housing Expediter Tighe Woods admitted to a Senate banking and currency sub-committee that theatre and other entertainment construction was, comparatively, an "insignificant" part of the building picture, and that he wouldn't "feel too bad if the curbs were dropped.

The committee is holding hearings on extending the rent control law past its Feb. 29 expiration date. Under one section the Government controls theatre and other amusement construction.

Woods said officially he had to urge continuation of the limitation power, so that his office could not be accused at a later date of wrecking the housing program if things got worse. He will... (Continued on page 3)

Independents Find Borrowing Easier

Banks here and on the West Coast which virtually discontinued loans to independent producers following enactment of the British ad valorem film duty last August are once more making such loans in increasing number but on what is described in financial circles as "a conservative basis."

Reportedly all loans currently being made are based on domestic returns alone, with no potential foreign revenue being counted upon. Established producers with approved releasing arrangements... (Continued on page 6)

Says British Refused To Discuss Levy

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The British ad valorem tax and its unnecessary consequences will be continued because responsible British government authorities have declined so far to sit down and discuss possible alternatives with the American Motion Picture Export Association, Samuel Eckman, M-G-M's managing director in England, declared here yesterday in a... (Continued on page 6)
First ‘Outsider’ at Warner in 5 Years

When United Artists’ “A Miracle Boy,” starring Al Hafken, opened at the Warner Theatre here on Feb. 3, replacing “Voice of the Turtle,” it will mark the first time since 1933 that a picture not produced or distributed by Warner Brothers will be exhibited at one of their New York Theatres. Last fall the theatre’s name was changed from the Hollywood to “Miracle,” co-produced by Benedict Bogeaus and Burgess Meredith, stars Henry Fonda and Marie Windsor, directed by Goddard, James Stewart and Dorothy Lamour.

Variety Cites New And Retiring Chiefs

Some 400 industry representatives paid tribute to Walter Immerman in Chicago at the weekend as he was inducted as a member of the Variety Club of Illinois, while in Albany, honor was paid to Irving (Ike) Levy, retiring president of the New York unit, and in New Haven, Variety will install new officers today.

Present at the dinner for Immerman, who is vice-president and general manager of Balaban and Katz, were Mayor Martin J. Kelly, James J. Pender, Arthur Selkist, Jack Kirsie, Jack Rose, Henry Edelman, Maurice Wells, Will Baker, Robert Lhinemeier, August Kandoff, Charles McCraw, Harold Stevens, Father Paul Hoban, Tom Flannery, Irving Mack, Elmer Kostinsky, George V. Topper, and others.

At the Hellman affair, he was praised as “a tireless worker for Variety causes.” Among those present were C. J. Latta, second assistant national chief Barker; Harry Lamont, new chief Barker of the Variety Clubs; Charles A. Smokwit, former chief Barker, and McCraw, who is executive secretary of Variety Board of Directors.

In New Haven today, the installation of officers of Variety Club of Connecticut will take place at the Quedo, according to Variety, which will include McCraw and Latta. Newly elected officers include Barney Pitkin, New Haven, chairman; Leonard Kran- ger, elected chief Barker; Lou Brown, first assistant chief Barker; Leo Bemoff, second assistant Barker; George Wilkinson, Jr., doughty; Arthur Greenfield, property master.

Goldwyn Blasts Hurt Industry, Says Siegel

Hollywood, Jan. 26—Samuel Gold- wyne’s recent criticisms of Hollywood have been assailed by Producer Dave Siegel as “untrue and infamous to the industry as a whole.”

Siegal warned that “if Goldwyn keeps talking long enough about how much money he is losing, he is likely to finally be successful in persuading financiers to refuse to invest in pictures and the general public to refuse to attend features.”

Personal Mention

JOSEPH HAZEN, president of Hal Wallis Prod., returned to New York yesterday from the coast.

ERIC A. JOHNSTON, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, and Kenneth Clark, publicity director, are in New York from Washington.

FAYETTE W. ALDORF, MPAA European manager, and Frank Mc- Caren, MPAA representative in France, arrived yesterday from London.

JACK WARETH, Monogram pro-ducer, and his wife, BONITA GRAN- ville, left New York for the Coast today.

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave New York today for Toronto.

DONALD HYDE, United States Pictures vice-president, returned to Hollywood over the weekend from New York.

WILLIAM R. FERGUSON, M-G-M executive head, returned to New York from field meetings in Cincinnati and Chicago.

RUBY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, will return to Wash- ington Feb. 8 from a tour of Southern branches.

SIN BLUMENSTOCK, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation manager, left here yesterday for Toronto.

HENRY L. NATHANSON, head of M-G-M Canada, is on the Coast from Toronto.

J. J. DONOHUE, Paramount Central division sales manager, has returned here from Chicago.

VOLBREM VETLUGIN, M-G-M studio editorial executive, will leave the Coast on Feb. 6 for New York.

J. Parnell Thomas Is I'll Enroute to Canal

Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the House Committee on Jus- tice, is being on a trip to Latin Ameri- can countries, who presided over hearings in Washington recently on alleged Communist influences in Hollywood, yesterday was being rushed toward Cristobal, Panama, aboard the Panama Canal Line’s Ancon on which he was stricken with gastro- intestinal hemorrhage on Sunday while en route to the Panama Canal Zone, where he was reported “sick.” He was to investigate alleged Communist activities in the vicinity of the Panama Canal.

Republic Meet Today

Cleveland, Jan. 26—Jasmin- ger, Republic vice-president and gen- eral manager, with James W. O’Garra, division manager, will hold a regional meeting here tomorrow through Thursday, at the Statler Hotel.

Nate Blumberg, president of Universal, left Hollywood by plane yesterday for New York.

Howard Dietz, M-G-M vice-presi- dent and advertising-publicity direc- tor, returned yesterday from from Wash- ington.

John Davis, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, London, has been elected to the board of the Anglo Star Insurance Co., Ltd., of Great Britain.

Carol Brandt, M-G-M executive editorial head, and Olin H. Clark, Eastern story head, are due back in New York next Monday from Holly- wood.

Harry Manvel, RKO Theatres advertising-publicity director here, who was reported yesterday to be leaving for Miami, isn’t.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Alban Mestanza, of Foreign Screen Corp., film im- porter-exporter, left here yesterday for a week’s visit in Cuba.

Grover C. Schaefer, Film Classics special sales representative in New Orleans, left that city over the weekend for New York.

Ed Hixton, head of the Warner Bureau, left here last night for Albany, N. Y.

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO presi- dent, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

Eugene McEwot of 20th Century Fox’s sales department, here, and Mrs. McEwot, became parents of a son yesterday.

Moe Goldstein, Monogram na- tional sales manager, left here yesterday for Pittsburgh and Buffalo.

H. M. Richley, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will leave here today for Richmond.
**Motion Picture Daily**

**Tuesday, January 27, 1948**

**News Briefs**

32 Out of 51 Territorial Chairman Named for Drive

Ten more territorial chairmen have been added to the exhibitor commit- ttee staff of the National Test Drive.”

Included in the latest appointments are: William Hastings, Colorado; Joseph De Poire, Jr., Chicago; A. White, Great Neck; E. I. Perk, Hawaii; Truman T. Rem- mond, Seattle; Carl C. Clark, Portland; Homer LeBallister, Nevada; Ed Fay, Rhode Island; A. Julius Brylawski, Washington, D.C.; Moe Silver, Western Pennsylvania.

C. D. Howe Is Named Canadian Minister of Trade, Commerce

OTTAWA, Jan. 26—C. D. Howe, who has the responsibility of Canada’s dollar-saving controls and capital import restrictions, in which the motion picture industry is involved, has been named Minister of Trade and Commerce under new cabinet changes. He was formerly Minister of Reconstruction.

The Department of Trade and Commerce will now be the “head office” for film men negotiating in Canada’s dollar-saving program.

Phillips and Joseph Are Promoted by E. L. Chicago

C. D. Howe, who has the responsibility of Canada’s dollar-saving controls and capital import restrictions, in which the motion picture industry is involved, has been named Minister of Trade and Commerce under new cabinet changes. He was formerly Minister of Reconstruction.

The Department of Trade and Commerce will now be the “head office” for film men negotiating in Canada’s dollar-saving program.

**NCA to Meet March 22-23**

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 26—Annual convention of North Central Allied has been set for Minneapolis March 22 and 23, it was disclosed by Stan Kane, secretary.

**Building Ban (Continued from page 1)**

probably repeat this stand in a written statement he has to submit to the sub-committee later this week. Asked now he felt about the matter personally, however, he admitted that he did not feel very strongly one way or the other, and that he could not prove the limitation had done any good at all.

Sen. Buck, who brought up the topic and pressed Woods closely on the matter, said he favored dropping the limitation and “getting rid of all this red tape.”

House Banking and Currency Committee Chairman Walt- scott, who will probably have the deciding role in writing the final rent and housing bill, has said he would favor dropping the limitation power “it could be shown that theatre and similar construction is minor.”

The committee was told that since the present law took effect on July 1, the housing expeditor has granted $22,000,000 worth of theatre and other amusement projects, while turning down $75,000,000 million. From July 1 to Jan. 16, he turned down 370 theatre applications, worth $41,700,000, and approved 310 projects, valued at $11,730,529.

**Para. Experimenting (Continued from page 1)**

increased, with each case being treated as circumstances dictate.

The company has devised a different system of operation on the South Side, where the Jackson Park Theatre is located, with some clearance changes having been made in the city generally, it is understood.

**Minnesota Owners Renew with N.C.A.**

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 26—Southeastern Minnesota Exhibitors Association for the second year renewed its membership as a group in North Central Allied in the person of Robert D. Clark, former president here; Joseph Minar, Spring Valley, is president; Lou Hummell, Pine Island, is secretary, and Robert D. Clark, a former president here, is treasurer of the group.

Stanley Kane, NCA executive di- rector, and Ted Bolnick, partner in B. O. Bolnick & Company, Chicago, outlined the use of Allied’s Caravan reporting service at the meet- ing. Kane was present when William Friedberger died of the heart attack, and discussed the St. George, Mont., and Wisconsin tax. The Southeastern group voted to meet in Minneapolis on the third Thursday of each month.

**Rites Tomorrow for Silent Star Bill Cody**

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 26—Services will be held Wednesday morning at the 17th Street Church here for Bill Cody, 57, silent film star who died Saturday. Surviving are his wife and two sons.

**Friedberger Rites Held**

ASTOR PARK, N. J., Jan. 26—Funeral services for William S. Fried- berger, assistant manager of Walter Reade’s St. James Theatre here, will be held at the theatre today. The remains will be sent to Baltimore for burial. Friedberger, 36, died Thurs- day, when his car crashed on Florida and Church streets in New Brunswick.

**Services for McRae**

Funeral services for Guy McRae, 52, an employee of Paramount Pictures for 28 years, who died here Saturday after an illness of five months, will be held at the Howard D. McGill Funeral Parlor, Manhattan, today. Interment will be in Edward Theopold. Internment will be in Flushing Cemetery.

**Industrialists Plan Studio for Jamaica**

CHICAGO, Jan. 26—Plans for a 30- stage studio in Jamaica, British West Indies, capable of turning out 104 feet of picture a day, were announced here today.

Organized by Robert B. Cummings, lawyer, the new project, known as Jamaica Productions, will be financially supported by Black Caravan, a motion picture company financially supported by American and British capital, it was stated.

**Theatro Trust Trial Delayed to March 8**

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 26—Theatrical’s anti-trust case against eight distributors and circuit theatres will be tried on March 8. An order later this week may bring a new judge to hear the trial. Judge Roche, presiding judge of Federal Court here, was to have sat for the case. Judge Roche is going to Hawaii to attend legal matters. The new judge has not yet been named, but he will sit on the Theatre Trust case.

The trial was originally slated to come up to date, but was put over because of a crowded calendar and also because numerous defendants have not been completed. Charles Skouras, Fox West Coast distributing, was here from Los Angeles last week for his deposition.

**Grierson in New Post**

OTTAWA, Jan. 26—John Grierson, formerly Canadian government film commissioner and head of the National Film Board of Canada, is reported here to be taking a post in the United Kingdom documentaries office. For the past year he has held an executive post with the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization.

**Frisco MPF Names Finance Committee**

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 26—Opening a drive for additional funds, the members of the film industry, the Motion Picture Foundation here has selected seven Bay Area theatre men as finance committee, according to Jerry Zigmond, chairman. On the committee are the following: N. E. Bierman, chairman; Jim Blumenfeld, Blumenfeld and Gruen; Harry Levin, General Theatrical; Robert Lippert, Lippert Theatres; Richard Spier, Fox West Coast; Herman Kubler, 20th Century-Fox; and Jack Levin, San Francisco Thea- tres.
THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST
MOTION PICTURES

To The Ends

COLUMBIA PICTURES GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE COOPERATION OF THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT AND ITS BUREAUS OF NARCOTICS, CUSTOMS AND COAST GUARD.
EXCITING AND SHOCKING EVER MADE!

The picture that took TWO DRAMATIC YEARS to film...in Shanghai, Cairo, Havana and the far corners of the world...

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Of The Earth

starring

DICK POWELL • SIGNE HASSO

with LUDWIG DONATH • VLADIMIR SOKOLOFF • EDGAR BARRIER

and introducing the Chinese actress MAYLIA

Story and screenplay by Jay Richard Kennedy • Directed by ROBERT STEVENSON

Associate Producer

A SIDNEY BUCHMAN Production • JAY RICHARD KENNEDY
New York Grosses
(Continued from page 1)
$25,000 Friday through Sunday, and looks like $35,000 in a first week despite increasing competition. Strant, Paramount and Capitol have stage shows featuring Lionel Hampton’s band, singer Andy Russell and Samuel J. Comroe, respectively.

Holdovers Are Hit Hard
Among the holdovers hardest hit were “The Fugitive,” at the Victoria, where Saturday night business was reported 60 per cent off; “The Bishop’s Wife,” at the Roxy, where the same evening was $2,500 below par; and “Body and Soul,” at the Globe; “Gentleman’s Agreement,” at the Paramount; “The Voice of the Turtle,” Warner; “Secret Beyond the Door,” Warner Garden, and “An Idiot’s Holiday,” Warner.

Tuesday, that was William by the morrow, the idea of gathering thousands of people at a huge summer camp and then have the camera focus on the lives of a handful. It is a credit to the direction of Ken Annakin that all of the diverse themes in the plot are handled with light and enjoyable characterizations such as card sharks, young men trying to snare eligible men and vice versa, a disappointed spinster, a fringed lover, a young war widow and a sailor with whom she falls in love. Their lives are sketched in with occasional bursts of insight and humor. With the introduction of the role of a ace murderer that has been inserted into the screenplay, there are no formal crimes in the tale. The happenings and the people are simple.

The acting of the large cast is superb, with Flora Robson as the spinster, one of the most memorable in the theatre. Others in the cast are Jack Klugman, as the cheerleader, and Lenore Wait, as the man who will replace “Secret” on Thursday.

$25,000 Seen for ‘Castile’
“Captain from Castile,” in its fifth week at the Rivoli, is aiming for a satisfactory $25,000. Newcomer “Holi-
day Camp,” at the Park, is expected to chalk up a good $9,000 for a first week. “Tycoon,” at the Palace, which will replace “Tobacco Road” tomorrow, looks for a mild $15,000 in a fifth and final week. “Open Secret” will open at the Astor next Saturday, after a one-week stand in the double “horror” reissue bill of “Mum-my’s Ghost” and “Ghost of Frankenstein,” which looks like $7,000. Pictures which bowed out of New York’s first-run last week performed as follows: “High Society,” fourth week, $49,495; “Senator Was Indiscreet,” Criteron, final six days of run, $25,000; “No Time for Comedy,” There’s Life,” Paramount, fourth week, $90,000; “Wild Irish Rose,” straw, fourth week, $3,000.

Weathers Hits Kentucky ‘Takes’
LOUISVILLE, Jan. 26.—With the coldest weather of the winter hitting Louisville and most of Kentucky, a general lockout in box-office receipts is reported by exhibitors.

Ascap Trust Suit (Continued from page 1)
tract suit involving actor James Ma-
son and producer-director Joseph L. Ros.
Attorney for both for the New York exhibi-
tors and Mason is Louis Prohlsh, of the office of Day and Mason in Phila-
phe, and it will be necessary for him to complete handling of Mason’s case before proceeding with the exhibitors.
The Mason suit was divided, Jan. 5 to Feb. 2 to enable Prohlsh to prepare Columbia’s appeal series.

Mason brought suit to determine whether his alleged “memoandum of understanding” with the American production company with Rose is binding, and the latter filed a $2,760,000 counter-claim charging Mason with breach of contract. Rose will be represented in court by the law firm of Simpson, Thacher and Bartlett.

Reviews

“Holiday Camp”
(Caniborough—Universal-International)
In the unpretentious “Holiday Camp,” J. Arthur Rank presents a picture of rare charm and appeal. One of the major virtues of the film is that its characterization, dealing mostly with middle-class British folk, all ring true, and the producer utilizes the idea of gathering thousands of people at a huge summer camp and then have the camera focus on the lives of a handful. It is a credit to the direction of Ken Annakin that all of the diverse themes in the plot are handled with light and enjoyable characterizations such as card sharks, young men trying to snare eligible men and vice versa, a disappointed spinster, a fringed lover, a young war widow and a sailor with whom she falls in love. Their lives are sketched in with occasional bursts of insight and humor. With the introduction of the role of a ace murderer that has been inserted into the screenplay, there are no formal crimes in the tale. The happenings and the people are simple.

The acting of the large cast is superb, with Flora Robson as the spinster, one of the most memorable in the theatre. Others in the cast are Jack Klugman, as the cheerleader, and Lenore Wait, as the man who will replace “Secret” on Thursday.

“Fighting Mad”
(Paramount)
Hollywood, Jan. 26
The steadily mounting quality of the Joe Palooka pictures is jumped sev-
eral notches with this third in the series, which has been part of a series at all to clicksolidly with a customer interested in the fight game, or just in pleasant human narrative. It’s far and away the best to date, with a cast including, in addition to Joe Kirkwood and Leon Errol, as John Huband, Patricia Dane, Charles Case, Wally Vernon and Frank Hyers.

The screenplay, by John Bright, from a story by Ralph S. Lewis and Ber-
ard D. Shames, concerns the retirement of the offer Joe Palooka, which occurs after a fight in which, unknown to any but his intimates, he has been blinded by a blow on the head. An operation restores his vision, but he is ordered to take it easy for a year. In that year of rest he becomes involved in a vaudeville tour with a torch singer, which places a strain on his romance with his fiancee, and his manager buys part of an up-
coming heavyweight whom he does not know is crookedly manipulated. The Palooka pictures dramatize the fistic complex, but remains light and clear, before Joe returns to the ring-and in a terrific fight sequence—knocks out the crooks’ contender. Production is by Hal E. Chester, and direction by Reginald LeBorg, whose films include “Naughty and Noun-noun.” Running time, 75 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

William R. Weaver

British Refused
(Continued from page 1)
Jenkins address before a group of industry publicity executives who assembled at Claridge’s Restaurant to honor Sir Michael Balcon and James- wayne, company president.

Said Eckman: “On four occasions before and after the imposition of the tax, the American industry made clear to the British government to consider tax alternatives. We’ve been ringing doorbells and trying to get something in authority to listen to our proposals, but without success. The British ministry consequently refused not only to discuss tax alternatives, but also to consider specific proposals which the American industry was prepared to put forward. They therefore, at their own option, closed their eyes to the American industry’s preparation to introduce the outlaw of dollars for American films.”

Eckman said he was not speaking officially in behalf of the American indus-
try, but merely speaking personally from his personal point of view. M-G-M, with virtually no unreleased product left in its vaults, was the industry most hurt by the British viewpoint, and to assert that Eckman was misled and that his statement that the government refused to consider alter-
avatives is not in accordance with the facts.
No ‘Break’ in British Tax Impasse Seen

Company Heads Meet; Hear Allport’s Report

That the British ad valorem tax deadlock will continue for some time to come appeared likely yesterday both in New York and London.

A joint meeting of the Motion Picture Export Association’s board of directors and executive council here yesterday was concluded with the British impasse unaltered following a report by Fayette W. Allport, Motion Picture Association of America European manager, who came here from London for the meeting.

One MPAA official said following the meeting, that nothing occurred to indicate that settlement talks with the British can be initiated in the near future.

In London, as reported elsewhere in Motion Picture Daily today, Britain’s Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps, charged yesterday by the United Artists board of directors with possessing the official “blessing” of the British government, was marked for further discussion by the directors.

The plan was presented by Arthur W. Kelly, UA executive vice-president, who returned from London on Friday.

The possibility of an accord in the suit involving United Artists and Cagneys Productions over the distribution of “The Battle of the River Plate” was reported to the meeting. Discussions, it was said, will be continued in the hope of reaching an understanding.

Meanwhile, the motion of Cagneys Productions to vacate and set aside the block above was reported yesterday to be pending.

(Continued on page 6)

House Ascap Hearings Set

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—A House judiciary subcommittee today scheduled hearings to start March 1 on legislation to require Ascap to deal with film producers instead of exhibitors in collecting royalties of publically produced music of Ascap members in motion pictures.

The hearings will be before a subcommittee headed by Rep. Lewis, who introduced the bill, which is backed by the Motion Picture Association. Rep. Lewis said he plans to ask Allied, Ascap and the Theatre Owners of America to designate representatives to testify.

(Continued on page 6)

Threats in 40 Cities Must Provide Parking

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 27.—New York state theatres and other places of public assembly “hereafter erected” would be required to provide offstreet parking space under a bill introduced by Senator Desmond (Newburgh). A ratio of 200 square feet for each 10 persons of total seating capacity would be required. The average space for theatres in 40 cities and counties throughout the country enforcing such requirements is said to be one car parking space for each seven patron. New York City, where space is at a premium, would be required to provide one parking space per 10 patrons.

Theatres in business sections of downtown amusement areas in many

(Continued on page 6)

Gamble, Coyne Take Tax Fight to Capital

The exhibitors’ fight to have the present 20 cent Federal admission tax reduced to the pre-war 10 cent was taken to Washington yesterday by Ted Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, and Robert W. Coynes, executive director.

Proposals to cut the tax will be discussed today with Representative Knutson and members of the House Ways and Means Committee, of which Knutson is chairman. Also representing the TOA at the discussion (Continued on page 6)

20th-Fox News To NBC Video

As Commercial

In the first deal of its kind, 20th Century-Fox yesterday concluded arrangements by which it will furnish a daily newsserv issue for National Broadcasting Company’s Eastern network, to be sponsored by the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., for Camel cigarettes.

Terms of the deal, which is for one year, were not disclosed but it is understood that it involves a new high in commercial rates in the television medium and covers for both NBC and 20th-Fox’s Movietone News as new television stations are added to the present exhibiton lineup.

The first program will be on the air Feb. 16 and will run eight minutes. New reels will be provided daily, Mondays through Fridays, with telecasts at 7:30 p.m. in New York, Washington, Philadelphia, Schenectedy and Baltimore. Prints of the reel in Chicago will be flown to NBC television stations in Milwaukee, Detroit, St. Louis and Cincinnati and may be carried on as many as 20 stations by

(Continued on page 6)

RKO Management Stays in Any Deal

Success of any negotiations for the acquisition of a controlling interest in RKO by any person or group through the purchase of shares held by Floyd Odlum’s Atlas Corp, would not result in a change of the film company’s management, N. Peter Odlum, RKO president, stated here yesterday following his arrival from the Coast.

Rathvon based his announcement on the fact that all discussions in the past (Continued on page 6)

SRO to Release Five in 1st Half of ’48

Sedlitzek Releasing Organization will release five pictures in the first half of 1948, it will be announced here today by Neil Agnew, SRO president, following five sessions of the company’s division sales meeting. The films include: “Intermezzo,” “Paradise Case,” “Portrait of Jennie,” “Mr.” (Continued on page 6)
New York Grosses (Continued from page 1)

$25,000 Friday through Sunday, and looks like $35,000 in a first week despite the inclement weekend. The Straub & Co.'s "House of Life" stage show featuring Lionel Hampton's band, singer Andy Russell and Sammy Kaye's orchestra, respectively.

Holdovers Are Hit Hard

Among the holdovers hardest hit were "Valentine's Day," at the Vanguard, where Saturday night business was reported 60 per cent off; "The Bishop's Wife," at the Warner, where Wednesday evening was $2,500 below par; and "Body and Soul," at the Globe; "Gentleman's Agreement," $3,000 below par for the first week, and $2,000 below par the second and final week of "Secret Beyond the Door," at the $10,000. A Warner spokesman will replace "Secret" on Thursday.

$85,000 Seen for 'Castle'

"Captain from Castle," in its fifth week at the Rivoli, is aiming for a satisfactory $35,000. Newcomer "Holiday Camp," at the Park, is expected to chalk up a good $9,000 for a first week. "Tycoon," at the Palace, which will run for 10 weeks, "Holiday Camp" tomorrow, looks for a mid $15,000 in a fifth and final week. "Open Secret" will try to continue its Tomahawk last Saturday, after a one-week stand for the double "horror" reissue bill of "Mummy's Ghost" and "Ghost of Frankenstein," which also sees mild $7,000.

Pictures which bow out of New York's first-run last week performed as follows: "High Wall Camp," fourth week, $49,495. "Senator Was Indiscreet," Criterion, final six days $45,000. "Where's Your Life?" Paramount, fourth week, $60,000; "Wild Irish Rose," Strand, fourth week, $32,000.

Weather Hits Kentucky Takes

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 26.—With the coldest weather of the winter hitting Louisville and most of Kentucky, a general letdown in box-office receipts is reported by exhibitors.

Ascap Trust Suit (Continued from page 1)

tract suit involving actor James Mao- lon and producer and real estate attorney for both the New York exhibitors and Mason is Louis Frohlich, of the law firm of Harkavy and Froh- lic, and it will be necessary for him to complete handling of Mason's case before proceeding with the exhibitors. The suit was filed in the Supreme Court of Appeals seventh degree of Kentucky and decided there.

Mason brought suit to determine whether his alleged "memorandum agreement" with Frohlich,FN first American- tion contract. Rose will be represented in court by the law firm of Simpson, Thacher and Bartlett.

Reviews

“Holiday Camp” (Gainsborough—Universal-International)

In the unpretentious "Holiday Camp," J. Arthur Rank presents a picture of rare charm and appeal. One of the major virtues of the film is that its characterizations, dealing mostly with middle-class British folk, all ring true. In the same product, Rank utilizes the idea of gathering thousands of people at a huge summer camp and then have the camera focus on the lives of a handful. It is a credit to the direction of Ken Annakin that all of the diverse threads of plot are woven into a coherent and enjoyable fabric. We meet unusual characters, some wacky, some wry, and a few that are a little bit of the role of a sex murderer that has been inserted into the screenplay, there are no false dramatics in the tale. The happenings and the people are simple and real.

The acting of the large cast is superb, with Flora Robson as the spinster, the one familiar to the general theatre-goer. Others in the cast are Jack Warner, Dennis Price and Hazel Court. A Gainsborough picture, the screenplay was by Muriel and Sydney Box, from the story by Godfrey Wright. Running time, 97 minutes. Adult classification. Set for January release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

“Fighting Mad” (Museum)

Hollywood, Jan. 26

The steadily mounting quality of the Joe Palooka picture is jumped several notches with this addition, indeed into a bracket where it need not have been. Joe Palooka, to click solidly with a general group, must breathe the fight game, or just in pleasant human narrative. It's far and away the best to date, with an inclusion, among others to Joe Kirkwood and Leon Errol, as John Hammond's manager. So John Hubbard, Patricia Dane, Charles Cane, Wally Vernon and Frank Hayes.

The screenplay, by John Bright, from a story by Ralph S. Lewis and Ber- nard Pottle, is a pleasant one, with heavyweight champion Joe Palooka, played by John Long, in his first fight, in the lifetime of his manager. His instructor, has been blinded by a blow on the head. An operation restores his vision, but he is ordered to remain inactive for at least a year. In that year a man is said to understand many tricks, one of which is the one that comes from the best, but Joe returns to the ring and—in a terrific fight sequence—knocks out the crooked contender. Production is by Hal E. Chester, and direction by Reginald LeBorg, both jobs attaining high level.

Running time, 75 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Pick Vido Group (Continued from page 1)

Melvin L. Gold, National Screen Service; Charles J. Basch, Jr., Television Service Products; Pauline S. Tine; Robert H. Wormhoudt, Official Films; Jay Williams, Films Equities Corp.; Maurice T. Groen, Metropolitan National; Edith J., Newlin, New York State Department of Commerce film library.

At the film conference yesterday varied aspects of films for television came into discussion. Irwin A. Schane, publisher of The Televi- sor, was chairman. Speakers included Tonn A. Wright, Chester Knules, Dave Gradehove, Charles J. Durban, Judy Annerson, David A. Biderman, Paul Alley, C. D. Ford and Al Zink.

Identify Reissues (Continued from page 1)

Firms are reminded by the Bureau of a stipulation of a New York film distributor with the Federal Trade Com- mission which states:

"The company has agreed to stop advertising, leasing or selling reis- used motion pictures under titles other than 'Identify Reissues,' these being required to be removed, and if the former titles be clearly, defi- nitely and distinctly set forth, both in the photoplay itself and in all advertising matter used in connection therewith."

Independent Find (Continued from page 1)

rangements are finding it much easier to obtain financing now than at any time in the past several months. The trend has been in progress for some weeks but on a small scale. More recently, however, when even now does not constitute anything resembling a complete reversal of the policy set by banks last summer.

Tuesday, January 27, 1948

"Stairway" (Continued from page 1)

able shame on all the parties concer- ned.

The Universal home office said it had appointed the request for a second booking of "Stairway to Heaven" at the Auditorium, prior to subsequent run engagements there, in the belief that the exhibits there would be made to privately to invited guests of the theatre's operator. The distributor's "tooned" his distributors in the exhibitors' territories, and without an admission charge, only after it was so advertised in Fort Wayne, and became the subject of considerable comment. Universal said, it was too late to do anything about it.

Universal executives, in an agree- ment, to cancel or any of the seven subsequent run engagements which it has already sold in the Fort Wayne area, if the exhibitors in- volved request cancellations.

The New York public author- eed. A change in the last minute, in one of the major distributors, then the exhibitor has real provocation to be.

It could not be learned here yesterday whether Mrs. Quimby is a member of ATOE.

British Refused (Continued from page 1)

London address before a group of influential persons, who gathered at Claridge's Restaurant to honor Sir Michael Balcon and James Bond, the British industry.

Said Eckman: "On two occasions before and after the imposition of the tax, the American industry made representations to the British government to consider an alternative. We've been ringing doorbells ever since my Whitehall, hoping to get some indication as to whether we are being considered for special proposals, but without success. The British ministers consequently refused to put forward any proposal. Therefore, at their choice, closed their eyes to the American industry was prepared to take up the outflow of dollars for American films.

Eckman said he was not speaking officially in behalf of the American in- dustry, but was expressing his personal view. M-G-M, with virtual- ly no unreleased product left in its vaults here, is the most sorely affected of all companies in terms of film supplies in Britain.

British Treasury officials declined to comment on the Eckman talks out of hand, but to hold up British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson's re- cent House of Commons statement concerning the British viewpoint, and to assert that Eckman was misled and that statement by the British government." Eckman's remark alter- native is not in accordance with the facts.
No ‘Break’ in British Tax Impasse Seen

Company Heads Meet; Hear Allport’s Report

That the British ad valorem tax deadlock will continue for some time to come appeared likely yesterday both in New York and London.

A joint meeting of the Motion Picture Export Association’s board of directors and executive council here yesterday was concluded with the British impasse unchanged following a report by William W. Allport, Motion Picture Association of America European manager, who came here from London for the meeting.

One MPAA official said following the meeting that nothing occurred to indicate that settlement talks with the British can be initiated in the near future.

In London, as reported elsewhere in Motion Picture Daily today, Britain’s Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Wilfrid Eady (Continued on page 6)

Denies Code Takes ‘Force’ Out of Films

Eric Johnston yesterday defended the Production Code against those who condemn it as an obstacle to the creation of pictures of substance and meaning.

Speaking at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel at a Protestant Motion Picture Council luncheon at which M-G-M’s “The Yearling” was honored as the best picture of 1947, the Motion Picture Association of America president charged that “grumbles” against the Production Code “very often are the outward manifestations of minds too lazy to create, little-formula minds which can’t think of anything different.” (Continued on page 6)

Aid to Needy Set As First MPF Aim

A recommendation that the aid and relief of those in need in the industry be the first obligation of the Motion Picture Foundation will be made to the next meeting of the board of trustees of the MPF program-and-scope committee, Ned E. Depinet, committee chairman, and Ted R. Gamble, vice-

(Continued on page 6)

Report Skouras and Rank ‘Meet with Eady’

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and Sir Wilfrid Eady, British Treasury official, were luncheon guests of J. Arthur Rank in London yesterday, according to well-informed sources here.

While it was conceded that Skouras may have exchanged views with Sir Wilfrid on the British film tax and its consequences, it was emphasized that the talks could have no official status inasmuch as Skouras is without authorization to speak on behalf of the industry. Rank has long been desirous of bringing leaders of the American industry face to face with U.K. government officials in London.

Blocked Sterling No Alternative for U. K. Tax: Cripps

LONDON, Jan. 27.—The British government not only declines to abandon the 25 per cent ad valorem tax on film imports, but it also is unprepared to substitute for it any alternative system for blocking sterling held by American motion picture interests in this country. This was disclosed here today by Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in answer to a question propounded in the House of Commons.

No progress is possible, Sir Stafford said, until this position of the British government is fully recognized.

U. A. Board Weighs Production in U. K.

A British production program calling for five pictures yearly at a cost of $1,000,000 each, over a seven-year period, was taken under consideration here yesterday by the United Artists board of directors. The program, which has the official “blessing” of the British government, was marked for further discussion by the directors. The plan was presented by Arthur W. Kelly, UA executive vice-president, who returned from London on Friday.

Possibility of an accord in the suit involving United Artists and Cagney Productions over the distribution of “The Time of Your Life” was reported to the meeting. Discussions will be continued in the hope of reaching an understanding.

Meanwhile, the motion of Cagney Productions to vacate and set aside (Continued on page 6)

House Ascap Hearings Set

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—A House judiciary sub-committee today scheduled hearings to start March 1 on legislation to require Ascap to deal with film producers instead of exhibitors in collecting royalties of publicly produced music of Ascap members in motion pictures.

The hearings will be before a sub-committee headed by Rep. Lewis, who introduced the bill, which is backed by most Motion Picture owners. Rep. Lewis said he plans to ask Allied, Ascap and the Theatre Owners of America to designate representatives to testify.

20th-Fox News to NBC Video As Commercial

To Be Telecast Five Nights Weekly in East

In the first deal of its kind, 20th Century-Fox yesterday concluded arrangements by which it will furnish a daily newsreel issue for National Broadcasting Company’s Eastern network, to be sponsored by the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., for Camel cigarettes.

Terms of the deal, which is for one year, were not disclosed but it is understood that it involves a new high in commercial rates in the television field and provides for increases to begin in April. 20th-Fox News as new television stations are added to the present exhibition lineup.

This Tuesday on as many as 20 stations by (Continued on page 6)

RKO Management Stays in Any Deal

Success of any negotiations for the acquisition of a controlling interest in RKO by any person or group through the purchase of shares held by Floyd Odum’s Atlas Corp. would not result in a change of the film company’s management, N. Peter Ratliff, RKO president, stated here yesterday following his arrival from the Coast.

Ratliff based his assertion on the fact that all discussions in the past (Continued on page 6)

Theatres in 40 Cities Must Provide Parking

Gamble, Coyne Take Tax Fight to Capital

The exhibitors’ fight to have the present 20 per cent Federal admission tax reduced to the pre-war 10 per cent was taken to Washington yesterday by Ted Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, and Robert J. Coyne, executive director.

Proposals to cut the tax will be discussed today with Representative Knutson and members of the House Ways and Means Committee, of which Knutson is chairman. Also representing the TOA at the discus-

(Continued on page 6)

SRO to Release Five in 1st Half of ’48

Selznick Releasing Organization will release five pictures in the first half of 1948, it was disclosed today by Neil Agnew, SRO president, following five sessions of the company’s division sales meeting. The five include: "Intermezzo," "Paradise Cas," "Port of Stenn," "M. (Continued on page 6)
Montague Salmon, managing director of the Rivoli Theatre, New York, and Bob Sullivan, have left here for Hollywood.

Leon J. Bamberg, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will leave here today for Richmond to attend the Virginia Motion Picture Theatre Owners convention.

Fred Muevser, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, will be in Buffalo, N. Y., tomorrow and Friday from Albany before returning to New York.

Zeb Eppst, managing director of Warner metropolitan theatres here, is hospitalized at the Fifth Avenue Hospital, New York, by a fractured elbow.

Oscar F. New, vice-president of Neumade Products, left here yesterday on a business trip to New England and will return at the weekend.

Paul Hollister, RKO Radio national publicity director, returned here yesterday from Hollywood.

Dean Lync, RKO Radio booker in Charlotte, and Bill Hartnett will be married on Feb. 13.

Irving Sherman, Columbia branch operations assistant manager, is in Chicago from New York.

John F. Feeder and Vernon Caldwell, Walt Disney Prod. executives, are in town from Hollywood.

Edward C. Rafferty has returned here from Buffalo.

Kleid Returns to NSS

Bernard Kleid, who for many years was associated with National Theatre Supply, has rejoined in the sales staff of the New York branch after a year's absence in which he was in business for himself.

Read Re Call Campaign Against Film Apathy

Observing its founder's 40th year in the industry, "and to sell to the public the high calibre of 1948 product," Walter Reade Theatres will hold a "40th Anniversary Jubilee" in 23 of its theatres in New Jersey and New York from Feb. 11 to March 23.

With the theme "movies are still your cheapest and best form of family entertainment," the jubilee will seek to combat public apathy toward films "which in many parts of the country has crystallized into a feeling that current films are not as good as they used to be," according to the circuit.

'Gentleman's Agreement' in 12th Week, Despite Jackson Park Ruling

Chicago, Jan. 27—Chalking up high grosses as it enters its 12th week, "Gentleman's Agreement" continues at the Apollo Theatre despite the two-week Loop-run limit imposed by the Jackson Park decree. Showing of the film beyond the limit has not been protested by the Jackson Park Theatre, apparently due to the original stipulations set forth by 20th-Fox whereby "Agreement" would be withheld from general release to neighborhood and outlying theatres until March regarding less of the length of the Apollo run.

The film will continue indefinitely.

Ferguson to Hold Another Meeting For M-G-M Field Exploiters

Third in the series of five meetings between William R. Ferguson, head of M-G-M exploitation, and field sales executives and promotion men will be held next Wednesday, Feb. 4, at the RKO Radio division headquarters. Attending will be Floyd Fitzsimmons, Albany and Buffalo exploiters; Ken Prickett, Boston and New Haven; James Asherfield and Ed Gahler, Philadelphia; John P. Byrne, Eastern sales manager, and Herman Kips, his assistant.

Sherman Leaves Circuit Post

Washington, Jan. 27—Al Sherman, who was recently assigned as production consultant for Sidney Lust's Hippodrome Theatre to develop his plan for controlled circulation of sponsored motion picture shows, will continue to function as consultant to various other interests and to serve as Washington representative of Film Classics.

Representative Thomas Improving

Washington, Jan. 27—House National Americanism Committee Chairman Thomas Hastie said he was "apparently improving" from a serious attack of stomach ulcers which struck him while he was on the House floor, according to word received today.

March of Dimes to Benefit from 'Roosevelt' Berlin Screenings

Anniversary of President Roosevelt's death will be observed in Berlin by the first showing in Germany of the motion picture, "The Roosevelt Story," under the auspices of the Berlin chapter of the American Veterans Committee, AVC New York spokesmen declare. Program for the showing, The Thin Man will go to the U. S. March of Dimes and infantile paralysis funds in Germany, Britain and France, through cooperation of United Artists.

Ontario Theatres Association Holds First Ottawa Meeting

Ottawa, Jan. 27—First luncheon meeting of the Ontario Motion Picture Theatres Association in Ottawa was held under the chairmanship of John K. Burnup, president.

Ross McLellan, Film Commissioner of the National Film Board, gave a resume of the board's activities during 1947 and disclosed that plans are being made to extend exhibition of Canadian-made documentary films in 1948. Included are films presented by Frank Gallop, secretary-treasurer of the association, welcomed members and guests, the latter including representatives of the press.

Coy, Stripling Approved for FCC Posts by Senate Group

Washington, Jan. 27—The nominations of Wayne Coy, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, and George E. Stripling as FCC members were favorably reported today by the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

Kirsch Heads Red Cross Drive

Chicago, Jan. 27—Jack Kirsch, president of Allied Theatres of Illinois, will again head the amusement and recreation division of the 1948 Red Cross Appeal. The campaign officially starts March 1 and the quota for the division is $35,000.

867 Theatres Are in Los Angeles Area

There are 867 theatres with a seating capacity of 537,819 currently in operation in the Los Angeles territory, according to a Los Angeles theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

The 23rd in a series of 31 direction-avering directory reveals that Los Angeles, largest city in the territory, has 216 theatres with a total capacity of 194,917. San Diego and Los Angeles have a combined total of 48 theatres with a capacity of 45,500.

In the Los Angeles area, 129 theatres are listed in HD territory, with a population of 2,500 and under. These account for a total capacity of 64,243, 30 per cent of that area's 216,209. The remaining 378 theatres are scattered over the 25,296 square miles of the territory in 128 counties and 2,086 incorporated communities.

Smith - Mundit Bill Signed by Truman

Washington, Jan. 27—President Truman today signed the Smith-Mundit Bill, authorizing the State Department's overseas information program. The motion picture industry is one of the fields given aid in the foreign distribution problems under the bill, although Congress decided to leave out of the bill any provision for U.S. Government aid on blocked funds abroad.

Sayers Leaves Research

James E. Sayers, chief executive in charge of the Smith-Mundit Research, has resigned, effective Feb. 1. Sayers will leave immediately for New York and private affairs. He is to be replaced by James L. Wolcott, vice-president and general manager, who will assume his duties.

Gandhi ends his fast peace, and the clash between Eden and Panley and Harold Stassen make newsreadel highlights in current reels.

Gandhi ends his fast peace, and the clash between Eden and Panley and Harold Stassen make newsreadel highlights in current reels.

MOVIEFLEA, No. 8—Harold Stassen and Edwin W. Panley cap off "inside" market trading. Jerusalem (U. S. Gandhi ends fast. Chinese mass wedding in China. sports and fashions. Complete content follows:

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 27—The members of the Eastern Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania today approved the buying and booking combine being set up by the group. The combine will hold its 18th annual meeting at the Broadwood Hotel here. Also at the meeting a vote of $200,000 will be given to the national and local administration of Allied Americans.

Speaker included Abram F. Meyers, general counsel for the national organization, who discussed theatre direction, movement, and Sidney Samuelson, general manager of the local group, who reported on activities of the past year.

Eastern Pa. Allied Votes Buying Unit

Cincinnati Theatres Crippled by Weather

Cincinnati, Jan. 27—Critical shortages throughout the state due to continued zero weather is forcing many factories to close. Undermining efficiency of work and theatre business is crippled.

Ohio Fuel Gas Co. serving half of Ohio, is requesting gas-heated theatres and other amusement places to close until fuel becomes abundant. It warns that it will invoke emergency closings for failure to comply voluntarily.
STAR OF THE WEEK
SPENCER TRACY
He adds another great role, "Cass Timberlane," to his long list of outstanding performances.

"DICKEY-BIRD SONG" IS A WINNER!
Biggest music exploitation in years for the hit tune from "Three Darling Daughters." It is expected to equal the success of M-G-M's current air-wave favorite "Pass That Peace Pipe" from "Good News."

"CASS TIMBERLANE" RUNNING "GREEN DOLPHIN STREET" CLOSE RACE!
Early Dates of Tracy-Turner Sensation Reveal M-G-M has First Big Hit of 1948!

Establishing the largest M-G-M gross in 5 years at Tulsa, and rolling up remarkable totals in its first thirteen cities "Cass Timberlane" looks like another Big One of "Green Dolphin" calibre. Confirming its selection as "Picture of the Month" by Cosmopolitan Magazine and winning praise wherever it plays, "Cass" is rated by theatre managers as "Just what the public wants." (Late Flash! "Cass" first week beats "Green Dolphin" in 8 out of 13 spots!)

BOX-OFFICE LINES
14 women's clubs with membership of 20 millions endorse "Green Dolphin Street." . . . . . . Pete Smith's "Bowling Tricks" launched with big promotion . . . . . . M-G-M has seven newly completed attractions in Technicolor, and an eighth in production.

EDITORIAL
Because it truly represents the philosophy of The Friendly Company toward our own customers we hail the publication by the Personal Finance Company of an essay entitled "The Customer—the most important person ever in this office." We quote briefly from it: "He is not dependent on you—you are dependent on him. He is not an interruption of your work—he is the purpose of it. He is not someone to argue with or match wits against—nobody ever won an argument with a customer even though they may have thought they did. He is a person who brings us his wants. If we have sufficient imagination we will endeavor to handle them profitably to him and to ourselves."

OUR MOTTO FOR TODAY:
SHOWMANSHIP IS THE HOLIDAY WRAPPING THAT MAKES FOLKS WANT TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE.

WEATHER: Nothing can keep them away from M-G-M pictures

“DICKEY-BIRD SONG” IS A WINNER!
The Word is out about the new film:

"IT CAN'T MISS AT THE BOX-OFFICE. THE WORD-OF-MOUTH SHOULD BE PHENOMENAL!"

"An adventure drama of unforgettable impact. A picture that soars into the highest brackets of box-office material!"

"Brilliantly handled from every direction. Should reap dollars at any box-office. It's for the gallery of greats!"

"It took the late Mark Hellinger to catch New York's many moods, its changing face, its racing pace and its exciting dynamics as, perhaps, no previous attraction has ever succeeded!"
out “NAKED CITY”!

“Exciting! Suspenseful! A prize package of entertainment! A stirring photoplay whose commercial fate should parallel in magnitude the subject matter it digests!”

“Really splendid entertainment for all audiences everywhere. Could be one of the best box-office attractions of the year!”

Mark Hellinger's

NAKED CITY

The most Exciting Story of the World's most Exciting City!

Starring BARRY FITZGERALD

and Featuring HOWARD DUFF • DOROTHY HART • DON TAYLOR • Directed by JULES DASSIN • Produced by MARK HELLINGER

Associate Producer: JULES BUCK • Screenplay by ALBERT MALTZ and MALVIN WALD • From a Story by MALVIN WALD • A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

Actually filmed on the treemng streets of NEW YORK!
RKO Management  
(Continued from page 1)

had been conducted with the understanding that the RKO management would remain unchanged.

Conversations between Howard Hughes and Odlin, chairman of the RKO board, for acquisition of all or part of the RKO presidency were described by Rathvon as "preliminary."

The RKO president disclosed there had been no talks between Odlin and a "group of private investors" associated with Robert F. Cummings, president of the Industries head. The Young group recently announced it was "looking" at RKO "with a view toward possible association."

Rathvon revealed that he had dropped negotiations "some time ago" on his attempts to acquire the Odlum stock, with others.

The view was expressed that Odlum would sell his holdings "under certain conditions." Rathvon would not say what the "certain conditions" might be.

According to the RKO president, the company plans to produce fewer pictures this year, the only reason being that "inventories are up well."

It was also disclosed that Argyros will make pictures for RKO Radio fame. It is charged that Rathvon added that Leo McCarey will make one picture for RKO before going to Paramount.

Argyros' "Three Godfathers" Seen Going Through M-G-M

Hollywood, Jan. 27.—Argyros Pictures before the New York press, "Three Godfathers" by B. Kynne story to be made by John Ford, will, it is understood, be distributed by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

British Tax  
(Continued from page 1)

Stafford Cripps told the House of Commons that not only does England turn her thumbs down on proposals to drop the 75 per cent-of-earnings tax on foreign films, but that the British government has no intention of accepting any revised plans for blocking sterlings of American companies in England.

The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers was represented at yesterday's meeting here by James Muhly, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions. Presidents and other top executives of all companies, including Republic and Monogram, were present, and the meeting was presided over by MPAA president Eric A. Johnston who, following adjournment, prepared to return to his home in Washington.

No further meetings on the British or other foreign situations are scheduled for the immediate future, an MPAA spokesman said.

Johnston Calls His Role 'Temporary'  

In his address before the meeting of the Protestant Film Council here yesterday, Motion Picture Pictures of America president Eric A. Johnston referred to his leadership of the MPAA as "temporary."

Johnston's reference to his "temporary leadership" came during the course of his talk to the Executive Committee in several individual MPAA department heads for the continuous efforts in behalf of the American industry and the industry in general.

Code Critics Hit  
(Continued from page 1)

ent or 'compelling' except something on the order of a picture which criticise (or that American institution, tradition or profession."

The result of the House committee investigation of Hollywood, Johnston said, "The Fugitive" is that it is dealing with controversial themes couldn't be made today. It is also said that the "translatability" of the character have been abandoned. "There's just no truth in that."

Cites Film in Memphis  

Referring to an industry court case against Memphis censors, who banned the picture because Negro children were shown attending the same school as white youngsters, Johnston asserted that the same time our industry intent to fight censorship on every front and to fight it with all our resources before it comes a serious danger to free speech and democracy."

The MPAA head said that the loss of a large share of its foreign revenue, due to the non-lending of pictures to producers of better pictures at lower cost, adding: "The results should be seen on the screen in the coming months."

"Hollywood is going through the trials, of course, but the world is without panic and with little fear, said, "It is trimming extravagant costs, built up during the last war years. It is charging for waste, careful planning, it is reducing shooting schedules, and introducing other efficiency devices in the studios."

'Avoids Political Censorship'  

Dr. Daniel A. Poling, editor of the Christian Herald, active in the work of the Protestant Motion Picture Council, expressed the belief that the rating system of the council has "helped remove the threat of or any necessity for, a political censure of pictures."

The award to "The Yearling" was the first to be made by the council. It was accepted by producer Robert Rabin, vice-president and general counsel of the company.

U. K. Production  
(Continued from page 1)

U. K. Production, the complaint of United Artists involving distribution of "Don't Take Life Too Seriously" was adjourned to Feb. 2 in New York Supreme Court yesterday. At the same time, a second provision, which jointly owned Cagney Productions and Warner Brothers, was discontinued by UA.

III. Allied Campaign On Theatre 'Pests'  

C hicago, Jan. 27.—Jack Kirsch, president of Illinois Allied, stated that more than that 75 of the theatre managers will participate in a "Movie Pests" poster contest, a project of the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, to promote better behavior in theatres. Winning posters will be displayed in theatre lobbies.

SRO to Release Five  
(Continued from page 1)

SRO will hold another Eastern division regional meeting at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, tomorrow, to discuss sales policy for 1948 product, it was announced by Milton S. Kusell, district vice-president. Sidney Deveau, assistant general sales manager, will also attend from the home office.


Sales policies of the five pictures to be released by SRO in the first half of 1948 will be discussed.

Horowitz Holds SRO Meeting  

Chicago, Jan. 27.—Sam Horowitz, Midwest division manager of Selznick Releasing Organization, held a one-day divisional sales meeting at the Drake Hotel.

Theatre Parking  
(Continued from page 1)

of the end of the year as new ones are added to the NBC video network. The initial viewing audience to the films in the East is estimated at 1,000,000 people.

of the film will be known as "Movie-Tone News—Television Edition" and will be produced by Edmund Reek, editor of the current theatre newsreel, under the direction of Peter Levathes, 20th-Fox newsreel and short subjects sales manager. It will be produced separately from the theatre newsreel. Although the company conceded that subjects may be the same in both reels, their treatment will differ, necessarily because of the different requirements of television.

Aid to Needy  
(Continued from page 1)

Chairman, announced yesterday beginning a meeting of the council to be held during the next 10 days, and the full council will meet again on Feb. 7. Suggestions for MPF activities other than the aid and relief of industry workers will be made at meetings of two sub-committees during the next 10 days, and the full council will meet again on Feb. 7.

For MPF activities other than the aid and relief of industry workers, suggestions for the survey will be made at meetings of two sub-committees during the next 10 days, and the full council will meet again on Feb. 7.

CITIES OF VARIOUS Sizes have complained repeatedly over bills that lead to parking congestion.

Under Desmon's proposed bill for the New York State, apartment houses would have to provide one space for each apartment; hotels, one space for each four rooms; office buildings and department stores would be required to provide one space for each 400 square feet over a certain limit.

The bill stipulates that unless a local council specifically exempts that city, requirements would be compulsory in all cities of New York. The council would "force local government officials to consider parking difficulties in their communities," Desmon says.

FILM TECHNICIANS WANTED AS SALES REPRESENTATIVES

We are expanding our national sales organization and have valuable opened positions capable of employed, having the demonstrating and selling nationally-advertised pro-

fessional 16 MM film machine equip-

ment. Exclusive territories guaranteed, high earnings, full, high earnings, assured to men acquainted with film sales, building profitable, permanent associate with the company. Write, giving full details, to MICRO ENGINEERING CORPO-

RATION, 118 South Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

Grosses Go Higher With Desmon  

LESLIE BANKS  
FLORA ROBSON  
"FAREWELL AGAIN"  
"LIFE ON A TROOPSHIP"

Your Downeshoe Man in Kansas City is Walter Lamberd

DEVONSHIRE FILM COMPANY  
187 Devonshire St  
Boston, Mass.
TOA to Seek Aid From Senate on Admission Tax Cut

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28—Fight by the Theatre Owners of America for an admission tax reduction has shifted from the House to the Senate, it was learned here today following conferences between TOA president Ted Gamble and executive director Robert B. Coyle with Rep. Knutson, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Rep. Dingell, Democratic member of the unit.

Convinced that nothing is to be gained in the near future in the House, which will begin debate tomorrow on the Knutson tax-reduction bill, with all amendments from the floor barred, the TOA leaders said today they would concentrate on getting the Senate Finance Committee to amend the Knutson bill. The measure will probably come up for further talks tomorrow.

(Continued on page 2)

Skouras, Rank Will Resume Talks Later

LONDON, Jan. 28—Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and J. Arthur Rank, who have engaged in preliminary discussions on the proposed "pooling" of Gaumont-British and Odeon, have postponed further talks until an early date, to be held in either London or New York. Rank has been reported to be planning a trip to the U.S. in the near future. Twentieth-Fox has an interest.

(Continued on page 4)

British Tax Settlement Seen Up to State Dept.

If there is to be a settlement of the British ad valorem tax deadlock in the not-too-distant future, the U. S. State Department will have to step in, now that all avenues of negotiation between the American film industry and the British government apparently have been traversed to no avail.

This was the impression conveyed here yesterday by a number of industry executives who attended Tuesday's joint meeting of the Motion Picture Export Association's board of directors and executive council here. The MPEA has heretofore considered approaching the State Department on the British tax question, but reportedly delayed the step.
**Personal Mention**

**BEN GOETZ,** head of M-G-M production in Britain, is due here next week from London en route to the Coast.

**Fred R. Sammis,** editorial director of Pictures, will leave Nov. 9 on a tour of the coast to prepare for the launch of the new no-western edition of the magazine. He will be in New York on Nov. 17.

**Sanee Conti,** manager of Walter Reade’s Oxford Theatre, Plainfield, N. J., has resigned to manage the Iselin Theatre, Iselin, N. J.

**Ray Coyle,** assistant to C. J. Fulman, Universal-International Western division sales manager, left New York yesterday for San Francisco.

**Joseph Bernhard,** Film Classics president, and **Mrs. Bernhard** have left New York for a cruise to the West Indies.

**Alan F. Cummings,** M-G-M exchange operations head, is due back here Monday from a Western tour.

**Pat Patterson,** Astor Pictures franchise holder, is in town from San Francisco.

**Martin Quigley** is due in Hollywood today from New York.

**Cut Admission Tax Fight Reds, “U” Asks**

Reduction of the Federal admission tax to at least 10 per cent is suggested in Universal’s annual report to stockholders, the company announced yesterday.

The report states that the reduction is deserving of consideration by Congress because of “the proven usefulness to the nation of American motion pictures,” because of the prospect of substantial losses of revenue to films in foreign markets and because of increased costs at home.

“Such a reduction would help the industry to maintain the high standards expected of American motion pictures,” the report declares.

Universal stockholders were told the company “by its pledged support in the nation’s fight on Communism.”

“The industry takes pride in the fact that memories of the American system, and Communists everywhere, hate and fear American motion pictures,” the report states.

**U’ Stockholders Meet**

Annual meeting of Universal stockholders will be held March 10 in Wilmington, Del. All directors of the company will attend the meeting. The annual meeting of the Universal board will be held at the home office in April.

**U’ Chiefs to Work Without Contracts**

New term contracts will be negotiated “at some later date” with Nate J. Blumberg, J. Cheever Cowdin, Charles D. Prutzman, W. A. Scully and J. H. Selman of Universal who have agreed to continue on the same basis of yearly compensation and profit-sharing through the expiration of their contracts last Dec. 31, the company reports.

Negotiations for new pacts are being postponed, it was said, “until the outlook for the town becomes more clearly defined.”

**U-1 Sets 25**

(Continued from page 1)

of last Nov. 1 amounted to $38,883,164, compared with $45,169,152 in the preceding year. Of the increased costs, the report stated, approximately $10,752,000 was accounted for by higher amortization charges, costs of the new eight and 16mm. business, a changeover to single picture printing, and by present-day costs required to make quality product for exhibition in this theatre.

The theatre, too, must be willing to assume a greater share of the burden now placed on the industry by the current increased costs and by present-day costs required to make quality product for exhibition in this theatre.

**U’ 1947 Profit**

(Continued from page 1)

**News Briefs**

**Stoltz Buys All of Terhune's Works for Own Production Unit.**

Arnold Stoltz, who will leave New York today for Hollywood to set production plans for his previously announced “Man of O’ War,” reported here yesterday that he has purchased all of the works of author Albert Payx Terhune for film production, including the books "Gray Dawn," "The Luck of the Laird," "Jock," and 37 other novels and stories by the dog-story specialist.

Stoltz reported additionally that he has closed a life-time contract with "Gray Dawn" director, "Laddie-Boy," to feature in his films.

**70,000 000 Persons Abroad Saw Canadian Films in Year.**

**Ottawa, Jan. 28.—**An estimated 70,000,000 persons in other countries saw Canadian films through commercial distribution in 1947, according to the National Film Board reports.

The report said there had been no decrease in this year’s distribution in both theatrical and non-theatrical fields. Distribution outlets for the government have increased during this year, as well as the number of exploratory contacts have been made in another 30.

**Reserve 20th-Fox-SPG Decision**

**New York State Supreme Court Justice Henry Clay Greenberg heard arguments here yesterday on his recent order granting defendants' motion for a new trial in 20th-Century-Fox’s motion to preclude arbitration proceedings by the Screen Playwrights Guild. Greenberg reserved decision. The dispute grew out of the discharge of nine persons by the company last August.

**ABPC 75% Stock Dividend**

**London, Jan. 28.—**Associated British Pictures Corp. has declared a seven-cent-per-share stock dividend payable on common stock for the year ending March 31. This compares with a four-cent interim dividend paid in 1947.

**Admission Tax Cut**

(Continued from page 1)

ably be passed by the House Monday. It will be several weeks before the Senate schedules hearings on the measure.

There is plenty of time for an “education” campaign among the Senators, the TOA heads said. Several already have been in touch personally, they indicated, if they fail to get Senate backing in the admission tax cut, they will then turn to the House for a special bill.

In the morning Gamble and Coyne conferred with Attorney General Tom Clark on the “general economic picture.” Theatre business was mentioned only incidentally, they reported, and the industry anti-trust case not at all. Gamble and Coyne also held talks with A. Julian Brylawski, TOA national secretary.

Gamble left for New York late tonight, while Coyne left for Richmond.

**26 Theatres Now in Gillman Buying Unit**

**Salt Lake City, Jan. 28.—**Irving Gillman, manager of United International’s Salt Lake office, buying his book- ing combine here, has signed four more houses to his group. They include the Grand, of William Moore; the San of Manti, Alvie Peterson of Monroe; Gene Wadsboro of Hurricane and Jay C. Christensen of Salt Lake City. The four theatres for Gillman in Utah; he has a total of 26, the rest being in Montana.

**MOTION PICTURE DAILY**

Thursday, January 29, 1948
Treasure of Sierra Madre

WILL STIR THE ENTHUSIASM OF EVERY AUDIENCE INTO A DITHER! "COOK
ONE OF THE BEST FROM HOLLYWOOD IN HALF A DOZEN YEARS!" NEWSWEEK MAG
"FAST AND ELECTRIC. WILL MAKE YOUR HAIR STAND ON END!" CROWTHER — N. Y. TIME
"A SUPERB BELOW-THE-BORDER THRILLER!" BARNES — N. Y. HER. TRIBUN
"TOWERS OVER THE MOVIES LIKE THE MATTERHORN!" AGER — PM — N. Y.
"A MEMORABLE, INTENSELY POWERFUL DRAMA — ONE OF THE FINEST!
PELSWICK N. Y. JOUR.-AME
"I DON'T SEE HOW A FILM CAN TOP IT!" MORTIMER — N. Y. MIRROR

Humphrey Bogart, Walter Huston, Tim Holt, Bruce Bennett
Directed by John Huston, Produced by Henry Blanke
Screen play by John Huston — Based on the Novel by B. Traven — Music by Max Steiner

Warner Bros. daily are breaking the 30-year record at the N. Y. Strand with
Ohio Owners Merge

Cleveland, Jan. 28.—New Yorktown, 1,500-seat deluxe neighborhood house which opened last August and the 1,200-seat Parma located in nearby Parma, which was built the previous year have been merged into a partnership operation. Involved are John D. Kahafat, Janet E. Scoville and Howard Reif of the Parma, and Ted and Albert Vermes of the Yorktown. Merger becomes effective Feb. 1st.

Hear Arguments on New Film Delivery

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 28.—South Dakota's public utilities commission has set February 17th for issuance under advisement the appeal of Henry Scheuette and Russell Hanne man for a class B truck permit to establish a film delivery service for the areas extending 60 miles into the Sioux Falls and Aberdeen areas. Scheuette told the commission that South Dakota is "the only state where such a service has not been authorized."

Operation to a license was voiced by representatives of the M. and St. L. and Chicago, Northwestern rail- roads, the Wilson Storage and Trans- port Company of Detroit, and others. Appearing on behalf of the applications were Amy Zimmer, Woosoonett; R. L. Masten, secretary; James Briegleben, Elkton; Dan Peterson, Brookings, theatre owners; Frank Egan, Paramount, and Sherm Fichl, KRO Radio.

Church Films

(Continued from page 1)

Church Films

(Continued from page 1)

recommend raising funds to finance the objectives of the commission, which include production of religious films and the operation of an office in cooperation with the industry.

All officers of the commission were re-elected. They are: Dr. Daniel R. Betts, president; S. Franklin Mack, vice-president; Mrs. Norman Vincent Peale, secretary; and R. B. Bennett, treasurer. Of 17 directors to be elected, 13 were renam and four new ones were named, including Dr. M. Theobald Wilson, Miss Amy Targert, Bettie Brittingham, and William Hoefl. All of the films produced, now being shown, is "Beyond Our Own." The second, shortly to be released, is "My Name Is Han."

Skouras, Rank

(Continued from page 1)

as "amiable," were cut short because it became necessary for Skouras to return to the U. S. in a few days. Skouras and 20th-Fox International president Maurice Silverberg have decided to leave here for Paris tomorrow, and Skouras will leave there shortly by plane. Silverberg has returned to London on routine business. Otto Kegel, 20th-Fox's general counsel, who joined Skouras here recently, returned to New York today aboard the S. S. Queen Mary.

Bordonaro Suit

(Continued from page 1)

voted no cause of action against five of the defender companies. The latter five companies were Warner Bros. Pictures, United Artists, Universal Film Exchanges, Inc., 20th Century-Fox and Loew's. Plaintiffs charged that the companies conspired to prevent their Paramount from obtaining first-run product.

Set 'Wyoming' Premiere

Lancaster, O., Jan. 28.—World premiere Saturday of 23rd Century-Fox Technicolor special, "Green Grass of Wyoming" will be held May 26 at the Ogden-Gallatin Theatre. A three-day civic celebration, highlighted by "Governor's Day" for the chief executives of Ohio and Wyoming, will be staged by the Chamber of Commerce.

Reviews

"Piccadilly Incident" (Wlcoln-M-G-M)

While a little late in reaching American shores, this British-made thriller is certain to click solidly, especially with women audiences in this country. Containing material of a highly popular nature, "Piccadilly Incident" unrolls a plethora of tale that never fails to appeal to the feminine side. Production at the hands of Herbert Wilcox gives the extremely fictional plot a much higher rating than perhaps it merits.

The trailers in the film'sN.A. News, a WREN, counterpart of "WAVE," and Michael Wilding, a Marine officer of noble lineage, who met during a London blackout. No sooner are they married, after a brief romance, than the girl is shipped overseas. She is erroneously reported dead when her husband, who is known to be alive on a Pacific island, with a number of shipmates, remains away a long while. When Miss Neagle is rescued and learns the truth, she cannot face the prospect of breaking up the family. The screenplay of Nicholas Phipps proves a convenient solution by having Miss Neagle die from injuries sustained in an air raid. The film was splendidly acted under the direction of Wilcox.

Peter Burrum's London review of the film, which appeared in Motion Picture Daily on Sept. 27, 1946, said, in part: "It's competently, tell a novel diss and none-too-disturbing story... Nevertheless, the film emerges as one of those pictures which women sigh over, tell their neighbors about, and go through again. Wilcox has compounded a piece which will run through box-offices like a bush fire."

Running time, 88 minutes. Adult classification. Release date, not set. P.E.L.

"Black Bart" (Universal-International)

O' the credit side of this Universal-International outdoor action-drama is a cast that includes Yvonne De Carlo, Dinny Duryea and Jeffrey Lynn. Also to be noted is the picture itself, which is very beautiful. With a few minor variations, the film otherwise follows the Western formula, containing a satisfactory measure of riding, plus whistling bullets. The De Carlo, Duryea, and Har business, however, is a pocket-sized entertainer, provides an added gift with some song and dance numbers.

The story presents Duryea as Black Bart, a masked highwayman who preys on Wells-Fargo stage coaches during the course of these risky enter prise. Standing at the head of his cohort, he is said to have been a famous outlaw by the end of the Civil War. His wrath is aroused by the kidnapping of a Westwoman and her child by two robbers. They are captured, but Bart lets them go. He is induced to commit murder, and he is doomed. The film is fast-moving, exciting but a little strange.

Running time, 80 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set. Mandel Herbstman

Four Wallis Pictures

(Continued from page 1)

prepared to go into production next fall.

Wallis pictures to be released by Paramount in 1948 number three. They consist of "I Walk Alone," "Evil My Love," which was produced in England, and "Sorry, Wrong Number." Final editing of "Evil My Love" is now being completed by Wallis on the Coast. It is said that the Wallis distribution contract with Paramount, calling for the delivery of a total of 12 pictures to terminate this year, will be taken over byParamount for the 1948-49 season.

Legion Rates Eight Additional Pictures

Three of eight features reviewed by the National Legion of Deeny review staff were "Georges Carpentier," "Lone's School Days," and "Wally Vallant," Eagle Lion; "Silly-McGee," Republic, and "Western Heritage," KKO Radio. Placed in Class A-1 were: "Holiday Camp," Universal International; "Main Street Kid," Republic; "Mary Lou," Columbia, and "To Live in Peace" (Italian), Times Film Corp.

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Call Northside 777" was placed in Class B.

Says Need Better Shows

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28.—Completion of a survey on the educational as pects of films and their influence on young people is reported by Mrs. Ruth B. Hodges, editor of National Portrait Teacher, film review paper. It stresses the need for improvement in theatre programs, with community in terest and activity to encourage thea tremen.

Halloran in CMPs Post

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 28.—Pat Halloran, Minneapolis film salesman, has been named a national vice-president of The Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen.
It Wins In A "WALK"

as its first openings outpace the sweeping boxoffice performance of "Desert Fury" in

New York City
Biggest opening day in months at the Paramount.

San Francisco
Opened within a few dollars of "Fury’s" big stars-in-person premiere.

Detroit
Ahead of "Desert Fury" and holding for 3rd big week.

Rochester
1st week passes "Fury" and 2nd week continues at a 20%-better gait.

San Francisco
Opened within a few dollars of "Fury’s" big stars-in-person premiere.

Miami
1st 4 days beat week's figure for "Fury" which included a holiday.

Tucson
Equalled record-setting local appeal gross of "Desert Fury" which included Labor Day.

LOUELLA PARSONS IS RIGHT, IT'S ANOTHER
"Great Entertainment" From Paramount

Yes, Paramount's E.Q. (Entertainment Quotient) is the industry's highest... with Associated Press hailing "THE PERILS OF PAULINE" as "The most entertaining picture of the year" and the whole nation singing praise of "GOLDEN EARRINGS" as the song becomes No. 2 in Billboard's Top Tunes survey and crashes the Lucky Strike Hit Parade.

BURT LANCASTER
and
LIZABETH SCOTT
in
HAL WALLIS'
production
"I WALK ALONE"

with
WENDELL COREY
KIRK DOUGLAS
KRISTINE MILLER
and
GEORGE RIGAUD • MARC LAWRENCE
MIKE MAZURKI • MICKEY KNOX

Directed by BYRON HASKIN • Screenplay by Charles Schnee • Adaptation by Robert Smith and John Bright • Based upon an original play "Beggars Are Coming To Town" by Theodore Reeves • Produced on the stage by Oscar Serlin
Feb. 3rd
in its World Premiere,
Warner Theatre, New York

Watch a "MIRACLE"
in Philly, Feb. 18th,
Stanley Theatre,
and Detroit, Feb. 20th,
Michigan Theatre.
US Clearance On TOA-Ascap Talks Reported

Say Clark Regards Plan As 'Sound and Legal'

Negotiations by Theatre Owners of America with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers to obtain lower theatre music licensing rates than those proposed by Ascap last summer reportedly have been given the green light by the U.S. Attorney General.

The Federal decree under which Ascap operates prohibits the society from discriminating in the matter of rates among licensees in the same category. Thus, if TOA obtained rates acceptable to the representative number of exhibitors, Ascap's consent decree would require it to make the same rates applicable to all other exhibitors.

Because of this, rival exhibitor organizations, Allied States among them, have indicated from time to time that any rates resulting from the TOA-Ascap negotiations might be challenged (Continued on page 4)

To Oppose Curb On Theatre Building

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Sen. Buck, a member of a Senate sub-committee considering the extension of the present rent control law, said today he would fight any continuation of the Government's power to curb theatre construction, and that he though sub-committee chairman Sen. Cain felt the same way. Cain has refused to commit himself publicly on the issue.

Buck said he thought Housing Expediter Tighen Woods had indicated in his testimony before the sub-committee (Continued on page 5)

US Warns of Loss Of Belgian Market

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Belgium and Luxembourg constitute substantial markets for U.S. films, and important ones, without any restrictions on imports and remittances; it would be well, therefore, for U.S. producers to exert as much effort as possible to supply those markets with their best possible product, says a Department of Commerce report by film consultant (Continued on page 5)

9 Film Executives Are Subpoenaed by House Labor Group

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Seven film company presidents and two vice-presidents have been subpoenaed to appear before a House labor sub-committee which will open hearings on the Hollywood jurisdictional strike on Feb. 17, chairman Carroll D. Kearns disclosed here today.

The subpoenas are as follows: Rupert Balaban, president of Paramount; Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal; Louis B. Mayer, president of M.G.M.; and John W. Symons, president of Century-Fox. The subpoenas were also served on Spiros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox and Breen, president of Universal Pictures (Continued on page 4)

Stewart Will Manage Allied of Kan.-Mo.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 29.—Jack Stewart, new general manager of Allied Theatres of Michigan, has been engaged on decision of the board of directors, as general manager of the new Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Kansas and Missouri, Stewart will hold a conference with a committee from board, and after a mail ballot received from board members, was chosen (Continued on page 5)

Johnston Puts Industry Problems, Request for Help, Before President

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston today carried to the White House the industry's efforts to face better abroad, in a 15-minute conference with President Truman.

Johnston said that the President supported efforts to get the Government to take over the overseas "out of pocket" costs of the film and other information industries, so that these industries can continue to be an effective instrument of American foreign policy.

When asked for the President's reaction to this suggestion, Johnston said: "You'll have to ask the President."

Johnston told the President that the Smith-Mundt Bill was a great step forward in the campaign to tell America's story abroad, and pledged the full cooperation of the motion picture industry. He said, he hoped that some way could be found to use the appropriations under the bill to repay the U.S. instead of losing funds abroad and the losses of radio, magazines, newspapers and other forms of media.

Johnston cited the fact that film companies are losing $30,000 a month showing pictures in occupied Germany, (Continued on page 5)

McConnell Engaged As Ill. Allied Counsel

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—Attorney Thomas C. McConnell has been engaged as counsel for Allied Theatres of Illinois, Jack Kirsch, president of that organization disclosed here today, following a membership meeting.

McConnell, who handled the Jackson Park Theatre case, will act as legal adviser to Allied in matters pertaining to the local organization.

McConnell stated, "my understanding with Allied is that I am to be legal adviser on problems as they arise, and there are no litigations involved to my knowledge."

Act to Speed Industry Public Relations Plan

Scully and Joseph to Open Regionals Today

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 29.—William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal-International, accompanied by John Joseph, national director of advertising-publicity, depart tomorrow for San Francisco to open the first of a series of regional sales meetings. At the same time, A. J. O'Keefe, U-I sales manager, accompanied by Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director, will leave for St. Louis, where they will conduct meetings early next week.

Scully and Joseph will then join O'Keefe and Bergman in Chicago for another session next week. Then they will move to New York for a final regional at the home office.

Johnston Puts Industry Problems, Request for Help, Before President

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston today carried to the White House the industry's efforts to face better abroad, in a 15-minute conference with President Truman.

Johnston said that the President supported efforts to get the Government to take over the overseas "out of pocket" costs of the film and other information industries, so that these industries can continue to be an effective instrument of American foreign policy.

When asked for the President's reaction to this suggestion, Johnston said: "You'll have to ask the President."

Johnston told the President that the Smith-Mundt Bill was a great step forward in the campaign to tell America's story abroad, and pledged the full cooperation of the motion picture industry. He said, he hoped that some way could be found to use the appropriations under the bill to repay the U.S. instead of losing funds abroad and the losses of radio, magazines, newspapers and other forms of media.

Johnston cited the fact that film companies are losing $30,000 a month showing pictures in occupied Germany, (Continued on page 5)

McConnell Engaged As Ill. Allied Counsel

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—Attorney Thomas C. McConnell has been engaged as counsel for Allied Theatres of Illinois, Jack Kirsch, president of that organization disclosed here today, following a membership meeting.

McConnell, who handled the Jackson Park Theatre case, will act as legal adviser to Allied in matters pertaining to the local organization.

McConnell stated, "my understanding with Allied is that I am to be legal adviser on problems as they arise, and there are no litigations involved to my knowledge."

Act to Speed Industry Public Relations Plan

Scully and Joseph to Open Regionals Today

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 29.—William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal-International, accompanied by John Joseph, national director of advertising-publicity, depart tomorrow for San Francisco to open the first of a series of regional sales meetings. At the same time, A. J. O'Keefe, U-I sales manager, accompanied by Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director, will leave for St. Louis, where they will conduct meetings early next week.

Scully and Joseph will then join O'Keefe and Bergman in Chicago for another session next week. Then they will move to New York for a final regional at the home office.

Johnston Puts Industry Problems, Request for Help, Before President

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston today carried to the White House the industry's efforts to face better abroad, in a 15-minute conference with President Truman.

Johnston said that the President supported efforts to get the Government to take over the overseas "out of pocket" costs of the film and other information industries, so that these industries can continue to be an effective instrument of American foreign policy.

When asked for the President's reaction to this suggestion, Johnston said: "You'll have to ask the President."

Johnston told the President that the Smith-Mundt Bill was a great step forward in the campaign to tell America's story abroad, and pledged the full cooperation of the motion picture industry. He said, he hoped that some way could be found to use the appropriations under the bill to repay the U.S. instead of losing funds abroad and the losses of radio, magazines, newspapers and other forms of media.

Johnston cited the fact that film companies are losing $30,000 a month showing pictures in occupied Germany, (Continued on page 5)
**Personal Mention**

**SAM SEIDELMAN**, Eagle-Lion foreign operations manager, has returned to New York from a tour of Central and South America.

**A. E. LIGHTMAN**, former Washington, D. C., distributor, has been named chairman of the banquet committee for Variety Clubs International’s convention at Miami Beach, Fla., April 12-17.

**H. L. DANSO**, Eagle-Lion advertising manager, will speak on films and children at the United Parents’ Association meeting tomorrow at Freedom House House.

**JOHN WOLFGANG**, Rocky Mountain Allied president and manager of the Broadway Theatre, Denver, has returned to that city from a Florida vacation.

**STEVE BRODY**, Monogram-Allied Artists president, returned to the Coast from a vacation in Palm Springs.

**MORRIS ERNST**, counsel of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, left here yesterday for Washington.

**KARL HERSOG**, Film Classics vice-president and treasurer, and **SIGMUND NEUFELD**, producer, will fly to Hollywood from New York.

**ARTHUR JEFFREY**, Eagle-Lion exploitation manager, is back in New York from Texas.

**B. G. KRANIE**, Film Classics vice-president of world-wide sales, will leave here Sunday for Cleveland.

**EMILE LUSTIG**, Westport International executive vice-president, is en route to France from New York.

**WILLIAM B. JAFFE**, industry attorney, has returned to New York from the Coast.

**JULES LEVY** is confined to his home here by illness.

**500 Due at Carolina T.O. Meet Sunday**

**CHARLOTTE, Jan. 29.—More than 500 are expected to attend the 36th annual convention of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina and to be held at the Hotel Charlotte here Sunday afternoon through Tuesday. Organization president Ben L. Stronger will preside and Ted Gamble and Herman Levy, president and general counsel, respectively, of the Theatre Owners of America, are slated to be the principal speakers. The meeting will feature the annual election of officers and discussions will be held on the industry topics, such as the rapid increase, 16mm. competition, advanced admissions, taxation and other problems.

The meeting will feature the annual election of officers and discussions will be held on the industry topics, such as the rapid increase, 16mm. competition, advanced admissions, taxation and other problems.

**Insider’s Outlook**

**By RED KANN**

**ERIC JOHNSTON** made another speech on Tuesday and spread on the record significant comment on the course of future production trends. Significant because a number of creative personalities in Hollywood have been uncertain about the direction following the recent Congressional sub-committee probe in Washington. Johnston spoke to the Protestant M. P. Council which was retaining Metro for “The Yearling” as the best film of 1947 on the basis of a production. The Christian Herald that he personally, was encouraging Hollywood to make more pictures dealing with the pulse for today.

Johnston struck for new patterns to replace the show shop and the formula, and added, “I think any agency of communication entertainment, orientation makes a mistake when it plays down to the public and understates the public’s intelligence. These are times which can well afford new daring and boldness and imagination. . . .

“I’m constantly being asked if we have clamped down on pictures which criticize this or that American institution, tradition or profession as a result of the House [sub] committee investigation of Hollywood. It is charged that pictures of the past dealing with controversial themes couldn’t be made today. It is also said contemplated productions of this character have been abandoned, and there’s just no truth in that. . . .

“If a decent, sensible story happens to call for an unsympathetic character, then let the producers be. . . .

“Self-criticism is one of the great American assets. He who would water down or take away the right is the real subservient in America today and should be viewed with suspicion.”

This clearly suggests a regime of intimidation, however indirect, which some felt had been suspended over Hollywood as a consequence of the House sub-committee investigation neither is acknowledged nor contested by Johnston and the principal companies he represents.

It is encouraging news.

Inevitably, a conversational stir had to follow that the Motion Picture Daily story reporting Johnston’s reference to his presidency of MPAA as “temporary.” The remark dropped as he cited performance delivered by various of his department heads.

The Washington Bureau dug in yesterday with this result: “MPAA says no significance to Johnston’s ‘temporary’ remark in sense of immediate retirement. He was just contrasting pretty government cooperation with his relatively short term in MPAA post. Does this answer you? It does not.

Dave Siegel may be a producing novice by comparison with Sam Goldwyn and his embattled years in Hollywood’s flamboyant scenery, but that is evidently not sufficient reason to keep him. He thinks Goldwyn’s recent flogging, on exhibition, chiefly, is ill-advised, uncalled for and harmful. Theatremen probably are convinced by now that there is no reason in Siegel’s view: “I have no sympathy whatever for the crocodile tears of exhibitors. But to imply the exhibitor is no one owns his investments or takes his chances, but simply hangs on the coat-tails of producers is most unfair and just as untrue. If Goldwyn, the precaution of doing, keeps hanging long enough and loud enough about how chaotic the business is, he might finally be successful in persuading the financiers to refuse to invest in pictures and the general public refuse to attend them.”

**Portrait of Discontent**: Sidney Bernstein, sitting in daily at the Warner studio offices, says that Hitchcock is busy on “Rope,” first of Transatlantic’s two for that company, and knowing his Granada circuit in England will never play the film. The news isn’t instantly if the British tax impasse continues, as most of the authorities and seers are dolorously confident it will.

“Since ‘Treasure of the Sierra Madre’ has proved such a hit . . . .” reports Hedda Hopper in her widely circulated column, She wrote the film hit up yet get to see the first couple of days after of its premiere and the first dates anywhere at the Warner Los Angeles first-run. Who was it that remarked Hollywood’s verdant West Coast boundaries terminated at San Bernardino?

**MOTION PICTURE DAILY**: Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherrill 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 Circle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpub", New York. The firm, is incorporated, and all stock is owned by Martin Quigley, Jr., President; Ray Kane, Treasurer; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President and Treasurer; Leo J. Bradford, General Counsel; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street, Editorial and Advertising; Urban Farley, Advertising Representative, Washington, J. A. Otten, 814 South Arlington Mill Drive, Arlington, Va., London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1. Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, “Quigpub”, London. Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald. Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of the Motion Picture Herald. Entered as second-class matter at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription prices per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

**NEW YORK THEATRES**

**RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL**

Rockefeller Center

Gregory Ann Charles George Beck Todd Laubert

Charles Coburn • Ethel Barrymore

and Louis Jouvet and Vally

Directed in David O. Selznick’s production of

**THE PARADINE CASE**

Summit Stage Presentation

John Ford and Nino C. Cooper present August Pictures

**THE FUGITIVE**

Wanda Lorden Erens Tony Fonda Del Rio Armendariz

Directed by John Ford / **VICTORIA**

*Motion Picture Daily* 2, January 30, 1948
"YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME"

- ROXY, N. Y., BEATS SENSATIONAL OPENING DAY "MARGIE" RECORD!

* IT'S THE SAME CENTURY-FOX SUCCESS STORY IN LOS ANGELES, PORTLAND, BALTIMORE AND SEATTLE !!
Strike Off as AFM Extends Radio Pacts

With members of the American Federation of Musicians slated to impose a ban on radio performances after midnight tonight, and Robert L. Lippert, head of the AFM, and heads of the four major networks yesterday signed a 60-day contract extension and also reached agreement on a new pact to go into effect.

At the same time that the extension ended the strike threat, Lippert withdrew the union's prohibition against simultaneous broadcasting on A.M. and color television.

Gamble Enterprises And Monarch Merged

Ted Gamble has merged his Monarch Theatre Interests with Gamble Enterprises, Inc., which has headquarters in Seattle. This came to light yesterday when the directorate of the latter company, in which are assembled all of Gamble's holdings on the West Coast, recorded the merger.

Gamble theatres in the East and West are now being operated under the Gamble Enterprises name. Monarch's name has been dropped.

7 Companies Formed By New York Group

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 29.—Eight companies have been incorporated to own, operate and manage motion pictures and theatres, with offices in New York City; they are: Ritz 8th Corp., Berkshire 8th Corp., Col-

9 Film Executives (Continued from page 1)

20th Century-Fox: Harry Warner, president; Jack L. Warner, vice-president; Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, and N. Peter Rath-
von, president of RKO.

Subpoenas for the nine were served through their attorney Berton A. Zorn.

Kerns said he expected that Sam-
uel Goldwyn, chairman of Goldwyn Productions, and Harry Cohn, presi-
dent of Columbia, would be served shortly, through their attorneys. Labor union heads involved in the Hollywood labor situation will not be served with subpoenas, Kerns said, because the union presidents have agreed to appear before the committee.

New Laws

Bill H. Hays, former president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, has opened a law practice in his law firm, Hays and Hays, in Indianapolis. The firm's home office is in Sullivan, Ind., Hays' home town.

Guild Deal Cancelled

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 29.—Blumen-
feld Theatres, which acquired the Guild Theatre here three weeks ago from Robert L. Lippert, has returned the Market Street house to Lippert.

News Briefs.

Loew's Board Up for Reelection

At Stockholders Meeting Today

All stockholders of the board of directors of Loew's will be up for re-election at the annual meeting of Loew's here today. Members of the board are: Nicholas M. Schenck, president; Joseph R. Vogel, vice-

president; William F. Rodgers, dis-

trict vice-president; George Ruben, vice-president and counsel; Charles C. Moskowitz, vice-president and treasurer; Reuben Langer, vice-president, secretary and counsel, and David Warfield, William A. Par-

ker, Henry Rogers Winthrop and Eugene W. Leake.

Buffalo Variety Club Installs

Contributes $16,000 to Charity

BUFFALO, Jan. 29.—Presentation of $16,000 to two charities highlighted the installation of officers of the Variety Club of Buffalo, Tent No. 7, which was unattended by 250 in the Hotel Stater. Guests were Thomas Mitchell, actor-director-playwright; C. J. Latta, Kanove, cycle executive; John Konove, exec-

utive of Variety International, and William McCraw, Dallas, executive di-

rector of Variety International. Reports of presentations to charities were made by junior past chief Barker Dewey Michaels and Andrew Coons, and went to the Variety Club-Shriners' Kenny Center and to the Variety Club Cere-

bral Palsy Clinic.

McCraw installed these officers: Chief Barker, William Dipson; first assistant, Myron Gros; second assis-
tant, Harry L. Bension; secretary, John G. Chinell; secretary, W. E. J. Martin.

Albany Variety Testimonial

For Dick Hayes on Feb. 3

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 29.—The local Variety Club will give a testimonial to the straight-base pitcher of the night of Feb. 23 to Dick Hayes who recently

ly resigned after 20 years as a Para-

mount salesman. Hayes is now oper-

ating a hotel at Secaucus, N. J.

Many out-of-town guests are ex-

pected to attend the affair, co-
members are Edward S. Green,

co-
member; Eugene Vogel, Univer-
sal member, and Charles Smak-
witz, assistant zone manager here of Warner Theatres.

Allied of Illinois Endorses

"American Brotherhood Week"

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—"American Brotherhood Week," the annual ob-

serveance of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Feb. 22-29, was unanimously endorsed by mem-

bers of Allied of Illinois, at a meet-
ing here held yesterday, according to an announcement by Jack Kirsch, president.

Kirsch, in addition to being national co-chairman of the motion picture division, is co-chairman for Illinois with John Balaban of Balaban and Katz.

New Screen Guild Office

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 29.—North Star and Screen Guild sales and bookings of Film Features, Inc., moved out of a sub-office to be opened in the North Dakota city about March 1, it was announced by Reno Wilk, sales and branch manager of the two ex-

changes in Minneapolis.

Ray Copeland Resigns as Paramount Branch Manager

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 29.—Resigna-

tion of Ray Copeland as Paramount branch manager here because of ill health was announced here today. During the period he was with the com-

pany as salesman in Des Moines 25 years ago, will be honored at a branch employees luncheon Saturday.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that the industry party for three retiring producers was Saturday night, with O. K. Mason, former general manager of Commonwealth Theatres; W. E. Scott, 20th Century-Fox dis-

trict manager, and Copeland as honor-
guests.

Morris Must Show Proof

By Tomorrow in WB Suit

Former Warner executive Sam E. Morris, who is suing the company for alleged breach of an employment con-

tract on the ground that he was dis-

charged even though the contract agreed, he says, to employ him on the Coast as an advisor, must furnish Warner attorneys with addi-

tion and documents regarding his employment not later than tomorrow night and will be notified by Judge John Bright ruled in U. S. District Court here yesterday. The company has filed a dismissal, which is for $250,000 in unpaid salary claimed.

Shea Circuit's Annual Meet

Set for Tuesday in Cleveland

Annual meeting of Shea Theatre Corp. will be held at the Carter Hotel, Cleveland, on Tuesday, with Edmund C. Grainger, president, officiating.

In addition to 11 members of the office and 23 theatre managers in the field, some 50 representatives of the competing theatre ser-

vice companies, production firms and other circuits will be guests.

SAG Polls Members Of Actor-Agent Tie

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 29.—Preliminary to opening of negotiations for a new contract to replace the current 10-year contract which will expire next Sep-

tember, Screen Actors Guild has sent a questionnaire to its membership for opinions on the relationship between actors and agents. The poll asks

whether the members are satisfied with prevailing conditions and invites suggestions for improvements.

Report LA Exhibitors, "IA" Local 150 Agree on Terms

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 29.—Committees representing local exhibitors and IA officers at meeting last night No. 150 today reached an agreement on terms of a new contract, which was signed by both sides. The prevailing formal written for the Los Angeles area.

An increase approximating 30 per cent was among the original demands on the exhibitors in Los Angeles, which were presented last week to the committee quickly took action against them.

Secured Support for Program

During the year Schafler made several trips across the country meeting and addressing exhibitor groups on the committee's activities and securing pledges of support for the industry's public relations campaign and the new advertising code. Most recent of these was his conference with a group of leading Southern exhibitors in Miami where a local organization was set up to expand on the program. He reported to the committee that all of the exhibitors who were active during the year were: Howard Dietz, Sr., Wynn, Franklin; Clarence Shuford, Paul Lazarus, Jr., Bergman, Hank Lines, Mort Blumenta, Gil Goldman, and Eric Wall.

Resigns Circuit Post

St. Petersburg, Fla., Jan. 29.—Boli-
yan, manager for Florida State Theatres, Paramount affiliate, has resigned, effective Feb. 7. He joined the company in 1937 and was Paramount for 22 years. He came to St. Petersburg in 1937 to take charge of Sparkes Theatres, which later became Florida Theatres. In 1942 Hyde was appointed district supervisor.

Boycott Threat Over 'Disgraceful' Films

Circleville, O., Jan. 29.—Boycott of the three theatres in this county seat is threat-

ened if they show "disgraceful" films, declared officers of the newly-formed Circleville Motion Picture Council, com-

posed of 40 town. A "committee of 21" from the coun-

cil's membership has been appointed to solicit support among local, civic and reli-

gious groups.

The "horror and rootin' tootin' pictures" scheduled for short runs on weekends will be our first target," said John Heisicell, chairman.
TOA-Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

lenged on the grounds of conspiracy between TOA and Ascap in developing them. 

Presumably taking cognizance of such a possibility, Ted B. Gamble, TOA president; Robert W. Coyne, executive director, and Herman Levy, general counsel, this week conferred with Attorney General Tom Clark in Washington, acquainting him with the TOA-Ascap problem and outlining TOA's procedure in dealing with it.

Stand Held 'Sound, Legal.' According to unconfirmed but reliable reports, Clark was noncommittal on promising anything, and was told the TOA delegation that its position was "sound and legal."

In its negotiations with Ascap, TOA has taken the position that the society must propose new rates for theatre licensees which must be drastically lower than the 300 per cent increases proposed by the society originally. Failing that, TOA would take other steps against Ascap.

However, if the rates advanced by Ascap as a result of the negotiations were deemed "reasonable" by TOA, the national theatre organization would do no more than recommend their acceptance by exhibitors.

Talks Won Postponement

The TOA negotiations already have won postponements in the effective date for increased theatre rates from Nov. 1, 1947, to March 15, 1948.

Gamble had not returned to New York, however, and that is one reason yesterday and could not be reached for comment on the report concerning the Attorney General's situation. Further details of TOA's negotiations with Ascap, Coyne and Levy are in Richmond, Va., attending a convention of the Virginia Motion Picture Association.

Truman Aid

(Continued from page 1)

Japan, Korea and Austria alone. He reminded the President that in every European country except Czechoslovakia and Russia, American films are playing an important part in combating Communists. Fighting in all areas dominated by the Red Union.

An ordinary American film showing American workers having their own automobiles makes a tremendous impression on the masses of Europeans, Johnston told reporters after leaving the President.

MPAA officials said that Johnston reviewed much of the foreign situation as his 15 minutes allowed, and presumably discussed the British tax deadlock, although not at length.

Belgium Market

(Continued from page 1)

Nathan D. Golden. The report warns that both countries are becoming critical of recent French films.

The report points out that the two countries have had adequate dollar exchange over the past two years, and declares that such an exchange is indicative of a change in financial conditions.

According to the report, the eight major U.S. companies received $7,310,468 in rentals from Belgium alone in 1946. Of this, $5,168,137 was converted into dollars.

TOA-Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

motioned the title of the volume of theatre content was not very important, and that the only issue in the hearing was whether the materials saved went into housing, or could he see no reason for keeping them.

The sub-committee is scheduled to complete its hearings Saturday and report a measure to the full committee by February.

Salt Lake MPF

(Continued from page 1)

Foundation and reviewing its progress were sent yesterday by Don V. Tibbs, Toledo exhibitor, who attended the November meeting in New York, where he was elected to the national executive committee, and also for attending the March meeting of the Foundation.

Professor Prost

(Continued from page 1)

Professor Prost, who has been dean of the Institute of Technology in Munich, has been appointed director of the new department.

Belgium Market

(Continued from page 1)

success in the opening of the new theatre, which the Gordon-Koogan partnership spent $80,000 to build.

Belgium Market

(Continued from page 1)

UNESCO

(Continued from page 1)

UNESCO

(Continued from page 1)

References

"If You Knew Susie"

(RKO Radio)

THEREIN is the title of the song so clearly inspired by Eddie Cantor which has inspired the new motion picture containing the type of comedy favored by most members of the Cantor family. The material provided in the Warren Wilson-Oscar Brodkey screenplay was combed and recombed under the astute direction of Gordon M. Douglas for every possible laugh. The film deals in broad, understandable humor, made all the more entertaining by the way between them they make the picture a fast-paced, volatile and highly amusing example of how to entertain the public.

Cantor and Miss Davis deliver a steady barrage of hilarity as retired detective, Koegel, and his private eye, Miss Davis. They believe themselves to have been accepted in a small town, where early American ancestry is of first consideration. The story treats of their efforts to prove themselves of old and famous American stock. The complications that ensue will have audiences laughing their heads off. It all starts when Cantor and Miss Davis find a document citing an ancestor for heroism and directing that he be rewarded with a gift of $50,000. The realization that compound interest over so many years would bring the sum to some $3,000,000,000 stirs a sensation. The two become heroes when aware, to what payment of such a sum would do to the national government, they waive their claim to the money.

A number of extremely popular tunes, among them the title number, adds to the proceedings.


"Western Heritage"

(RKO Radio)

WHEN RKO sets out to make a standard Western, it certainly can do the job well. "Western Heritage" sticks to formula all the way, but in cast, production and story it easily takes its place with the better of the horse operas. Featured in the Herman Schlom production are Tim Holt, Nana Lesley, Richard Martin and Lois Andrews.

The screen has a group of outlaws taking possession of a forged land grant which gives them ownership of an entire valley. Attempted evictions follow, marked by the usual skulduggery and gunplay. Holt, one of the upholders of the law, is kept busy all along until justice is finally accomplished. Miss Lesley and Miss Holt, in minor feminine roles, pleasantly embellish the activities. The accent of the Norman Houston original screenplay is on action, Wallace A. Grissell directed. Others in the cast are Tony Barrett, Walter Reed and Harry Woods.

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. Set for January release.

"The Idiot"

(Andre Lelarge—C.E.D.)

THE difficult task of bringing to the screen Dostoevsky's towering novel, "The Idiot," is a feat which many discriminating filmgoers will hail.

Dostoevsky's characters, concerned more with deep emotional conflicts than plotted action, are at best difficult to capture with the camera. Nonetheless, this French-made drama has had a deal to commend, with many isolated scenes truly vivid and imaginative.

At the core of the story is Myshkin, that strange and brooding, at times unlike character, whose yearnings for moral perfection are thwarted by his limitations. This extremely difficult role is given a superb interpretation by Gerard Philipe. Dominating the feminine roles are Nastasia Filippova as the salvation-seeking woman who meets death at the hands of her admirer, and Aglaie, the pure-in-heart who goes off to a false fate. Edwige Feuillere and Nathalie Nattier, respectively, do well in these characterizations.

All told, it is a pleasing, definitely adult, picture that should be especially worthy contender for the art houses. Produced by Sacha Gordin, Georges Languet, director, from a screenplay and dialogue by Charles Spaak.

Running time, 100 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for February release.

-cleaned unanimously. He will assume his duties in Kansas City about Feb. 15. He was at one time head of the European office of First National, was later manager for the same company in the U.S., was on the road for several years for Universal in Kansas and is now manager of Allied in Michigan, with headquarters in Detroit.

O. F. Stewart is president of the Kansas-Missouri Allied organization.

Compton Promoted

Lawrence Phillips, director of DuMont Television, has been appointed Walter Compton as general manager of its station WTTG, Washington.

FILM TECHNICIANS WANTED AS SALES REPRESENTATIVES

We are expanding our national sales organization and have valuable openings for men capable of demonstrating and selling nationally distributed professional 16 MM-SMM film laboratory equipment. Exclusive territories guaranteed, liberal commissions on all earnings, assured to men accustomed with film business. Write, giving full details, to MICRO ENGINEERING CORPORATION, 118 South Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

U.S.A. Seeks Tax-Free Children's Tickets

Salt Lake City, Jan. 29.—The Utah Theatres Association is contacting exhibitors in this state urging them to agree to accept from the Federal Government not only to repeal the Federal 20 per cent ticket tax and substitute a 10 per cent levy, but also to make children's tickets totally tax-free.

Anderson Appointed New UTO Secretary

Salt Lake City, Jan. 29.—Ralph T. Anderson, long-time associate of projector manager of the Tower in Salt Lake, has been appointed new UTO secretary.

Tax Cut Prospects

(Continued from page 1)

enter all of the gardens of this heaven of tax reduction in one jump.”

Pointing out that House Ways and Means Committee staff was studying the excise situation as well as such problems as double taxation of corporate dividends, loss carry-over periods, and the tax on excessive accumulation of surplus, Millikin said, "We don't know what will happen, but we are convinced that will warrant reductions and corrections in addition to those involved in the first step of income tax reduction. First, however, it may be necessary to accompany income tax reduction, and then, as soon as possible, relief in other fields.”

Stewart Will Manage

(Continued from page 1)

Stewart, who is currently manager of the Tower, was named to the post by Mr. Toop, who resigned in June.
For the first time in motion picture magazine history, a group of publishing companies has joined forces to form the

ASSOCIATION OF SCREEN MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS, INC

The Association has as its primary purpose the continuing exploration of advertising and exploitation problems common to the motion picture industry and screen magazine publishers—in order to best promote the mutual interests of both. It is represented in the screen field by 12 monthly publications with a combined circulation of nearly 8,000,000 and a readership in excess of 20,000,000.

As their initial venture, the Association has just completed a two-year survey, revealing facts and figures of vital boxoffice importance.

At a date soon to be announced, these startling facts will be presented to the industry’s leaders in New York and Hollywood.
Canadian Industry Looks for Tax Cuts

Ottawa, Feb. 1.—There is optimism in film circles here that tax reductions may result from the Canadian government’s report that its surplus in December was $73,300,000 and the cumulative balance for the first nine months of the fiscal year reached $646,200,000.

SIMPP Future in Clouds at Present

Hollywood, Feb. 1.—Whether or not the activities and influence of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers will be as extensive in the future as they have been in the recent years is being widely debated here, as the group prepares to carry on despite an apparent waning interest among its membership and without a leader of the national stature of Donald M. Nelson, whose resignation as SIMPP president became effective yesterday.

It is no secret here that numerous SIMPP members are delinquent in their financial support of the organization; producers waiting to see the reaction it will take now that the time to commit themselves to its long-term future. It is reported that SIMPP is exploring the possibilities of obtaining financial assistance from United Artists, many of the producers for whom it distributes having made up the numerical strength of the organization.

It is understood that few SIMPP members have resigned, preferring to take a wait-and-see attitude, but it is increasingly evident that the principal remaining support for the organization’s continued existence is restricted to such producers as David Selznick and Samuel Goldwyn, who were instrumental in its formation.

Lutzer and Peckham Promoted by Krane

B. G. Krane, distribution vice-president of Film Classics, has promoted Jake Lutzer, Dallas branch manager, to Southern division head, with supervision over Atlanta, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Dallas, Memphis, New Orleans, and Oklahoma City, with headquarters in Dallas.

At the same time, Ralph Peckham has been promoted by Krane from Atlanta to be branch head of Dallas, and has also appointed Ralph McCoy to succeed Peckham as head of the Atlanta branch. Ted Birnbaum, recently with Rank-Universal-International, joins Film Classics’ home office in New York, in the department in a supervisory capacity.

Loew’s Marks
$10 Millions
For Expansion

All Directors, Officers Reelected; Add 2 More

Loew’s surplus of approximately $10,000,000 has been earmarked for theatre expansion in the event that theatre dividends is not ordered by the Supreme Court.

This was brought out on Friday during the company’s annual stockholders meeting here, and at which the entire board of directors was unanimously reelected. Following the meeting the board met and reelected all company officers and added two more vice-presidents, studio executive Louis K. Sidney and executive producer Joseph Judson Cohn.

Disclosure of the company’s theatre expansion intentions was made by vice-president and general counsel J. (Continued on page 5)

MGM Firings Have Ended: Moskowitz

M-G-M’s economy campaign is unlikely to progress beyond the point it has now reached, insofar as reduction of personnel is concerned, but the “spirit of economy” will continue at the studio in terms of reduced shooting time, intensified employee duties, and other cost-saving factors in production. This was revealed here on Friday by Charles C. Moskowitz, Loev-M-G-M vice-president and treasurer, who recently returned from Hollywood where he surveyed production costs. M-G-M, like other film companies, launched an economy drive. (Continued on page 3)

Ask Venue Shift for Un-American Trials

Washington, Feb. 1.—Attorneys for 10 Hollywood figures soon to be tried for contempt of Congress have filed with the District Court here a double motion asking that their trials be transferred from the District of Columbia, and that the case against the 10 be dismissed.

William Hitz, U. S. attorney who will prosecute the trials, said that al (Continued on page 4)

WILL WOULD AID FILMS IN MARSHALL PLAN

‘306’ Pact Awaits Return of Walsh

Settlement by IATSE projectionists’ Local 306 here and representatives of local affiliated circuits of the “few minor details” preliminary to signing a new contract based on wage rate increases was won after “IA” international president Richard F. Walsh was called again on the negotiations, will await the return to New York of Walsh from Miami where he was expected to be this week.

This has been reported here by “306” president Herman Gelber, who said Walsh “has played a very important part” thus far in the negotiations, and his presence will be needed for the ironing out of the minor details.

Walsh’s office here reported that he was expected to return East by plane from Hollywood today and that he likely that he will fly direct. (Continued on page 3)

5 Theatres Named In Percentage Suits

Loew’s and RKO Radio have instituted percentage actions in U.S. District Court here, naming as defendants Sid Cohen, Philip Eisenberg, Rineck, Theatres and Millerton Amusement Corp. The corporate defendants are units in the Eisenberg and Cohen circuit, and all owned four upstate N.Y. theatres, the Star, Rhinebeck; Lyceum, Red Hook; Fine Plains, Fine Plains, Millerton at (Continued on page 4)

Lorber, Paramount, Veteran, Resigns

Herman J. Lorber, veteran of 31 years with the Paramount sales organization, has resigned from the company, it was announced on Friday. Lorber left immediately on a vacation trip without announcing his future plans.

At the time of his resignation he was home office liaison with Midwestern division headquarters in Philadelphia and assistant to Earle W. Swer gert, division manager there. Lorber also assisted with circuit selling in New York. He held numerous posts with Paramount and during the 1920’s was assigned to England and the Continent. Paramount said he “leaves under most amiable circumstances.”

Joint Congressional Unit Recommends Currency Conversion Privileges

Washington, Feb. 1.—A special Congressional committee has recommended that any guaranties in Marshall Plan legislation for the conversion of local currencies by American enterprises in Europe include conversion by the film industry and other information media.

Under the present draft of the European Recovery Program legislation, the ERP administrator can guarantee any investment in projects he has approved, providing that “the guarantee to any person shall not exceed the amount of dollars invested and shall be limited to the transfer of U.S. dollars of other currencies or credits in such currencies received as income from the approved investment as repayment or return thereof, in whole or in part, or as compensation for the sale or disposition of all or any part thereof.”

The joint committee would, in effect, amend this to specifically include information media in (Continued on page 4)

Wilson Would Block
GB-Odeon Pooling

London, Feb. 1.—An amendment to the British film quota bill, seen here to be a move to block the proposed pooling of J. Arthur Rank’s Gaumont-British and Odeon circuits, has been introduced in Commons by British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson.

The amendment, dealing with the clause covering a special quota for (Continued on page 4)

Forty Will Attend
NTS Meeting Today

Managers of National Theatre Supply’s 28 branches and the company’s executive staff will attend the opening today of the company’s first general meeting since 1941. It will be held at the Park Central Hotel here, and will continue through Thursday. Forty will attend.

The theme of the meeting to be un (Continued on page 4)
**Personal Mention**

STANTON GRIFFIS, U. S. Ambassadore to Poland, had a half-hour conference with President Truman on Friday.

Ben Goetz, head of M-G-M production in Britain, and Mrs. Goetz; Jennifer Jones, and Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, all in passenger cars due today from England on the SS Queen Mary.

Carol Brandt, head of M-G-M's Eastern editorial activities, and Olin H. Clark, Eastern story editor, are due back in New York today from Hollywood.

Frank Westbrook, Paramount salesman in Omaha, has been transferred to Denver. His successor is Pat Halloran, formerly with 20th Century-Fox in Omaha.

William R. Erellner, head of M-G-M's subject picture sales, has returned here from Boston and Albany, N. Y.

Most Blumenstock, Warner vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, is due back in New York today from Los Angeles.


L. J. Kaufman, Warner Theatre executive, left New York over the weekend for Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

John J. Jones, Screen Guild president, left Hollywood at the weekend for New York.

George Galos of Galos Circuit, Chicago, has left that city for a Florida vacation.

**To Seek Film Aid On New Bond Drive**

Motion picture industry aid for the Treasury's new bond drive, to be known as the "Security-Loyalty Drive," which will run from April 15 to June 15, will be sought here to be held in Washington, March 18 to 20.

An invitation will be extended to set up a motion picture committee within the industry which would make arrangements for newsreel clips and trailers concerning the drive. Indications are that personal appearances of stars will not be sought. Industry leaders say they have not been officially advised of plans for the drive as no conferences have been held yet with Treasury officials.

**Engel Gets 39 Features**

Philadelphia, Feb. 1—Jack Engel, distributing head for Screen Guild, will distribute Masterpiece product in the area it was announced by Jules Weiss, president, of Masterpiece. The company comprises 26 features, plus 13 "Hopalong Cassidy.

**Tradewise**

By SHERWIN KANE

**B**RITAIN's Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps, exposed himself before the Commons last week to the extent of revealing that it is, after all, Britain that is doing the "squeezing" in the matter of the confiscatory duty on imported films.

The question of who was doing it to whom had been raised a week earlier in Commons by Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade. Wilson told Commons if Hollywood believes it can "squeeze us into modifying our attitude on the ad valorem tax" it is backing a loser.

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, promptly retorted that it is Britain, not Hollywood, that is doing the "squeezing.

Cripps proved Johnston's charge correct when he told Commons last Tuesday that Britain is not prepared to substantiate the tax as an essential for blocking American film earnings in Britain.

Moreover, he asserted that the British government refuses to continue its confiscatory tax on imported films.

Sir Stafford's meaning, and his government's intentions, could not have been made clearer than he said in some words: "We are putting the 'squeeze' on Hollywood and we are determined to keep on applying it.

During the past six months, Britons in both official and unofficial capacities have been encouraging the American film industry in its "campaign" against the "excessive" tax levied on imported films.

The American industry has responded with plans designed to relieve the drain on Britain's desperately short dollar supply, albeit such proposals have involved the long-term blocking of very large percentages of the earnings of American films in Britain, all of which have been rejected.

Thus Britain takes the position that while its 75 per cent ad valorem tax is open to negotiation, the result of any and all negotiations must be the permanent retention by Britain of 75 per cent of American film earnings there.

Who, it may be asked, does that leave to negotiate?

And who, it may be asked additionally, does that leave doing the "squeezing?"

It is true that Britain did wait anxiously for an American suggestion of "novation" which was expected to get to the House of Commons. But it was willing to grant, that the earnings of American films in Britain could be retained here, in addition to the withdrawal from Britain of 25 per cent of the earnings of American films there.

When that suggestion was not forthcoming from America, the British government, simultaneously, sent the following words, first, in the mouth of Sir Henry French. No one ever here rose to that paltry bait and, in pique, Wilson disclosed its official nature by reciting it in his remarks to Commons.

- Adding insult to injury, this British proposal is advanced as a "mutual solution"; the 75 per cent British film tax to continue in effect.

It is to be wondered whether the British are so naive as to believe that the American government could permit British films to enter this country tax-free while a confiscatory 75 per cent duty is imposed on American films entering Britain?

And if a corollary 75 per cent ad valorem duty is imposed on British films entering this country, what would that leave of the earnings of those films here to be distributed among 20 or more American companies and independent producers? Hardly enough to pay bookkeeping expenses.

Now that Cripps has made it clear that Britain regards its 75 per cent tax as a permanent instrument, it would seem to be a matter beyond the realm of trade negotiation.

The industry should turn the problem over to Washington, where it now belongs.

The British government has made it clear that the situation warrants either parallel retaliatory action against British films entering this country, to be accomplished by legislation, or provisions garanties within the European Recovery Plan that aid shall not be given, or shall be given in restricted measure, to nations maintaining confiscatory legislation against American trade.

The time has come for the American industry to insist that Washington not only does receive pictures require better treatment here than is accorded American films abroad.

**Newsreel Parade**

THE Navy's new "walking barges," and the "Operation Milliken's Agreement" from the New York film critics are among current newsreel events. Other items include Friendship's circus events and sports and human interest events. Complete contents follow:


**New Hearing Sought by ASCAP in Wash.**

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will apply to the Washington supreme court at its next session to request permission to reargue the case brought by the state attorney general in which the court recently held that Ascap has not complied with state laws and therefore is disqualified from doing business in Washington.

The court had held that Ascap had included musical compositions in the public domain among the works in its repertoire without which the state law compels it to keep on file. Ascap contends that it had not laid claim to the original compositions in the public domain and that it has not purchased any of them copyrighted by Ascap members. The petition for rearguing is being handled by the court's law firm of Proch, Aschbach, Business and Prohlich, Ascap attorneys, here.

**Theatres Unaffected By Steel Supply Plan**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Theatres and steel other users would not have to reduce their consumption of steel as a result of Secretary of Commerce Harriman's request to the steel industry to save steel for military users, the Government official declared at the weekend. Only about 10 per cent of the steel used in building adding that he hoped increased production would make as much steel available for other consumers as previously

There are no plans to ask the industry to restrict steel from any user, according to an administration official who applies to key areas and let everyone scramble for the rest.

**Trighthand**

By C. M. ROGERS, Jr., Editor in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Assistant Editor. Published daily except Saturdays, Sundays. Entered, as second-class matter, March 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the laws of 1939, 66 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.
News Briefs

Church Documentary Film Premiere Here Tomorrow

"The Church and the Atomic Age," the first subject in a series known as "In the Eyes of the Church," will have a premiere showing tomorrow at Town Hall here before an invited audience of 200 prominent in religious and community affairs. The series has the endorsement of the C. E. Stokely, president, of the Motion Picture Association of America. It is the work of Dean Charles F. McAllister of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Spokane.

The series will be available to churches of all denominations and to non-church groups, and distribution will be on a local and regional basis, with headquarters at Film Forum Foundation, Spokane.

TOA Collected $100,000 In Dues Last Year

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb. 1—Theatre Owners of America collected more than $100,000 in dues last year, according to Morris Loewenstein, secretary, who cited the 1947 financial report as having a strong growth momentum and still we've only scratched the surface," he declares. Loewenstein will join John Gamble, president; Robert Coyne, executive director and Herman Levy, counsel, in Dallas this week at the Texas TOA meeting.

LeBeau Named Paramount Manager Succeeding R. M. Copeland

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 1.–R. C. LiBeau has taken over the management of Paramount Pictures' offices here with the resignation of branch manager R. M. Copeland, Supervision of the St. Louis, Des Moines and Omaha offices will be discontinued by LiBeau.

AMP Launches Program Survey

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' acting president Phil Williams has named a committee of five members to survey the organization's program requirements, which has been instructed to report to the AMPA board on March 15, includes: Robert Wille, Jacques Kopfstein, Harold Willard, Max Stein and Evelyn Kolanen.

Senate Backs Coy, Sterling

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Nominations of Wayne Coy as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission and George E. Sterling as commissioner were confirmed by the Senate on Friday.

Loew’s Expansion (Continued from page 1)

Robert Rubin, who was the meeting chairman, when a number of stockholders’ claims are settled that their stock can be used by the company to purchase its common stock on the open market as being done presently by Paramount and has been done by Warners.

To Weigh Stock-buying

Rubin said the board will take under advisement the stockholders’ recommendation, which was aimed at having a stock against a possible decline in its market value. Paramount adopted its stock-buying program to aid in the exchange of theatre properties from partners willing to dispose of their interests and has used part of such stock for acquisition of non-Theatrical Films and Rainbow Productions.

Officers re-elected on Friday were: Nicholas M. Schenck, president; Joseph E. Vogel, vice-president; William F. Rogers, distribution vice-president; Rubin; Charles C. Mosser, general counsel; Leopold Friedman, vice-president, secretary and counsel; vice-presidents in charge of theatres: Leopold Friedman, Howard Dietz, Benjamin Blau and Marvin H. Schenck; assistant treasurers Charles K. Stein and Leopold Friedman; controller done by secretary, Jesse T. Mills; assistant secretaries, Nicholas Naylack, Irving H. G. and J. P. City.

Recalled were: David Warfield, William A. Parker, Henry Rogers, Winthrop, Eugene W. Leake, Schenck, Vogel, Rogers, Rubin, Moscowitz and Friedman.

Second Quarter Earnings Up

Stockholders were told: (1) Earnings for the first eight weeks of the second quarter of the current fiscal year show an improvement over the first quarter; (2) Since the company was founded in 1923, stockholders received a total of $117,000,000 in dividends; (3) Since its founding there was no year in which the company’s income exceeded the company’s book value at the end of that year; (4) The company’s net gain for 1947 was $2 million; (5) Last year the company’s book value was $28 per share; (6) The company’s dividend is payable in common stock.

MGM Firings End (Continued from page 1)

following the imposition of the British ad valorem tax on film imports. Loew’s stockholders were informed by vice-president and general counsel J. Robert Rubin at their meeting here Friday that the cost of pictures currently being produced will be substantially lower than formerly because of the economy measures that have been taken.

Although “some of the benefits from these economics will be felt this year,” Rubin said, “the results saw that the defendants paid the plaintiffs amounts agreed to be due.

Racial Intolerance Films Kept M-G-M Production Agenda

M-G-M, taking into consideration that there are a number of areas in the U. S. where pictures dealing with racial intolerance might not be received favorably, will not produce such films, J. Robert Rubin, Loew’s vice-president and general counsel, told company stockholders at the company’s annual meeting here Friday in reply to a stockholder’s question. The stockholder had advised against production of such pictures.

Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston has said that such restrictions on the industry will increase its production of pictures designed to combat intolerance.

37½¢ Loew’s Dividend

Directors of Loew’s, Inc., have declared a quarterly dividend of 37½¢ per share on the common stock payable March 31 to stockholders of record March 12.

Percentage Suits (Continued from page 1)

Millerton; and the Stuart in Lakeville, Conn.; Louis Nizer of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim is attorney for Loew’s and RKO.

Three More Percentage Suits Filed in Boston

BOSTON, Feb. 1.—Three percentage suits were filed here Friday by Paramount, Loew’s and 20th Century Fox, in U. S. District Court, naming Kenneth H. Forkey, Edward Markell, and Simon Markell, as well as five corporations with which they are said to be associated.

Among theatres involved are all of those in Massachusetts, are the Strand in Canton; Magnet, Dorchester; Mattapan, Mattapan; Park and Greenbriar, Worcester; Porter Square, Cambridge; and Strand in Boston.

Percentage Suits Settled By R. L. and Mass. Theatres

PROVIDENCE, Feb. 1.—Percentage suits brought by Paramount, Loew’s, 20th-Fox, RKO, Warner, United Artists, Universal and Columbia around the Castle Theatre, Mt. Pleasant, R. L. and the Majestic, West Springfield, have been ended in Federal Court here. Termination of the suits followed the filing of the pleadings that the defendants had paid the plaintiffs amounts agreed to be due.

MGW Firings End (Continued from page 1)

306’ Pact

(Continued from page 1)

Cold Cuts Number At Tri-State Meet

MEMPHIS, Feb. 1.—Severe weather conditions which closed most of the highways narrowed attendance at the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas meeting Friday to 18 out-of-town exhibitors. Robert Coyne, executive director of Theatre Owners of America, and Morris Loewenstein, secretary, were among those whose appearance at the meeting was prevented. Coyne's plane having been grounded in Atlanta.

M. A. Lightman, head of Malco Theatres, spoke on the campaign he recently inaugurated here to educate the public on the role of the motion picture in the community, Orris Collins, president of the Tri-State MPTO, said that most of the association would probably adopt Lightman’s program.

Among those attending were: Emil Bernstein, secretary-treasurer of Tennessee TOA; W. R. Holder, executive secretary of Tennessee TOA; Max Connell, president of Mississippi TOA; E. W. Savage, president of Independent Theatre Owners of Arkansas and Sam Kirby, Arkansas ITO secretary.

RKO Will Reward ‘Best Showmanship’

Sol A. Schwartz, vice-president of RKO Theatres, at a meeting attended by RKO managers in the New York area, revealed on Friday that commencing March 1, the circuit will reward outstanding showmanship by RKO managers.

‘306’ Pact

(Continued from page 1)

directly to Miami. The American Federation of Labor executive board is currently meeting in Miami, and Walsh is scheduled to attend that meeting as well as the AFL. "League activities," he said, "will be the subject of meetings which will follow in Miami.

GREATEST OF ALL GREAT ACTION SPECTACLES! CASANOVA THE FURY OF HIS SWORD! THE FIRE OF HIS LOVE! all in the "ADVENTURES OF CASANOVA" An Eagle Lion Films Production
The government has taken definite action to bar all foreign films from exhibition in the United States picture will suffer most in the move. No explanation of the reasons for this action by the Argentine government was made by the Argentine Bureau of Public Shows, which suspended approval of all foreign product, and from the sub-secretaries of the amendment, under which the bureau operates.

The belief is that the move was taken in retaliation against an assertion made in the New York Star that Argentina's film industry was being subsidized by Western companies.

Hope was expressed in film circles that the move would not lead to a complete ban on Argentine films by the U. S. and other foreign films to continue to be shown in Argentina.

Block GB-Odeon
(Continued from page 1)

Theaters in “circuits of over 200” seek powers to refuse a theater the specific films that have been approved. The precedent is expected to control and policing have been instituted since Jan. 1, 1948. With government threat, the amendment is sure to be carried.

Meanwhile, Oliver Lyttleton introduced an amendment to the bill suggesting a 10 percent tax. It will be up to the committee consideration on Tuesday.

NTS Meeting
(Continued from page 1)

Under the direction of W. E. Green, president, the society presented “Policies and Policies for 1948.” Items on the agenda, exclusive of discussing a new NTS line, will include ways and means of improving service to exhibitors, plans for the wider distribution and sale of popcorn and associated products, a drive-in theatre exhibition program, visits to international producer’s plant in Bloomfield, N. J., and General Precision laboratories in Pleasantville. The meeting will conclude Thursday evening with a buffet supper and cocktail party at Reuben’s Restaurant in Greenwhich Village.


Also: Harry D. Epling, manager of National’s air-conditioning department; J. General Precision’s theater seating department; and personnel of General Precision, including J. W. Burton, Wm. C. B. Earle, J. L. Ferraday, J. E. Currie, Arthur F. Baldwin, A. W. Meyer and C. F. Alexander.

Un-American Trials
(Continued from page 1)

though the motion did not ask that the trials be transferred to any specific place, the desirability of California was implied.

In an 89-page memo, attorneys for the 10 declared that a fair trial could not take place in the state of Washington because of the “fear” that the “un-American activity” would be held up.

The government must answer the petition in a 30-day period after which it will be heard Feb. 13. The first trial, that of John Howard Lawson, is slated for Feb. 24.

Aid Films

The guarantee. Exactly how this might work out for the film industry would depend of course on the will of the government officials here who were here by the committee recommendation.

The recommendation came in the report of a joint House-Senate group, headed by Rep. Karl Mundt and Senator Alexander Smith. They were appointed last month to hear the government’s information program abroad.

Report Praises Industry

The report, full of praise for the film industry and repeatedly stressing the need of some solution to the frozen funds and blocked currency problem, makes several recommendations on a motion picture program. It repeats the demand heard so frequently here lately for quality export, with a special slap at “some” independents, and urges an increased supply of documentaries and non-commercial films to be shipped abroad. To supplement showings by the M. S. Information Office, efforts are to be made to arrange commercial distribution of documentaries overseas by blocking them with American commercial features.

Laud MPEA Aid

"Motion pictures are tremendously popular in every corner of Europe," the report states, "and have been until recently almost the only means of bringing the American scene to the masses of Europeans. Without any way of knowing that many American pictures shown, an erroneous impression of America has at times been given by certain of the commercial films. Two things are necessary. First, better quality pictures, depicting the highest standards of American life, must be sent abroad.

Coordination from the Motion Picture Export Association, which has already labored in that order, should continue. Of all the possible wheels, it is the only one that the MPEA has at its disposal and believes that if certain of the independent producers will make the effort and cooperate in the total program, the lag will in the effort, the exchange, the conflict can be solved. Second, the supply abroad of documentary and non-commercial feature films, in fields sufficiently covered commerci-

Ask Bolstered Program

Other recommendations on the film program were: Ample personnel and equipment for a film unit, including a USIS center, with one or more mobile film units apace; all films shown by USIS should be captioned in every language available; for film, office, and technical and special documentaries in the Soviet satellite states; and fill the huge demand which the Soviet union could not fill.

The block booking of documentaries by Hollywood along with commercial releases is emphasized in the report by Sen. Lodge. The result will be that educational films will find their way before the mass audiences where they could have their most effective force, "Lodge states.

Reviews

“The Sign of the Ram”
(Columbia)

"Those born under the sign of the Ram," according to the classical astrologers, "are endowed with strong will-power, determination and obstinacy of purpose; they will stop at nothing to accomplish their desires, and sometimes meet a violent death."

Transforming this thesis to the screen, producer Irving Cummings, Jr. assembled a substantial cast of competent players, displayed a liberal hand in selecting sets and settings, and helped to prove that an able performer such as Miss Peters, suffering a physical handicap is not less able a performer than his counterpart.

The role of Miss Peters’ return is a screen event of proportions that will likely be demonstrated at the box-office, but her fans may find in the sordid the casting of her in an unsympathetic role—that of a wheelchair-ridden young man who practices unaccustomed deceit and treachery, to accomplish the selfish purpose of keeping her husband and step-children of this beneficent tyrant.

And discriminating audiences might well deplore the gushing sentimentality that pervades the script which, from time to time, undermines the good material.

The film’s final scene, like two others wherein the imprisonment of tragedy is sensed, is charged with dramatic impact. In it, Miss Peters, exposed as having planned the act-tragic consequences aimed at preventing two of her children from marrying, wheels her chair from her Cornwall manor to the nearby cliffs and casts herself over the edge to her death on the rocky coast below.

Co-starring with Miss Peters are Alexander Knox, Phyllis Thaxter and Peggy Ann Garner, all of whom perform adequately notwithstanding the limitations imposed by the sedentary, heavily conversational screenplay which was by Robert Lord.

The English manor house, Commensurate performances are contributed by good supporting cast which includes Ron Randell, Diane May Whitty, Allen Kliment, and Marian Street.

This film is due to be most cordially received by women patrons, for its attention is focussed mainly on its offa characters, their emotional conflicts, their psychological burdens. John Sturges quite apparently directed with this in mind and with the result that the fulfillment is by Charles Bennett, based upon a novel by Margaret Ferguson.

Running time, 84 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

Charles L. Frank

“A Miracle Can Happen”
(Bogeaux-United Artists)

MORE stars were assembled for Benedict Bogeau’s free-wheeling comedy than most exhibitors’ marquees can accommodate. Involved are such names as Miss Lombard, Burgess Meredith, James Stewart, Grace Kelly, Dorothy Lamour, Vincent Price, Harry James, Fred MacMurray, and others.

The story is held together by the adventures of Meredith, a timid want-a-club, who becomes emboldened by the proceedings of his wife, Miss Goddard, to pose as an inquiring reporter. Armed with the question: "What great influence has a little child had on your life?" Meredith goes oft to "interro-From the short film of 'Bogie's' 'The Big-Fisted Bookmaker', which was shot on a books for Bogeau, while the scene in which Miss Goddard, with her pet, "Johnny," alters their lives. The sketch is a gem, with story material provided by John O’Hara.

With an incensed bookmaker barring at his heels, Meredith goes off to discover how a glamorous film star, Miss Lamour, was affected by a child. There emerges the yarn of how an aging actor of the silent days, Moore, became her manager. The sketch provides Miss Lamour an opportunity to be a big actress.

Next comes the mutton-mouthed tale of how MacMurray and William Demarest as a couple of itinerant gamblers, became the victims of the superior mind of a 12-year-old "brat." David Whorff, who held them captive in his little cave, shared the production reaps with Bogeau, while the directorial chores were handled by King Vidor and Leslie Fenton. The screenplay of Laurence Stallings and Lou Breslow, from an Arch Oboler original, ends with the big-fisted bookmaker catching up with Meredith. What do the few scars matter, when he really lands the job as the roving reporter? A whole life story.


Mandel Hershtman

Oxford Gets Film Rights

Oxford Films has acquired American distribution rights to the new Swedish film "Blood and Fire," produced by the Film Drammatiska Theater in Stockholm. The film has been cited with six awards by the Swedish Producers Association.

Prudential in Darien

Berk and Krumgold, theatre real-
D. of J. Would 'Wreck' Big 5, Briefs Charge

File Replies Assailing Stand on Divorce

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The government's stand on divorce was assailed as destructive and unjust to defendants and the public in answering briefs filed in the U. S. Supreme Court today by the "Big Five" in the industry anti-trust suit appeal.

Briefs were filed with the court by RKO, Paramount, Loew's, MGM and M-G-M. The appeals are from the findings of the District Court. Arguments are scheduled to start on Feb. 9.

Paramount charged that the Government appeal brief as a whole "reflexes a determination to wreak the defendants and the industry regardless of any other consequences," adding that "the brief subordinates everything else in favor of a fixation for stripping defendants of their theater inter.

(Continued on page 4)

Loew's Plans No Expansion: Rubin

Loew's, Inc., does not plan to expand its theatre holdings in the event the U. S. Supreme Court refuses to order theatre divestiture, J. Robert Rubin, Loew's vice-president and general counsel, said here yesterday.

Rubin's statement was made as a denial and correction of a story pub.

(Continued on page 4)

Argentina Passes M-G-M, UA Films

Buenos Aires, Feb. 2.—Approval of two films, one from M-G-M, the other from United Artists by the Argentine censorship and thereby preventing exhibition of imported films is directed principally against Spain and Italy over a question of reciprocity for this country's films.

Civil Liberties Can File as Amicus Curiae

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The Supreme Court today granted permission to the American Civil Liberties Union to file an amicus curiae brief in the Paramount anti-trust case. The ACLU enters its case on urging divestiture of theatres by the five circuit-owning distributors.

Capital Meeting on Exhibitor Problems

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 2.—Herman M. Levy, general counsel of the Theatre Owners of America, and attorneys for other exhibitor organizations will meet in Washington following the Supreme Court hearing on the industry anti-trust suit appeals on Feb. 9, to plan bringing local and national problems closer to their membership and to obtain the benefit of an exchange of ideas and approaches to industry problems, the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners has been advised.

Johnston Rejects 'Curtain' Protest

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—A protest to Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America head, by the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship against release of 20th Century-Fox's forthcoming "The Iron Curtain" has been rejected on the grounds that to restraint be an invasion of freedom of expression which, in turn, would "chip away at the foundations of our democracy."

Replying to the protest of Rev. William Howard Mells, chairman of the council, Johnston said: "We will want American-Soviet friendship and peace. But friendship is not one-sided. It must be mutual. What is your organization doing in Russia to promote Soviet-American friendship?"

Availability Plan For U-I in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Feb. 2.—Following the 21-day availability policy for selected deluxe subsequent-run houses first introduced here by Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox general sales manager, and now practiced locally by 20th-Fox and Warner, has been adopted by Universal-International. First U-I picture to be so released here is "The Senator Was Indiscreet."

FILM SUPPLY FOR MONTHS IN BRITAIN

68 Features, Westerns Still Unreleased; Also Reissues, British Films

London, Feb. 2.—The "iron curtain" which for months has obscured a reliable appraisal of unreleased American pictures on hand here was parted sufficiently yesterday to reveal that there is a left minimum supply sufficient to last several months, perhaps into the early summer.

The situation is by no means uniform, Paramount, for example, having five unreleased features on hand and 20th Century-Fox seven. Nor is the appraisal complete, due to the secrecy with which distributors, apparently at the direction of the U. S. Motion Picture Export Association, have steadfastly declined to divulge particulars of their product resources.

However, the over-all picture indicates that the eight major American companies have a total of more than 40 unreleased features on hand and not subject to the 75 per cent ad valorem film tax, having been imported prior to the effective date of the tax.

Three American independent companies, Monogram, PRC (Eagle-Lion) and Republic, have, in the hands of their respective buyers, a total of 18 unreleased features and 12 Westerns.

In addition, all American companies

(Continued on page 2)

Schwalberg Resigns As E-L Sales Head

A. W. Schwalberg yesterday resigned as vice-president and general sales manager of Eagle-Lion Films, effective Feb. 15, Arthur B. Krin, president, announced.

Schwalberg, who assumed his post with the formation of E-L about 18 months ago, said he will announce his new position early next week and would assume the new post the day after leaving E-L.

Krin said that Schwalberg's successor probably would be announced tomorrow. It has been reported in the trade that E-L has conferred with William Heimbach, presently in charge of sales for Prestige Pictures, the Universal-International unit which handles American distribution of selected British pictures from J. Arthur

(Continued on page 4)
Personal Mention

T E D G A M B L E , president of Theatres Owners of America, will be in Dallas today and tomorrow for Texas Theatre Owners convention.

E. L. McEvoy, Universal-International short subjects sales manager, left here yesterday for visits to Washington, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Atlanta, N. Y.

Mitchell Rawson of M-G-M’s publicity department and William Schneider of Donahue and Co left New York last night by plane for the Coast.

Ben Habel, assistant art director of RKO Radio here, has resigned to become co-owner of Modern Art Guild, advertising art service.

Paul Macnamara, Selznick Releasing Organization national advertising-publicity director, is in New York from the Coast.

Richard F. Walsh, president of IATSE Local 23, will be here tomorrow from Hollywood, will leave here today by plane for Miami.

William B. Zoellner, M-G-M short subjects sales head, left here yesterday for Buffalo, N. Y., and Cleveland.

Pat Patterson, Astor franchise-holder here over the weekend for San Francisco.

George Welten, Paramount International president, is due back in New York today from Hollywood.

W. Stewart McDonald, Warner theatre executive, will return here tomorrow from Pittsburgh.

Alan Cummins, M-G-M branch operations head, returned here yesterday from a Western exchange tour.

Smith Is Transferred To Hollywood Post

Harold L. Smith, Motion Picture Export Association representative in the Adams and Powell privately-owned association with the Information Control Division of the U. S. Military Government, there is understood to be en route to New York on a transfer to the International Information Center in Hollywood. Previously Smith represented the MPAA in Paris, from 1928 to World War II, and then again in 1945-46.

Mrs. Lena Broidy, 63

Hollywood, Feb. 2—Mrs. Lena Broidy, 63, mother of Allied Artists Monogram president Steve Broidy, died in Cedars of Lebanon hospital this morning. She had been seriously ill for several weeks. In addition to her husband, Julius, she leaves another son, William F., and two daughters. Funeral services will be held tomorrow morning.

Film Supply

(Continued from page 1)

have an appreciable store of films suitable for reissue, and at least eight unreleased British pictures are held by five different distributors.

Numerically, therefore, American companies have on hand approximately 66 features, 12 shorts and scores of pictures suitable for reissue.

However, over the last several years, American companies released an average minimum of 300 features per year, or 25 per production house, and, if released, the average grade, for suitable for first-run bookings. Thus, although there will be some new first-run American product for at least another four months, the first-run houses will feel the pinch sooner than others.

The situation, at least, is far from that pictured recently by W. R. Fuller, secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association of America, where he stated that a film-famine, running-down process would affect first-runs by the end of January. That, obviously, was not a true forecast.

On the British distribution side, J. Arthur Rank’s General Film Distributors, which also has a half-dozen Universal pictures still unreleased, has already prepared a release schedule of double-feature offerings in 21 major American markets which extends into next autumn. In all, there are about 30 release dates for the first feature films of “others” and reissues on hand.

Empty studios here testify to the drying-up process, however. M-G-M is prepared to make its seventh Elstree plant available to any reputable British producer, but there are no takers. The British financial tap has gone dry temporarily. Meanwhile, members of Parliament are arguing that the government should forthwith requisition all empty studio space.

Collapse of the film industry here is a thing which the government badly does not want to happen. Significantly, it is pointed out that the Treasury now contemplates putting down a British film quota of 35 per cent for the next fiscal year. But the so-called officially expressed hopes that the tax deadlock may speedily be ended.

Meanwhile, it is reliably estimated that American film revenues are still running around an annual average of $44,000,000.

Following is a company-by-company tabulation of product on hand, exclusive of available reissues:

PARSLANE: “Saigon,” release date Feb. 9; “Rond to Rop,” March 29; “The Big Clock,” April 19; “Unconquered” and “Emperor Waltz,” release dates not set, respectively; also has the British films, “Daughter of Darkness” and “So Evil My Love,” release dates not set.

UNITED ARTISTS: “Monsieur Ver- doix,” release date, Feb. 2; “Per- ceval,” release date not set; “Heaven Only Knows,” March 8; “Just

Skouras Press Report Scheduled for Today

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, will return to New York by plane from London over the weekend, could not be reached here yesterday for comments on the proceeding his arrival that he brought with him a new proposal from the company regarding settlement of the British air charter.

However, a spokesman for 20th-Fox said yesterday that Skouras expects to hold a press interview today.

William’s Luck” (British), March 22; “The Brass Monkey,” release not set, but will be released between March 18; “The Avenging Spirit,” release date set at February 21, and the following for which no release dates have been set: “Last of the Red Indians,” and “Bloodhounds of Drums.”


NEW: “Sweethearts” and “Murder in Thorn-Croft.”

20th-Fox: No released unreleased American product ascertainable. Has the unreleased British films, “This Was a Woman,” future release dates not set; also has reissues.


REPUBLIC (distributed by British Lion): “Wyoming,” “Blackmail.”

Brandt Answers Today

Answers of Harry Brandt, Bernard B. Brandt, Louis Brandt and 162 other defendants in the Brandt Circuit percentage suits have been scheduled to be filed on or before yesterday in New York Supreme Court. The case is scheduled to be filed today instead. Plaintiff seeks recovery of $20,000,000.

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 Circle 7-1100. Cable address: Quigleywire, New York, N. Y. Published weekly by the Motion Picture Herald Company, Inc., 1215 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Entered as second-class matter, February 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.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

Rockefeller Center

Gracie Ann - Charles Groves

Charles Coburn - Ethel Barrymore

and Louie Jourdan and Walsh

In David O. Selznick’s production of

"THE PARADINE CASE"

Speculative Stage Presentation

Humphrey Bogart, in person

Lionel Barrymore

TREASURE OF SIERRA HAN

MADRE

Walter Huston and his Offspring

WALTER BROS. Presentation

YOUR TIME IS UP. EXCHANGE IT WITH NO. 1769.

OPENS 9 AM LATE FILM AT MONDAYS LATE SHOWS FROM 10:30PM 8 PM AT 47TH

THE FUGITIVE

HERVE FERE

ANDOU ROBERTA

ONSEN BERDOU "AND"

BARRYMORE

IN A JOHN PRODUCTION

YESTERDAY NIGHT

SUGCF

with HOAGY CARMICHAEL

WALT DISNEY'S

Bambii

COLOR BY FEDROCOLOR

ROLAND FROM DISNEY

NOW! FRANK'S REPUBLIC

CIRCUIT 5 ST.

Burt Lancaster

LIZABETH SCOTT

at ir

THE WALTZ

DAN A

MORGAN

ANDY AND RUSSELL

HELEN

Geraldine Page

NIV

JERRY WALKER

RIVOLI

VIVIEN LEIGH

ASTOR

20c

9:30 AM.

RIVOLI AT 47th St.

A VERY FUNNY PICTURE"-Iron

SAMUEL GOLDWYN

presents

CAPTAIN FROM CASTLE

AND VIVID

GRANT - YOUNG - NIVEN

"The Bishop’s Wife"

Days from 12:00 to 4:00 P.M.

B/way at 47th St.

CAPTAIN FROM CASTLE

TECHNICOLOR

TYRONE POWER

Doors Open

9:30 A.M.

32

Tuesday, February 3, 1948
Deadly encounter... savage pursuit... defiant love... from the high Sierras to the murderous desert...
Ascap Monopoly Trial Here

Newspapers of the American Federation of Musicians in the rival struggle are not available today to hear the breach-of-contract suit involving actor James Mason and producer David Rose, thus causing further delay of the hearing of the monopoly action brought here by 165 New York exhibitors against Ascap. The latter case, although scheduled earlier for trial yesterday, follows the Mason-Rose suit on the court's hearing calen-
dar.

Morris Documents Evidence;
Case Against WB Continues

Former Warner executive Sam E.
Morriss $250,000 suit against the com-
pany charging breach of employment
contract will contain in U. S. Dis-
courts anti-trust suit "took from exhibitors
all the legitimate avenues of competi-
tion that were open to you and to
every other American business man
in every other industry." He predicted
that the Supreme Court decision in the
same case, whatever it may be,"will make it more difficult for you
to run your business than it is right
now.

Theatre owners are hearing an
unjust burden in taxation and unless
given relief many of them will go into
the red" this year, Ted R. Gamble,
TOA president, told the convention.

Scores Tax Burden

Every theatre admission is taxed 20
cents, said Gamble, and many states
and municipalities have or are consid-
ering additional taxes of as much as
10 per cent of the admission price.
We cannot continue under this
burden, he declared.

Asserting that efforts are being
made in Congress to change the Federal
tax, Gamble said: "We do not ask
that the levy be repealed entire-
ly. Some sort of tax is necessary to
protect against inflation, but we want
it lightened, as most theatres in the
country are small houses of 500 or
less seats, and their owners must be
protected against business slumps.

Gamble left Charlotte this evening
for Dallas, Where he will address the
Texas Theatre Owners' convention.

KIRO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING OF
"THE PEARL"

Tues., Feb. 10, at 2:30 P.M.

KIRO Projection Room, 630 Ninth Ave., New York, N. Y.

Briefs Charge

(Continued from page 1)

ests and destroying their value in the
course of that major surgical opera-
tion."

The Paramount brief stressed that
the statutory court's decision had
pointed out clearly that divesture
was not feasible as a result of the sit-
uation resulting from certain distribu-
tion practices objected to but "would
leave the other parties exposed to
litigation with the defending par-
ties, at the mercy of powerful indepen-
dent circuits or of distributors control-
ling most of the best pictures and not
contingent on distribution.

RKO Stresses 'Separateness'

Highlight of RKO's answer to the
Government's appeal brief was the
conclusion that the statutory court was
right in holding the company not guilt-
ily of engaging in a nationwide con-
spicacy with the other theatre operat-
ing defendants to monopolize the dis-
tribution or exhibition of pictures. The
statutory court was also upheld for
refusing to find that RKO's theatre
rental payments may be assigned to
those of the other defendants for
the purpose of establishing general claims
of conspiracy.

"The plaintiff's brief," the company
asserted, "nowhere undertakes to set
forth any factual or legal justification
denying the existence of any consor-
tium, for the purposes of establishing
its existence, by virtue of any
of the other companies and ignoring
their numerous differences in origin,
development, character and purpose.

The briefs denied the existence of
any exclusionary conspiracy to pre-
vent independent theatres from obtain-
ing product distributed by the defen-
dants and to exclude independent pro-
ducers from having access to affiliated
theatres.

Holds Injunctions 'Adequate'

The 20th-Fox answer contended that
"the injunctions contained in the
decree, together with the affirmative
relief granted by the court, are ade-
quate to bring the conduct of the defen-
dants into harmony with the anti-
trust laws.

The relationship of 20th-Fox and
National Theatres was regarded by
the defendant company as furnish-
ing the basis for the suit.

The Warner brief said no basis for
the claim that "extensive experience"
showed the decree to be inadequate
to prevent the defendant from an-
other trust was found illegal.

The company contended the proscribed
trade practices "are wholly
unrelated to integration (pools and
joint ownership of houses)." This
made divestiture unnecessary, it was
argued.

Schwalberg Resigns

(Continued from page 1)

RKO Project Room, 630 Ninth Ave., New York, N. Y.

Loew's Plans

(Continued from page 1)

lished by Motion Picture Daily
yesterday that Loew's has earmarked
a $10,000,000 surplus fund for theatre
expansion, drawn from an
errorsome interpretation of answers to
questions which were put by Loew's
stockholders at the annual meeting
here last Friday.

Rubin pointed out that the New York
Theatre Owners' meetings in
 acquiring new theatre interests and
therefore, if the decree is affirmed
the Supreme Court, theatre expansion
would be prohibited.

"Expansion has had no part in our
theatre policy for many years," Rubin
said. "We will accept interests in
only nine additional theatres in
the past 13 years. The New York
Federal Court has commented favorably
on that record. If the New York decree
is affirmed, it is quite possible that we
may have to buy out some partners
where our present theatre interests
are more than 5 per cent and less
than 95 per cent. That is all that is
contemplated." Rubin said.

He also corrected a statement
attributed to him to the effect that
Loew's could operate profitably if the
British market is not restored.

"I told the stockholders we will
have to operate profitably," Rubin
said. "We will accept interests in
only nine additional theatres in
the last 13 years and therefore, if the
British situation remains unchanged,
we may have to buy out some partners,
"I regret the errors made in reporting
the Loew's stockholders' meeting and is happy to
make these corrections,

Study Jackson Pk.

(Continued from page 1)

Nelson, whose resignation became ef-
fective Saturday.

The SIMPP membership is unde-
cided whether to go outside the indus-
try for a president, as in the case
of Nelson, or to elect one of its own
members to the post. Several can-
didates for the position have been
given consideration, but the likelihood
that no final choice will be made until
the Supreme Court decision on the anti-
trust case is handed down. If divorce-
ment events, it is reasoned, one
type of president will be preferable.

RKO PRODUCTION PICTURES, Inc.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING OF
"THE PEARL"

Tues., Feb. 10, at 2:30 P.M.

RKO Projection Room, 630 Ninth Ave., New York, N. Y.

POSITION WANTED

SECRETARY to executive, poised,
mannered, attractive, capable,
on own cip., expert expediter,
motion picture exp. 355. EL 5-8845.
**British Quota Adjustments To Be Upward**

**Withdraw 35% Amendment on That Contingency**

LONDON, Feb. 2.—Parliament Member Oliver Lyttleton today withdrew his film quota bill amendment calling for an exhibitor’s British picture quota of 35 per cent on an understanding from the British Board of Trade that because the majority of British producers and many members of the House of Commons are in favor of that percentage the government would reconsider its own provision.

Having fixed a minimum quota, BOT Parliamentary secretary Belcher explained that future adjustments would be in an upward direction since “British films have gained popularity because of their quality rather than because of government legislation.”

BOT president Harold Wilson has (Continued on page 7)

**Texas Theatremen Vote to Join TOA**

DALLAS, Feb. 3.—Texas Theatre Owners, at its opening session here today, voted to affiliate with Theatre Owners of America. Ted Gamble, president; Robert Cosyne, executive director, and Morris Loewenstein, secretary of TOA, were among the some 80 theatremen who attended today’s session.

R. J. O’Donnell, vice-president and general manager of Interstate Circuit, also spoke on participation of the Texas organization in establishing a memorial for the battleship Texas.

**Carpenter Heads Carolinas T. O.**

CHArlotte, Feb. 3.—George D. Carpenter of Valdese, N. C., was elected president of Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina to succeed Ben L. Strozizer, of Rock Hill, S. C., who was elected a vice-president.

Named to the directorate of Theatre Owners of America were Monsanto as regional vice-president; H. F. Kinsey, TOA director for North Caro- (Continued on page 7)
Personal Mention

J. J. UNGER, United Artists general sales manager, and Edward M. SCHNEIDER, Eastern and Canadian sales manager, left here yesterday for Boston and New Haven.

STANTON GRIFFIS, U.S. Ambassador to Poland and chairman of the Paramount executive committee, returned yesterday, with his son, with whom he will sail from New York for Europe on the SS Queen Mary.

ARCHER WINTGENS, New York film reviewer, is en route to Venezuela from New York to gather material for several documentaries for the Princeton Film Center.

THOMAS JEAN HABROVCE, president of Eastman Kodak, was presented with the state of Maine in Washington yesterday by Secretary of the Army Royall, for war services.

J. M. SEIDER, of Associated Prudential Theatres, and Mrs. Seider, will sail for South America from New York on the SS Uruguay next Thursday.

WALTER F. BRANSON, co-captain of the current WKO Radio sales drive, and Sid KRAMER, are due back here Monday from a tour of exchanges.

HAL E. CHESTER, Allied Artists' Monogram producer, and VIRGINIA ELLEN WEATHERLY will be married in Eden, Okla., on May 14.

DAVID COPEN, United Artists managing director in London, has left England on the SS Queen Elizabeth for a visit here.

GRABELL L. SARR, United Artists president, will spend the next seven days of sales conferences, en route to Hollywood.

AL SUCHMAN, Eagle-Lion Eastern sales manager, has left New York for a tour of exchanges.

S. H. FABIAN, head of Fabian Theatres, is vacationing in Florida from New York for a month.

JACK ELLIS, United Artists district manager in New York, will leave here tomorrow for Albany, N. Y.

E. L. ALPERS, of Anson Prod., is here from Hollywood.

Nasser Forms New Producing Company

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 3—James Nasser, owner of General Service Studio, has formed James Nasser Productions, Inc. Fred MacMurray will star in, and Lloyd Bacon will direct “Imbecile Affair,” by Lou Breslow and Joe Hoffman, as the first.

Campaign to Replace Canadian War Tax with Provincial Levy

TORONTO, Feb. 3—Executives of the Ontario Association of Mayors and Municipalities is scheduled to see the Canadian Minister of the Province of Ontario, Mr. Frank M. SUTHER, on Friday to seek legislation to provide for a provincial amusement tax to replace the Federal tax which the Dominion Government vacates the theatre tax field. The Federal impost is a 20 per cent war tax, which is substantial and has been made that levy will be removed.

To date, 384 theatres in Ontario have been scheduled to pay the taxes up to the present time, with an additional $2.50 levy which will be dropped 10 years ago.

Dezel Gets 37 Westerns; Open St. Louis Branch

DEBROIT, Feb. 3—Albert Dezel Productions has acquired 37 Westerns from Red Oak and Screen Attractions for the entire United States. The series includes 10 Ken Maynard Westerns; eight Bob Steele, eight Bill Cody’s and eight Western Scotts.

Also announced today by Dezel was the opening of a St. Louis office, and the appointment of John Walsh, former manager of Screen Guild Productions in St. Louis, as manager of the new branch office. This addition brings the total of Dezel offices to six. Other offices are in Detroit, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Indianapolis.

Shea Meeting, Banquet Held in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Feb. 3—Some 90 film representatives were guests of the Shea Enterprises at a banquet at the Carter Hotel here today following the announcement of a management meeting. Ben Sanford was master of ceremonies, and speakers included George Gott of the Motion Picture Magazine; Ford Grant, who is introduced as the oldest member of the Shea organization; Eddie Aaron and J. J. MacSweeney, president of the 20th Century-Fox; B. G. Kranz, Film Classics; James O’Gara, Repub- lic; Nat Wolf and E. C. Grainger, president of Shea.

Bill Would Raise Copyright Fee

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—The House Judiciary Committee reported out today a bill which would raise copyright fees from two to three dollars. The Motion Picture Association supported the bill on the grounds that it would increase the efficiency of the U. S. Patent Office.

Mason-Rose Suit Wednesday

The breach-of-contract suit instituted by producer David Rose against James Mason will be heard by Federal Judge H. Harry White next Wednesday, it was learned yesterday.

MPAA's European Representatives Here from Washington Talks

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—Fayette W. Allport, Motion Picture Association of America European manager, and Maurice SAFIER, president of MPAA, have arrived here from Paris, where the association has been made that levy will be removed.

To date, 384 theatres in Ontario have been scheduled to pay the taxes up to the present time, with an additional $2.50 levy which will be dropped 10 years ago.

Dezel Gets 37 Westerns; Open St. Louis Branch

DEBROIT, Feb. 3—Albert Dezel Productions has acquired 37 Westerns from Red Oak and Screen Attractions for the entire United States. The series includes 10 Ken Maynard Westerns; eight Bob Steele, eight Bill Cody’s and eight Western Scotts.

Also announced today by Dezel was the opening of a St. Louis office, and the appointment of John Walsh, former manager of Screen Guild Productions in St. Louis, as manager of the new branch office. This addition brings the total of Dezel offices to six. Other offices are in Detroit, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Indianapolis.

Shea Meeting, Banquet Held in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Feb. 3—Some 90 film representatives were guests of the Shea Enterprises at a banquet at the Carter Hotel here today following the announcement of a management meeting. Ben Sanford was master of ceremonies, and speakers included George Gott of the Motion Picture Magazine; Ford Grant, who is introduced as the oldest member of the Shea organization; Eddie Aaron and J. J. MacSweeney, president of the 20th Century-Fox; B. G. Kranz, Film Classics; James O’Gara, Repub- lic; Nat Wolf and E. C. Grainger, president of Shea.

Bill Would Raise Copyright Fee

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—The House Judiciary Committee reported out today a bill which would raise copyright fees from two to three dollars. The Motion Picture Association supported the bill on the grounds that it would increase the efficiency of the U. S. Patent Office.

Mason-Rose Suit Wednesday

The breach-of-contract suit instituted by producer David Rose against James Mason will be heard by Federal Judge H. Harry White next Wednesday, it was learned yesterday.

MPAA's European Representatives Here from Washington Talks

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—Fayette W. Allport, Motion Picture Association of America European manager, and Maurice SAFIER, president of MPAA, have arrived here from Paris, where the association has been

Newsbriefs

T H E death of Gandhi highlights all current newsreels. Other items include the winter olympics, displaced persons reaching Canada, and a variety of sports and human interest subjects. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE TONE NEWS, No. 10—Gandhi movement. Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, was burned in warehouse fire in France. Bob Hope appears in a new cartoon. Some news is given on the airport closing. Olympic games tonight.


PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 47—Winter Olympics. Canada welcomes displaced persons without Gandhi record in indoor mile.


Los Angeles 'Brotherhood Week' Headed by Metzger and Bowser

LOS ANGELES, FEB. 3—National Conference of Christians and Jews announces the appointment of a Los Angeles Brotherhood Committee for the American Brotherhood campaign. Gus Metger and George Bowser are co-chairs of the local committee. Ben Wallerstein, Sherrill Corwin, Rodney Pantuges, Cliff Geissman, Paul Williams, Robert Poole, Harry Algalton, Dave Beresh and Seymour Peiser.

In Interim

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 3—Marvin Faris, executive secretary of the Society of Camera Operators, Producers, Directors and Writers of Natural Color, will represent the organization in external matters pending selection of a successor. Donald N. Nelson, it was indicated here, Faris, who was brought into the organization by Nelson following the death of Donald J. Nelson, is in a capacity similar to that held by Flinn,
Give Generously For
AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD WEEK!

M-G-M's
CASS TIMBERLANE

HOW TO READ
A PALM!

It doesn't take a fortune-teller to tell us there's a fortune in receipts for our friendly customers in "Cass Timberlane." We know, because every engagement is playing to boom-days business. There's cash in "Cass" for you too. Exploit it to the skies!

MORE ACCLAIM
for the Most Acclaimed
Motion Picture in Screen History!

WINNER OF 35 AWARDS
INCLUDING THE N. Y. FILM CRITICS CIRCLE
AWARD AS
"BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR"

Darryl F. Zanuck presents GREGORY PECK, DOROTHY McGUIRE, JOHN GARFIELD
in Laura Z. Hobson's "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT" with Celeste Holm, Anne Revere,
June Havoc, Albert Dekker, Jane Wyatt, Dean Stockwell, Sam Jaffe • Produced
by DARRYL F. ZANUCK • Screen Play by MOSS HART • Directed by ELIA KAZAN

"MIRACLE ON 34th STREET" • "BOOMERANG!" • "Best Screenplay" to GEORGE SEATON
SELECTED AMONG "YEAR'S BEST PICTURES"
Annual Movie Award...

Darryl F. Zanuck

"Award for Industry-Wide Achievement" for producing "Gentleman's Agreement"

Gregory Peck

"Best Performance by an Actor in 1947" for his role in "Gentleman's Agreement"

Gentleman's Agreement

"The Single Most Important Picture to Emerge from Hollywood in 1947"

Miracle on 34th Street" and Special Award to Edmund Gwenn for his performance in the picture.
666 Theatres in Kansas City Area

There are 666 theatres with a capacity of 347,084 in operation in the Kan- sas City, Mo., Kansas City, Kan., and Wichita, account for 87 theatres, with a total capacity of 61,195.

Almost half of the area’s theatres are in 322 towns with a population of 2,500 and under. These account for a total capacity of 312 seats per theatre.

Percentage Suits on Coast Off to March I

Los Angeles, Feb. 3.—Percentage suits brought by major distributing companies against exhibitors William E. Cox, Barstow, and Grover C. Smith, Glendale and Hamilton Park were put over to March 1 by Federal Judge H. J. Fairbank. Judge Fairbank ruled that both sides today indicated that an amicable settlement is being negotiated. Both actions were for audit reimbursement, the courts being asked to determine damages.

Arnold and Porter To Represent SWG

Hollywood, Feb. 3.—Thurman Arnold and Paul Porter have been engaged to represent the Screen Writers Guild in its negotiations with the industry’s policy of not hiring subversives, SWG president Sheridan Gibney announced today.

Local No. 163 Reelects

Louisville, Feb. 3.—At the recent election of officers of Local No. 163 IATSE, Clarence Young of LOE’s was re-elected president. Also re-elected were financial secretary Edward Wilson, business manager John Flaherty of the Strand. Clarence Young of LOE’s was replaced as vice-president by A. A. Anderson; A. A. Anderson; R. L. Hulett of the Strand was replaced by W. H. Fane, Jr., of the National as recording secretary.

Theatres Closed

(Continued from page 1)

industrial establishments in order to preserve service to domestic customers.

Because of a critical shortage of natural gas, a main source of heating in the Winter, Choriton theatres and schools which have gas furnaces were also ordered closed by L. M. Frost, Minister of Mines, Toronto.

A ban on the operation of gas-heated theatres from Niagara to Windsor, Ont., will be enforced until the crisis.

In Columbus, O., gas-heated theatres in the area served by the Ohio Fuel Gas Co. were included in the list of “non-essential” places which may be requested to close for duration of the gas emergency. The utility was authorized by the State Utilities Commission to curtail use of gas to such non-essential theatres as may be necessary to maintain gas for emergency resulting from the extended series of cold waves.

Reviews

“Saigon”

(Paragon)

Hollywood, Feb. 3

[In view of the practically pyrotechnical popularity of Alan Ladd, who in recent months has been playing against Clark Gable in the screen version of the famous best-seller, “Saigon” was expected among others, to top the other day at the Hollywood-Farm Pool exhibition, the statement of consequence to be made in connection with this melodrama is that it stars Ladd and he is present in just about every one of the scenes. Like “Calcutta,” which it compares with] in size, the new production is a Monty, and there is every indication that the man of the name of the star, plus the title, and allowing nature to take its course.

Ladd’s associates in the cast are Veronica Lake, as a somewhat mysterious young woman; Dorothy Ball as a “ban” bot; David Goodwin as a beneficent, all-suffering, philanthropic type; and James Craig as an all-powerful, all-knowing benefactor.

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

“Man of Evil”

(Rank-Uniartists)

A PLOT that long has served the drama valiantly—that of a girl with illegitimacy is used as an instrument to injure the people who are dear to her—is revived to fine advantage in a J. Arthur Rank production in which women will glory. The footage is made up of situation after situation that are cleverly handled. While much of the drama might be called old-fashioned by present standards, there is no denying that it succeeds in its purpose. Women are certain to spread word of its making. There is a scandal when Mason, who suspects the truth behind certain inventions, is killed by Granger in a duel. This moving and absorbing film has been excellently produced by Edward Black and directed with feeling and understanding by Anthony Asquith. Maurice Ostrer had charge of production.

Running time, 90 minutes. Adult classification. Set for February release.

“Alias a Gentleman”

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood, Feb. 3

The Wallace Beery following is in for quite a change of diet this year, for his choice delicatessen of the unusual and diverse that may well keep him in shape when he is not wearing tailored Park Avenue day garb, throughout all the beginnings of this undertaking. In those early sequences, which are actually a forerunner to the scenes for some of the best, but it sure crosses up expectations. Tom Drake, Dorothy Patrick, Gladys George, Leon Ames, Warner Anderson and John Quinlan head the supporting cast in a screenplay by William R. Lipman, based on a story by Peter Ruric. Direction is by Harry Beaumont for producer Nat Perrin, who produced a film, which is one for some of the best, and just as he is winding up a 15-year stretch of penal servitude, and determines to lead an honest life henceforth. He rents a penthouse, engages ceremonial servants, settles himself in a manner to which he has always aspired, but reverts to his criminal past, and is caught in the ways of outlawry. Ames employs an actress to pose as Beery’s long last daughter, who is dead, by way of getting at the Beery money, and Drake, who falls in love with the girl. But Beery’s kindness to her influences her to tell him the truth about herself, whereupon he and the police apprehend Ames and his henchmen.

Running time, 76 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, W. R. W.

15 Additional Films Rated by the Legion

Eleven of 15 pictures reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classified A-I; they are: "Albino," "Pillow Talk," "The Big Beat," "Who Stopped Niagara," J. Arthur Rank; "Ein Gunzer Kell" and "Leben und Tod des W. Runz" (German), both Casino Films; "Gun Talk" and "Smart Politics," both Continental; "Pamela's Eyes" and "Powder River" and "Westward Trail," both Eagle-Lion; "My Girl Tisa," Warners; "Relentless," Columbia; "You Meant For Me," 20th Century Fox.

Rated A-II: were: "A Double Life," "The Case of Sergeant X," Universal-International, and "News Hounds," Monogram. Columbia’s "The Sign of the Ram" was rated Class B.

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

Saturday gave neighborhood houses a distinct advantage over first runs, the house in Englewood grossing $5,800 in a second week, having piled up $34,000 Friday through Sunday.

Roxy Expacts $120,000

Also performing solidly, if not sentimentally, is "You Were Meant For Me," together entertaining, with a TWOF hand on stage at the Roxy where a first week is expected to bring in $50,000, ($80,000) while the 12th Wednesday through Sunday. At Radio City Music Hall, "The Prince and the Show," is maintaining a firm stride: $80,000 in Thursday through Sunday is expected to mount into $125,000 for a fourth week. Likewise, "I Walk Alone" at the Paramount, with singer Andy Russell on stage, is holding its own, with a second week expected to bring in a pleasing $80,000.

But the following houses found the frigid weather taking its toll at attendance: Cinecoop, "If This Be Romance," first week, a modest $51,000; "S-Ten," second week, an unimpressive $34,000; "Heart of a Woman," first week, $23,000; Palace, "Night Song," first week, $35,000; Warner, "Voice of the Turtle," for a final five days of a sixth and final week, a droll $8,000; "A Miracle Can Happen" opened at the Warner yesterday. Capitol’s stage show features Sammy Kaye’s band.

Holdovers Still Doing Well

"Our Secret," which bowed in at the Central Florida Theatre, held on for a fair $65,000 in its first week. "The Bishop’s Wife," at the Astor, and "The Perfect Priest" at the Roxy, are continuing to do good business, with the former expecting $40,000 in its eighth week, and "Captain" looking for $23,000 in a sixth week. Also doing satisfactorily are the long-running "Body and Soul" at the Globe, which looks like $17,000 in a 13th week, and "Gentleman’s Agreement," at the Times, which is heading for $35,000 in a 12th week.

Cold weather hurt "The Fugitive," at the Victoria, where a mild $12,000 was made at the Strand, "Another Man's Camp," at the Park, is doing all right in a second week, with $8,300 expected in the third. "I’m Going" picked up at the Sutton where a 24th week looks like $4,700.
Licensing Ban Hit
(Continued from page 1)

amended and supplemental complaint upon which the hearings in the
District Court were held," the brief con-
cluded. "It is a new type of application for modification of the
consent decree which led to those
hearings. It was not mentioned in
the opening (hearings) of Govern-
ment's counsel in the District Court,
or during the hearings. Nor was
aided," the brief continued. "It is
argued the devastation that this arbitrary proscription would work on
this industry cannot be exagger-
ated," the company charged that the
purpose of this latest in a long
series of innovations was to accom-
plish indirectly what was proven so overwhelmingly to be unwarranted in this case; that is, divestiture.

Hits "Punitve" Intent
According to the brief, the "punitive
effect" of the Government's pro-
cedings is "ruinous" and "without
emphasis when it is recalled that in
no place where Loew operates does it
have market control of anything ap-
plicable to an approach to monopoly or its effects any more than its
theatre holdings or of first-run product.

It was held that the District Court
was in the process of this disease, and photographs the whole
with the canard of a newsread cameraman. Singularly unglamorized, as to
casting, dialogue, and even attitude, are Belita and Preston Foster, the co-stars,
and the supporting players. Even the story impresses as more like a
transpi in fact than in fiction, for there are no feats of deductive legende-
main or psychiatric magic concerned in the solution of the crime on which the
plot rests.

Belita, who performs a skating routine midway in the picture, portrays
a girl receiver from prison after four years of incarceration for complicity in a
jewelry robbery. Foster enacts a police detective, who, although in love at the
time, brought about her arrest and conviction now on the job checking on her parole. He gets her a job in a skating rink, locates a resi-
dence for her, and gradually convinces herself that (1) she was not guilty of the
crime and (2) he is still in love with her. About the time he gets around to these conclusions, an attorney who she years ago threatened to kill
is found murdered under circumstances which appear to indicate her guilt, and
she flies town. He pursues, catches up with her, and she shoots, but
his recovery. Belita leaves happy by the confession of the culprit responsible for both the jewel robbery and the murder.

Others in the cast are Pierre Watkin, Edna Holland, Russell Hicks, Frank
Foster, the American personality Charles B. Rogers, and Tristram Coffin. Jack Bernhard directed from an original story
and screenplay by Steve Fisher, and Glenn Cook is down as associate producer.

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

W. R. W.

"The Woman from Tangier" (Continued from page 1)

other companies, indi-
cally considered, is in and of itself a monopoly requiring dissolution to
meet the requirements of the Sherman
Act.

Denies Monopoly Charges
Loew's contention no charge of
monopoly could be proved against it
because it "has no monopoly of theatre
holdings or of first-run exhibition, either locally or na-
tionally." It finds similarly no "mon-
opoly of distribution," there has been
case to support the Government's theory that its integrated business as
producer, distributor and exhibitor constitutes restraint and monopoliza-
tion and the company "cannot be treated
collusively or as a single entity.
Company, RKO and Warner to estab-
lish a monopoly of exhibition or dis-
tribution."
The company did not deny that the
houses operated by it increased over
the years, but, it added, "it has been
only a very gradual, normal growth."
"The record affirmatively shows,
without contradiction," it is said,
"that over the 13 years preceding the
hearings in this case, the theatres
which Loew's operated increased by
only 9 per cent, bringing it total to
131."

Carolina T.O.
(Continued from page 1)

ina, and H. H. Everett, for South
Carolina.
The officers elected at the closing
session of the 36th annual convention
of the organization were Ed
Haley, Raleigh, as vice-president, and
Mrs. W. W. Griner of Greenville,
re-elected as secretary and treasurer.

Campbell Heads of Canadian Exhibitors
OTTAWA, Feb. 3.—D. Roy Campbell
has been named president of the
Central Canada Exhibition Association,
with W. A. Armstrong and E. A.
Bourque as vice-presidents.

British Quota
(Continued from page 1)

said that a 35 per cent quota would
be unrealistic and not an improve-
ment. Belcher has promised to pro-
duce a suitable amendment dealing
with those theatre holders in England
in securing a necessary quota of Brit-
ish films because of circuit com-
petition.

The quota now in effect is 22% per-
cent.

British Theatre Closes
LONDON, Feb. 3.—The Associated
British circuit, anticipating the predict-
able effects of the explosion of the
Odeon, its Broadway, Haywards Heath, Sus-
sex, a 700-seater, and is turning its
Hippodrome, Blackpool, one of the
largest amusement places in the town,
into a music hall for the summer.
THE BRILLIANT crater in the positive carbon of a “National” High Intensity Carbon arc, regardless of size or type, contains all the elements of an invisible rainbow.

Direct this white light through a prism and you can see! The beam breaks up into a vivid spectrum—bands of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet—with approximately equal values in all bands.

This “spot rainbow” insures the projection of your color pictures on the screen in the full rich colors your patrons want and expect. The best film ever made is worthless without a light of the proper color balance.

No other light source for film projection can match the almost perfect color distribution found in “National” High Intensity Carbon arcs. No other “point source” packs so much light into a small area. For example, the quarter square inch area in the positive crater of a 170-ampere High Intensity arc emits more light than 75,000 brightly burning candles. Your patrons get excellent color and clear bright visibility. They like it!

WHEN YOU ORDER PROJECTOR CARBONS—ORDER “NATIONAL”!

The term “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
$60 Millions Overseas Aid Asked of U. S.

Total for Films, Other Media Held Impossible

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Figures presented by the film industry and other information media as to how much they would like the U. S. Government to help them out in their overseas operations and frozen funds adds up to $60,000,000 a year, a top State Department official said today.

He declared that it would be impossible to take to Congress a request for so large an appropriation, and indicated that paring down the figures and getting documented facts to back up the figure will probably postdate for several months any substantial aid program under the Smith-Mundt Bill.

"If we all step on the gas," he said, "maybe we will get somewhere in a few months and that will just be the beginning of the drive to get the money from Congress."

John McCarthy, of the Motion Picture Export Association, took the film page (Continued on page 4)

Ascap Bd. Weighs Backing Lewis Bill

Although sentiment among American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers music directors was favorable toward the Lewis bill, which is now pending in Congress and which would add a luxury license fee to film rentals, the Ascap board of directors postponed taking a stand in support of the measure at a meeting here yesterday.

Further consideration of the proposal will be given by the board at its next meeting later this month. The board also deferred action on (Continued on page 4)

U. S. Awaits Ascap Per-piece Formula

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—The Justice Department is not likely to take any action on its order that Ascap must until it sees the new per-piece rate formula it has asked Ascap to work out.

A Department official said that Justice asked Ascap to get the new formula (Continued on page 4)

Storm Slashes N. Y. Grosses

BUSINESS was off yesterday as much as 50 per cent at New York’s downtown first-run theaters during the day as another snowstorm swept the area, and grosses continued off during the night as the storm persisted.

One of the hardest hit first-runs was the Astor, where the gross was reported to be $500 per cent off. The Roxy and the Paramount did not suffer too badly by late afternoon when business was a little more than 10 per cent off. However, a sharp decline in grosses was seen as nightfall approached.

Radio City Music Hall’s business was reported to be 20 to 25 per cent off. The Winter Garden and Warner were similarly hit. The Criterion was even harder hit, with the day’s gross estimated to be 30 to 40 per cent under earlier expectations. The Rivoli reported business off 25 to 30 per cent.

Business at the other first-runs generally was cut by as much as 50 per cent or more.

Blumenfeld Buys Four First-runs

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 4.—Blumenfeld Circuit has acquired four first-run theaters from Salvador Enean and Vincent A. Davi, mayor of Pittsburg, Calif., in a deal consummated by J. R. Sauli, theatre broker.

Houses involved were the Enean (1,000 seats), California (1,000), and Place (750), all in Pittsburg; and the Enean (1,100), in Concord. Purchase prices were not disclosed.

Universal’s Fortunes Held Dependent on Block Sales

IATSE and IBEW Sign Peace Pact

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 4.—Settlement of the oldest jurisdictional dispute in studio labor was announced today in a joint statement by IATSE and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The unions have been in controversy over jurisdiction in sound department work since 1925.

The dispute was one of the causes for the 1933 strike and figured importantly also in the 1945 strike, remaining in effect following the union’s refusal to accept a directive from (Continued on page 4)

Radio Poll Awards Photos on Page 5

Scrolls of achievement have been presented to winners in the 25 classifications comprising the 12th annual (1947) Motion Picture Daily-Fame Radio Poll.

On Page 5 of this issue are pictures of presentations of the scrolls being made to some of those who were voted tops in these classifications in the recent poll of radio editors and critics.
Personal Mention

TRACY BARHAM, vice-president and general manager of Inter- mountain Theatres, Salt Lake City, has been appointed state coordinator in Utah for American Overseas Aid for United Nations' children's appeal.

VINCENT TROTTA, National Screen Service art director, will be guest chairman for the Feb. 20 meeting of Associated Film Poster Advertisers at the Town Hall Club.

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America's staff, will be a guest on MARTHA DRANE'S Mutual Broadcasting program next Wednesday.

H. A. Cole, president of Allied Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, has been re-elected head of the Texas Auction Bridge Association.

WILLIAM GOLDMAN, Philadelphia circuit owner, said that city yesterday by plane for a vacation in Bermuda.

MURRAY MACFARRE, manager of Fox-Theatre, Billings, Montana, has resigned to enter another business.

George H. Bookrider, distributor of U. S. films in the Balkans, will leave here March 5 for a three-month tour of Italy and the Balkans.

HOLGER CLARK, former Columbia sales representative, Toronto, has joined United Artists in that capacity in Atlanta.

Harry McWilliams, Columbia exploitation, is due back here tomorrow from Boston.

A. J. Wolf, manager of the Avalon Theatre, Baltimore, and Mrs. Wolf have become parents of a son.

RAYMOND EDWARDS has become Kay Exchanges sales representative in Florida.

HERBERT LEEDS, director, is due in Chicago today from New York.

Kenneth Greene, 46

NEW HAVEN, Feb. 4.—Kenneth E. Greene, 46, of Guilford, Conn., who was formerly art director at New York's Roxy Theatre and on the art staff of the Strand Theatre before that, died last night. He had been ill for more than a year. He leaves a widow and five sons.

Mrs. Geo. Harvey Dead

Services for Mrs. George Harvey, wife of Paramount's press book editor, will be held on Saturday in St. John's Church, Young's Interment will follow in Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Westminster.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Thurs., Feb. 5, 1948

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE pattern is not a pattern unless the pieces are put together. Here are three pieces which make one pattern:

MOTION pictures are launching production unit which will serve as a sort of experimental outpost for new and promising talent. Costs will be kept with the blueprint. This means they will be moderate.

Metro is launching, a series of exploitation films, based on topics from the鼹skin. Their budgets admits will be modern. They will be modest. Even modest, or as modest as Metro can ever get.

N. Peter Rathvon, reviewing RKO's situation the other day, declared his company plans a few more lower-budget pictures than last year. Because: "There is always a market for the pictures, but keep them in the studio busy."

Set aside any idea this is all an accident. Or any snapping of new talent. Actually, the pictures are as simple as it was inevitable and going something like this:

The production curve dropped sharply during the war when it became evident that few pictures were required to keep first-run accounts supplied. Independents and exhibitor association leaders will have seen their lung-power over this state of affairs had something on which to practice, of course. What they ignored, however, was the fact that inexpensively pictures rely on important first-run money. No distributor will fancy a condition depriving him of subsequent and small-town revenue. He may not recover his prime distributor can stay alive without the other.

The pendulum is now swinging in the pre-war direction. Other avenues of spending have opened up for the public. An uncomfortable percentage of the product is not clicking. Some exhibitors, their judgment often misled by the first money drawn, by each new attraction, are not getting all possible revenue from the attraction they are playing. For one reason or another, runs generally are growing shorter and open playing time longer.

Therefore, somebody's product will have to fill these gaps. Since the only FS all kinds of first-runs, it is not remote that part of the product which will come of the moderate-cost line is being designed to meet a condition of the films no one has had to be concerned in the past five or six years. If this analysis is correct, success naturally will depend upon the distributor's treatment. Their budgets immediately will be modern. They will be modest.

If wrong, in any event the development indicates the numerically depressed curve of production is destined to rise, in all likelihood to a level not known for half a decade. This is enough to make rejoicing.

If current employment and wage rates are to be maintained, there must be increasing efficiency and productivity on the part of the industry's workers, is one of the many interesting observations Universal's interesting annual report. This is an oblique plea to Hollywood unions often accused of "featherbedding."

General admission tax collections—from all sources, except cabarets, and principally from motion pictures—last year was $389,867,479, ahead of the 1946 collections of $381,520,217.

If business is so terrible, where is this money coming from?

Lots of pride around Loew's because:

Dividends paid stockholders total $17,000,000 from 1923 to date.

The company has never been in the red.

Two excellent reasons.

What's this about a Wall Street syndicate trying ever so quietly to acquire stock control of one of the distributing companies? [Not RKO, Not UA]

Capsule on the Chicago situation, brought to a boiling point by the Jackson Park decision: "It's progressed from mere confusion to utter."

U-I Officials Set for Exchange Opening

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—Headling a home office contingent expected to attend the official opening of Universal-International's new $400,000 film exchange here on Feb. 9 will be William J. Scully, president; Julius Stein, general sales manager, and E. T. Gomersall, A. J. O'Keefe, Charles Feldman, James J. Jordan, F. T. Murray and Maurice Bergman.

In addition to city officials, other company executives, exhibitors and sales and radio personalities will attend.

Texas Theatre Owners Aid Memorial Drive

DALLAS, Feb. 4.—In closing the two-week drive, the owners of Texas, of Texas here, R. J. O'Donnell, vice-president of Interstate Circuit, appealed for finishing the job of establishing a memorial for the battleship Texas. TOT president Harry Reeve of Menard, Tex., disclosed that 375 prints of the film telling the story of the battleship and starring Linda Darnell and Dana Andrews, will be exchanged with the Dallas, two-week campaign to raise funds for the memorial.

Drive for Members Launched by TESA

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—Theatre Equipment and Services Makers Association has embarked on a drive for new members, Ray Boomer, secretary, announced.

New legislation, restrictions and embarrassments are in the making, Boomer asserted, and it was his firm belief that the combined efforts of the entire industry are necessary to keep it on a sound basis.

News Briefs

Stern to Handle Masterpiece Releases in Pittsburgh Area

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 4.—Acquisition of distribution facilities for Masterpiece Productions, in Pittsburgh was announced today by Jules Well, Masterpiece president, and Fred Stern, Screen Guild Productions distributor here, to handle the 39 former United Artists releases on the Masterpiece schedule.

Carolina Theatre Owners Condemn Showing of Sex in Films

CHARLOTTE, Feb. 4.—A resolution condemning the showing of sex attractions and newspaper advertising about these pictures was passed at the closing session of the 36th annual convention of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina.

Television Programme in Bronx Hotel on February 12

A public showing of television programmes will take place at the Corinthian Plaza Hotel in the Bronx on Feb. 12. It will be sponsored jointly by the Bronx Chamber of Commerce and Colonial Television Corp.
LIFE said this about WARNERS' "TREASURE OF SIERRA MADRE":

"One of the few movies which genuinely deserve to be called 'great'!"

UMPHREY BOGART  and  WALTER HUSTON  TIM HOLT  BRUCE BENNETT

Directed by JOHN HUSTON  Produced by HENRY BLANKE
Universal Appeal
(Continued from page 1)
up for an entire season so that they will not run short of pictures.”

Holding that “offering to license and exhibit a movie is legally and entirely legal,” the brief argued that “it is mutually advantageous for non-in
dependent and independent exhibitors to make wholesale deals in feature pictures.”

Also pointing out that the large majority of its features “have been in the medium and lower-quality line,” the brief asserted that “the demand for such pictures is greatest among the rank and file thea
tres, which are preponderantly inde
pendent.”

Stress ‘Competitive’ Factor

“Such theatres are in competition with theatres affiliated with the major
defendants, and with theatres in the large independent chains possession
great buying power,” counsel for the company said. “The uncontradicted testimony is that the buying and self
distributing character of the independent groups is an advantageous ally to the distributor and the exhibitor who does not posses
se a buyer to command a wide choice of product.”

The company asserted that “no claim can be made that ‘block
booking’ in combination of conspiracy with any of the other defendants” and that “the evidence clearly establishes that the licensing of one picture upon the licensing of another is legal in the case of a non
monopolistically-situated distributor.”

Touching on minimum admission prices, the brief contended that “Uni
versal, a medium-sized distributor, does not set its own price, but allows exhibitors to set their own price, even in the case of a small independent exhibitor—much less in the case of a large independent theatre.”

It was asserted that “no limitation is placed upon the exhibitor’s right to charge more than this price, and thus to fix his own terms for any additional entertainment provided or other mo
tion pictures shown.”

Exclusivity Held ‘Legal’

Universal claimed that since such exclusive distribution is not illegitimate or “coercive,” it is legally entitled to give,” the company was “clearly” exercising its legal right to confine its copy
righted feature pictures in a series of exclusive runs, followed by clearance payments to the owner, and the licence, in aid of exclusivity.”

It was denied that Universal had indulged in block-booking “as defined by the courts,” the brief stated, as charged by the com
pany, charged, “in which the connotation of condi
tioning the licensing of one picture upon the acceptance of others.”

Counsel for Universal asked that the suit be dismissed and that the decree be modified in accordance with suggestions con
ained in its brief.

‘Essential to Appeal Hearings’

Representing TOA of Albany

ALBANY, N. Y.—February 4—Leonard G. Evans, counsel for the Theatre Owners of America’s Albany affiliate, will accompany Herman Levy, TOA of S. U. S. Supreme Court in New York on appeal and will be present at the TOA when he returns.

Next Albany TOA meeting will be held here on February 15 and the local organization is studying the national TOA’s amicus curiae brief filed in the case.
Scrolls Given Winners of 1947 Radio Poll

Performers and programs voted best-on-the-air by radio editors and critics in the 12th annual Motion Picture Daily-Fame Radio Poll of recent date have been awarded scrolls commemorating their achievements. Pictured herewith are some of those who received scrolls. Presentations were made in New York and Hollywood, many over Coast-to-Coast hook-ups.

Fred Allen, (right) voted Champion of Champions, Best Comedian, Best Comedy Show, repeating his 1946 triumph, receives awards from Sherwin Kane, editor of Motion Picture Daily.

Fred Waring, (left) whose shows were voted Best Daytime and Best Musical Program, receives scrolls from Red Kann, vice-president of Quigley Publications.

Bing Crosby, who pressed Allen closely for championship honors, received scrolls as Best Popular Male Vocalist, Best Master of Ceremonies, Film Personality Most Effective in Radio.

Bill Stern, chosen Best Sportscaster by radio editors and critics for ninth consecutive year, accepts scroll from Red Kann.

Joan Davis, perennial winner of the Best Comedienne award, receives scroll from Ben Gage, CBS Hollywood announcer.

Ralph Edwards, in Hollywood, accepts scroll for his Truth Or Consequences program, voted Best Audience Participation Show.
She keeps the romance running smoothly...

THE spell of this picture's song and story might suddenly be broken... but for film row's "first lady," the exchange inspectress.

With unrelenting vigilance, she has inspected every inch of film before each booking... checked it for worn perforations, torn splices, and other signs of wear and tear that might hinder smooth projection and mar the enchantment of the show. By this painstaking care of film and unceasing effort to keep each reel running smoothly, the inspectress has earned a place of importance behind the scenes of motion picture distribution.

And her work is all the more easily done for the quality and reliability she finds in the release prints made on Eastman film.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
Building Curb Expected to End by Feb. 29

**Controls Are Dropped From New Housing Bill**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—It looks like controls over theatre construction will end this month, a Senate Banking and Currency sub-committee today having recommended that the Administration's power to curb theatre and other amusement construction be dropped after Feb. 29.

**MPAA Capital Talk Turns to France**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The French problem took the spotlight today in the Motion Picture Association of America's review of the foreign situation.

MPAA foreign chief Gerald Mayer and the association's Paris representative, Frank McCarthy, arrived here today and had conferences with State Department officials on the outlook for remittances and getting some blocked funds unfrozen. One of the points discussed here.

Reciprocity on Films Set by Argentina

Buenos Aires, Feb. 5.—Argentina has lifted restrictions on U.S. films in the country, it was reported today, with foreign films being placed on a strict reciprocal basis. There are no restrictions against Argentine films in the U.S., there will be no curbs here, according to the report.

**Davis Lead-Off, Byrnes Anchor-Man for Appeals**

**US May Have Clark, Wright and Sonnett**

Washington, Feb. 5.—The Government is expected to open and close the Supreme Court argument in the Paramount case, Justice Department spokesmen said today.

It is expected that if his schedule permits, Attorney General Tom Clark will begin the argument of the case for the Government and Robert Wright, head of the Government's antitrust division, is expected to take over where the Attorney General leaves off. Assistant Attorney General John F. Sonnett will conclude the argument, Justice officials said.

Deadlock Continues On Exchange Wages

The deadlock in negotiations between the IATSE and the film companies' exchange representatives over new wage and hour demands involving over 6,000 employees in 32 U.S. exchanges remained unbroken yesterday, following a six-hour meeting of the negotiators and L. A. Stone, of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, at Warners home office here.

Another meeting will be held on Tuesday.

Principal argument is over the new wage scale proposed by the "IA." (Continued on page 3)

**See UA Deal with Cagneys 'Imminent'**

Hollywood, Feb. 5.—Agreement for United Artists' distribution of William and James Cagney's production of "The Time of Your Life" appeared imminent as Gladwell S. Sears, UA president, and Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president, today held a screening of the picture in company with the Cagneys. The UA executives arrived here this morning.

It is expected that the principals will confer tonight or tomorrow on final details. Likelihood that the agreement might include future Cagney product gained support in informed circles here.

**NJ Owners Launch Tax Fight Today**

The Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners, representing affiliated theatres and organized independent, will meet in Newark today to map plans for challenging the right of the Newark City Council to levy proposed sliding-scale admission taxes which, if adopted, would set a precedent for almost all other localities.

**Charges D. of J. Links Blocks To Franchises**

Columbia Brief Supports Multi-Selling as Legal

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—A charge that the Government is associating block-booking with franchise agreements, which have been held illegal, in an attempt to brand the group-selling of pictures as a violation of the law was on file here today with the U. S. Supreme Court. The accusation was made by Columbia Pictures in reply to the Government in the industry anti-trust suit appeal, hearings on which are scheduled to start on Monday.

The Columbia brief asserted that the Government strove to support the District Court's decision on group-selling, in tending to tie block-booking with franchise agreements, and since franchise agreements have been held illegal, block-booking must also be illegal.

"This is merely an attempt by the Government to evade the issues presented on block-booking," counsel for the company argued. "Unable to find any proof in this record which would (Continued on page 4)

**Amici Curiae Briefs Hit by 'Big Five'**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The five theatre-owning defendants in the Government anti-trust suit today filed with the Supreme Court a brief stating their opposition to briefs submitted by six amici curiae in the case. Declaring that amici curiae briefs are based on the assumption that the five major defendants must be treated collectively as a monopoly, the brief stated that the case was tried on the theory that the defendants had acquired a monopoly. The brief said (Continued on page 4)

**State Film Censor Test Due in April**

ALBANY, Feb. 5.—The examination for director of the motion picture division of the New York State Education Department is expected to be held in April. Applications at deadline reached 12. The examination may be written, oral, or both. Difficulty (Continued on page 4)
Personal Mention

ARTHUR B. KRIM, Eagle-Lion president, is due in New York today from Hollywood for conferences with British producers. In New York, he and Max Youngstein, newly-appointed distribution chief, and Max Youngstein, advertising-publicity director.

FRANK C. HENSLER, field assistant to M-G-M's Central sales manager, John J. Maloney, is due here Monday from Detroit to spend a month at the home office.

LOUIS JOFFE, of RKO Theatres legal department, and his wife, Frances Pfeffer, of RKO Theatres publicity department, will leave New York today for Los Angeles.

HERMAN RIPPS, field assistant to M-G-M's Eastern sales manager John P. Byrne, has returned to Albany, N.Y., from here.

BOB HOPE will be master of ceremonies tomorrow night at the White House Radio Correspondents dinner in Washington.

ROBERT G. GILLIAM, Eastern director of advertising and publicity for Selznick Releasing Organization, is expected here Monday from Florida.

J. E. McLEROY has returned to his post as Monogram salesman in Charlotte following his recuperation from an operation.

BRYAN FOG, Eagle-Lion production chief, is expected here shortly from the Coast.

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M's lead producer in England, will leave New York for the Coast today.

WILLIAM B. ZOLLNER, M-G-M's most junior sales head, is due here today from Buffalo and Cleveland.

JOHN F. REEGER, Walt Disney Prod. vice-president, returned to the Coast yesterday from New York.

SYLVIA FINE, Warner associate producer, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

ROY HAINES, Warner Western division sales manager, will arrive in Chicago today from New York.

MAX MENDEL, Film Classics foreign manager, has arrived in Venezuela from New York.

WILLIAM WILDER, independent producer, is in town from Hollywood.

SIR ALEXANDER KORDA is expected here by plane tomorrow from London.

W. T. TIDWELL, Warner office manager in Charlotte, has resigned.

CARL KNUDSEN has purchased the State Theatre in Red Cloud, Neb.

News Briefs...

Victory and Defense Medals Awarded to 110 Paramounteers

Hollywood, Feb. 5—Victory and American Defense Medals were presented to 110 Paramount employees who served in the armed forces during World War II, at ceremonies at the company's Hollywood studio last night. Mai, Gen. W. Melville Robertson, Deputy Commander of the Sixth Army, conducted the ceremonies and also presented a citation to Marlene Dietrich in recognition of distinguished service in entertaining members of the Armed Forces overseas.

Among those who received awards were Frank Capra, Sam Briskin, George Stevens, Anatole Litvak, Eugene Zukor, Audie Murphy (most decorated soldier of the war), Paul Lecce (most decorated marine), William Holden, Richard Webb, Mel Epstein and Jesse Lasky, Jr.

Eric Johnston Sees Truman On Annual 'Collier' Award

Washington, Feb. 5—Motion Picture Association President Eric Johnston and Collier's publisher, William Randolph Hearst, both had a 15-minute White House conference with President Truman today, but money and frozen funds never came up; they were trying to get a date fixed for the President to present Collier's annual award to distinguished members of Congress and Johnston is chairman of the award committee.

Set First Two for Powell, Pressburger in Combination

Michael Powell's and Emeric Pressburger's first production as film collaborators, for Alexander Korda, will be Nigel Balchin's "The Small Backstairs," to star David Farrar, which starts March 10. The second to be made by this unit will be Max Webb's "Gone to Earth." Korda's office here reports.

'Arch Premiers' Set in Florida

Enterprise's "Arch of Triumphs" will have its world premiere at the Paramount Theatre, Palm Beach, and at the Colony, Miami Beach, simultaneously. The premiere is scheduled for Feb. 15. The ceremony is, distributing, Henri Bourret, French Ambassador to the U.S., has been invited to attend the Miami Beach opening.

Managers' Unit Dance Tonight

Mayor William O'Dwyer heads the list of those invited to attend the first annual entertainment and dance of the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers' and Assistant Managers' Council at the Sherry Hotel, despite efforts of George Dunn is president of the guild.

Cinecolor Meeting Monday

Hollywood, Feb. 5—Annual meeting of the cinecolor stockholders will be held Monday at the company's Burbank headquarters, it was announced.

20th-Fox Spy Film Object of Protests in Canada

Toronto, Feb. 5—A pressure campaign has been launched here by persons believed to be Communist sympathizers to protest the release of a 20th Century-Fox's forthcoming film, 'The Iron Curtain,' Names of officials in the distributing company's office in Toronto are reported to be circulated in some quarters to determine how best to address the film. The film is based on the information supplied by Igor Gouzenko, formerly of the Russian Embassy, on Soviet espionage in this country.

Grant Construction Permits Jr Eight Video Stations

Washington, Feb. 5—Construction permits have been issued for eight Newspaper Enterprise Association commercial television stations by the Federal Communications Commission.


New Elysee Premiere Tuesdays

Society, diplomatic and theatrical personalities will attend the formal initial opening of the new Elysee Theatre on 58th St., here, when the Sirkatzky International French film, "Funny," written and produced by Marcel Pagnol, is shown for the first time on Tuesday evening.

Predicted to head the guest list will be Ambassador and Mme. Henri Bonnet, Consul General Ludovic Chancel and Ambassador to the United Nations Alexandre Faraldo.

Testimonial for Schanberger

Baltimore, Feb. 5—A testimonial dinner for Fred C. Schanberger of the Motion Picture Theatres of the U.S. will be given at the Variety Club Tent, No. 10, on Wednesday, Feb. 18. Fred Schanberger, who is retiring chief Barker is and is being succeeded by O. D. Nick Weems.

Fred Pressburger to Watv

Fred Pressburger, Hollywood film executive for the past seven years, has joined the staff of Watv, Newark, as producer-director, producing "live" television programs. His last Hollywood post was at Universal, where he was associated with Zoltan Korda in production.

Montez Sues Charles Rogers

Hollywood, Feb. 5—Maria Montez has filed a Superior Court suit against Charles R. Rogers, asking $40,000 for alleged breach of contract said to have been entered into in December, 1946.

Gentlemen's Agreement

BRAND'S

52nd

20th Century Fox

Mayfair

7th Ave. & 6th St.
Independents Facing Restrictions in Holland

MPEA Reich ‘Take’ Passes $500,000

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, Feb. 1, (By Airmail).—Returns from American pictures imported into Germany by the Motion Picture Export Association have passed 5,000,000 marks (nominally $500,000). Despite repeated efforts to obtain this money, however, the funds are still blocked by American Military Government authorities.

Col. Nils C. Nilsen, in charge of Film Control, has pointed out in reply to MPEA that the American industry has gained the advantage of being firmly entrenched in the German market. He declared further that two suggestions had been submitted to American producers to enable them to make use of part of the German Reichsmark returns; using the funds to pay for the dubbing of American pictures in German for export to other German-speaking audiences; using the accounts to produce American pictures in Germany, which has already been done in several instances.

In American as well as German circles it is believed that the American pictures are playing an essential role within the general program of film distribution. Seventy American pictures would throw the German theaters wide open to pictures tinged with totalitarian propaganda.

The British-occupied part of Bizonia will be open to American features by the end of February.

New Italian Tax to Aid the Unemployed

ROME, Jan. 29 (By Airmail).—An additional duty of five lira is expected to be added to Italian admission fees, to remain in effect until March 31. The duty will be contributed to the National Fund for Aid to Unemployed Workers.

Uphold 20th-Fox in Dispute with SPG

New York State Supreme Court Justice Henry C. Greenberg here yesterday adhered to his original decision in which he granted 20th Century-Fox’s motion to preclude arbitration proceedings by the Screen Publicists Guild. The original decision held that the company could discharge for economic reasons. In the decision yesterday, following a rearguing of the case, Justice Greenberg amended his original decision by stating that if remaining employees were overloaded with work as a result of the firings, the case could go to arbitration.

The dispute grew out of the discharge of nine persons by the company last August.

GREATEST OF ALL GREAT ACTION SPECTACLES!

No Men Could Match the Daring of CASANOVA

No Woman Could Resist the Wooing of CASANOVA

The Greatest Lover-Fighter of them all is coming to the screen in

“ADVENTURES OF CASANOVA”

An Eagle Lion Films Production

Friday, February 6, 1948
MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Single Censorship Near in Australia

By FRANK O'CONNELL

Sydney, Feb. 1 (By Airmail).—With the announcement by the New South Wales Chief Secretary Jack Budgeley, that censorship-of-films legislation, which has been under consideration for some time, will be introduced, almost the last step in a nationwide move for censorship has been taken. The bill has been prepared and will be introduced into Parliament soon.

The area of the legislation is to make censorship of films a federal concern in all departments. Powers now in the hands of various state secretaries will be transferred to one central authority.

The Commonwealth chief censor’s powers will be: Censorship of all films, both imported and locally produced; censorship of film advertising material; power to force exhibitors to screen only films suitable for children at children’s matinees. Under the new laws only films available for exhibition in the city will remain available for general exhibition. The exhibition may be screened before 8:30 P.M. on Saturdays, public holidays; 6 P.M. on Sundays.

This clause carries a proviso whereby the censor may exempt any theatre from its requirements which are not consistent with existing legislation.

Similar legislation already has been passed in Tasmania, Queensland and West Australia. Australia’s entry into the existing Victoria legislation are the state legislature and would have been passed by now if recent elections had upset the government. In South Australia the government claim it can do by regulation what the other states are now doing by legislation.

Scally to Open U-I Chicago Meet Sunday

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—William A. Scally, Universal-International vice-president and sales manager; John J. Basson, director of publicity; E. T. Gomes, assistant to Scally; and C. J. Feldman, Western division manager, will leave San Francisco tomorrow for Chicago to open U-I’s Midwestern sales meeting there on Sunday.

J. C. Bryce, U-I assistant general sales manager, and Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director, who have already arrived in Chicago from St. Louis where they participated in a U-I sales meet there.

MPAA Capital Talk

(Continued from page 1)

MPAA Capital Talk (Continued from page 1)

assumed, it was understood, what effect the recent devaluation of the franc would have on the blocked accounts and reproduction picture.

After these talks, the two paid a "get-acquainted" visit to R. Norton Henry, the Department’s new motion picture advisor.

An MPAA official said Mayer and McCarthy have agreed to see other official tomorrow and to muddle with MPAA president Eric Johnston and London representative Pay Allen over the weekend.

Fire Razes N. C. House

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Feb. 5.—Fire has destroyed the Hollywood Theatre here.
Col. Replies  
(Continued from page 1)

Upholds Advance-selling  
Contending that "the Government has not pointed any out in this record, which primarily the District Court in holding block-booking illegal," the brief maintained that Columbia possessed the right to sell its product in advance without showing the pictures, adding that "the Government assumes that this is a condition of license or as a serious abuse of copyright license privilege, and keeps on distorting appellants' claim.

Disclaiming that it had ever entered into long-term franchise agreements, the brief said that "(Columbia) had a small number of four-year agreements, but the great majority of its franchise agreements were for two or three years.

As proof that it "gave franchises more liberally to independents than it did to the majors," the list of Columbia franchises from 1937 to date which showed that in a 10-year period Columbia had offered franchises to 468 independents as against 46 affiliates.

Duration Held a Factor  
"It is manifest," said the brief, "that the District Court has objected to franchises because they were for too long a period—for more than one season—and that it objected to all the pictures released by a given distributor for that period because that tied up all of the distributor's pictures for a long time—practically took them out of the market for three or four years. From the limited holding the Government seeks to make the deduction that the distributor could not sell all of its pictures for a limited period of one year, instead of the four years, if it so desired, not so for its own reason it is not fair, the Government being no longer bound to the tying-in or conditioning of pictures.

The brief, presented by Louis Frohlich, of Schwartz and Frohlich, concluded that the Government's position was not due to the number of pictures involved, but to "the time element—the keeping of pictures, where one so all, off the market for an unreasonable period.

Paul T. Sheridan, 46  
Funeral services will be held at Ascension Church here today for Paul T. (Pete) Sheridan, 46, Western Electric employee and playwright who died in his New York home on Tuesday following a long illness. Sheridan had been associated with Western Electric in several executive capacities during many of his 30 years with the company. Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Mary Sheridan, and a daughter, Mary Frances. Interment will be in the Home of Heaven Cemetery, Westchester.

New NY Screening Room  
New cutting, screening and re-recording facilities for New York producers were opened with a gala premiere of "Pete," by Emile Velasco, Inc., taking over space at 723 Seventh Avenue formerly occupied by MGM-International.

Amici Briefs  
(Continued from page 1)

Further that "the Government wholly failed in showing that Columbia was ever unwilling to release the pictures in its hands.

In regard to the "constitutional question" brought up in the briefs submitted by the American Civil Liberties Union, Motion Picture Producers, the brief declared the question to be "quite irrelevant.

"All rights Ringing Phrases"  
"While we do not wish to yield to amici curiae in their great regard for the command of the First Amendment," the brief concluded, "we venture to say that we have never been better served if our briefs had contained more references to the record and fewer references to the ringing phrases in which that great charter of freedom has been preserved.

The amici curiae are W. C. Allred, et al., American Theatres Association, Conference of Independent Exhibitor Association, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, SIMPP and ALCU.

D of J May Get Last Word; Franchise Free of Cost  
Washington, Feb. 5.—The prohibitions in the lower court decree are except for the competitive bidding provision, the kind "traditionally used to prevent similar Sherman Act violations," the Government declared today in a reply brief filed with the Supreme Court in the industry-wide antitrust case.

The brief stated that the prohibition against theatre expansion was a "less drastic provision" than the major defendants' argument was that the prohibitions against block-booking, franchises and master agreements were "so broad as to require an interpretation that would terminate the violations found.

The brief further declared that by the defendants' failure to answer to many of the findings and conclusions it must be taken as established in their appeals that "each of them breached the Sherman Act, as a distributor.

The Government stated that the use of license restrictions in that "the Government does not actively oppose the competitive bidding system. The Government has said, in the brief, that the state is "and argues in its brief that the system is so "as to amount to an abuse of discretion."

Intervenors 'In Error'  
The brief outlines the Government's objection to the intervenors' becoming parties in litigating the final judgment.

The brief stated that "the intervenors' failure to enter the competition was 'substantially disrupted,' as was the use of such restriction by the defendant in a 'discriminatory manner."

Rules in Favor of 16mm. Tavern Shows  
Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey have with a settled agreement, the campaign to conduct exhibitions of 16mm. pictures in the state's restaurants and taverns with receipt of word from Washington yesterday that the corporation counsel of the U.S. Alcohol Beverage Control Board has stated that 'the same conditions to be installed and films shown in those establishments. The counsel made his ruling following a meeting of the Board at 2 Center, Inc., here, which distributes 16mm. films to restaurants and taverns.

When Jersey Allied president Edward Lachman informed the New Jersey State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board recently that exhibition of 16mm. pictures was spreading rapidly in New Jersey restaurants and taverns, the board informed him, Lachman said that it looked upon such showings with disfavor.

Film Post Test  
(Continued from page 1)

may be experienced in obtaining expert, impartial advice in framing questions, because of the unusual nature of the work.

The examination is interdepartmental promotion, open to college graduates, with at least one year state service in a salary classification with a grade per year minimum, with specific administrative experience. The applicants must be familiar with the film industry. Starting salary for the post is $30,000, with increased to five years.

The post has been well received in Irwin Eames resigned in 1945. Dr. Ward T. Brown has been acting director.

Studio Employment Drops to 79 Per Cent  
Hollywood, Feb. 5.—Production on the key charts in December slumped to 79.6 per cent from November's 86 on the index maintained by the California Motion Picture Workers. The figure one year ago was 106.2.

J. N. Tax Fight  
(Continued from page 1)

every other community in the state to.

The city's proposal, a Federation spokesman said "here yesterday, calls for imposition of a two- to-six-cent tax with the proceeds of a state tax, of which was to be used to control the amount of tax. Six cents would apply to first-run theaters, with other theaters charging top prices.

Newark and other heavily populated New Jersey cities are not among those which were empowered by the state legislature last year to levy a three per cent admission tax. When the enabling act was proposed the Federation was organized to fight its passage, and succeeded in having it defeated in the legislature. Such cities, such as Atlantic City, Newark's present attempt to impose an admission tax is believed by the Federation to be illegal under the state constitution, although it is feared there may be "loop-holes" in the law which would permit the city council to levy the tax. Federation president George 'Goldy' Grelow will preside at today's meeting.

N. J. Allied Meets Monday On Acasta, 16mm Problems  
Acasta music license rate increases and the 16mm. competition will highlight discussions at a general membership meeting of Allied of New Jersey at the Statel and Trenton. Jersey Allied president Edward Lachman will be chair-

Production Static; 26 Films in Work  
Hollywood, Feb. 5. — Production continues on an even keel, with 20 pictures before cameras, the index remaining the same as last week. Six pictures were started and the same number closed in three rooms.


ASCAP SLASHES RATE DEMANDS

Cuts 300% Increase Plan to Top of 25%; No Fee Boosts for Some

Executing a complete about-face from the position it assumed last summer in arbitrarily asking theatre music tax increases up to 300 per cent, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers agreed on Friday to a new rate schedule which provides for no increase in rates for theatres up to 250 seats and for a maximum increase of five cents per cent for theatres of over 1,599 seats.

The agreement is for a 10-year period and is designed to become effective on March 15, except where current contracts of longer duration are in existence.

Ascap permitted Theatre Owners of America, which has been negotiating with the Society for the past five months, to announce the new rate schedule. While the schedule is a direct result of those negotiations, it is known that Ascap's retreat was equally influenced by a uniformly aroused exhibition attitude following disclosure of the 300 per cent increase proposals last summer.

Ascap, in consequence, had been threatened with legislation and litigation of many varieties and on many fronts since, some of which already have been instituted and is pending.

While theatres up to 500 seats will continue to pay Ascap 10 cents per cent under the new proposal, theatres over 1,599 seats will pay Ascap 3 cents per cent and those with over 500 seats but less than 1,599 seats will pay 2 cents per cent.

Allied Will Study Ascap Compromise

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Alfred States chairman and general counsel Abram F. Myers, when apprised of the Ascap-TOA agreement, said he wanted to withhold comment until he had a chance to study full details of the agreement and to contact some of Allied's key members.

"I wouldn't want to prejudice any future Allied stand by popping off prematurely," Myers said. "But that certainly is a far cry from what Ascap was asking, isn't it?"

Myers said if the Allied members he contacted are divided on the subject, he would present the question to the Allied board when it meets here on Feb. 16.

Allied sources had indicated earlier (Continued on page 4)

New Theatre Music Tax Rate Schedule Offered to Exhibitors by Ascap

Here is the new schedule of seat music taxes made public here on Friday by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theatres</th>
<th>Present per-Seat Rate</th>
<th>New per-Seat Rate</th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>499 seats and under</td>
<td>10c</td>
<td>10c</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-799 seats</td>
<td>10c</td>
<td>12 1/2c</td>
<td>2 1/2c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800-1,599 seats</td>
<td>15c</td>
<td>19c</td>
<td>4c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,599 seats and upward</td>
<td>20c</td>
<td>25c</td>
<td>5c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ascap reserves the right to establish special scales for places using "live" talent on a policy of continuous performances. Half of the rates listed in the above table will apply to places operating three days a week or less.

Eyes of Industry Are on Them

The United States Supreme Court, above, which today will begin hearing appeals in the 10-year old Government-industry anti-trust litigation known as U. S. vs. Paramount, et al., and which, later, will write the final chapter concluding the long court contest.


Justice Jackson may not participate in the hearings as he was U. S. Solicitor General and Attorney General during the early stages of the Government action. He did not participate in the Court's action taking the appeal. It is possible, too, that Justice Murphy, also Attorney General during an early phase of the case, may disqualify himself.

Ten-Year Litigation In Final Phase; Industry's Basic Practices at Stake

By Sherwin Kane

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The final chapter of the Government's decade of litigation against the industry will be prepared here during the next three days as the U. S. Supreme Court listens to appeal by Government and company attorneys from the decree entered by the Federal statutory court in New York in the case of U. S. vs. Paramount, et al., a battery of nationally known attorneys, frequently described as "a million dollars worth of legal talent," will argue the appeals of Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners, the five theatre-owning companies.

Their arguments will center preponderantly on the issue of affiliated theatre divorce, as will the Government's. The New York court rejected the Government's plea for theatre divorce in the decree handed down on Dec. 31, 1946, holding the "remedy" proposed by the Government to be "too drastic."

The New York court, instead, ordered a moratorium of competitive bidding for pictures as an alternate method of relief. Opposition to that method of film selling, as well as to restrictions upon block booking, clearance, franchises and other phases of the industry's basic practices, will be argued before the Supreme Court.

‘IA’ Board to Meet March 1, Pittsburgh

Semi-annual meeting of the IATSE general executive board will be held at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, beginning March 1, and continuing for a week, Richard F. Walsh, president, will preside.

Among matters expected to be handled by the board are the setting of a date for "IA’s" bi-annual convention this summer, and the establishing of machinery for "IA’s" participation in the American Federation of Labor's "League for Political Education." Walsh is a member of the League's administrative committee, and recently announced that he plans to set up a similar "League" within the framework of the "IA."
Personal Mention

A THURST LOEW, head of Loew's International, has returned to New York from the Coast.

ARNOUD CHILDHOUSE, Motion Picture Export Association managing director in Holland, left New York at the weekend for his headquarters in Amsterdam.

GREGOR RABINOVITCH, Columbia director, and W. P. MONTAGUE, M-G-M film news editor, arrived here earlier this week from England on the SS America.

ADELINE FANELLI of the Paramount personnel department was married here yesterday to KURT HAKL in Our Lady of Pompei Church.

HARRY ROSENQUIST, Warner home office theatre department executive, will be on vacation tonight for Chicago and Milwaukee.

JAMES R. GRANDNER, Republic vice-president, and division manager WALTER L. TITUS, Jr., left here over the weekend on a Southern sales trip.

GERALD MAYER, Motion Picture Association of America foreign chief, left Washington at the weekend for New York.

H. M. RICH, head of M-G-M exhibitor relations, is vacationing in Miami.

HAROLD MINSHI, Allied Artists vice-president, is in New York following a tour of Southern exchanges.

HERB COPELAN, head of Warner theatres in South America, is in town from Havana.

ED HINCHY, Warner playdate department head, will leave here tonight for Pittsburgh.

MOX KERMAF, Favorite Films president, is due here today from the Coast.

OSCAR A. DOOR, Loew's theatre executive, left Friday for a Havana vacation.

570 Theatres Are In Memphis Area

There are 570 theatres with a total seating capacity of 208,501 in the Memphis territory, according to the Memphis theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

The 25th in a series of 31, the directory reveals that Memphis has 37 houses, largest number in any city in the area, seating 35,560. In the Memphis area, average seating capacity ranges from 400 to 500. In the state, capacity on 334 for each of 308 theatres in 275 towns with a population of 2,500 and under.

Industry Figures

In Tax Refunds

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Interstate Circuit, Inc., Dallas, received $75,375 in income tax refunds from the Federal government on tax returns for the year 1947, according to the Internal Revenue Bureau. Other corporate tax refunds included: General Electric Co., $84,139; General Motors Corp., $12,922; Metropolitan Theatres, Los Angeles, $25,737; Balaban and Katz, $23,854; Hearst Movietone News, $31,090; Warner Theatres, $11,856, and $11,082, excess profits; RKO Radio, $11,524; Crescent Amusement Co., $10,000; Columbia, $11,033; Interstate Theatres, New York, $2,415.

Among individual recipients were Eddie Cantor and his wife, Ida, who received $33,986 and $53,448, respectively, and Mrs. Fred MacMur- ray, $43,479, and Joan Davis, $10,099; Adolph Zukor, $10,722; Bud Abbott, $16,333; Charles Chaplin, $145,002; Frank E. Wilcox, $1,443; George Jessel, $2,083; Irene M. Selz- nick, $3,651; Arnold Pressburger, $23,130; and Sam Goldwyn, $2,395 each, among other film firms, circuits and individuals.

Term Pact Illegal In Percentage Suit

Maintaining that film contracts which they made with Loew's are illegal because of stimulations of minimum admission prices and fixed scales and charges, Edward E. Segal, general manager of Metropolitan circuit partners Jesse L. Stern and Abram H. Levy have asked the Supreme court to enjoin the percentage action in answers filed in U.S. District court here, Loew's filed several weeks ago.

The Loew's answers also maintain that the major companies' tie-up with Confidential Reports, Inc., is illegal.

The suit concerns a distribution plan which are in direct competition with the defendant's theatres.

Audience Survey On Way to Studio Heads

Elliott Odell of Foxwest Publication and Herb Drake of Macfadden held here at the weekend for Hollywood where they will present industry leaders with the regular survey by the Association of Screen Magazine Publishers, Inc. They will be followed shortly by Harold Dav- ison of Dell Publications, who will be on hand in time for the scheduled screening on Monday.

The survey reveals facts and figures concerning film-going and theatre-reading habits in the U.S., the Association states.

Ontario Mayors Ask Revived Ticket Tax

TORONTO, Feb. 8.—Ontario Federa- tion of Mayors has called for restoration of the tax on admissions to place the revenue in a recommendation to the Ontario government in February.

Protestants Will Advise on Films

Hollywood, Feb. 8. — Establishment of a branch of the Protestant Film Commission here, long under discussion, moved toward accomplish- ment as PFC president ROME A. RUTS, conferred with church and industry leaders. The project was last in the news a year ago when "Duel in the Sun" was under fire, but has been dormant since. Tentative plans contemplate offering organized Protestantism's cooperation and advice on films in script or finished form, on a voluntary basis.

Newsreel Parade

EX-KING LEOPOLD in Cuba and the Gandhi funeral rites are among the newsworthy highlights. Other items include Joe Louis in action, a savior of interest pieces. Complete contents follow:

MOVIECEN NEWS, No. 11—U. S. and Canada join in merry flight to freeze North. For days, the merriment went on, oper- new French dam. Army Arctic expedition. Balloon dinner is sent to Paris. Award to Harry Zanuck and Gregory H. Spas. Members of the International Press Club hold their annual party.


WARRER PATER'S NEWS, No. 59—Air powser conquer winter. Umbrella sale. Open the season for the professional trips. In an exhibition boat. Skiing. Great Americans: Abe Lincoln.

MPEA Chiefs Weigh Action on Trends

Problems and policies affecting the future course of Motion Picture Ex- port Associations were discus- sed at a special meeting of member company international headquarters on Fri- day night in New York with Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager, presented an analysis of the territories within the MPEA orbit, followed the results of the association's first full year of ac- tivity and presented observations on the future of the international trade which were not covered in last week's MPEA board meeting.

The subsequent "round-table" discussion focused on the probable trend of MPEA operations and was said to have paved the way for administrative action in 1948.

Company foreign executives present at the meeting were Norton V. Ritchey, Jack Segal, Arnold Picker, Arthur M. Low, George Welter, J. William Piper, Phil Reisman, Emanuel Silver- stone, Walter Gould, Joseph H. Seifele, Wolfe Cohen and John J. Glynn.

Representing MPEA, in addition to Maas, were Arnold C. Childs, Joe C. Golts and Herbert J. Erlanger.

Nu-Screen Corp. Has an Anniversary

Nu-Screen Corp., headed by Herman Gluckman, is observing its first anniversary this month. The firm is responsible for the screen installation in the Park Avenue Theatre, New York, in Feb., 1947. Mr. Gluckman is in charge of the plans in the Winter Garden, Astor and Lane, here.

The company claims its screen cre- ation which is a unique contrivance which improves vision from front and side seat, the latter with angles of from 50° to 80°, is a business hand is sales manager of Nu-Screen.
My Girl Tisa

My Girl Tisa

My Girl Tisa

My Girl Tisa

My Girl Tisa

My Girl Tisa

My Girl Tisa
High Court

(Continued from page 1)

the New York court, will command most of the situation of the Federal Circuit, for Columbia, United Artists and Universal, the non-theatre owning defendants.

Top Gov't Legal Talent

In addition to the “million-dollar” defense legal battery, the Government, too, is expected to have its formidable counsel in court. U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark will be on hand if his Schedule permits. Present Attorney General John F. Kennedy, assistant attorney general, in charge of the anti-trust division, and Robert F. Simmons, assistant U. S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, will represent the Government.

James F. Byrnes, a former Justice of the Supreme Court and former Secretary of State under the late President Roosevelt, will also appear as counsel for 20th Century-Fox and is expected to be the defense “anchor man” for most of the defense attorneys to address the court.

John W. Davis, counsel for Loew’s, will open for the defense, followed in order by R. S. Pryor, Paramount; General William J. Donovan, wartime head of the U. S. Office of Strategic Services, for RKO; Louis B. Loewy, Columbia; Thomas Turner, Universal; Edward C.
Bairty, United Artists, and Joseph M. Prokauer, Warner.

Appeal arguments will occupy about three hours tomorrow; four on Tuesday and will be concluded in two to three days.

The gallery seating will be occupied Wednesday. The court sits for four hours daily and a total of nine and one-half hours has been set aside. R. S. Pryor, Paramount, et. al., appeals. A total of three hours has been allocated to the Government, five to the eight defendants and one and one-half hours to intervenors, the American Theatre Association, and the Screen Syndicates, with Southern California Theatre Owners Association, and the Confederacy of Southern Associations.

Seven Justices May Decide

It is believed likely that Associate Justice Robert H. Jackson and Frank Murphy will sit in the Government’s place on the bench. The Government attorney, John J. F. Kennedy, and three of the defendants, the four of the corporate defendants may sit in the case. The suit, the few decisions the nine justice court have already rendered, have been in favor of the defendants.

Justice Murphy is classed with the so-called liberal bloc of the court, along with Justices Hugo L. Black and Frank Murphy. Justice Black favors a reduced copyright law, and Justice Murphy is classed with Justice Black.

Justice Jackson is ranked with the conservative element of the court, which includes Justice Felix Frankfurter.

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson and Associate Justices Stanley Reed and Harlan Frankfurter, the “swing-men,” so-called because they are found as often on the liberal side as on the conservative side. Burton is a possible exception, often veering to the conservative.

It is held highly likely that the court may hand down its decision in the case in late May or before it adjourns for the summer in June. This is on the basis of the fact that it is faced with a crowded calendar and is notori- ously slow in deciding cases such as the industry action. However, there is nothing to prevent the case from going over to the next term, which starts in October, if the court’s schedule prevents a decision in the spring.

At stake in the case, and of obviously potentially far-reaching effects are basic methods of buying and selling film and of exhibiting it, as well as the continued ownership and operation of theatres by producers or distributors. Many in the industry contend that the latter, in turn, reaches into the fundamentals of film production. To be tested are many traditional business practices which evolved during the industry’s years of growth.

The appeal briefs of the theatre-owning defendants indicate that the Government’s arguments will not be confined to defense of their theatre ownership, but also will include vigorous challenges of friendly of right to conduct theatre operations to meet new business opportunities as they may arise.

The Government will present in its suit in New York Federal District Court in the summer of 1938. Trial was begun early in 1940 and was dismissed after a few days and negotiation of a consent decree was begun. The decree was entered in November, 1940, and operated for three years. An amended consent decree was dis- missed subsequently by the Government’s unification of its attitudes on affiliated theatre divorcement prevented a new agreement.

The trial of the case was resumed in October, 1945, after a three-judge statutory court in New York, which sanctioned the decree. It was denied in June, 1946. The decree was entered the following Dec. 31, but was stayed pend- ing the appeals, which the Supreme Court will hear beginning tomorrow.

Universal Denies Interfering With Theatre Admission Prices

With all the talk of Ascap and Universal pledging not guilty of interfering with theatre admission prices in a brief filed with the U. S. Supreme Court in reply to the Government’s answer in the film anti-trust suit.

The company said that all it did was to require a covenant from each of its licensees not to reduce admission prices during the run of the picture. These were extended to it by Universal in the agreement, as a means of protecting the company’s “revenue income” and not to fixed the admission price of the licensed theatre in order to protect theatres-operating profits.

Allied-Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

that any agreement resulting from the TOA-Ascap negotiations might be considered on the grounds of conspir- acy. However, it is known that TOA officials contacted the Department of Justice prior to the closing of the negotiations and reported them to the Department.

Ascap’s principal concern is believed to have been over the possibility of its members being required to pay higher royalties. It is also possible that the Ascap would be acceptable to them in consequence of a provision in the consent decree under which Ascap and the producers would prohibit the Society from discriminating in the matter of rates among its members. Therefore, if any appreciable number of TOA members accept the compre- hensive plan to do so, Ascap could enforce the rates upon those exhibitors, arguing that its Federal consent decree compels it to do so.

Cecile Music Co., Inc.

offers a complete hit show musical score or the usual musical "dynamite" for your show.

CECILIE MUSIC CO., INC.
1674 Broadway
New York 32

Cecile Music Co., Inc.

4

Monday, February 9, 1948

Motion Picture Daily

Review

"Jiggs and Maggie in Society"

(Continued from page 1)

Hollywood, Feb. 8

PRODUCER Barney Gerard’s second picture based on the George M. Cohan-Manus comic strip again presents Joe Yule and Renie Riano in their admirably performed portrayals of Jiggs and Maggie, and adds for exploitation what the producers have done in the case of "Eisenhower the Silent" and "Graham, portraying themselves. This additional interest in the marquee billing creates quite a bit of confusion along the story line at midpoint in the picture, which straightforward out again later, to be dispensed for the letdown. By and large, the second picture promises to pay off as well as the first, and possibly somewhat better because of the first one’s having established a following. The leading role of the picture is taken by Gerard and Director Eddie Cline, closely concern Maggie’s experiences with a confidence man who undertakes to separate her from large amounts of money by posing as capable of engineering her acceptance into swank society.


William R. Weaver

SIMPP Meets Today
On Anti-Trust Case


— All phases of distribution involving independent producers, together with the implications of the industry anti-trust case will be discussed today by the SIMPP (Screen Industry Management and Production Practitioners) meeting called for tomorrow afternoon by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. All United Artists producers, whether affiliated with SIMPP or not, will attend and Gradwell Sears, UA president, and Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president, will be among the speakers. They will report on the Chicago situation.

Spoke for "11,000 Houses"

TOA claimed it negotiated on behalf of some 10,000 member theatres and some 1,000 non-member theatres. The announcement said that the "proposed plan was accepted upon the basis of equal treatment to all, including probably to question as to Ascap’s right or intention of seeking new rate increase.

Herman Greenberg headed Ascap’s negotiating group. Representing the TOA in the negotiations was a committee of Jack Warner, Robert Cohey, Elmer C. Rhoden, Roy Cooper, S. H. Fabian, Dan Michalske, Tom Byrnes, Leon Wehrig, Robert Byrnes, C. E. Cook, Sol Haas, Hyman Miller, Paul Williams, R. R. Living- ston, Myron Blank, A. Allan Bren-

lowski, Herman Levy and Ralph Branton.

According to Greenberg, the rates hatched on the floor by the Ascap "board in substance."

It is understood that during negoti- ations the Department of Justice was sounding out regarding certain aspects of the deal, a favorable reaction re- portedly having been obtained.

Greenberg issued a statement lauding Ascap’s attitude in revising its proposed rates as “realistic and fair in the light of decreasing theatre box-office. The producers and theatre men represented by TOA, recognizing As- cap as a necessary service agency, were ripened to the increase in cost of all commodities as justified by some revision in rates.”

See Members’ Acceptance

"This cannot be said to be a ‘deal’ if it adds no value to the business, and since the TOA is without authority to bind its members legally to any contract, the TOA president explained. “The rates will be recommended to the TOA mem- bership as reasonable and the over- whelming bulk of our members, I am confident, will accept it as a fair deal.”

"The exemption of the small theatres from any raise in rates should silence any who might have thought that TOA rates were excessive."

Greenberg referred to the new rates as a formula which he thought would be "acceptable to all exhibitors."

‘U’ Heads Deny Charges

A general denial of allegations and a request for dismissal of stockholder Stephen Truemeur’s suit charging 

stock transactions in the U. S. District Court here at the weekend by Universal and five of its directors. Plaintiffs claim that no profit was made on stock transactions which were accountable to the company, as charged.
Following Paramount's originally announced plan of distribution, Cecil B. DeMille's "UNCONQUERED" will be made available for regular-price engagements in April, 1948.

These are the engagements toward which months of planning, promotion, and test exhibition all have pointed.

The less than 300 advanced-admission runs played so far have been but pre-selling preparation for this nationwide release, which will involve fifty times as many bookings as the advanced-price runs.

This pre-selling insures that "UNCONQUERED" will do record business at regular prices, just as it broke records in scores of theatres at advanced admissions, including the biggest opening in history at the Rivoli, New York; an all-time record gross in Baltimore; and a first 5 days in Chicago bigger than the theatre's biggest previous week.

Also pointed primarily toward this April release date were the country-blanketing full-color spreads in all leading magazines, the sensational world premiere in Pittsburgh, the subsequent twelve-city personal tour by Cecil B. DeMille, and all the lavish local promotion that has helped establish the renown of "UNCONQUERED" in every key territory.

As a result, every exhibitor of Paramount pictures can now plan his regular-price engagement of this picture with full confidence that it is thoroughly and favorably known to his entire market, and with proof-backed assurance that he is playing one of the great money-making attractions of the modern screen.
They fought together for a better world. You can remember what they died for by giving what you can to American Brotherhood Week. Your money will help the work of spreading friendship and tolerance throughout the nation!

Contributions may be made directly through your office or by mail to David Weinstock, Nat'l Campaign Chairman, 1501 Broadway, New York 18, N.Y.

This space contributed by this publication to a great cause.
Enthusiastic Reaction to ASCAP Rates

Independents Especially Pleased with Slight Tilt

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Exhibitor reaction to the new theatre music licensing rate increases proposed by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) has been overwhelmingly favorable, Robert W. Coyle, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America, said here today.

Coyle, who is in Washington as an observer at the U. S. Supreme Court hearings in the industry anti-trust suit, said many of the expressions received by the TOA have been from independent exhibitors and from non-members of the organization which negotiated the new rates with ASCAP.

He said operators of theatres of less than 500 seats which will pay no music tax increase under the new schedule are particularly grateful.

Theatre operators of 1,600 seats or more have (Continued on page 6)

U-J Heads to London
For Rank Parleys


In England they will confer with J. Arthur Rank and his associates about (Continued on page 6)

US Backs Legality
Of Red Probe Unit

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—U. S. Attorney General William Hitz will tell the District Court tomorrow that the House Committee on Un-American Activities was constitutionally created and that the trials of 10 Hollywood witnesses cited for contempt by the committee should be held here.

This will be in answer to a motion filed 10 days ago by attorneys for the (Continued on page 6)

Hughes-Odium Deal
On RKO Reported

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Although authoritative confirmation is lacking, informed circles tonight believed an understanding for the acquisition of Floyd Odium’s interest in RKO by Howard Hughes was reached over the weekend. It has been reliably ascertained that conferences between the two have been continuing steadily during the past fortnight. Informed sources believe final terms were agreed upon yesterday.

U. S. Gets Bid For
New French Accord

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—R. Horton Henry, adviser on films to the U. S. State Department, has received official word of the resolution adopted by the Press and Cinema Committee of the French National Assembly asking for re-opening of negotiations on the Blum-Burnes accord.

The specific portion of the accord which is in question is that dealing with screen time, Henry said. Presumably the negotiations would deal with an extension of playing time now granted to French films. Under the accord, French films are given playing time amounting to one-third of each quarter.

The resolution must still be adopted by the Assembly, Henry said.

E-L Sets Employes’ Cash Incentive Plan

Creation by Eagle-Lion Films of an employes’ “cash bonus” incentive plan, patterned on those used by many industrial and utility organizations, was announced here yesterday by Arthur B. Krim, president of E-L.

The plan as outlined by Krim, has been adapted to the particular operating structure of the film industry from that in use by the Chesapeake and Ohio, controlled by Robert R. Young, whose Palace Industries is sole owner of Eagle-Lion.

Under the plan, employes are invited to submit any suggestions, which in their opinion will aid the company toward achieving a more efficient operation. For all suggestions adopted, Eagle-Lion will pay a cash award, varying in amount.

“Obviously,” Krim declared, “an employe who presents a practical plan (Continued on page 6)

US OPENS FIGHT
FOR DIVORCEMENT

Balaban Heads UJA
Campaign for 1948

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, will head the motion picture division of the 1948 United Jewish Appeal for $250,000,000 for overseas relief and rehabilitation, and for aid to refugees reaching the United States, it was announced here yesterday by Henry Morgenthau, Jr., general chairman of the UJA.

Accepting the UJA post, Balaban called on film makers and exhibitors to give their full support to the “Year of Destiny” campaign (Continued on page 6)

MPAA Members’ Films to Libraries

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—For the first time the motion picture industry is now making available to public libraries throughout the country films to be loaned like books to adult education groups, according to an announcement by Roger Albright, director of the Motion Picture Association of America’s educational service.

Special groups of educators, Albright said, have chosen 178 films from (Continued on page 6)

Distribution Study
Set for SMPP Unit

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—James Mulvey, Gradwell, L. Sears, W. B. Levy, Budd Rogers and Milton Kramer were today appointed to membership on a committee which will study the distribution patterns which will arise from the Jackson Park decision, decline of the foreign market and development in the Government’s anti-trust case against the industry for the (Continued on page 6)

MPF Charts Scope
Of Its Operations

Survey of industry welfare needs to form the basis upon which policy will be determined in regard to the program and scope of the Motion Picture Foundation, has been planned by the MPF program-and-scope committee in New York, Ned Depinet and Ted Gamble, chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, reported here yesterday.

Sub-committees have been appointed to develop and determine the best means for conducting the survey, the committee executives said.

Those attending a weekend meeting in addition to Depinet and Gamble were: Leonard Friedman, Max A. (Continued on page 6)

Jackson Disqualifies Self;
Arnold, Jackson, Barton
In Bids to Intervene

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Arguments on appeal by the Government’s anti-trust suit against the industry opened before the U. S. Supreme Court here today with the Attorney General Tom Clark devoting one hour almost exclusively to the Government’s main objective, the divestiture of affiliated theatres.

John W. Davis, attorney for Loew’s, first defense counsel to address the Court, steadied at 3:48 P. M. and had not quite completed his argument when Court was adjourned at 4:30. Davis has been allotted 55 minutes in all, and presumably will be the first to speak when the Court convenes again tomorrow morning.

In between Attorney General Clark and Davis, in consequence of a late change in the speaking order, arguments for leave to intervene in the case were made by Thurman Arnold, for American Theatres Association and Southern California Theatres Owners Association, and by John J. Pahlke, attorney for the Confederacy of Southern Associations.

Associate Justice Robert H. Jackson, who was Attorney General during an early phase of the suit, disqualified himself but Justice Frank (Continued on page 7)
Personal Mention

E. K. O'Shea, Paramount sales executive, became a grandfather last Friday, when a son was born at Woman's Hospital, to E. K. O'Shea II and Mrs. O'Shea.

John W. Whitaker, RKO Radio vice-president, has left Hollywood, national publicity director; S. Babert McCormick, national advertising director and Terry Turner, national exploitation manager, will meet in Hollywood this week.

Herbert V. Akersberg, Columbia Broadcasting executive, has been elected to the board of directors of Broadcast Music, succeeding Frank K. White, who was recently appointed president of Columbia Records.

Stete Brown, Monogram-Allied Artists president, returned to his desk in Hollywood yesterday following a week's absence due to the death of his mother.


Mitchell Rawson of M-G-M's publicity department, and William Schenick of Dunbar and Coe have returned to New York from the Coast.

John G. Walsh has joined Eagle-Lion Films executive vice-president and treasurer, left Hollywood over the weekend for New York.

Marcel Gentel, RKO Radio manager in France, has been elected president of the Franco-American Distributor's Association, Paris.

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M's vice-president and general sales manager, will return to New York tomorrow from a Miami vacation.

Bob Hope visited President Truman yesterday about the Red Cross fund-raising drive in Washington.

Lou Cohen, manager of Loew's Poli Theatre in Hartford, is visiting the Loew home office here.

Abe Platt, Paramount International theatre department executive, is in Lima, Peru, from here.

Bert Sanford, Atec Lansing theatrical sales manager, returned from New York to Cleveland.

Jacques Kopstein, Astor Pictures executive vice-president, is in Atlanta from New York.

Sir Alexander Korda is expected to leave New York tomorrow for Hollywood.

Irving Berlin is scheduled to return to New York tomorrow from the Coast.

Jersey Federation Group Named To Furnish Tax-Fight Weapons

Newark, Feb. 8.—A committee of the Jersey Federation here on Friday to collect data for use in combating a New York City proposal to levy a two-cent sales slide-scale movement tax, if adopted, would set a precedent for almost every other community in the state to follow. The gathering was extended to the Federation membership in a few weeks, and the data collected would be used by the organization. Congress cleared the constitutionality of the tax proposal.

Ferguson Calls Fourth Meeting For Field Forces in Atlanta

Fourth in a series of meetings which World War II exploitation manager, has scheduled with his field staff and sales executives, will be held at the Biltmore Hotel here, Feb. 10. The first day's conference will center around talks with field personnel on promotion of the studio's product. The second day Ferguson will confer with exhibitors, exchange personnel, newspapermen, and radio critics.

Attending from the field will be Rudy Berger, Southern sales manager; John S. Allen, his assistant, Dallas; Charles E. Kressin, Atlanta sales manager, and exploiters E. B. Coleman, E. M. Austin and Tom Baldridge.

Joseph Harris Forms Group To Buy Film Centre Building

A syndicate to purchase the Film Centre building here has been organized by Joseph Harris, chairman of the board of Realart Pictures and treasurer of both U.S. Film Export Corp. and Magna Films. It is understood that negotiations already are under way.

Oil-Heated Theatres Closed By Northampton, Mass., Shortage

Northampton, Mass.—All oil-heated theatres here have been closed on orders of Mayor Edwin L. Olander in an emergency move to conserve supplies of fuel oil. A levy was taken to free all available oil for home use.

Cut Lighting in San Francisco

San Francisco, Feb. 9.—Because of a drastic reduction of power resulting from the lack of rainfall, all theatres in this area have been requested to cut down their illumination. According to Pacific Gas and Electric Co., the San Francisco territory is already three months ahead of its power allocation, with little possible hope for alleviation in the near future.

Favorite in Masterpiece Deal

Moe Kerman's Favorite Films has acquired distribution of Masterpiece Productions in four territories, it was reported by Masterpiece president Jules Well. Territories involved are New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Portland.

Filmanck Will Open Its Third Branch in New York on Feb. 16

Chicago, Feb. 9.—In keeping with its plan of expansion in 1948, Filmanck Theatre Co., through its general sales manager, Irving Mac, announced the opening of a New York City branch on Feb. 16.

This is the second branch to be established in the last three months, the other being in Los Angeles. The organization has its main offices here.

Building Product Supply for Exhibition in German Houses

Washington, Feb. 9.—Two more German features are now in production, the U. S. Army reports, "The Man from the Other Star," in Munich, under British license, and "Seven Little Pigs," in Berlin, under U. S. license.

Six more German features produced prior to 1945 have been released for exhibition by U. S. censors, and four more American films have been synchronized with German language tracks, "The Bells of Saint Mary's," "The Lost Weekend," "The Spiral Staircase" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame."

Monogram Will Reissue Three Features, 8 Westerns in 1948

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Eleven releases will be released by Monogram during 1948, it was announced by studio president Steve Brody. The list includes "Betrayed" (formerly "When Strangers Marry"), "Rose of the Rio Grande," "Sign of the Wolf," and eight Westerns.

Giroli Will Open Branches On Coast for Superfilm

Marcello Giroli, president of Superfilm Distributing Corp., has left here for Los Angeles and San Francisco for a two-month stay to open exchange offices on the Coast for distribution of Superfilm's product and to discuss future production in Italy.

New Head of Canadian Film and Other Import Controls

Toronto, Feb. 9.—Max Mackenzie, deputy minister of trade and commerce, has been named head of all import controls as well as the department, including the film industry.
WILD! WICKED! WIDE OPEN!

COMING FROM ALLIED ARTISTS TO ROCK YOUR SCREEN WITH THRILLS!

FILMED IN GLORIOUS SEPIA TONE!

Starring ROD CAMERON with CATHY DOWNS • REED HADLEY • ANNE GWYNNE • BLAKE EDWARDS
Frigid temperatures and more snow, weather which is said to have delayed or canceled business at a reported 20 percent of reports this week, are not putting too big a dent in grosses this week. A number of downtown first-runs. Holdovers predominate here, and many are performing satisfactorily. General results of opening others are disappointing. Meanwhile, the only newcomer, “A Miracle Can Happen,” got off to a good start at the Warner, with $47,000 expected for the first week.

“The Treasure of the Sierra Madre” and “Night and Day,” both standing at the Paramount, are doing a good business. Hot on the heels of the Murphy, the Strand, is expected to gross over $64,000 for a three-week run at Radio City Music Hall. Time’s Park’s Cabin, with stage show, is heading for a solid $122,000 in a week on the basis of $39,500 last week and $45,500 through Sunday. Also strong in “I Walk Alone” at the Paramount where singer Andy Russell heads the stage bill; a robust $66,000 is expected for bow in on Feb. 18.

The third week; “Road to Rio” will $33,000 for ‘Agreement’

“Gentlemen’s Agreement” is still doing well at the Mayfair where a 14th week is expected. At the Strand, “Brotherhood” continues to perform satisfactorily, with a miserly gross of $39,500.

At the Astor, “The Bishop’s Wife” continues to perform satisfactorily, with a miserly gross of $39,500.

A $17,000 for a 14th week for “Body and Soul.” At the Globe is also regarded as well loaded with irrelevant and evidentiary allegations that had “destroyed” Brandt’s reputa-

“The Fugitive,” that has been a major business, is expected to gross $25,000 for a third week. Performing similarly are “Night Song,” at the Palace, where a second week was recorded; and “Holiday Camp,” at the Park, where $7,500 is in view for a third week. “Captains Courageous” is well regarded in its seventh week at the RKO where a meagre $19,700 is seen; “To the Ends of the Earth” will follow on Thursday. The eighth week will be the final one for “The Fugitive,” that the Victoria, where a seventh week is viewed as bringing in a low $10,500; “The Burning Cross” will follow on Feb. 19.

Capitol, Winter Garden ‘Poor’

“If Winter Comes,” at the Capitol, with its grosses of $10,000 for a week, and “A Woman’s Vengeance,” at the Winter Garden are both performing poorly. Third week of “Winter” looks to be $49,000, and second week of “Vengeance,” $18,000.

The Sutton looks good for a satisfactory showing in the last week of “I Know Where I’m Going.”

New 3% Tax Operative

Greenfield, O., Feb. 9.—Three per cent admission tax will become effective in most parts of the state on Tuesday. Income from the tax will go into the town’s general fund and will be drawn upon for educational improvement and for town operating expenses. Fines of from $25 to $100 may be imposed.

Actors Will Fight Taft - Hartley Law

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Screen Actors Guild has launched a fight against the Taft-Hartley Law in a detailed memoran-
dum outlining its reasons why, including: “The act seeks to encourage individual rather than collective bargaining and ‘could result in making a mockery of the Guild shop and doing away with all of the benefits which actors have gone through a Guild shop.”

Brandt Motion in Para Suit Weighed

Harry Brandt’s motion to have por-
tions of the complaint stricken out in Paramount’s $563,265 percentage suit against it, was heard by Judge H. Hoyt yesterday before Justice Samuel Nall in New York Supreme Court. Deci-
dion was handed down by Milton C. Weisman, counsel for the defendant, contended that the com-
plaint was loaded with irrelevant and evidentiary allegations that had “destroyed” Brandt’s reputa-
tion. In a memorandum filed with the court at the time of argument on the objection to the motion for Paramount charged that the defendant had sought to distract attention from the issues raised in the complaint by engaging in “extraneous and un-
teresting” and asked that the defendants be required to answer the plaintiffs’ allegations proportionately.

The memorandum asserted it would be “more consistent with defendants’ good faith” if they filed a verified an-
swer denying Paramount’s allegations and seeking a speedy trial than to “seek to strike out these allegations so that they need not file an answer to them.”

Bernhard and Herzog On Cinecolor Board

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Joseph Bernhard, president of film lab, and Karl Herzog, Film Classics and Cinecolor treasurer, were elected to the board of directors of Cinecolor today at the annual meeting of stockholders which also voted to increase board membership from six to nine. All incumbent board members were re-
elected.

Stockholders also approved the sale of 15,000 shares of authorized but unissued common stock to A. Pam Blum, 10,000 to William T. Cres-
pine, 16,000 to Alvin M. Gundelinger and 5,000 to Herzog. Film Classics sales manager Bernard Krane was an option to purchase 10,000 shares.

Advance Plans for Large Screen Video

While RKO yesterday called off a television demonstration sched-
uled for the circuit’s 58th Street Theatre, an announcement was made that it would go ahead with plans for the machine’s public demonstration at the Conoco Plaza Hotel in the Broad-
way district today.

The projector to have been used yesterday was the same one installed at the Rockaways this week. If the “Vision Master,” the set uses a re- tracted type of projection system similar to the type used for motion pic-
ture projection. The machine stands three-and-one-half feet high, weighs 120 pounds and can be used for either front or rear-projection, producing a picture measuring up to 10 by 12 feet.

The machine was demonstrated at the Almira Theatre, Cleveland, Feb. 6. According to Ira Becker, vice-presi-
dent of Colonic the machine was being developed an attachment permit-
ting the recording of images from the tube onto film.

RKO Launches Video Ads

Marking the first time that RKO has used television, the com-
pany will use tele-vised a film in its New York houses, a series of “spook” announcements for the opening of “RKO’s Phantom of the Opera” RKO’s Theatres has started over station WNBV, here.

14 Rated by Legion; ‘Furia’ Condemned

“Furia,” Italian-made feature import-
ated by Westport International and released here by Film Classics, has been given a Class C (condemned) rating by the National Legion of De-
fense.

Of 13 additional pictures reviewed by the Legion, two were classified as “good,” four were “questionable,” two were “OK,” one was “known Susie,” and Astor’s “Western Terror.” In Class A-II were placed “The Last Episode,” “The Secret Revealed” and “The Big Fix,” both Eagle-Lion; “ Alias a Gentleman,” M-G-M; “Beauty and the Beast” (French), Lopert Films; “Meaning Becomes Electric,” RKO Radio; and “The Naked City,” Uni-

versal-International. Five were placed in Class B: RKO’s “The March of Triumph” and “A Miracle Can Happen,” both United Artists; “Jassy,” U-I; “The Story of Tony” (Italian), Cinerifilm; and “Three Daring Daughters,” M-G-M.

Five More Chairmen For ‘Brotherhood’

Five more theatre leaders have been named state chairman for “Brotherhood of Film Workers” sponsored by the Na-
tional Conference of Christians and Jews, to be held on Feb. 22-29. The total now stands at 17.

New additions include Arthur Rob-

screen for the Michigan area; Mike Gugliotta, Detroit; Arthur Lockwood, Massachusetts; W. M. Mendenhall, Idaho; William H. Thed-

ford, Oregon.

Royal Theatre Burns

New Orleans, Feb. 9.—The Royal Theatre, Meridian, Miss., belonging to A. L. Royal, was completely de-
stroyed by fire.

56% Eire Tax Cuts Receipts by 40%

By T. J. M. SHEEHY

DUBLIN, Feb. 9 (By Airmail.—Box-office receipts are down as much as 40 per cent in some theatres here as a direct result of the new govern-
ment’s 50c-per-ticket tax on admissions in several case theatres, operating at a loss, and unless further relief is given, will close. The tax raised ticket prices proportionately.

The operators anticipated a drop in attendance when the tax be-
came effective last Jan. 16, but they now expect a serious drop in business. The trade is preparing a campaign directed at the new government—
elections were held last week—to obtain a tax reduction in the new national budget which comes up in April.

Distribution Deal in Mexico Made by E-L

Conclusion of a Mexican distribution deal was announced here yesterday by Samuel L. Seideln-
man, Eagle-Lion foreign chief, the deal having been made with Manuel J. Peron, head of 25 theatres in Yukon, which owns and operates 119 theatres in Yucatan, Campeche and Ta-
xico, and the territory of Quetlan Roo.

The deal, according to Seidelman, assures E-L preferred playing time for its own Hollywood product and J. Arthur Rank British productions re-
fused by films in Latin America. The Mexican company will also act as distributor for E-L product and E-L releases of Rank’s British product. Peron, who arrived here last week to finalize the deal with E-L, will leave for Mexico this week.

Use New Method to Test Film Script

CHICAGO, Feb. 9.—Independent pro-
ductions of film director’s “Incorrigible” was pro-
tested by the “arrested “method” here. Arrangements were made to use the Electrographing machine, similar to the lie detector, on a number of persons, getting the average film patron’s reaction to the film and how it is read to them. The results will guide screen writers from an audience viewpoint.

Ben Silvey, 53

Hollywood, Feb. 9.—Services were held here yesterday for Ben Silvey, 53, 20th Century-Fox unit production manager. Inter-
ment will be in New York Silvey, who was in the motion picture busi-
ness since his days in the widey, Mrs. Vivian Silvey; a brother, Dr. Morris Silberman, and a sister, Mrs. Sam Cohen, both of New York.

Mrs. Pauline Greenthal

Funeral services for Mrs. Pauline Greenthal, mother of Monroe Greenthal, publicist, will take place this morning at the Westwood and Pacific Chapel here, with interment in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Hastings-on-the-
Hudson. Mrs. Greenthal, who was born in New York, Sunday, leaves a brother, Joseph Wertheimer, and a sister, Mrs. Rose Wechsler.
Costs you **PENNIES**...
Brings you **DOLLARS**!

**TRAILERS** are your **Best Buy in ADVERTISING**!

*NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY*
Reviews

“1 Became a Criminal” (Warner Brothers)

Hollywood, Feb. 9

PRODUCED in England with a cast of players whose names have not been established for American marquee purposes, this film follows with vim, verve and violence the pattern of the gangster pictures produced in Hollywood several years ago and recently discontinued by industry policy. Its usefulness in the present American market appears to be limited to those theatres which can afford well presented feature attractions; those in extreme melodrama and can exploit attractions of this type without the benefit of a known name actor.

The scene is Manchester, England, the time is post-war, and the gangster whose activities give rise to all the troubles is a black market operator employing a small detachment of former RAF hands to make her racket pay. The killing of her boy friend. The players are Sally Gray, Trevor Howard, Griffith Jones, Rene Ray, Mary Merrall, Charles Farrell, Phyllis Robins, Vida Hope and Ballard Berkeley. It is an A. R. Shipman production, produced by N. A. Bronson and directed by Cavalcanti, from a script by Noel Langley, based on a novel by Jackson Budd entitled "A Convict Has Escaped."

Running time, 78 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

William R. Weaver

“Take My Life” (RKO-Pathé)

D RAMATIC material is deftly handled in “Take My Life,” J. Arthur Rank’s latest entry here. Telling the story of a man charged with murder he never committed, the picture, though modest in production values, manages to maintain suspense by an unusual characterisation. The thick British accents, however, may prove obstacles to some. Best part of the mystery-drama is the story that builds up rather effectively, with an off-stage voice giving direction and emphasis to the cast, which will perform well, headed by Hugh Williams, Greta Gynt and Marius Goring. The original story, by Winston Graham and Valerie Taylor accumulates evidence against William, who, as a precaution, makes his wife the fall-guy. Miss Gynt, to go through a series of adventures, sometimes brisk and exciting, other times static, before the true murderer is unearthed. There are some good photographic touches. Production was handled by Anthony Havelock-Alwyn with direction by Ronald Neame.


Mandel Herbstman

Red Probe Unit

(Continued from page 1)

10 witnesses, in which the constitutionality of the law is questioned and the request made to transfer the trials from Washington.

Rie has said he based his answer on the decision of the Second Circuit Court of New York in the case of Leon Josephson, another witness cited for contempt by the committee. The witness will also state to the District Court, he said, that anti-Communist feeling here is so not violent as to prejudice any decision by the court, that it will not be an "unjust hardship" for the 10 defendants to travel here from California, as their attorneys motion declared.

First trial, that of lawyer John Howard Lawson, is scheduled to open Feb. 24.

Balaban Heads UJA

(Continued from page 1)

Largest private philanthropic drive ever undertaken.

He warned that the $250,000,000 UJA goal represents only a fraction of the overall budgetary needs of its three constituent agencies, the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal, and the United Service for New Americans.

Actual sum required to resettle 75,000 refugees in Palestine during 1948, to sustain the displaced persons remaining in Europe, to re-establish $300,000 others in Eastern Europe, to conduct special relief programs for 420,000 in Western Europe and to assist an estimated minimum of 200,000 European Jews seeking to immigrate into the United States, is $395,000,000, he asserted.

"go beyond Balaban’s acceptance, Morgenthau paid tribute to his service in humanitarian causes.”

Daniel Back in Dallas

Dallas, Feb. 9 — L. O. Daniel, Jr., formerly manager of the Delman in Houston, has returned to Dallas to take charge of the newly acquired RKO-Pathé-Warner’s Theatre. Daniel was formerly with the old Paramount Publicity organization here and later managed the Texas in San Antonio.

ASCAP Rates

(Continued from page 1)

been paying ASCAP $320 annually for about $606 per month increase, under the new rates. It was reported here that the Independent Theatres Owners of New York regards the new rates so favorably that it may recommend to the state legislature granting a new anti-trust suit against ASCAP, scheduled to go on trial Wednesday in New York to be withdrawn.

Washington reports that the ITOA might advise its members to drop its present antitrust suit as a precedent of the invalidity of a case described as baseless yesterday by Harry Brandt, head of the exhibitor organization, and Milton C. Weisman, its counsel.

Weisman pointed out that the ITOA’s suit was instituted when the old rates were in effect. He intimated that if the ITOA objected to the former rates it certainly would not approve the present rates which are higher in most instances.

Jewish Allied to ‘Sit Tight’

(Continued from page 1)

which will result in a saving of many thousands of dollars, or additional revenue in the same amount, is entitled to a liberal award. At the same time, we feel that an employee who submits a claim which will aid the company in any way, even though not to the extent of the first suggestion, is also entitled to a reward, even though it will, in fairness, be smaller.

The employees’ suggestion system committee which will rule on the acceptability of all suggestions submitted consists of Kenneth, chairman; William J. Heineman, vice-president in charge of distribution, who will be chairman of Krim’s absence; J. J. Skelly, personnel director, and secretary of the committee; Harold S. Dunn, assistant treasurer; Warren Sharpe, treasurer; Frank Soule, in charge of branch operations, and Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising.

MPF ‘Scope’ Survey

(Continued from page 1)


Cleveland Meet on MPF

Cleveland, Feb. 9—Formation of a local unit of the Motion Picture Foundation is on the agenda of a meeting of MPF circle members tomorrow at the Statler Hotel. Meeting was called by Nat Wolf, Warner theatre zone manager in Ohio, and Ben Letkowitz of the Community Circuit.
that no theatre has been closed for film.

Davis argued that the ownership of 
3,131 theaters by the defendants, out 
of a total of "18,076 at the time of 
trial," could not "individually nor col-
tinuously constitute a monopoly of ex-
hibition."

He said that Loew's owns a total of 
131 theaters in the United States; 69 
located in Manhattan and 13 other 
location with other theatre operators. 
Loew's has only two first runs in New 
York and an "affiliated" in Queens. 
"The other 67 are sub-
sequent runs," he added.

"We have a monopoly of our own products," he said, "but not our own films. What's wrong with that?" he asked.

Justice Black inquired whether there is an "alliance" of ownership between 
theatre circuits. "Only in robust imaginations," Da-
vis replied.

The Loew's attorney charged that the Government's attempt to obtain a 
prohibition against the "cross-licensing" of affiliated theatres is not de-
signed to eliminate temptations or re-
strain defendants from infractions of the law.

Strangulation Sought: Davis

"It has a deeper, far more subtle purpose," he said, "It is economic strangulation, What the Government says is you can't cut their necks, 
Aren't you cheating them out?"

Davis contended, also, that the term "cross-licensing" is a "misnomer."

"Distributors' contracts with affiliated theatres, he contended, are the same as those with independent theatres.

He described clearance and run as the "principal contro-
versy in the industry. The sys-
tem, he said, is essential in that it is physically and financially im-
possible to provide enough films to show in all theatres at the same time. Davis contended, 
too, that there is no opposition to clearance and runs fundamen-
tally; it is simply that theatre 
B would like to be first run in-
stead of theatre C. Thus, he said, 131 
C would like to have the clear-
ance theatre B has and so on. 

The New York decree, he pointed out, permits an order who 
is reasonable as to time and area.

The Court listened with apparent 
interest to Davis and was moved to express smiles on several occasions by his digi-
ting at some of the contents of the Jus-
tice Department.

300 Attend Hearing

A capacity crowd of more than 300 
filled the marble columned and red 
velvet draped courtroom throughout the day.

Arguments of the interven-
tion appeals, ATA, SCTOA 
and CSA, were confined entirely 
to opposition to suppression of the 
bidding. Arnold, who as an 
assistant attorney general had 
handled the government's case, 
reviewed the suit in its early stages, 
charged that in ordering the de-
fendants to sell in that manner 
and to New York, the government 
directed them to act in a un-
iform and concerted manner af-
together than around them growth 
so acting in other matters, and 
imposing injunctions upon them for 
having done so.

At one juncture, Justice Frankfurter 
interjected: "People don't have to go 
to the movies at all."

HOUSING HEARINGS TO RESUME MONDAY

Washington, Feb. 9. — The 
Senate Small House and Com-
mittee has set Feb. 16 as the 
date for its next session for 
grappling with an exten-
sion of the present rent 
control housing law. It is under this law that theatre curbs are 
put in place. The committee has recommended that the construction curbs 
be dropped.

One committee official said that there seemed to be 
general agreement on dropping the limitation order.

Arnold said, "No. They can stay home."

"So can you," the Justice remarked, 
apparently referring to the interven-
tion action.

Arnold charged that the Govern-
ment is not representing exhibitor 
interests. "We have a right to," he 
said.

Arnold also contended that compe-
titive bidding goes beyond the pur-
case of the Court to order. "It is a legislative, not a judicial, order," he said.

Arnold Attacks Bidding

He said the New York court thought injunction was too mild a re-
sponse and charged that the law is 
too drastic. "Then hearing there weren't enough films to go around, it ordered biding," he said. He charged there are so many types of bids possible for exhibitors to make, that the final 
decision rests with the defendants 
who will get the films, exactly as 
that decision was their's before.

Col. Barton attacked competitive 
pricing on the grounds that the sys-
tem opens the way to free-booking compe-
tition against old established custom-
ers and that it deprives theatre own-
ers of the assurance of a steady flow of product.

Asked by Justice Frankfurter if ex-
clusive booking was not a way to 
damage relief under the anti-trust laws 
available to them in cases of business 
jury, Barton said: "We don't believe 
the defendants' defense would be the 
New York decree."

Frankfurter also wanted to know whether competitive bid-
ing had ever before been used 
in the industry and was told it 
had not, that it came as a sur-
prise to the defendants as well 
as to exhibitors.

Barton charged that only distribu-
tors can benefit from competitive bid-
ging; that it would cost the exhibitors 
more films and that the increased costs 
will have to be passed along to the public.

CSA ALOOF ON DIVORCement

Justice Black asked Barton what 
CSA thinks of divorcement and was 
old: "We take no position on that.

After using one of its three hours of allotted time today the government 
will pass on over each attorney. General 
Attorney Generals Robert Wright and 
John Sommet, who will be the last to 
speak, in the order. Each attor-
ney following Davis will have 35 
minutes before the Court. The speak-
ing order is (after Davis): Whitney 
Nottingham, Paramour; General 
William Donovan, RKO; Louis 
Brooks, Columbia; Thomas Turner 
White, National; Edward Raitey, 
United Artists; Joseph Proskauer,
Thank You, Mr. Fabian!

December 30, 1947.

Mr. Herman Gluckman, President,
Nu Screen Corporation,
1501 Broadway,
New York 18, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Gluckman:

We enclose herewith our order to you for ten Nu Screens to be installed in theatres of our company.

We have made exhaustive studies of the two test installations made by you last summer and we are convinced that this screen is a revolutionary method of film projection and gives much better results than any screen we have ever used.

The elimination of distortion and the brightness and general effect of the picture are most noticeable to our customers. As a result of this we feel that not only will it improve our projection but it will also give us a selling point as the latest and newest improvement in film projection, thus helping our business.

I am looking forward to early deliveries of these Nu Screens so that we can make installations as rapidly as possible.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

S. H. Fabian

ENTERTAINMENT VALUE IS WHAT WE'RE SELLING—NOT JUST A SCREEN

NU-SCREEN CORPORATION
CONCAVE-CONVEX FIBREGLAS SCREENS

1501 Broadway New York 18, New York

“Nu-Screen is a revolutionary method of film projection.”

“It gives us a selling point—thus helping our business!”
TOA Sets Up Nat’l Council For Legal Aid

Will Advise Theatres on Problems of All Types

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Attorneys and legislative agents within the Theatre Owners of America today set up a Legal Advisory Council to aid in bringing local problems to a national level.

The Council will also act as an information bureau for attorneys who need assistance in local and national problems of all types—legal, tax, questions, court cases—and will lay plans for the immediate formation of an industry forum.

Next meeting will be held early in May in New York, according to TOA counsel Herman Levy.

Present at the first meeting, in addition to Levy, were Tom Ford, Pennsylvania Colosseum Theatres; Maury Miller, TOA of New Jersey; Lawrence E. Gordon and Byron Pol.

(Continued on page 7)

Urge Owners Aid Video in Theatres

That exhibition “encourage and finance, if necessary, accelerated research in the field of theatre television to narrow the gap now evident between theatre and home television” is advocated in a report made public here yesterday by the Theatre Owners of America.

The report, prepared under the supervision of the TOA television committee, consisting of E. V. Richards, Mitchell Wolfson, Arthur Lockwood, David Wailerstein, Charles F.

(Continued on page 7)

Renominate Board of ‘U’ for Election

All 14 members of Universal’s board of directors have nominated reelection at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in Wilmington, on March 10. Board members are: J. Creever Cowdin, chairman; N. J. Blumberg, company president; Matthew Fox, executive vice-president;...

(Continued on page 2)

TOA Opposes Ascap Bill

Theatre Owners of America will strongly oppose the pending Lewis Bill in Congress requiring Ascap to deal with film producers instead of exhibitors, it was reported here yesterday. TOA will take this position when hearings open in Wash-ington before a House Judiciary sub-committee on March 1. Either TOA president Ted Gamble, executive direc-tor Bob Coyne, or counsel Herman Levy is slated to testify for TOA.

The group is reported to feel that Ascap will be in a much better position to enforce its demands on a band of producers than on 16,000 theatre owners scattered all over the United States. Top TOA officials believe that Ascap could get from the board a decision for the (Continued on page 7)

Move to Step Up Drive to Cut Tax

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Top The-atre Owners of America leaders at a private breakfast meeting here today decided an exhibitors’ drive to cut the U. S. admission tax must be stepped up if action is to be obtained at this session of Congress.

One specific move will be taken in the near future when TOA legislative director A. Julian Bylaws will try to pin down House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Knutson on his admission tax plans. Knutson is planning a second tax reform bill to be reported in mid-March, but he has indicated to reporters there is nothing in it cutting large excises.

(Continued on page 7)

Photoplay’ Awards To Bergman, Bing

Ingrid Bergman, Bing Crosby, and “The Jolson Story” were the nation’s most enjoyed actress, actor and motion picture in 1947, according to the nation-wide poll which Dr. George Gallup’s Audience Research has conducted for Photoplay.

On Feb. 18 the annual “Photoplay Gold Medals” banquet will be held at the Beverly Hills Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif., where they will be awarded to Crosby and Bergman and to Columbia Pictures, as the producer of “The Jolson Story.” Sidney Skol-lom, Lee Pressman and Stephen Longstreet will receive gold medals as the producer, director and

(Continued on page 7)

SAYS GOVERNMENT FATHERED DECREE

Ascap Rates Before Allied Board Meet

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Whether Allied States should go along with the Ascap rates won recently by the Theatre Owners of America, or take its attack to the Department of Justice, will be determined by the Allied board of directors at its mid-winter meeting set for Feb. 16-18, here, it was an-nounced by the Allied counsel Abram F. Myers.

Further, in connection with Ascap, the board will select witnesses to represent the association at the hear-ings beginning March 1 on the Lewis Bill, and consider participation in cases against Ascap now pending or to be brought in the courts later.

Once Ascap matters are disposed of, the board will turn steps to see “that whatever decree may finally be

(Continued on page 7)

Heinemann’s First E-L Sales Meeting

William J. Heineman, new distribu-tion vice-president for Eagle-Lion Films, will preside at his first sales meeting yesterday which was held at Saturday and Sunday at the Hotel Warwick, New York.

At the meeting, sales policy will be discussed on forthcoming releases, and plans will be revealed for an increase in promotional budgets in line with the company’s point-of-sale promotion policy. Addresses will be made by Heineman, E-L president Arthur B. Krin; Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production, and Max E. Youngman, director of advertising publicity.

UA Set for a Year In UK, Says Coplan

United Artists product now in re-lease in the United Kingdom, plus a number of new pictures, will be able to sell the company through finishing there, it was disclosed here yesterday by David Coplan. UA’s managing di-rector in Great Britain, following his arrival in the United States. The company now has but one pic-

(Continued on page 7)

Proskauer Says Auction Lays Plan to Justice Aide; Byrnes to Speak Today

By SHERWIN KANE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10. — The general belief that the idea for competitive bidding was fathered by the New York Federal expediting court which gave it to the industry in its decree in the Government anti-trust suit against the eight major companies was shown to be in error during the appeal arguments before the U. S. Supreme Court today.

The auction bidding plan originated with Robert Wright, assistant to the Attorney General, Joseph M. Pros-kauer, now counsel for 20th Century-Fox, completed their arguments today, the second day before the high Court. Byrnes will open the final day of arguments to-morrow, using up the 35 minutes remaining of the total of five hours allotted to the eight major defendants. He will be followed by Wright, who has one hour before the Court, and the arguments will be concluded thereafter by Assistant Atto-ney General John F. Sonnett, in charge of the anti-trust division, who will also have one hour.

In ascribing the parenthood of ac-tion bidding to a suggestion made by Wright during the New York trial, Proskauer quoted from his brief to show that the suggestion was apparently approved by Judge John Bright, who said that auction bidding would not be contrary to the Sherman Act.

Proskauer made the first and only argument on behalf of industry arbitration before the Supreme Court thus far. He told the Court that when clearance schedules had been found improper by the court, the defendants

(Continued on page 6)

No Paper Tomorrow

Motion Picture Daily will not be published tomorrow, for the Lincoln’s Birthday, a legal holiday.
Nearly All Companies Closing Tomorrow

P a r a m o u n t, Universal, Warner Brothers, Columbia, United Artists, Monogram, Eagle-Lion and the Motion Picture Association of America will close all 12 or one o'clock tomorrow, in observance of Lincoln's Birthday. RKO, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Central City will also be closed all day. Republic was undecided yesterday on its schedule.

List $52 Millions
As '47 UK Payment

LONDON, Feb. 10.—The U. S. film industry's remittances from Britain for last year are listed provisionally here for the first time, the $80,000,000 remitted for 1946. This was disclosed in a British government "white paper" report on the nation's entertainment production, disclosed in the report, that Britain's adverse balance of dollar area payments in 1947 was $22,000,000 to $25,000,000.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Bertram (Sir Peter) Fox, in a letter to the House of Commons, will reduce the negative. Such an arrangement, he said, is not appropriate to Britain's situation.

Questioned in the House of Commons as to the new dollar arrangements with the U. S. on dollar payments similar to those made previously, Sir Peter Fox will be called to the negative. This is the New York Sun for St. Louis, Kansas City and New Orle

Charles Smarkwit, Albany, N. Y., area promotion representative for Warner theatres, is in town.

William Wyler, Paramount producer-director, and his assistant, Lester Koenig, have left here for Hollywood.

N. E. Savini, Asior Pictures special representative in Atlanta, and Mrs. Savini, returned to Atlanta from New Orleans.

Edward Friel of the Rialto Theatre, Worchester, Mass., and M. F. Delib have become parents of a son.

William Gleicher of M-G-M's sales department left here for the Coast yesterday.


Jack Lane, manager of the Delta Theatre, Brentwood, Cal., has been elected mayor of Brentwood.

MGM Auction Selling Continues in Chicago

CHICAGO, Feb. 10.—While Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has yet set any definite sales policy in the Chicago territory, to sell under the Jackson Park decree, the company continues to sell a backlog of pictures not yet played here, to first-run Loop theatres in open competitive bidding. MGM's current product is Open Stairs, besides "Green Dolphin Street," now playing the Chicago Theatre, and "With a Song in My Heart," at the Rivoli. "Desire Me," at the Monroe; "Cass Timberlane," at the Woods, and "Arms and the Man," at the State-Lake.

"U" Board
(Continued from page 1)


Staffholders' notice issued here yesterday states that the company had outstanding on Jan. 17, 1948, 66,500 shares of 1/2 per cent cumulative preferred stock, and 366,498 shares of common, all having voting rights.

Aggregate remuneration paid by the company and its subsidiaries to the company's directors for the year ended Nov. 1, 1947, to directors and to officers, is listed as follows: Benjamin, $5,178; Blumberg, $188,765; Brown, $2,608; Cowdin, $188,765; Davie, $8,485; Fox, $12,606; Germain, $5,443; O'Connor, $7,258; Prutzman, $111,006; Rank, $222; Rogers, $12,488; Shaeffer, $10,758; Harold S. Brewster, assistant treasurer, $33,800; Machnovitch, treasurer and assistant secretary, $30,160; Edward Muhl, assistant secretary, $42,130; Schimmel, $38,200; William A. Scully, vice-president, $126,506; Joseph H. Seidel, assistant secretary, $24,707; F. Walsh, comptroller and assistant treasurer, $20,602.

Officers and directors whose annual remuneration was more than $20,000, and who last year received remuneration in excess of that paid the previous year, were: Brewster, 50%, increase; Fox, $24,707 in excess of that paid the previous year; Muhl, $10,300 in excess of that paid the previous year; Scully, $126,506 in excess of that paid the previous year; Seidel, $24,707 in excess of that paid the previous year.

The company reports that 197 last year received remuneration in excess of $100,000 each, for a total of $2,120,154; 23 received in excess of $50,000, but not more than $100,000, for a total of $1,537,155, and 90 received of $20,000, but not more than $50,000, for a total of $2,841,590.

"U" Sales Staff Will Get Heineman Duties

Universal's sales organization, under distribution vice-president William J. Heineman, has been merged into a single body of one vice-president in charge of distribution for Eagle-Lion, a Universal executive said today.

Newsreel Parade

GEN. EISENHOWER'S retirement as Army Chief of Staff is a highlight at all current American newsreels. Other items include funeral rites for Gandhi, the winter Olympics, and early returns on the latest movies. Complete contents follow:


Herman Lorbcr Will Aid Geo. Schaefer

Herman Lorbcr has been named assistant to George J. Schaefer, vice-president and general manager of distribution for Enterprise Studios.

Lorber, industry veteran, resigned this week as a vice-president of Paramount after 31 years with that organization. He has been here and abroad. At the time of his resignation he was home office representative with the Eastern division headquarters in Philadelphia, and handled circuit selling in New York as well.

Goldstein, Lefkowich Head Cleveland MPF

CLEVELAND, Feb. 10.—Harry H. Goldstein, Paramount district manager here, was unanimously elected executive committee chairman for the Cleveland area exchange and Bert Lefkowich was named chairman at a meeting of the Cleveland House of Direction here, today attended by 50 industry members representing independent and chain distributors. Nation Wolf, Warner zone manager, and Lefkowich, called the meeting, which was then called to order by Chick Lewis and addressed.

Goldwyn Executives Take 50% Salary Cut

Hollywood, Feb. 10.—Executives of Samuel Goldwyn company have accepted a 50 per cent reduction in salaries, at Goldwyn's request. Producer said the action is in line with his recently published declaration that production company salaries will be cut to get out of current depression.
Last week seven wonderful motion picture entertainments were pre-viewed at the M-G-M Studios. They give thrilling meaning to the industry's new slogan "M-G-M GREAT IN '48!"

"STATE OF THE UNION"
LIBERTY FILMS presents SPENCER TRACY • KATHARINE HEPBURN • VAN JOHNSON • ANGELA LANSBURY ADOLPHE MENJOU • LEWIS STONE in FRANK CAPRA's “STATE OF THE UNION” • Based on the Play by Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse • Screen Play by Anthony Veiller and Myles Connolly • Associate Producer Anthony Veiller Produced and Directed by FRANK CAPRA • A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

"B. F.'s DAUGHTER"
M-G-M presents "B. F.'s DAUGHTER" starring BARBARA STANWYCK • VAN HEFLIN • CHARLES COBURN RICHARD HART • KEENAN WYNN • A ROBERT Z. LEONARD PRODUCTION • Screen Play by Luther Davis Based on the Novel by John P. Marquand • Directed by ROBERT Z. LEONARD • Produced by EDWIN H. KNOPF • A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

"THE BRIDE GOES WILD"
M-G-M presents VAN JOHNSON • JUNE ALLYSON in "THE BRIDE GOES WILD" • BUTCH JENKINS • HUME CRONYN • UNA MERKEL • Original Screen Play by Albert Beich • Directed by NORMAN TAUROG • Produced by WILLIAM H. WRIGHT • A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

"HOMECOMING"
M-G-M presents CLARK GABLE • LANA TURNER • ANNE BAXTER • JOHN HODIACK in "HOMECOMING" • Ray Collins • Gladys Cooper • Cameron Mitchell • A MERVYN LeROY PRODUCTION • Original Story by Sidney Kingsley Adaptation by Jan Lustig • Screen Play by Paul Osborn Directed by MERVYN LeROY • Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN • A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

"THE PIRATE"
(Technicolor)
M-G-M presents JUDY GARLAND • GENE KELLY in "THE PIRATE" • WALTER SLEZAK • GLADYS COOPER REGINALD OWEN • Songs by COLE PORTER • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Screen Play by Albert Hackett and Frances Goodrich • Based on the Play by S. N. Behrman Dance Direction by Robert Alton and Gene Kelly • Directed by VINCENTE MINNELLI • Produced by ARTHUR FREED • A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

"EASTER PARADE"
(Technicolor)
M-G-M presents IRVING BERLIN's "EASTER PARADE" starring JUDY GARLAND • FRED ASTAIRE • PETER LAWFORD with ANN MILLER • Color by TECHNICOLOR Music and Lyrics by IRVING BERLIN • Director of Musical Numbers ROBERT ALTON • Directed by CHARLES WALTERS • Produced by ARTHUR FREED • A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

"THE BIG CITY"
(Tentative Title)
M-G-M presents "THE BIG CITY" starring MARGARET O'BRIEN • ROBERT PRESTON • DANNY THOMAS GEORGE MURPHY • KARIN BOOTH • EDWARD ARNOLD • BUTCH JENKINS • and introducing to the screen BETTY GARRETT and LOTTE LEHMANN • Screen Play by Whitfield Cook and Anne Morrison Chapin • Additional Dialogue by Aben Kandel • Based on a Story by Miklos Laszlo As Adapted by Nanette Kutner • Directed by NORMAN TAUROG • Produced by JOE PASTERNAK • A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

Give Generously For American Brotherhood Week!
GOLD MEDAL PROOF FROM THE PAYING PUBLIC THAT

Paramount Cheers To The Stars

BING CROSBY, winner of Photoplay’s Gold Medal as America’s Most Popular Male Star.

ALAN LADD, one of the 5 Most Popular Actors in Photoplay Gallup Poll.

JOAN CAULFIELD appearing in more favorite pictures than any other star.

GIVE GENEROUSLY FOR AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD WEEK
IS THE WORLD’S LEADING PRODUCER OF POPULAR SCREEN ENTERTAINMENT—WITH

More Winning Pictures Than Any Other Company In Photoplay’s Gallup Poll

This is the judgment of the whole public—a judgment far more conclusive than any other Ten Best Lists as Paramount scores

3 of The Year’s 10 Most Popular Pictures . . .

"Welcome Stranger," "Dear Ruth," "Blue Skies"

And this is confirmation by millions of the unanimous exhibitor-vote that Paramount produced more Top-Grossing Pictures during the past year than any other company—a fact repeated in the industry’s 4 leading polls in Motion Picture Herald’s "Fame"—in Boxoffice Barometer—in Variety’s annual survey—and in Showmen’s Trade Review poll.

Paramount’s wide-margin leadership is acclaimed by both groups that count . . . the public who buy tickets and the showmen who sell tickets—and

Paramount

Will Lead Again in '48 with Hits Like

"THE EMPEROR WALTZ". "ROAD TO RIO". "DREAM GIRL". "THE BIG CLOCK"

Hal Wallis’ "I WALK ALONE". "WHISPERING SMITH". "THE PALEFACE"

"NIGHT HAS A THOUSAND EYES". "SAIGON". "THE SAINTED SISTERS"

"THE LONG GREY LINE". "SEALED VERDICT"
U.S. Case

(Continued from page 1)

made a genuine effort to correct them through the industry arbitration system which he said, has been maintained by the companies at a cost of thousands of dollars annually, to police the clearance system.

"One of the reasons in this case," Prokau said, "is the Government's move to strike out arbitration."

Prokauer's statements were re-iterated by a request from Justice Felix Frankfurter for a printed record of the awards made under the industry arbitration system, which Prokauer said would be made available to him.

Davis Completes Argument

John W. Davis, counsel for Loew's, opened the second day of arguments before the Supreme Court by completing in 20 minutes the address he had begun on Monday.

"Arguing for a trial of competitive bidding before condemning it as "unworkable," and for experience in that method of selling films which would be a guide to the Federal court in revising the procedure, if necessary," Davis said, "that Loew's has sold 281 theatres in 96 situations by that method, to date. "We did not ask for competitive bidding, he said, but we are willing to give it a trial."

Davis told the court that Loew's had sold 281 pictures under the competitive bidding method, and 414 pictures to independent companies in its experiments. He did not indicate whether the results were satisfactory to either the company or its customers.

Loew's Would Experiment

In response to a question by Justice William O. Douglas whether Loew's supported competitive bidding, Davis replied that Loew's favors further experimentation with the system and thinks that the decision as to its workability should be left to the lower court to decide on the basis of experience.

The 316 spectators' seats in the courtroom were fully occupied for the second consecutive day but a few vacant seats were seen to be the session nearing adjournment in the afternoon. Most of the industry attorneys who addressed the Court today wore the morning formal striped trousers and frock coats, which in an earlier day were traditional dress for court baristas appearing before the Supreme Court but which in recent years are worn less frequently.

Whitney North Seymour, counsel for Paramount, followed Davis and put emphasis in his arguments upon Paramount's contention that it is unfairly penalized by the lower court in the decree ordering the sale or acquisition of more than five per cent or less than five per cent interest in theatres. Paramount not only has interests in more theatres than any other defendant but most of its interests are 50 per cent partnerships.

Seymour contended that the latter circumstance stems from the reorganization of Paramount in 1924, when the partnership deals were made, he said, for reasons dictated entirely by reorganization necessities. "The court in effect has held," he said, "that if you always owned theatres 100 per cent that is all right, but if you disposed of part of that ownership during receivership, that is illegal now."

Seymour traced the origin of Paramount's objections to "competitive reasons," adding that the company has acquired and operated the theatres competitively."In the period from 1916 to 1918," he said, "Paramount was forced with the world wars to either go into the business or acquire theatres. We are not opposed to dissolution of theatres pools with defendants but we are opposed to dissolution of partnerships with independents."

Questioned by Justice Stanley Reed as to what Paramount had been found guilty of by the lower court, Seymour replied: "Distribution conspiracies: none of which stemmed from the ownership of theatres."

That point was emphasized throughout the day by other counsel, who quoted from the opinion and decree of the New York court which held that the restraints found to be illegal were not traceable to theatre ownership. The eight Justices (Justice Robert Jackson dis- qualed himself) were inclined to the arguments with evident interest throughout the day, as the Justices on Monday were ap- plied to their close attention by putting penetrating questions or arguing for the reasons of trade terms and practices at frequent intervals.

Seymour concluded his 35-minute argument with a plea for an affirmative defense provision in the ownership of theatres and with an objection to competitive bidding as an exclusion method of selling stock.

Auction Tests 'Inadequate'

He was followed by General William J. Donovan, counsel for RKO, who said that while that company had made about 200 experiments in competitive bidding sales, the experience has been insufficient for it to decide how the method would work nationally. "By the by," he added, "the revelation of law has been found in RKO's acquisition of theatres; that, rather, the company added an important competitive element to production, distribution and exhibition by the fact."

He, too, made the point that the lower court had found only illegal trade practices and they were not the fault of the theatre or independent houses.

"The situation would be the same if ownership of our theatres was transferred to competitors," he said.

From his arguments against theatre divestiture, Donovan went on to plead for the right to expand in the future where such expansion did not lessen competition and was approved by the Court, "because no company or monopolization has been found in our operation of theatres," he said.

Ban Would 'Freeze' RKO

"Without the right to expand, RKO will be permanently frozen in an inferior position," Donovan told the Court.

He was questioned by Justices Frankfurter and Hugo Black on his stand on further expansion and in- sisted that it would be proper "on an industry showing that expansion would not be restrained" as a result of such expansion.

Louis D. Frohlich, counsel for Columbia, argued for the right to continue block booking and to include minimum admissions in Reitnau agreements. He op- posed competitive bidding on the ground that it was a legis- lative rather than judicial matter and contended the lower court lacked the power to order it as the sole method of selling. "The Court," he said, "must not restrict itself to enjoining and restraining."

He contended that there is no exhibitor testimony in the record of the case against block booking and argued that it does not constitute a "tie-in."

"It is true the court had to get rid of block booking when it ordered competitive bidding," Frohlich said. "But the nature of the agreement was made against block booking."

He contended an admission price clause in contracts is "collusion," but merely a statement of the minimum admissions ordinarily charged by theatres.

Frohlich charged that under compe- titive bidding exhibitors are invited to collusive action in the making of bids to their advantage and detrimental to distributors. They can agree among themselves not to bid or to hold bids down, he said.

Justice Rutledge questioned Frohlich on a contention that Columbia should not be penalized, he said, with an order that it cannot be used to construct the majority of the companies involved in the conspiracy and could be restrained with other offends whether it had acted legally or not. Frohlich had de- nounced that the monopoly rights of copyright owner protected them from being compelled to sell in an "arbitrary manner."

Thomas Turner Cooke, counsel for Universal, followed Frohlich and argued against the inclusion of the company in any monopoly. He contended that Universal produced inferior pictures and could not monopolize the market with those. He told the Court that 58 per cent of Universal's reve- nue is derived from independent exhibitors; 42 per cent from the the- atres of the five major companies.

"The Government never showed that we should have sold to independent first runs instead of affiliates," he said, "or that our independent house offered us potentially the same or better revenue than an affiliated house."

Frohlich reviewed the decree's injec- tion against block booking, the invalidation of minimum admissions and claimed that uniformity in clearance schedules results not from distributor collusion but from exhibitor insistence upon opinion, preference from one distributor that he has obtained from another.

Arguing that the decree per- mits the companies to sell to their own theatres on any terms they choose, Cooke, interrupted by Justice Reed, who pointed out that if they are at least $5 per cent owners of their theatres the companies do not wish to sell to

(Continued on page 7)

THE BANK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Bank of America

NATIONAL FILM ASSOCIATION

MEMBER DEPOSITORY ASSOCIATION CORPORATION

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Grosses Go Higher With Devonshire

JOHN MILLS ROBERT NEWTON
"GREEN COCKATOO"
MURDER IN THE BIG CITY
Your Devonshire Man in Washington, D. C. is Teddy Shull
DEVONSHIRE FILM COMPANY
185 Devonshire Street
Boston, Mass.
U.S. Case
(Continued from page 6)

them is immaterial, at least for the purpose of comparison with some selling methods applied to theatres owned by others.

Edward C. Raftery, counsel for United Artists, next to address the Court, emphasized the nature of industry trade practices and the fact that the Government suit puts all methods by which the industry does business to the test.

Raftery Recalls Tradition

United Artists, he said, has sold pictures singly since the inception of the company. It is traditional in show business to sell that way, he said, pointing out that before the motion picture became an industry, productions such as "Ziegfeld's Follies" and headline vaudeville acts appeared only at selected theatres and for a designated admission price.

Emphasizing the independence of United Artists, Raftery told the Court that the hardest task he had found in reading the Government's brief was discovering a mention of United Artists. He described U.A.'s selling procedures and contract terms, producing a contract for James Cagney's "Johnny Come Lately" (which he described as a good picture but not as good as the fine thing like "Yankee Doodle," which Cagney made for Warners, before coming to U.A.). The contract was with Loew's in New York and called for 25 per cent of the gross and 30 per cent after house costs had been recouped.

"That's what the Government calls 'preferential terms,'" Raftery observed. He opposed the injunction against minimum admissions.

"As I understand you," Justice Frankfurter remarked, "you want to be taken out of the decree."

"Absolutely," Raftery replied. "We want to go home free."

He added that the biggest monopolist in the business is the man with a closed town; if a closed town will not stomach me, I can leave the biggest distributor out entirely.

Raftery also advised the Court that instead of waiting on this decree to come in with "trouble damage actions." Proskauer wound up the day's arguments by claiming monopolistic activities for Warners, he said the company "breaks" even on its domestic distribution; get 33 per cent on the foreign market. Of its domestic revenue, he said, 14 per cent comes from its own theatres; 25 per cent from the theatres of the other four major companies, and 61 from independents, "whom we're charged with crushing."

In emphasizing that the trade prac-
tice constraints found by the lower court do not stem from theatre ownership, Proskauer said that block booking, for example, is unrelated to theatre ownership and its invalidation courts the independent exhibitor "more than it hurts the distributor."

"Bureaucracy Hits Exhibitors"

"It is one of the penalties the exhibitor pays," he told the Court, "when business is regulated bureaucratically by people who haven't lived with it and don't understand it."

On competitive bidding, he said Warner's is not advocating pot to take, that those courts prescribed to avert the divestiture sought by the Government.

"The guts of the case," Proskauer told the court, "is that defendants were trying to get the most revenue possible out of their theatres. They are the revenue backlog that permits the companies to make pictures costing millions that have given America the film markets of the world.

"What do we have to have destruction of our business? The lower court said divestiture would be injurious to the theatre. What a lawyer says, he asked "that vertical integration, as such, can be struck down?"

Urges Video Aid
(Continued from page 1)

Skouras and Myron Blank, outlines the role to be played by the theatre-
man in the rise of video.

The committee urges that "theatre men, recognizing television's close kinship to the theatre, should join and, ideally, lead in the development of television facilities throughout the nation."

Asserting that "change and movement have always been inherent in the theatre business," with "static periods" being "periods of decline," the report takes the view that "the advent of television can be a new milestone in the theatre's dynamic history," but warns that "theatre men must work to make it so.

UA Set for a Year
(Continued from page 1)

Woods Asks Control Of Theatre Building

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10—Continued Government control of theatre and other amusement construction was unexpectedly recommended to President Truman today by Housing Expediter T. H. Woods.

He warned that home building would suffer if non-residential construc-
tion expanded unduly this year. Most observers on Capitol Hill, how-
ever, think that the damage to the building industry has already been done by Woods, who in testimony before both the House and Senate Banking and Currency Committees was definitely lukewarm in his support of the amusement curbs. He admitted before both groups that the volume involved was "insignificant" and that there was no way of knowing if the materials saved went into housing.

'Photoplay' Awards
(Continued from page 1)

author, respectively, of "The Jolson Story."

The Gallup organization's findings lists the following as the next most popular pictures in 1947:

"The Best Years of Our Lives," Samuel Goldwyn Productions; "Wel-
Fox.

The actresses and actors following Bergman and Crosby in popularity are listed alphabetically below:

June Allyson, Bette Davis, Greer Garson, Rita Hayworth, and Humphrey Bogart. Gary Cooper, Alan Ladd, Gregory Peck.

SPECTACLE
To Fire Your Blood!

ROMANCE
To Thrill Your Heart!

CASANOVA
GREATEST FIGHTER-LOVER... in
"ADVENTURES OF CASANOVA"

An Eagle Lion Films Production
WINNER AND STILL CHAMPION!

BILL STERN

VOTED THE NATION'S MOST POPULAR SPORTS ANNONCER FOR THE 8TH STRAIGHT YEAR!

A RECORD NEVER EQUALLED BY ANY ARTIST IN ANY CATEGORY

SELECTED BY RADIO EDITORS IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA FOR MOTION PICTURE DAILY RADIO POLL FOR FAME...

Thanks to:

COLGATE SHAVE CREAM — SHERMAN & MARQUETTE — 8TH YEAR
COLUMBIA PICTURES — 12 SHORTS PER YEAR
MGM — 104 NEWSREELS PER YEAR
SPORT MAGAZINE — 12 ARTICLES PER YEAR
HARVESTER CIGARS — ERWIN WASEY

Exclusively NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY Exclusively

LESTER LEWIS, Personal Manager
US Permits Sweden To Limit Imports

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The United States has given Sweden permission to limit imports from the U. S. by suspending until June 30, 1948 an agreement which provided for Sweden to maintain imports from this country at the rate of 150 per cent of the 1947 volume. Sweden has also been permitted to delay dollar payments to American firms for a "reasonable period" without definition of the duration.

Further negotiations will get under way soon to allow Sweden to curb American imports for the duration of the dollar deficit.

Agreement Nears On Exchange Wages

Federal Mediation and Conciliation Commissioner L. A. Stone has withdrawn from bargaining sessions between the IATSE and the film companies' exchange representatives here at the request of both sides on the premise that a mutually satisfactory agreement on cost-of-living wage increases for more than 6,000 workers in 32 exchange centers could be

Dominions Consider US Dollar Controls

London, Feb. 12.—A. Creech Jones, Colonial Secretary, was questioned in the House of Commons as to what arrangements had been made in each of the principal British colonies to deal with the problems of the dollar cost of American films consequent upon the dollar crisis. He replied that the matter is still under consideration and he is not yet in a position to make a statement on it.

Mexico Will Not Curb Remittances

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 12.—Mexico will not curb dollar exports of American or other foreign film distributors operating in this country. Those in the trade who feared enactment soon of restrictions on remittances have been relieved by the Ministry of Finance's assurance that no such action will be taken because Mexico's stock of dollars and general monetary situation are satisfactory, adding that a ban on remittances would amount to national economic suicide. The Ministry also explained that any divesting dollar stock is being stemmed by banning many imports. Mexico, Cuba and Venezuela are the only Latin American countries that still allow the free outward flow of money.

The Ministry further explained that any remittance restriction would reduce tourism, who have become important to Mexico. American visitors alone spent about $125,000,000 in this country last year. A Ministry official added that such restrictions would throw Mexican economy out of gear.

Roy E. Martin, Sr.

Dies In Plane Crash

ATLANTA, Feb. 12.—Roy E. Martin, Sr., 60, head of Martin Theatres circuit, was killed in a plane crash in the Bay of St. Louis yesterday while piloting his own plane on route to his headquarters in Columbus, Ga., from New Orleans. The body was discovered 12 hours later. The circuit bearing his name and consisting of approximately 10 theatres, extends through Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Tennessee. Funeral arrangements are incomplete.

U. S. CLAIMS PARA. THEATRES POOLED

By SHERWIN KANE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The Government regards Paramount's theatre partnerships as "poools," declared illegal by the New York Federal Courts in 1947, and held to be "reasonable" and "not within the Sherman Act" by the Supreme Court of the United States, are today being reopened by the Government. The suit, instituted in 1948, is expected to result in a final decision which could be made by the Government on the basis of the evidence adduced in the case.
Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Nat J. BLUMBERG, John H. ROEB. MAR. CHARLES FRITZMAN and ROBERT S. BENJAMIN sailed on the SS Queen Elizabeth Wednesday from New York for a 10-day trip to Europe accompanied by J. ARTHUR RANK in London.

PHIL. WILLIAMS, acting president of the AMPA, and a member of Fortune magazine's staff, returned to New York from Europe, where he addressed the local advertising club on "What Good Advertising Means."

JIMMY DURANTE will be honored by the Mt. Sinai Medical Center of Detroit, Calif., on Feb. 25, as a testimonial dinner at the Baltimore Hotel, Los Angeles.

E. W. MCCLELLAN, Jr., Westrex assistant chief of engineering, will leave New York Monday on a trip to North Africa and the Orient.

JOSEPH S. BOYLE, manager of the Broadway Theatre, New Haven, is observing his 20th anniversary with the Loew-Poli circuit.

J. J. UNGER, United Artists general sales manager, has returned to New York from Washington.

WILLIAM C. SMALLEY, president of Smalley Theatres, Cooperstown, N. Y., is vacationing in Miami.

JOSEPH S. HUMMER, Warner manager for Continental Europe, is in town from Paris.

OTTO PFEIFENBERG, producer-director, is here from Hollywood.

FRED ZINNEMAN, M-G-M director, is due here tomorrow from the Coast.

Democrats Name Sauter Film Chief

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—James Sauter, New York radio production executive, has been named chairman of the screen, stage, radio and television division of the Democratic National Committee for the 1948 campaign.

During the war years, Sauter was executive director of the United Theatrical War Activities Committee and official of several other organizations providing entertainment for service men and veterans. He now is Deputy Commissioner of Commerce for New York City.

Golden in Deal for One Through S. R. O.

Hollywood, Feb. 12.—David O. Selznick has turned over his What Flight Is for Love story property to Golden Productions, which will produce it for release through the Selznick-Releasing Organization. Selznick and John Agar, her husband, will star.

News Briefs

Mason-Rose Trial Enters Second Day Here Today

Trial of the breach-of-contract suit which actor Jimmy Mason and photographer John Rose instituted against each other will go into its second day today before Federal Judge John T. Curtin of the New York District Court here.

The hearing opened on Wednesday with Mason as the only witness. He testified to questions by his attorney, Judge Louis Frobich, of the law firm of Schwartz and Frobich, Mason testifying that the memorandum agreement of June 5, 1946, between him and Rose did not bind the actor to make pictures for companies other than Rose and Howard intended to form in the U. S. Rose sued Mason when the latter refused to enter into a deal with Paramount and Mason in turn sued to have the agreement voided. Trial is expected to go into Monday.

Hollywood AFI Film Council Will Not Recognize 'Red' Sympathizers

Hollywood, Feb. 12.—The Hollywood AFI Film Council, formed several months ago, for the purpose of unity and cooperation in and between its affiliates in the industry and to promote harmonious relations with employers, released copies of its constitution and bylaws, and among the restrictions on membership, it declares it will not recognize members who "participate in the proceedings of any meeting or in any discussion or activity which is in support of, or sympathetic to, Communism or Fascism."

Films Will Not Figure in California 'Red' Probe

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 12.—An under- number of film persons are among 40 subpoenaed yesterday by the California-United-American Professional Committee who will start Tuesday morning. Links between the Communist Party and Communists organizations are to be studied. There will be no emphasis on the motion picture industry at this time, according to the committee chairman.

Irving Shiffrin of RKO Radio Publicity Staff Here, Resigns

Irving Shiffrin, RKO Radio Eastern publicity department general and fan magazine contact, will leave his post under Rutgers Nelson tomorrow.

Shiffrin joined RKO Radio 15 years ago, as assistant to Sam Warshawsky, general press representative, and later assumed the same post with Nelson.

Max Hadfield Heads SRO Branch In Seattle, Meets with SRX

SEATTLE, Feb. 12.—Max Hadfield has been named the Seattle branch of Selznick Releasing Organi- zation Manager. He succeeds Herbert Kaufman, Western district manager for SRO.

Kaufman also named John McKean, formerly with Jensen and Von Hessen, to the position of head booker for SRO here.

Capital Theatres in Drive To Conserve Oil for Heating

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Theatres in the District of Columbia are launching a voluntary fuel-oil conservation campaign to avoid a drastic curtailment of service by the district’s fuel coordinator as a result of the oil shortage, according to A. Julian Brylawski, head of the local Theatre Owners of America.

Brylawski said only prompt action by the TOA postponed the district’s theatres' fuel restrictions, which would have curtail hour but would cut down on heat and push other conservation measures for the duration of the shortage.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 12.—Theatres were warned by Brenton G. Wallace, state fuel coordinator, to reduce use of fuel oil or face a mandatory curtailment of supplies.

Wallace’s statement pointed out that failure to comply voluntarily might make it necessary to declare a state of emergency and cut off all supplies.

Two-Reeler to Tell 20-Year Saga of the Academy

RKO Radio will present "Twenty Years of Academy Awards," a two-reeler produced by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Covering award picture from 1927 up to and including the 1947 winners, the picture will be released about April 1, with all net proceeds going to the Academy. Harry Michelson, RKO Radio short subjects manager, said that the film will be distributed as an industry good-will gesture.

Italian Newsreels to Be Released in U. S. Every Second Week

First Italian newsreel to arrive in America since 1940 has been brought here by Best Films and is simultaneous with its nation broadcast, at the Cinemas Dante and Verdi, here, featuring the latest pictures of the Pope, the Rome strike, and other items. Max Chic, president of Best Films, has arranged with Incom, Inc., Italian newsreel for a cable to New York every two weeks by air.

Smidt Dies Over Weekend; To Replace Ben Sorkowich

Art Smidt, formerly Columbia's advertising executive in Hollywood, will arrive here this weekend to replace Ben Sorkowich who recently re- signed as Columbia's director in charge of advertising-publicity.

New Schine Radio Company

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 12.—Organiza- tion, under control of the Schine interests, of Patroon Broadcasting Corp., which will call WPTR, has been completed here. J. Meyer Schine is president; attorney Herbert Schine is vice-president; Secretary; Lawrence, general treasurer; Louis W. Schine is treasurer; William McKay, general counsel, and John May, Schine comptroller, were named to the board of directors.

MOBILE PICTURE DAILY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays. Subscription rates by the year $5.00. Second class postage paid at New York, N. Y. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, 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.
Plan Foreign Film Video Broadcasts

Distinguished Films, distributor of foreign films in the U. S., and National Broadcasting are discussing the possibility of telecasting over the sterling's video station dubbed versions of foreign films, it has been disclosed here by Distinguished's vice-president, Oliver Unger, who said the introduction of dubbed foreign films to television may serve the video broadcast market by opening up the ability to secure other feature films.

First experiment in this connection will be the French-made "Torrent," which Unger is getting for U. S. distribution while he was in France recently. Picture is now being dubbed in English in France, he said, and would be released for television following regular theatrical release in the U. S. Unger returned here last week from a three-week tour of Europe. While in London he made arrangements, he said, for the British government to have the "Rex" picture dubbed, which he co-produced and which is being released by United Artists. It will open, he said, on April 12 at Loew's Empire, London.

Columbia Set for "Montague Drive"

Six groups, comprising all 31 of Columbia's domestic sales branches, have been formed to compete in the "Montague Drive," current sales campaign which ends June 24. All members of the field sale force are participating in the drive.


National Theatres To Use Ad Films

Los Angeles, Feb. 12.—National Theatres' 575 houses are being opened to advertising films, with an eight-minute Chesterfield Cigarette subject the first to be used. Fifty CineeScope subjects have been ordered by Liggett and Myers, with the start in the circuit's theatres expected in mid-March. Thornton Sargent, assistant to Charles Shouras, will have charge of the ads.

The innovation is contemplated as a permanent addition to the circuit's activities.

NOW READY FOR BOOKING!
ITALIAN NEWSREEL
PRODUCED BY INCOM
Italy's Foremost Newsreel Released Every Two Weeks
Wire or Write Immediately
BEST FILMS CORPORATION
10 W. 47th St., New York 19, N. Y.

U. S. Case

(Continued from page 1)

pearing as counsel for 20th Century-Fox, who addressed the Court for 35 minutes. Wright followed with a 14-minute argument by General John F. Sommett, head of the anti-trust division, used the final hour.

He contended that all court room, which accommodates 316 spectators, was filled to near capacity for the third successive day. The proceedings, which have been adjourned twice, displayed lively interest throughout, questioning Byrnes and the Government, respectively.

Asks Arbitration Stay

Byrnes told an extended argument for continuation of industry arbitration, which is opposed by the Government, though it was urged upon the authorities by the New York court.

Arbitration had been sponsored only once before during the hearings. That was on Byrnes' behalf, for Warners, who was the last to address the Court on Tuesday.

Associate Justice Felix Frankfurter asked Byrnes if the lower court erred in its action, and whether there was danger the court would order arbitration continued in the face of the Government's opposition. Witnessed informed Byrnes that the New York court had taken that position, Justice Frankfurter asked, then when do we have that power?

Byrnes said he believed the high court could order the system to be arbitrated, and that the procedure, which he also said, has been adopted by the New York court.

Byrnes said: "We have the authority to make use of it, if the objections are not found to be so voluntary. The existence of the arbitration system, Byrnes said, is not due to a substitute for the law. He also asked to approach the Department of Justice or to bring litigation themselves.

Byrnes also said that the arbitration system is not a substitute for the law. Had Wright, the New York court, found that the Government had frozen the results of industry arbitration were unsatisfactory.

Divorcee 'Not a Remedy'

Reiterating the point made by other counsel that the trade practices found to be illegal by the lower court, and enjoined by it, did not have their gene

The transfer of ownership of affiliated theatres to inde

Arguing that the lower court had not found a monopoly among the defendants, he said: "The Government's case, if it is a monopoly, created a single monopoly out of five competitors. This case is not like the Standard Oil Company case, where the defendants were acquired to form a monopoly. We have here, the Court there had been an increase of 4,000 independent theatres during the life of the suit, "where-

as the symptom of a monopoly, if one existed, would be decreasing competi

tion. If the symptom were increased, and there is no evidence here of inflationary prices."

Says Theatres Are Competitive

Answering the Government's charge that affiliated circuits have been acquired by Paramount, he said: "That one company would not compete with another in entire sections of the business is absurd. The facts were that existing circuits were acquired by the companies in the 1920's and were regionally located. In most cases, he said, it was not limited to specific regions and all compete with other theatres.

Byrnes closed his argument by citing the current economic conditions of the industry, in particular, with respect to foreign markets. "The industry today, he said, as of the filing of its report, "is not the standard for its existence," he said. "It is proper for the Court to consider this. The Voice of America (Government foreign radio broadcasts) does not reach anywhere near the number of people abroad that our films do."

Wright attacked the New York court provision which permits defendants to acquire theatres in particular regions. Byrnes argued that the Paramount partnerships actually are pools. He said the Government had argued that the theatres never have had the chance to prove that they are not in restraint of trade. Justice Frankfurter was asked to consider whether the circuit can go back to the Court on that. The New York court retained juris-

Wright Hits Expansion

Wright told the Court that the decision did "nothing whatever article further theatre expansion," ignores the findings in the New York case.

Questioned by Associate Justice Justice Frankfurter about the Government's allegations concerning regional theatre ownership, Wright admitted there was nothing in the record to substantiate the charge that it resulted from design or conspiracy but argued that the inference that such was the case is "fair."

"Are we to consider this relevant or irrelevant?" Reed asked.

Answering Proskauer's charge of the use of the threat of an injunction in this case, Wright said the Government merely asked for an opportunity for each film, as well as each theatre, "to compete" and that it did not ask for a specific control for competitive bidding when the suggestion was made that films could be "placed on the auction block."

"You were just using a general term?" Justice William Douglas re-

Justice Frankfurter queried Wright on what the record shows concerning the use of the threat of an injunction in this case, and to competition. But, he said: "Is the government doing nothing on that, one way or the other, I believe. However, I can give you no further appellate reply," Wright offered.

"The record in this case is enough for the Court to say that the appellees were often unresponsive."

Sommett Last to Speak

Sommett, last to address the Court, extended the Government's arguments for divestiture and a ban on cross-

licensing.

He contended that the findings of the Government on a conclusion that a monopoly exists. He claimed the findings show that a record of discrimination against inde-

pendent theatres and defendants "combination of power in distribution and exhibition permits them to exclude com-

petition."

"And they have so used that power," he charged. "We rely on that to show we have a monopoly here."

Wright replied: "The answer is that Mr. Sommett questioned Sommett on minimum admission prices. After Sommett had at-

tested a question on the issue of minimum admission prices, it had been made of minimum admission clauses in contracts, the Chief Justice re-

sponded: "That doesn't answer my question."

Justices Douglas, Frankfurter, Reed and Frank Murphy questioned Sommett at length as to why the Government believed cross-licensing involved the public interest. Sommett said the Government believed it does.

"Do you want a ban on cross-licensing even if you have competitive bid-

ings?" Justice Reed asked.

Sommett said affirmative.

Reiterates Divestiture Plea

He argued that the findings justify a conclusion of "consopy to monop-

olize" and told the Court that divorce-

ture is the remedy for what the Government claims to be a "fusing of distribution and exhibition power."

The Big Five had alleged that the findings do not warrant divestiture and that they should be permitted to expand theatre holdings on affirmative showing that competition would not be restrained as a result.

The Little Three, in effect, argued for releasing them from affiliations in all major respects, but particularly as to block booking, minimum admission clauses and to run. They also opposed competitive bidding which the Big Five said they had not asked for but was willing to experiment with.

Sergei Eisenstein, 50, Soviet Film Producer

Sergei Eisenstein, 50, well-known Soviet motion picture producer and director, died in Moscow on Sunday, according to press dispatches reaching here yesterday.

Eisenstein gained international fame in the cinema with his first major film, "Potemkin," in 1926, and in 1930 he joined the Paramount-Pathé attack company in America where he was associated with the production of two films. When he returned to the Soviet Union, subsequently, he produced such films as "Alexander Nevsky" and "Ivan the Terrible."

Stephen M. Avery, 54

Hollywood, Feb. 12. — Stephen Morehouse Avery, 54, scenario writer, died Tuesday at his home here following a serious accident. He was born on Dec. 20, 1893, in Webster Grove, Mo. Among his screenplays were "The Male Animal," "The Gorgeous Hussy," "Forget Me Not," and "One Rainy Afternoon."

Funeral arrangements have not been set since Mrs. Avery, sister of Mrs. Marie Bean, widow of the late Stephen Bean, lived in Switzerland.

A daughter and two brothers also survive.

Rex Hevel, Exhibitor

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 12.—Rex R. Hevel, 53, owner of the Empire Theatre in Tukwila, Wash., died here of a heart attack Wednesday. He had been in the in-

ustry since 1924.
Alfred W. Schwalberg, who withdraws as Eagle-Lion's general sales manager today, will become associated with Paramount next week as assistant to chairman, sales vice-president, it is understood.

Reagan was out of town and could not reach Charles Schuler, Schuler, Paramount executives were unable to comment, and Schwalberg declined to comment on the matter.

Schwalberg joined Eagle-Lion a year ago. Prior to that he was with Independent Pictures, with which he became identified after a long period as head of Warner Brothers' exchange operations.

Schwalberg to Be Feted at Sherry Netherland Tonight

A. Y. Schwalberg, who leaves Eagle-Lion today, will be feted at a dinner at the Sherry Netherland Hotel here tonight. Among those invited were:


232 Theatres in Albany Exchange

There are 232 theatres with a seating capacity of 52,506 in the Albany territory, according to the Albany theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association of America has released.

The 25th in a series of 31, the directory reveals that there are 45 theatres with a seating capacity of 5,130 and 79 in the area's four largest cities: Albany, Utica, Schenectady and Troy.

Average attendance figures in Albany and Utica are 1,254; 106 theatres in 105 towns with a population of 2,500 and under average 32 seats.

NCCJ Luncheon

(Continued from page 1)

Scher, director of television operations.

Bamberger Named

Leon J. Bamberger, sales promotion manager of RKO Radio, has been named chairman of the ‘Motion Picture Talent Association,’ a group of independent performers set up to familiarize the industry with the work of that charitable organization.

U. K. Tax

(Continued from page 1)

be prepared to enter into any new talks initiated by the British.

Judging by the report of the status of the British film situation in a press interview which followed his guest appearance on station WOR's "Weird Wednesday" show Wednesday night.

Answering questions put by Miss Deane, Johnston reviewed the British film situation. "...the pressure to secure the U. S. industry’s willing to arrive at a settlement which would be highly creditable to the British," he said. Miss Deane, who works as a free-lance reporter, is bringing over the British film situation to Hollywood, that the industry will turn out more good pictures in 1948 than it did in 1947 because the work of many of Hollywood's better writers, directors, producers and producers who were in the war, this year will be reaching the screen for the first time since the war began. He said he believes television will still remain a factor, yet as an aid to film making rather than as an obstacle to motion picture production.

During the broadcast, Johnston raised the question of the possibility of the American Political Committee and related the fact that Hollywood will not serve to help the producers’ freedom to make a film in which it is obvious that one is being directed by a British producer.

The MPAA, he said, will not succumb to pressure from either the British or any other outside interests.

Johnston held that taxes such as the one which the British have imposed on U.S. films is no problem to the British. The American companies’ worldwide efforts toward establishing freer trade among nations and still maintaining a free expression are going to be applied to other U. S. products. He characterized the industry’s efforts against it as a battle being fought in behalf of U. S. export trade.

L. J. Schlaifer

(Continued from page 1)

manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal, to permit him to take over his E-L duties, will become effective Sunday.

In addition, Schlaifer will work directly under Heimann in the overall operation of E-L's distribution and sales operations. Schlaifer entered the industry in 1912, when he joined Warner's Metropolitan exchange, and at various times was a Universal exchange manager, division manager and general sales manager, assistant general sales manager of United Artists, and 20th-Fox's Central sales manager. In 1941 he resigned as a UA vice-president to become vice-president of Ed- ward Small Productions. He resigned his 20th-Fox post in 1943 to join AA-Monogram as sales director.

Exchange Wages

(Continued from page 1)

reached at continuing sessions without the aid of Federal mediation.

This was disclosed here on Wednes- day, as a result of the recent exchange contracts, which ran until Nov, 1948, were reopened last Dec. for adjustment of wages and hours. Negotiations between the A.M.P.A. and the exchange locals vied to have the bar- gain delayed.

Another bargaining session is expected to take place at the Warner home office here within a week.

Review

"Three Daring Daughters" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer) OFF the screen since 1942 and “I Married An Angel” and “Cairo,” Jeanette MacDonald now returns in a happy, wholesome attraction which spells good news for a large number of exhibitors. “Three Daring Daughters” is full of the particular brand of pleasant flavor which produced Joe Pasternak when he achieves his strikes.

It is impossible to determine which of the four writers of the original screenplay is chiefly responsible, if any single one is. Albert Maltz, as producer Frederick Kohner, Sonya Levine and John Mochan, the accredited authors, we doubt did this one to Pasternak’s order, making room for the charm and the chauvinism without ever closing the door to the music and the mood.

Between Miss MacDonald and Miss Powell, the latter stands to make a popular appeal. Because Jane Powell, youngster with an unusual voice for her extreme youth, can reach the high notes with distinction, she gets ample opportunity as well. Ironically, the character of the stubborn and sympathetic conductor needs no gilding here, is adept at both, he is very much in the show. Moreover, this is aside from her surprisingly good performance as an actor who, wows and weds the divorced Miss MacDonald and has a whale of a time making himself acceptable to her three daring daughters. Miss Powell is one, the delightful Ann E. Todd is the other and racally Mary Eleanor Donahue is the third.

Like practically all of Pasternak’s, “Three Daring Daughters” does not rely on story substance although this time the slight tale unfolded is more than adequate for its surrounding trappings. The three youngsters, all from divorces, have to rely on their own wits, quite a guy, determine to end what they believe is their mother’s unhappiness by the reconciliation route. This involves newspaper tycoon Edward Arnold who agrees to reconcile his wife Edward Arnold, has to overcome Miss MacDonald, who reached to Cuba to recover her health, meets Hurbs, who romance comes with gallantry and humor. They marry, return to New York where the daughters decide they have been hoodwinked. The rest of the plot develops in much much the same way the situation is straightened out to the happiness of all principals concerned.

It does not sound like much story. Actually, it isn’t. But by treatment, incidents, little touches and quite an expert blending of 17 vocal numbers, the production, under the expert guidance of aazzi, the entertainment. Corn is never completely absent; in fact, the attraction would be less repetitious if the sheets had been applied liberally. Yet, as it were, condensed sequences, the simple peas with his wife and child attempt to flee from the community, but greed follows them, and finally even the child is murdered. Eventually the peas returns to his community, hurls the pearl into the sea whence it came, and again becomes reintegrated into his social class.

Emilio Fernandez’s direction brings out characterizations that are real, and the pitiable situations into which the people are thrown are believable. Pedro Armendarez, who will be remembered for his role as the officer in “The Fugitive,” portrays the fisherman, with Maria Elena Marquez as his slave-like wife. An F.A.A. Aguila Films production, the screenplay was done by Steinbeck, Fernandez and Jack Wagner. Oscar Dangercro produced. Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, March, 1948.

"The Pearl" (RKO Radio) The screen version of John Steinbeck’s Mexican folk tale, “The Pearl,” is deliberately paced, yet strangely haunting and beautiful. Produced in Mexico, it has been given imaginative photography and glows with symbolism and imagery. Insofar as its cast goes, it does not have any particularly ex- ceptional names. But the acting is so splendid in its characterization that the direction so intelligent, that the discriminating filmmaker should not fail to see it. The picture will also delight those who welcome something that is fresh, departures, the simple peas with his wife and child attempt to flee from the community, but greed follows them, and finally even the child is murdered. Eventually the peas returns to his community, hurls the pearl into the sea whence it came, and again becomes reintegrated into his social class.

Emilio Fernandez’s direction brings out characterizations that are real, and the pitiable situations into which the people are thrown are believable. Pedro Armendarez, who will be remembered for his role as the officer in “The Fugitive,” portrays the fisherman, with Maria Elena Marquez as his slave-like wife. An F.A.A. Aguila Films production, the screenplay was done by Steinbeck, Fernandez and Jack Wagner. Oscar Dangercro produced. Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, March, 1948.

To NBC Post Here

Carleton D. Smith, general manager of NBC’s Washington radio station WRC and television station WRCN, has been named director of NBC’s television department in New York, by Noran E. Kersta, director of television operations.
Theatre Takes Started Year On Upgrade

But January's Weekly Average Trails 1947

Key-city theatre grosses last month enjoyed a sharp comeback from December's low and could have made a better showing, perhaps, if severe winter weather had not posted some challenging obstacles. Exceptionally low temperatures and record and near-record blizzards hit many sections of the country.

The weekly average for January rose to $18,392, from December's $14,178, but was well behind the $19,820 recorded for January of last year, according to reports from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents.

First 10 weeks 1947 recorded excellent business to theatres almost everywhere, but during the last half of January heavy snows and frigid weather brought a pronounced drop in grosses.

"Road to Rio" took the box-office lead last month, with "Good News" second. Tied for third were "Captain April" and "Captain March." (Continued on page 6)

Britain to Make 60 Films in '48: Korda

Some 60 to 70 features will be made in England during the coming year, Sir Alexander Korda declared in a press interview here on Friday.

Pointing out that British producers are "not in a position to fulfill all the needs of British theatres for the present," Korda added that the old "cullin tax" was "not something that anybody wants or enjoys," but that there springs from this problem hope that a solution will be found.

Korda asserted that his London (Continued on page 6)

KATO to Abandon Anti-Checker Bill

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 15—The Kentucky Association of Motion Picture Theatres has announced that it would withdraw its sponsorship of the so-called Board bill, scheduled for introduction in the Kentucky Legislature this term, which provides for a state (Continued on page 6)

Scully Urges New Films Be Previewed

Opening the last of a series of regional meetings at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria yesterday, W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal-International, emphasized that the concentrated release of top-budget pictures which the company will distribute and urged exhibitors to see them before buying or booking them.

In opening the meeting, Scully emphasized that U-I has the largest negative investment in its history in these pictures and that, in his opinion, they represent the most varied and showman-like program the company has ever had.

He expressed a note of optimism in (Continued on page 3)

E-L to Release 10 Films in March, April

Eagle-Lion will release six features in March and four in April, William J. Heineman, distribution vice-president, announced at a two-day sales meeting here of home office executives and district managers at the Hotel Warwick, Saturday and yesterday.

Following his welcome by president Arthur B. Krim into the Eagle-Lion family, Heineman, formerly sales manager of Universal's J. Arthur Rank division, presided at the meeting. He outlined sales policies on (Continued on page 6)

Schwalberg to Para. As Aide to Reagan

Charles M. Reagan, Paramount's distribution vice-president, confirmed on Friday that Alfred W. Schwalberg, who recently resigned as Eagle-Lion's general sales manager, had joined the company.

Reagan said that Schwalberg's association with the company as executive assistant to him would promote "a streamlined and more efficient operation for Paramount," with "a resultant improvement in service to the thousands of Paramount customers throughout the country."

TOA Board to Meet Feb. 26

Establishment of an "Industry Forum," new theatre music license rates offered by Ascap, Federal and local admission taxes, and 10mm. competition will be among the subjects on the agenda of a special meeting of the directors of Theatre Owners of America, called by board chairman Fred M. Wehrenberg and president Ted R. Gamble for Feb. 26 and 27 at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

It is expected that (6) leading exhibitors will attend.

Ann of the "Industry Forum," in which all segments of the industry would be invited to participate, is to iron out intra-industry problems without recourse to the courts. Idea for setting up such a forum was advanced some time ago by Wehrenberg, but action on it was postponed.

Gamble will summarize for the day (Continued on page 3)

Rank Theatre Video Web Experiment Due In '48

The J. Arthur Rank Organization in England, operating through the Rank-controlled Cinema Television, Ltd., expects to have an experimental theatre television network in operation there this year, it was disclosed by the U. S. Rank Organization here at the weekend. The network, to be designed to secure information on types of programs needed, technical methods of transmission and audience reaction to presentation technique, it was said.

The plan includes six London West End theatres and two in the city's suburbs. Projectors will be installed in various parts of each house to determine the best working position, with programs to be transmitted from the British Broadcasting Company television studios at Alexandra Palace, London, and from Rank's nearby Pinewood studios, to Cinema Television's receiving and re-transmitting station at Crystal Palace. BBC's major transmission base also will be used.

Balto. Theatre Brings Suit For $600,000

Names Six Distributors, Two Theatre Companies

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15—A $600,000 anti-trust suit was filed in U.S. District Court Friday by the Windsor Theatre Co. of Baltimore against six major distributors and two Baltimore theatre companies and their president.

The defendants are Loew's, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal, Warner Bros., the Balwoork Amusement Co. and the Hilton Theatre Co. of Baltimore, and Thomas D. Goldsby.

The suit charges a conspiracy since May, 1941, to restrain and injure the Wes's business by refusing it first neighborhood-run features, allowing the defendant exhibitors to monopolize the product of the six distributors, putting the Windsor on an inferior clearance position to the Hilton and Balwoork, and by causing the Wes to pay unduly and excessive film rentals for any product which it might obtain on a clearance basis equal to that enjoyed by the exhibitor defendants.

In addition to an award of three (Continued on page 6)

Loew's Asks Relief In Chicago Case

CHICAGO, Feb. 15—Motion brought by Loew's to strike out paragraph 10 of the Jackson Park Theatre decree, contending the company is under no obligation to release or license pictures to any particular theatre if it does not choose to do so, was placed under advisement here on Friday by Judge Michael Igoe of the U. S. District Court.

Thomas McConnell, attorney for (Continued on page 6)

SRO Sales Offices To Move to Coast

Selznick Releasing Organization's sales headquarters will be moved from New York to Beverly, Cal., by April, SRO president Neil Agnew said here on Friday. The change, he said, has been contemplated for some time, with shortage of available office (Continued on page 3)
Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republican distribution vice-president, and WALTER TITUS, Jr., Southern division manager, will be in conference here Monday and Tuesday.

MAX MILDER, Warner managing director of production in Great Britain, left Hollywood over the weekend for New York.

SOL KAPLAN, film composer, and MRS. KAPLAN have become parents of a daughter in Paris where they have been for the past five months.

WOLF COHEN, Warner International vice-president, left here over the week-end for Los Angeles en route to the Far East.

THOMAS R. LANCASTER, Filmark office manager in Los Angeles, and MRS. LANCASTER were married Feb. 6 in Hollywood.

STANLEY KRAMER, president of Screenplays, Inc., and GEORGE GLASS, vice-president, left the Coast over the weekend for here.

GEORGE SCHAEFFER, Enterprise distribution manager in Miami, is due in Miami today from New York.

JULES WELL, Masterpiece Prod. president, left here Thursday for a tour of the Mid-West.

MARTIN QUIGLEY left Hollywood by train for the weekend at New York.

Paramount Steps Up Its Stock-Buying

Paramount sharply increased the tempo of its stock purchasing program last month, having acquired 3,290 shares of its common stock on the open market, to bring its holdings to 444,233 shares. During December the company purchased 75,682 shares. The company adopted the stock-buying program to aid in the purchase of movie theaters, which the company is willing to dispose of their interests, and has also used part of the stock for the acquisition of Liberty Films and Rainbow Productions. Paramount president Barney Balaban first announced the program in November, 1946.

Borthwick on Leave From MPAA Post

George Borthwick, Motion Picture Association of America secretary and treasurer will leave for California shortly on a leave of absence granted him by Erie Johnston, MPAA president.

George Borthwick's absence, Fred W. DuVall, assistant treasurer, will handle all the financial duties of the MPAA, and Sidney Schreiber, administrative assistant, will act as secretary.

Rathvon to Honor Margaret Truman

Washington, Feb. 15—RKO president N. Peter Rathvon and Mrs. Rathvon will give a birthday luncheon to honor Margaret Truman at the Mayflower hotel here on Tuesday.

The Rathvon's, who arrived in Washington from New York late last week, met the President's daughter last summer when she gave her Rose Bowl concert.

Act to Simplify Export Procedure

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The Commerce department has taken the first in what is expected to be a series of steps to simplify the licensing requirements for exportation of films and other commodities to Europe starting March 1st.

Friday, the department announced that companies with two or more customers for shipment of the same commodity to a single country can now ship one shipment on a single license.

Presumably "commodity" would cover the same kind of product and would not have to be restricted to one particular title. Thus any one firm shipping films to more than one distributor in the one country could get one license to cover all the shipments for which it was licensed at the time it takes out the license.

Probe Under Way in $100,000 Audio Blast

Toronto, Feb. 15.—An investigation was started Friday by the Ontario fire marshal into the explosion of a film storage and editing plant which wrecked the film inspection department of the Audio Pictures plant last Thursday. Damage was estimated at $100,000.

The building was opened last month.

Arthur Gottlieb, Audio president, was on hand to confer with government officials, but he stated later that the plant would be closed to investigators until three or five employees were taken to the hospital for cuts and shock and five others were under treatment for inhalation of nitric fumes. The explosion, tearing a hole in the roof and smashing part of a rear wall, put the sprinkler system out of commission.

Hear Dismissal Pleas In D. C. For 10 Cited

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Argument for dismissal of the cases against 10 Hollywood writers, directors and producers cited for contempt of Congress were presented here Friday in Federal court before the contract court being conducted by Judge Curran by a battery of defense lawyers headed by Robert W. Kennedy. It is expected for opening arguments tomorrow when Ben Margolis will conclude for the defendants and U. S. Atty. Harry W. Quiroz will answer for the Government.

Newsbriefs

Ask Eastern Pa. Exhibitors To Aid in Fuel Oil Crisis

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—Theaters with heating facilities are being asked to contribute to a maintenance performance during the present fuel crisis. President Frank S. Boston of the Theatre Owners of Pennsylvania, was addressed by Sidney Samuelson, president of the independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Levinson-Finney Upheld

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15.—Federal Judge R. J. McCormick ruled in favor of Levinson-Finney Enterprises and against Casino Film Exchange in the suit over distribution rights of the Austrian-made "Bon Ami." In a formal opinion, Judge McCormick branded the film "immoral" and held that it is not the kind of material which the copyright statutes were set up to protect.

Hakims Named in Suit

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15.—H. Rumpf, Paramount's film loan department and William Dozier, filed suit in Superior Court at the weekend against Robert Hakim, president of Hakim Bros., alleging breach of contract. Asking $100,000 and a similar amount for estimated profits the plaintiffs maintain that the defendants were supposed to produce "Mayerling" with Miss Fontanne starred.

Disney Machinists Ordered To Hold a Shop Election

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15. The National Labor Relations Board has directed an election among machine shop employees of Walt Disney Productions to determine whether or not they want to be represented by IATSE, the International Association of Machinists, or whether an election to be held within 30 days from Feb. 14.

Savings Drive Set

Call Making Drive

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The U. S. Security Loan Drive will be conducted April 15 through June 30, according to RKO Film Co. President John W. Snyder. A three-day campaign will be held here March 18-20 to set sales goals and policy with representatives of all information media attending, Snyder announced.

Gottlieb on 'Brotherhood'

Sigmund Gottlieb, director of the Foreign Language Film Critics' Circle, here, has been placed in charge of "Brotherhood Week" publicity in New York's foreign language press, consisting of 100 papers in 27 languages.

Mason-Rose Trial Continues

Federal Judge John C. Knox on Monday began the trial of the June Mason-David Rose breach-of-contract suits in U. S. District Court here until tomorrow. Hearing is expected Tuesday at least four hours.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN launches the-direct highlight of the current newsreels. Other events include carnivals in scattered parts of the world, terror raids on air ports and human interest items. Complete content follows:

MOVIEFONE NEWS, No. 13—Closed Circuit Theater in New York Newspaper building in Jerusalem. $5,000 raised for Palestine salvation. Truman seeks president of Red Cross, Dog show in New York, Alp brings death to 21, Easter hat preview. Red Cross campaign of mercy. Varsity spectacle at Miami Beach.


7 New Films Start: 34 Are Shooting

Hollywood, Feb. 15. An encouraging spurt of production activity brought the index up to 34 at the week-end as against 29 of the previous week. Camera crews started grilling on seven new films while two were sent to the cutting room.


BORTHWICK ON LEAVE FROM MPAA POST

George Borthwick, Motion Picture Association of America secretary and treasurer will leave for California shortly on a leave of absence granted him by Erie Johnston, MPAA president.

George Borthwick's absence, Fred W. DuVall, assistant treasurer, will handle all the financial duties of the MPAA, and Sidney Schreiber, administrative assistant, will act as secretary.
Meeting Here Takes Up Trailer Program

An 11-point program dealing with trailers was discussed at the Hotel Astor here on Thursday by distributor, circuit operators, and representatives. The meeting was spearheaded by Leonard H. Goldenberg, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatres. George F. Denbo, re-elected president and general sales manager of National Screen Service, represented his company.

Among subjects said to have been discussed were length of trailers, use of superannuated and current attractions, and general policy of exhibiting trailers. It was also stated that the meeting was an outgrowth of several others held by Paramount theatre partners and associates in the last few months.

Under their arrangements, producers make their own trailers and deliver them to NSS for printing and distribution. Changes in length, timing and other approaches, consequences, and extent and make-up of actual scenes used. The meeting was an outgrowth of several others held by Paramount theatre partners and associates in the last few months.

No comment on the meeting was forthcoming on Friday from NSS or Paramount theatre officials.

Victoria to Selznick As Buoy Showcase

Deal has been finalized between Selznick, owner of the Victoria, and City Investment Corp., for the former’s leasing of the Victoria Theatre here for use as a showcase. Neil Agnew, SRO, is negotiating the deal on Friday. The theatre will be given a new name following refurbishing and enlarging of seating space, for SRO occupancy probably by Sept. 1, Agnew said.

Plans for SRO acquisition of other showcases elsewhere in the U.S. are indefinite, Agnew said. He added that acquisition of an SRO showcase here would not necessarily preclude its sale of pictures to Radio City Music Hall.

SRO Sales Offices

(Continued from page 1)

space on the Coast the delaying factor. New location will be the Western Airlines building in Beverly.

The foreign, auditing contract, and all other department except Eastern publicity under Robert Gillham, will move out with the sales organization, Agnew said.

Agnew and Milton S. Kussell, SRO general sales manager, will come to New York from time to time when business requires it. Agnew and SRO, with the release of only four or five pictures a year, can guide its sales as satisfactorily out of Beverly as it has out of New York.

Agnew said the company may produce a picture in Italy and Palestine soon, but B. P. S. will produce in England. Commenting on the British tax impasse, he said he sees no reason, other than the tax, on which production cannot support itself profitably in the American market alone.

SRO executives will not be asked to take salary cuts, Agnew said.

Review

"The Big Clock"

Paramount

Hollywood, Feb. 15

YOU’VE got to see this one to believe it’s as good as it is, because it’s just about the only one of the eight released this weekend getting around to seeing it you can take the loudly voiced collective word of some 300 press preview observers that it’s the brightest 93 minutes of melodrama in recent history. With Ray Milland, Charles Laughton, Maureen O’Sullivan and Elsa Lanchester as names to look to, the picture has everything it takes to open big and grow as it runs.

The reason you’ve got to see this one to believe it’s as good as it is stems from the fact that the story is so artificial, its description or descriptive terminology can be expected to convey the spooky, buoyancy, wit and freshness which—supposedly upon a deadly serious murder story—set the production apart from and above its kind. In simplest terms, it’s a story about a murder trial of a man acquitted by the jury that employs Ghislain as an innocent suspect from clues which, if successfully followed up, will fix the guilt upon the investigator in an immeasurably more complicated that that, sounds and, immensely interesting.

The setting is basically a great modern office building housing a magazine publishing business owned by Laughton. Milland is editor of a Laughton-devised to the crime field, and an expert in locating missing persons. When Laughton murders a girl he’s been supporting, and plots with the assistant-publisher to pin the crime on the man last seen with her, it’s only a matter of a day or two before he’s set in action which keeps audience interest at peak until the unexpectedly ended.

Milland’s performance as the investigating editor, Miss O’Sullivan’s as his wife, Laughton’s as the tyrannical publisher, are superior even to their art, and under John Farrow’s sure direction these and the other members of a large cast seem every moment to be flesh and blood people caught up in events which press them to the utmost.

The story is both material term, produced with distinction by Richard Maibaum from an inspired screenplay by Jonathan Latimer. Running time, 93 minutes. Adult audience caution, release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Cites "Restraint" in EK Rate Increases

ROCHESTER, Feb. 15.—The fact that President Knowles of Michael, a stream of industry acquisition, "considerable restraint" employed by the company in effecting necessary price increases.

Knowles said the controlling factor in recent industry price changes has been the company’s long-time policy of subscribing to "economic exigencies" in order to expand output and widen the market for its products.

Mexican Deal Set for Okay by UA Board

Ratification of United Artists’ sale of its Mexican releasing organization to C.I.F. (Cinematografico Interamericano, S.A.) was disclosed in a letter from president Grad Sears to UA producers, is expected to take place at the next meeting of the company’s board of directors.

The deal is retroactive and applies to all UA product un released as well as released.

Schedule UA Parley

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 15.—While Arthur Kelley, United Artists executive vice-president, left here by plane to New York, Gradwell, UA president, remained here for forthcoming conferences with Mary Pickford, who arrived yesterday, and other UA producers, who are due back in town Tuesday.

15c RKO Dividend

Board of directors of Radio-Keith-Orpheum has declared a dividend of 15 cents per share on the common stock, payable April 1, to stockholders of record on March 15.

Scully Urges Plans

(Continued from page 1)

the possibilities of the American market being able to absorb high negative cost of the picture received the encouragement they are entitled to altering their boxoffice performance was established.

"The growth of Universal is best reflected in the fact that in the past five years we have practically doubled the number of customers we had at the time the present management took over. To maintain the grosses that are required due to present exigencies caused by the reduction in foreign income we will continue our efforts to help our company exhibitors as possible," Scully said.

"The big problem facing the industry is to enlarge the Anti-Foreign Film and this can only be done if both exhibitors and distributors understand the need for diversity," he added.

The meeting at the Waldorf, which will continue through Wednesday, is being attended by branch managers, district managers and salesmen from Boston, New Haven, Albany, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York offices, and by E. T. Gossmers, A. J. O’Keefe, F. J. A. McCarthy, Fred B. Anderson, E. L. McEvoy, John Joseph, Maurice Bergman, Hank Linet and Al Horwitz of the advertising and publicity department.

TOA Board

(Continued from page 1)

rectors the recent TOA-Aascap negotiations which resulted in rates much lower than those proposed by Aascap last year.

Please make notes on theatre construction, censorship and theatre visits, and also be at the meeting. A large-screen television demonstration will be arranged.

New Washington-NY Video Rates Asked

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The Federal Communications Commission has ordered the Telephone and Telegraph Company to file by May 1 a rate schedule for the transmission of television programs over the Washington-New York coaxial cable.

Under a 1945 Commission order A. T. and T. has been furnishing free broadcasting of the nation’s television programs experimentally.

Several months ago A. T. and T. has proposed a commission for television transmission. However, television companies and broadcasters objected strenuously and the company withdrew the schedule.

Deny DuMont Plans

Sales of Interests

Rumors that the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories contemplates selling any part of its television interests were denied here at the weekend by Dr. Allen B. DuMont, president, who said these rumors "may have originated in the fact that the company has received offers for their stock holdings in DuMont." He said that the Paramount-owned B. K. company "does not represent a controlling interest." It is reported that control is held out that DuMont stock is divided into two classes—A and B. The A stock represents 72 per cent of the total issued shares, and Paramount owns less than 3 per cent of this, he said. The company has "any sale of the Paramount-owned B. K. stock will not affect the measure of control now held by the A share holders."

Ask ABC Stock Sale

For Video Financing

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—American Broadcasting Co. has filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission for permission to sell $2,500,000 of its stock to persons with whom it had network affiliation agreements Jan. 31, and to other persons from time to time.

Proceeds will go into the company’s capital as a reserve to be sold in the $5,325,000 television expansion the company plans in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco and Detroit. About $3,825,000 of the total is scheduled to be spent this year, ABC said.

Crosley Video Station

Goes Commercial

CINCINNATI, Feb. 15.—Commercial operations of Crosley’s television station WLWT, the Crosley Broadcasting Corp., television station, after nine years of experimental time rates from 6-30 to 11 P.M. on week days and all Sundays following conventions, $25,000 per quarter hour; $100, minimum; $50, five minutes; $25, one minute.

Technicolor Upheld

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 15.—Technicolor’s opposition to the Columbia Broadcasting System’s application to register the trademark “Technicolor” for the trade of radio and television apparatus has been sustained by the U. S. Court of Customs and Patents Appeals.
"ONE OF THE BEST PICTURES DOING SOME OF THE BEST BUSINESS"

"One of the Ten Best of the Year . . . Tense and magnificent."
—N. Y. Times

"One of the Ten Best of the Year . . . A masterpiece . . . as fine drama as the screen affords."
—N. Y. Daily News

"Engrossing . . . tremendous melodramatic power . . . Ford's direction savage and sensitive."
—N. Y. Herald-Tribune

"Fine emotional drama . . . a standout in direction and photography."
—N. Y. Daily Mirror

"Picture of the Month . . . A masterpiece of direction and photography."
—Redbook Magazine

"Striking emotional drama . . . told in terrifying terms of action."
—Liberty Magazine
"No finer picture made this year... Utterly breathtaking."
—McCall's Magazine

"Movie of the Week... The story is unusual... direction superb."
—N. Y. Sunday Mirror

"A stirring drama superbly played."
—Cue Magazine

For instance, at the Victoria, on Broadway: still going strong with around-the-corner boxoffice lines (see photos) after record opening week beginning Christmas Day!... Terrific grosses in a dozen Texas engagements, including San Antonio, Ft. Worth, Houston, El Paso, Austin... In Albuquerque... Swell business in Boston, Baltimore, Chicago, Cleveland, Birmingham, Miami, Milwaukee, Cincinnati—with the success story growing bigger and better with new big openings every week!... And no wonder—when you think of the overboard acclaim by all the leading critics!

JOHN FORD and MERIAN C. COOPER
present ARGOSY PICTURES'

THE FUGITIVE

costarring
HENRY FONDA • DOLORES DEL RIO • PEDRO ARMENDARIZ

with
J. CARROL NAISH • LEO CARRILLO • WARD BOND • ROBERT ARMSTRONG • JOHN QUALEN

Screen Play by DUDLEY NICHOLS

DIRECTED BY JOHN FORD

Associate Producer: EMILIO FERNANDEZ • Cinematography: GABRIEL FIGUEROA
Trust Suit
(Continued from page 1)
times an estimated $20,000 damages, the court to prohibit the defendant distributors from supplying their films to the Walbrook and Babcock theatres, which are those offered the Windsor, and during the next four years to distribute their pictures so that the Windsor can get no other first-run films distributed by the eight major companies in the Baltimore area.

Would Enjoin Bidding
The Windsor also asked the court to enjoin the distributors from making bids for the condition of bidding a condition for getting their films. The complaint declared that the use of this system by 20th Century-Fox has resulted in harsher payment terms than ever before, exacted from the Windsor only because of the monopoly allowed the exhibitor defendants.

The Windsor has always received Columbia films from 20th and for a brief interim when competitive bidding was used, RKO releases.

Bar from MPTO Unit Claimed
Another charge is that Goldberg kept the Windsor officers from joining the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Maryland and thus barring him from the “valuable privilege of being included in a proper theatre advertisement that appears each day in the Baltimore News-Post.

Among other charges in the complaint are the following:

That the exhibitor defendants tried to block a construction permit for the Windsor, discourage financial support, interest him in building the theatre, and disparage the credit standing of the Windsor company.

That the distributors granted the Walbrook, preferably on clear preferences in “many cases” amounting to from three weeks to a year and gave them preferred playing time or the best booking availability in each week, cut-price concessions in the form of double feature programs, and more frequent program changes.

Imply WB Pact Breach
That in the 1945-46 season Warner Bros. promised to make available its first features to the Windsor on a first-neighboring-first-run basis that on the contract basis this the Windsor announced publicly it had become a first-run theatre and increased its admission prices, and that Warner then “failed to perform its contractual obligations.”

To the defendant distributors allowed the exhibitor defendants to divert into the Hilton Theatre the extra and unneeded product which they had restricted from the Brook, and that this has been done “with full knowledge that the Windsor cannot successfully operate without first-run rights on the output of at least four of the eight major producers.”

Grosses In Comeback
(Continued from page 1)
from Castle,” “Tycoon” and “My Wild Irish Rose.” “Cass Timberlane” and “The Golden Damsel,” both of which opened for third and latter part of the month. Another film which did not get into general circuit, but which registered solidly was “The Treasure of the Sierra Madre.”

Other films which registered attractively average grosses at a number of situations were: “This Gun for Hire,” “Killer McCoy,” “I Walk Alone,” “Sleep My Love,” “The Bishop’s Wife,” “Body and Soul,” “Intrigue,” “Out of the Past,” “The Paradise Case,” “Out of the Blue,” “Green Dolphin Street” and “The Secret Life of Walter Mitty.”


Composite key city box-office reports for 1948 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1947, follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Total Gross</th>
<th>Average Per Theatre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-23</td>
<td>179,100</td>
<td>$1,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-9-10</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>14,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-16-17</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>2,419,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-23-24</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>14,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-30-31</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>14,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3-4</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>$1,678,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-10-11</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>19,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-17-18</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>3,678,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-24-25</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>12,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-31-Feb. 1</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>2,295,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

British to Make 60
(Continued from page 1)
Film Productions, Ltd., expects to make from 12 to 14 features during the current year, of which about five will be released in this country, and the company is considering 20th-Fox would distribute most of these films in the Western Hemisphere and some in England.

Korda emphasized the shortage of Technicolor facilities in England, saying that there were none in London, and that he uses half the Technicolor facilities and Rank the other half. Technicolor laboratories are now under construction.

Korda said that his forthcoming films will be of top quality and would be released in 10,000 engagements ($3,678,100).

He said he brought with him a print of “Anna Karenina” to show for the 20th-Century-Fox executive. He also disclosed that the contracts of the producing team of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger have been extended “for another long term.” Another disclosure was that Orson Welles, who produce him, starting on “Cyrano” sometime next month. Asked about the possibility of making films for television, he said he was not interested in television and had no plans to work in the field.

Korda, who arrived here from London last week, leaves for Hollywood this week.

KATO to Abandon
(Continued from page 1)
board to regulate the checking of theatre grosses.

The bill, designed to prevent Confidential Reports, Inc., from continuing its program of local checkers in Kentuck, was prepared under the supervision of Guthrie F. Crowe, president of KATO, and Henry J. Stitius, general counsel of the organization.

Stites attended the meeting of the TOA Legal Advisory Council in Washington on February 9 and since that time has been confering with TOA leaders in New York, Dr. Ir- luther of Confidential Reports, Inc., and of the Motion Pictures Association of America.

E-L to Release 10
(Continued from page 1)
current and forthcoming major features.

Bryan Post, production vice-president, who arrived Friday from Holly- wood on his first visit to the home office since early last year, discussed the company’s product lineup. Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising—publicity-exploitation, revealed complete plans for increased promotion budgets in line with E-L’s ploy to sale promotion and exploitation. Frank Soble, in charge of branch operations, spoke on non-theatrical sales, personnel forms, and liquidation.

Also participating in the discussions were L. J. Schlafer, newly-appointed assistant to Heineman; Herman Beirs- dorf, Western sales manager; Har- old S. Dunn, circuit sales manager; Jerry Pickman, assistant director of advertising—publicity—exploitation; Manny Goodman, playdate manager; Joe Sugar, manager of contract depart- ment; Del Goodman, West Coast division manager.

E-L Names Dunn
The appointment of Harold S. Dunn as Eagle-Lion circuit sales manager, effective immediately, was announced here on Friday by William J. Heineman, vice-president in charge of distribution.

UK Quota Bill to Lords
LONDON, Feb. 15.—The British film quota bill has passed its third reading in the House of Commons and will now go to the House of Lords. Com- mons member Earl Winterton, in sum- ming up the bill, said its object is to give British production an opportunity to consolidate ground won during the past 10 years and to boost output.

GREATEST OF ALL GREAT ACTION SPECTACLES!

CASANOVA

The Way He Fought!

CASANOVA

The Way He Loved!

CASANOVA

The Way He Lived!

all...in...

"ADVENTURES OF CASANOVA"

An Eagle Lion Films Production
$1,580,000
Chicago Trust
Action Filed

Fixed Admissions and Rental Priority Cited

CHICAGO, Feb. 16. - Another trust suit was added to the rising list when the Monroe Amusement Corp, here, operator of the downtown Monroe Theatre from 1931 until March 4, 1945, today filed for treble damages on two counts against 14 companies, charging violations of the Sherman Anti-Trust Acts, and asking for $1,580,000.

The plaintiff, represented by attorney Seymour Urban, charged that the defendants gave priority in film rentals to theatres owned or controlled by them and permitted the prices of the defendants to be charged. James Jovan is now owner and operator of the theatre.

Mentioned specifically in the suit was the downtown McCrickers The-

(Continued on page 2)

10 New Films
For 1st-Runs

Business at New York's downtown 1st-runs is in good generally this week. Hold-overs are at the majority of houses, but a large number will give way to new product before the week is out. Newcomers will bow in as follows: "Sleep My Love," Criterion; "Road to Rio," Paramount; "Call Northside 777," Roxy; "A Double Life," Radio City Music Hall; "The Burning Cross," Victoria; "Jassy," Winter Garden; "My Girl Tisa," Strand; "The Flame," Gotham; and several others.

(Continued on page 3)

Cinecolor Officers
Reelected by Board

Hollywood, Feb. 16. - Incumbent officers of Cinecolor, including A. Pam Blumenthal, chairman of the board of directors; William T. Cres- pill, president, and Alan M. Gundelberg, vice-president and techni-
cal director, have been re-elected by the board of directors. Graham Ster- ling, Jr., and Karl Herzog, treasurer, were also re-elected.

Members of the nine-man board are: C. Kenneth Baxter, Joseph J. Raths, John D. Kerr and Joseph Bernard, president of Film Classics.

$1,719,000
In Exchange
Pay Raises

15% Boost for 6,300;
Overtime Also Granted

Climaxing three months of negoti-
ations between the IATSE and nine producers, a 15 per cent cost-of-living wage increase for more than 6,300 film exchange em-
ployees in the country's 32 exchange cities has been agreed upon. The new scales, effective Feb. 29, are retroac-
tive to Dec. 1 of last year. Maximum increase will be $10 per week person.

On the basis of an arbitrary average of 25 cents per em-
ployee, a 15 per cent increase amounts annually to $1,719,000 for 6,300 workers, whose retro-

(Continued on page 3)

Warner Nets
$3,947,000

Warner Brothers and subsidiary companies report for the three months ended Nov. 29, 1947, a net profit of $3,947,000 after provision of $2,700,000 for taxes. Net profit for the three months ended Nov. 30, 1946, amounted to $2,201,000, after provision of $4,000,000 for taxes.

The net profit for the latest three months is equivalent to 54 cents per (Continued on page 3)

House Hearings on
Strike Open Today

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16. - Hearings on the Hollywood jurisdictional strike  will be launched tomorrow by the House labor sub-committee headed by Rep. Carroll D. Kearns.

Among film executives expected to testify are Eric Johnston, Barney Bal-
ghan, Jack Cohn, William C. Michel, Pryor Skouras, Harry Warner, Her-
bert J. Yates and N. Peter Ratliff. Leaders of the union involved in the strike also will be heard.
Warninging that the readjustment is not going to be easy, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, expressed confidence in an interview with Howard Barnes of the New York Herald Tribune that the industry’s return to normal will be realized before the close of 1948.

The MPAA head said he knew of not one important film company that had not been in the red since the final days of last year, and conditions in the industry would probably worsen before improving.

The optimism and the need for some worthwhile retrenchment was an absolute must. He said studios must realistically face the fact that better product has to be turned out at a lower cost.

Much of the talk of the collapse of film production was characterized by Johnston as a gross exaggeration. Johnston predicted that in the very near future more than half of Great Britain’s film houses would have been closed down by the British government and the resulting film export boycott by American industries.

Johnston said executive salaries in the industry, including his own, are too high.

Schmidt Starts in Columbia Ad Post

Art Schmidt yesterday took over as director of Columbia’s advertising-publicity with headquarters at the home office.

Schmidt arrived in New York over the weekend from Hollywood, where he was advertising counsel at the company’s studio.

Meanwhile, Paul Walker, for four years a member of Columbia’s advertising department, “left” yesterday in the capacity of Columbia’s vice-president, as and associate editor of the Hollywood Reporter.

Walker is feature writer and columnist for the Pennsylvania paper prior to joining Columbia in 1943.

Chicago Trust Action

(Continued from page 1)

at the Monroe’s closest competitor, in which the plaintiff charges that prior to February, 1937, both houses were operated by the “B” week of pre-release, and when Diana Theatre Corp., in which Balaban and Katz owned a 50 per cent interest, commenced to operate the house in 1937, the McKvick was put in the “A” week of pre-release, following by 23 days of clearance.

Defendants named in both counts were Balaban and Katz, Diana Theatre Corp., Great States, Central, and Warner Theatres, Warner Circuit Management Corp., Loew’s RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures, Paramount Film Distributing Corp., Columbia Pictures, Univer-

St. Louis Manager Shot

St. Louis, Feb. 16.—A 23-year-old deputy, F. A. Allin, in the course of his duty, was shot and wounded when he resisted an attempted holdup at his office on the mezzanine. Police Why the reading adjustment is not going to be easy, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, expressed confidence in an interview with Howard Barnes of the New York Herald Tribune that the industry’s return to normal will be realized before the close of 1948.

The MPAA head said he knew of not one important film company that had not been in the red since the final days of last year, and conditions in the industry would probably worsen before improving.

The optimism and the need for some worthwhile retrenchment was an absolute must. He said studios must realistically face the fact that better product has to be turned out at a lower cost.

Much of the talk of the collapse of film production was characterized by Johnston as a gross exaggeration. Johnston predicted that in the very near future more than half of Great Britain’s film houses would have been closed down by the British government and the resulting film export boycott by American industries.

Johnston said executive salaries in the industry, including his own, are too high.

Schmidt Starts in Columbia Ad Post

Art Schmidt yesterday took over as director of Columbia’s advertising-publicity with headquarters at the home office.

Schmidt arrived in New York over the weekend from Hollywood, where he was advertising counsel at the company’s studio.

Meanwhile, Paul Walker, for four years a member of Columbia’s advertising department, “left” yesterday in the capacity of Columbia’s vice-president, as and associate editor of the Hollywood Reporter.

Walker is feature writer and columnist for the Pennsylvania paper prior to joining Columbia in 1943.

Chicago Trust Action

(Continued from page 1)

at the Monroe’s closest competitor, in which the plaintiff charges that prior to February, 1937, both houses were operated by the “B” week of pre-release, and when Diana Theatre Corp., in which Balaban and Katz owned a 50 per cent interest, commenced to operate the house in 1937, the McKvick was put in the “A” week of pre-release, following by 23 days of clearance.

Defendants named in both counts were Balaban and Katz, Diana Theatre Corp., Great States, Central, and Warner Theatres, Warner Circuit Management Corp., Loew’s RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures, Paramount Film Distributing Corp., Columbia Pictures, Univer-

St. Louis Manager Shot

St. Louis, Feb. 16.—A 23-year-old deputy, F. A. Allin, in the course of his duty, was shot and wounded when he resisted an attempted holdup at his office on the mezzanine. Police Why the reading adjustment is not going to be easy, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, expressed confidence in an interview with Howard Barnes of the New York Herald Tribune that the industry’s return to normal will be realized before the close of 1948.

The MPAA head said he knew of not one important film company that had not been in the red since the final days of last year, and conditions in the industry would probably worsen before improving.

The optimism and the need for some worthwhile retrenchment was an absolute must. He said studios must realistically face the fact that better product has to be turned out at a lower cost.

Much of the talk of the collapse of film production was characterized by Johnston as a gross exaggeration. Johnston predicted that in the very near future more than half of Great Britain’s film houses would have been closed down by the British government and the resulting film export boycott by American industries.

Johnston said executive salaries in the industry, including his own, are too high.

Schmidt Starts in Columbia Ad Post

Art Schmidt yesterday took over as director of Columbia’s advertising-publicity with headquarters at the home office.

Schmidt arrived in New York over the weekend from Hollywood, where he was advertising counsel at the company’s studio.

Meanwhile, Paul Walker, for four years a member of Columbia’s advertising department, “left” yesterday in the capacity of Columbia’s vice-president, as and associate editor of the Hollywood Reporter.

Walker is feature writer and columnist for the Pennsylvania paper prior to joining Columbia in 1943.

Chicago Trust Action

(Continued from page 1)

at the Monroe’s closest competitor, in which the plaintiff charges that prior to February, 1937, both houses were operated by the “B” week of pre-release, and when Diana Theatre Corp., in which Balaban and Katz owned a 50 per cent interest, commenced to operate the house in 1937, the McKvick was put in the “A” week of pre-release, following by 23 days of clearance.

Defendants named in both counts were Balaban and Katz, Diana Theatre Corp., Great States, Central, and Warner Theatres, Warner Circuit Management Corp., Loew’s RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures, Paramount Film Distributing Corp., Columbia Pictures, Univer-
Myers Wary
(Continued from page 1)

opening day of the Allied board meeting here, Myers also indicated that there is little likelihood in his opinion of an admission tax reduction in the near future. He stated, however, that "if it shall appear that there is a chance to effect a reduction from the 80th Congress, Allied will see to it that the proper measures are taken to the Ways and Means Committee."
The Allied board chairman emphasized that the Allied board's stand on the tax rates of states and municipalities to tax the industry and undermined the importance of building better public relations and stronger industry image. "The public's point of contact with the industry is the exhibitor," he declared. "The Allied argument on the Paramount case "what may prove to be a major operation," Myers said that the efforts of combined counsel in opposing competitive bidding constituted a "monstrosity of demolition."

However, he continued, "the main point, as far as I see it, is that the Court to spare its own efforts might give undue weight to the Allied opinion with respect to divorce."

Allied's general counsel suggested that there must be a committee in every Allied territory to observe the work and decide which of their observations and views. "Above all," he insisted, "there must be a thorough policing to destroy the racket."

Reporting on Ascap Myers said, "it is perfectly obvious that those who now claim credit for having negotiated a settlement for less than Ascap's asking price merely moved in under cover of Allied's fire and that has done much to torpedo any settlement—if any—would have been for an even greater increase over the present rates.

Three Allied Units Favor Continued Fight on Ascap

Indications now are that units at states will continue its fight against Ascap despite the recently announced schedule of new theatre music tax rates which calls for an additional 47 cents per $7,402,818 shares then outstanding.

Film rentals, theatre admissions, sales, etc., after eliminating corresponding obligations for the latest three months, amounted to $38,685,000, compared with $42,630,000 for the corresponding period of last year. Allied's balance sheet as of Nov. 29 last lists cash-on-hand at $15,817,244, notes receivable at $997,709,331; fixed assets at $96,838,104. Current liabilities were $32,866,142. Capital and surplus, less Treasury stock, totaled $302,150,449.

Six Warner Directors Up For Reelection Today

Six of Warner Brothers' 11 directors will be up for reelection at the annual stockholders meeting to be held today at Warner Bros., 499 Madison Ave., New York. They are Harriet A. Holm, John E. Bierwirth, Waddil Catchings and Robert W. Perkins. Eight directors will be asked to vote also on a proposal to reduce the capital of the corporation by canceling 107,180 shares of Treasury stock.

37 1/2-Cent WB Dividend

The board of directors of Warner Brothers Pictures has declared a quarterly dividend of 37 1/2 cents per share, payable April 5 to stockholders of record on March 5.

Exchange Raises
(Continued from page 1)

worked a half-day on Saturday, with a 40-hour week maintained by giving them four hours off earlier in the week.

Companies involved are Universal, RKO Radio, United Artists, 20th Century-Fox, Republic, Loew's, Columbia, Warners and Paramount.

Review

"B. F.'s Daughter" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood, Feb. 16

THE name—Barbara Stanwyck, Van Heflin, Charles Coburn, Keenan Wynn, Spring Byington, Richard Hart, and the marquand of the same title, the novel of which, Robert Leonard production off to a good start. And people who turn out for it will witness prodigious performances in rich settings. Their clothes alone in themselves are entitled to the extent of spreading favorable word among their friends appears to depend upon the success of Luther Davis' screenplay, which is almost totally conversational and keeps its characters real and human without attempting very hard to prove anything about. Since all the characters concerned are presented as being admirable, not much conflict is present and interest rests on the characters' development.

Miss Stanwyck, as an earnest daughter of an altogether benevolent self-made millionaire, marries Van Heflin, an assistant professor of economics at Columbia who lectures and writes mainly about socialists, and they then set him engaged for a speaking tour. He secretly guaranteeing his sponsor a profit, and he clicks so solidly that he becomes a member of the late President Roosevelt's "brain trust."

With his hard work, he has managed to become a solidly increased, his determination not to live in it, at which point a radio commentator friend of theirs tells him about his wife's having guaranteed his lecture four, and the marriage blows up. Several additional straws are brought to the fore after this, inclusive of certain aspects of World War II, and these bring the two together again under circumstances which prompt them, without bothering to work out their differences of opinion about capitalism, to trip which winds up the picture. Coburn as the capitalist and Wynn as the commentator make their roles seem real. Edwin H. Knopf produced. Running time, 110 minutes. General audience classification: Release date not set.

William R. Weaver

Five Pictures Cited For Academy Award

Hollywood, Feb. 16.—"The Bishop's Wife," "Crossfire," "Gentleman's Agreement," "Great Expectations" and "Senorita," released today, are all fighting it out for recognition as the best picture of 1947 in the annual Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences award shows. Five films are received as nominations according to the nominating ballot results announced here. Other nominations, expected to be given early in many instances:

For best performance by an actor:

For best actress in supporting role:

For best actor in supporting role:

For best performance by an actress:

10 New Films
(Continued from page 1)


Lea's Story has changed over to first-run temporarily with "Killer McCoy," which is heading for a very good $45,000 in a first week; figure a healthy $90,000 for the week's "bookie" by the house when vaudeville was on the program. At the Rivoli, "The Lady from Across the Earth" got off to a fairly good start, with $52,000 expected for its first week. A good $83,000 is expected for the first week of "Three Daughters," plus Horace Heath's band on stage, at the Capitol.

"Paradine" Still Strong

Among hold-overs, best performances are being rendered by "The Paradine Case" plus a stage presentation, at the Music Hall, where a sixth and final week looks like a solid $125,000; "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre," and Lionel Hampton's band on stage, at the Strand, which is heading for a fifth week, to follow its fourth and final week. "I Know Where I'm Going," at the Sutton, is very good with $70,000 in its second week and final week. Holding up well enough are "The Bishop's Wife," Astor, 10th week, $13,000; "Gentleman's Agreement," Mayfair, 14th week, $4,000; "Body and Soul," Globe, 12th week, $16,250; "The Walls Are White," with singer Andy Russell on stage, at the Paramount, in a fourth and final week, $60,000.

$10,000 for "T-Men"

At other places business is expected to shape as follows: "T-Men," Criterion, fourth and final week, $19,000; "You Were Meant For Me," plus Lou Armstrong's band on stage, at the Roxy, third and final week, $7,000; "The Fugitive," Victoria, eighth and final week, $10,000; "A Woman's Legion," Winter Garden, third and final week, $15,000; "Night Song," Palace, third and final week, $14,000; "Holiday," Adelphi, fourth and final week, $6,500; "A Miracle Can Happen," Warner, second week, $10,000. First week business of "Holiday" is reportedly last week as due to bring in $47,000, actually grossed a disappointing $17,000.

FASTEST COAST-TO-COAST SERVICE!

Go by TWA Constellation

For quick reservations, see your travel agent or call your local TWA office.

TWA TRANS WORLD AIRLINE

U.S.A. • EUROPE • AFRICA • ASIA
The Swordsman
Starring: Larry Parks, Ellen Drew

Completed
The Lady from Shanghai
Starring: Rita Hayworth, Orson Welles

Completed
Robert Louis Stevenson's The Black Arrow
Starring: Louis Hayward, Janet Blair

Completed
The Strawberry Roan
Starring: Gene Autry, Champion

Completed
The Mating of Millie
Starring: Glenn Ford, Evelyn Keyes

Completed
The Fuller Brush Man
Starring: Red Skelton, Janet Blair

In Production
The Gallant Blade
Starring: Larry Parks, Marguerite Chapman

In Release
Alexander Dumas' The Prince of Thieves
Starring: Jon Hall

In Release
The Two Years to Make!
To the Ends of the Earth
Starring: Dick Powell, Signe Hasso

In Release
I Love Trouble
Starring: Franchot Tone, Janet Blair

In Release
The Sign of the Ram
Starring: Susan Peters
Alexander Knox, Phyllis Thaxter, Peggy Ann Garner, Ron Randell, Dame May Whitty, Allene Roberts

In Release
Relentless
Starring: Robert Young, Marguerite Chapman
...AND PRODUCED ...BY COLUMBIA IN 1948

IN PRODUCTION
THE MAN FROM COLORADO
starring GLENN FORD · WILLIAM HOLDEN
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

TO BE PRODUCED
THE LAST 30 MINUTES
starring GLENN FORD

IN PRODUCTION
LULU BELLE
starring DOROTHY LAMOUR · GEORGE MONTGOMERY

TO BE PRODUCED
ANNA LUCASTA
OVER 2 YEARS ON BROADWAY! TRIUMPHANT NATION-WIDE TOUR!

IN PRODUCTION
THE RETURN OF OCTOBER
starring GLENN FORD · TERRY MOORE
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

TO BE PRODUCED
THE WRANGLER
starring SONNY TUFTS · BARBARA BRITTON
CINECOLOR

IN PRODUCTION
CORONER CREEK
starring RANDOLPH SCOTT · MARGUERITE CHAPMAN
CINECOLOR

TO BE PRODUCED
BORN YESTERDAY
IN 3rd GREAT YEAR ON BROADWAY!

IN PRODUCTION
THE LOVES OF CARMEN
starring RITA HAYWORTH · GLENN FORD
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

TO BE PRODUCED
WALKING HILLS
starring RANDOLPH SCOTT · WILLIAM HOLDEN
ELLEN DREW

IN PRODUCTION
LET'S FALL IN LOVE
starring DOROTHY LAMOUR · DON AMECE

TO BE PRODUCED
ALL THE KING'S MEN
ROBERT PENN WARREN'S PULITZER PRIZE NOVEL
LOS ANGELES... Sensational day-and-date holdover runs at Orpheum, El Rey, Vogue, Culver, Belmont, Million Dollar and Apollo!

NEW YORK... Loew's Criterion indefinite long run for top B'way business against blizzard, zero cold!

CHICAGO... Two Terrific weeks at State-Lake blast Old Man Winter out of the Loop!

BUFFALO... Smash two-week engangement at 20th Century in sub-zero temperature!

PHILADELPHIA... Three roaring weeks, with first stanza breaking house record at the Stanton!

BIRMINGHAM... Biggest non-holiday opening in 6 months sets terrific pace at Melba!

HARTFORD... Topped the town at the Strand against wintery blasts!

ATLANTA... Scores smashing box-office session at Paramount!

BOSTON... Paramount and Fenway day-and-date best Boston business in many weeks!

PORTLAND... "T-Men" scores in Maine at the Civic against worst weather in years!

ATLANTIC CITY... Ran 30% ahead of top winter resort season grosses at the Hollywood!

SPRINGFIELD, MASS... Beat all recent top attraction weeks in 6 days of first week at Capitol!

SAN FRANCISCO... Blazing first week at the St. Frances brings show business back to Golden Gate!

OKLAHOMA CITY... Holdover stanza at Warner after biggest first week gross in months!

TERRIFIC, TOO... in San Diego... Fall River... Wilmington... New Bedford... Pasadena... Portland, Ore... Charlotte... and scores more across the map!

EDWARD SMALL presents

**T-MEN**

starring DENNIS O'KEEFE with MARY MEADE - ALFRED RYDER - WALLY FORI

JUNE LOCKHART - CHARLES McGRAW - Produced by AUBREY SCHENCK - Directed by ANTHONY MAN

Written by John C. Higgins - Suggested by a Story by Virginia Kellogg - An EAGLE LION FILMS Release

The whole Industry is Talking about "T-MEN"
Kearns Hints

"Collusion" in

Studio Strike

Congressman Asks Proof

To Contrary at Hearing

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—In the

face of a warning by Representa-

tive Carroll D. Kearns, chairman of a

House labor sub-committee inves-
tigating the Hollywood juridi-
cational strike, that he intended making

a finding of the fact that the present
dispute is the result of a conspiracy
"between company and IATSE of-
cials", representatives of the motion
picture industry today rose strongly to

combat the contention.

In testimony at the opening of the

House sub-committee's hearings, Eric

A. Johnston, president of the Motion

Picture Association of America, as-

serted that he advocated closing Hol-

lywood studios in 1946 as a means of

forcing the warring parties to

reach a settlement.

"The master pointed out that the

issue of flat rental damage

is one of "novel impression, no

case involving such a claim hav-
ing been decided so far as the parties

have been able to ascertain."

Defendants were Fred E. Lieber-

man and various film corpora-

tions.

(Continued on page 4)

WB Stock Retired,

Directors Reelected

WILMINGTON, Del., Feb. 17.—

Stockholders of Warner Brothers

pictures met here today, elected direc-
tors and approved a plan instituted by di-

rectors in December, 1947, to retire

5,000,000 shares of common stock, thus

reducing capital surplus by $5,550,900

from $37,010,900 to $31,457,000.

Reelected to the board of directors for a two-year term, commencing to-
day, were Harry M. Warner, Albert

Warner, Jack L. Warner, Waddell

Catchings, Robert W. Perkins

and John E. Eiberich.

Former Federal Judge Hugh M.

Morris, who presided at the meeting.

(Continued on page 4)

U-I Sets 24 for

Next Nine Months

The new Universal-International

schedule calling for the release of 24

productions in the next nine months

was announced here yesterday by W.

A. Scully, vice-president and general

sales manager, at a conference of the

firm's Eastern sales force at the Hotel

Waldorf-Astoria.

"Black Bart" and "The Naked

Chimp"

Greenwich Village, N.Y., Feb. 17.—

"Arch of Triumph"—Gripping

Drama of Pre-War Paris

The long-awaited and much-discussed "Arch of Triumph" turns

out to be a gripping, somber drama of the romance of an Austrian

refugee surgeon in Paris in 1938 and his vengeance upon a Nazi

fanatic, who had tortured him and driven him from his homeland.

For the Erich Maria Remarque novel has been transferred to the

screen in a way which, despite its many good features, suggests no

problems of production, or release, which might not be encountered in

equal or greater measure in almost any other best-selling novel of recent

years. However, here it is, at last, and all that seems pertinent now

is

U. S. IS READY TO

TAKE UP U. K. TAX

Ambassador Douglas is Said To Be Prepared

To Open Talks at Once

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Feb. 17.—Indications

that the American government is

preparing to take up the problem

of the Dalton film tax directly

with the British government here

became apparent in high-level circles today.

Informed officials said that

American Ambassador William

O. Douglas, who is expected in

London momentarily, will open

discussions with the UK gov-

ernment on the film tax imme-

diately.

Many regard the development as the

most promising occurrence since

emancipation of the film tax last August

and believe it may be the real "break"

in the impasse which has been hoped for on both sides for months.

White-

(Continued on page 2, 3)

 Allied Bd. Against

MPF Participation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Disappro-

val of participation in the Motion

Picture Foundation was voiced here to-

day by the board of directors of Allied

States Association. At the same time,

the board decided to intensify its

three-pronged drive against AM:

expressing its position on MPF,

the board also expressed disapproval of its chairman and general counsel.

Afram M. Myers, becoming a trustee-at-large of the industry welfare or-

ganization, Myers reported at the end

(Continued on page 3)

TOA Units Voting

On ASCAP Rates

Theatre Owners of America units

throughout the country are poll-

ing their members on whether or not they favor ac-

cception of the new ASCAP theatre music tax rates, which

TOA leaders negotiated.

Support of the new rates, it is

said, cannot be given by the local units without a majority

vote of each in favor of ac-

ception of the ASCAP in-

creases.
Canada Votes Down Proposed Import Ban
Ottawa, Feb. 17.—Parliamentary efforts to have Canada's dollar-saving regulations applied against imports from the United States and other dollar countries, thus exempting the United Kingdom, were voted down in the House of Commons by 120 to 77. Seven votes after Finance Minister Abbott said the restrictions would actually help Britain.

Netherlands Would Raise Taxes 25%
WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—A Netherlands government proposal for a 25% import tax on theatres admissions has met with strong criticism from motion picture theatre owners, who regard it as a threat to their ability to stay in business, the U. S. Commerce Department reports here.

Motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden states that while the present 5% import tax is borne by the public, the new 25% per cent increase would have to be absorbed by exhibitors since the government has thus far promised only a modest rent increase.

The government proposal was actually an appeal to the various municipal councils, which have the right to refuse to levy a tax recommendation from the central government. Although this local discretionary power is rarely used, Golden declares, "it is significant that several municipalities have already announced their unwillingness to go along with the government on the new entertainment tax."

Toronto Houses Hit By Power Shortage
TORONTO, Feb. 17.—Theatres and radio stations were affected here today and last night when the Toronto Hydro-Electric Board announced that power at intervals to conserve electricity. Many theatres had to close temporarily and performances might be disrupted.

The city is under partial blackout to conserve power. In answer to protests, public utility authorities pointed out that the situation was more critical because the cold weather had reduced the water flow at hydroelectric plants.

WB To Seek Appeal In Goldman Decision
PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 17.—Warner Brothers plans to carry the recent U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision in the William Goldman antitrust suit to the Supreme Court, it was announced here yesterday by George L. Field, who is also supervisor of the company's synchronization studio in Philadelphia.

26 Columbia Chiefs To Meet Here Feb. 25
A meeting of 26 Columbia district managers and home office sales executives and department heads has been scheduled here for Feb. 25-27 by Robert B. Workshop, New York, A. Montague, general sales manager, will preside. Branch managers from 24 cities will be exchanged will also attend.

On the agenda will be a discussion of sales and liquor advertising problems as well as the formulation of plans for a number of future productions.

Also present from the home office will be Rube Jackler, Louis Astor, Louis Weinberg, Irving Wormser, Max Gottlieb, Michael Joseph Kaufman, Joseph Freiberg, Vincent Borelli, Irving Sherman, Sydney Singman, and Seth Raisin.

Attending from the field will be Nat Coon, Sam Galanty, Jerome Safton, Carl Shalf, B. C. Marcus, Harry Rosenthal, Al Copelan, Joseph Safron, Max Gottlieb, Harold Weinrich, J. C. Bullwinick, Phil Fox and Ben Lourie.

US Ready
(Continued from page 1)

COLUMBUS Chief News Room
all definitely is more hopeful now than it has been for some time.

Ambassador Douglas’s intervention is expected to be an important move to reconcile the widely separated positions on the film tax case of Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the United States, the former on the one hand and Ambassador Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, on the other.

It is learned here that Johnston and Fayeette W. Allport, MPAA European manager, during the latter’s recent visit to the United States, held detailed discussions with Ambassador Douglas on the tax impasse in Washington. It is generally conceded in interested quarters here that one of the important obstacles to progress toward a conciliation on the film tax before has been the fact that Allport did not possess plenipotentiary authority to the contrary.

Diplomatic circles now point out that Ambassador Douglas is qualified to discuss the problem on a full payment level, over MPAA heads. This, it is said, raises the hope that a “post-World War settlement may eventually, particularly the possibility that motion pictures may be classified as “Marshall Plan incentive goods.”

Well-informed circles agree on the necessity for evolving a formula which would face for both sides. In view of the heavy injury inflicted on both the American and British industries, it is felt to be urgently desirable that Ambassador Douglas assist with the invention of the formula.

Cancel Ship Convention
INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 17.—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana has canceleld several plans for a mid-sum-

Cancels Convention
Theatres Owners of Indiana has canceled several plans for a mid-season convention. The time of the convention has been changed here in a disclosure that the company expects to file a writ for a writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court with the theory that the motion pictures were not protected against foreign competition.

Motion Picture Daily
Cancels Convention
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, Rockefceller Center, New York 19, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-1100. Cable address: "Quigphoto." Manager, Martin Quigley, Jr.; Assistant Manager, Martin Quigley; Sales Manager, Arthur F. Winn; Advertising Manager, Rames J. Pollack; Executive Manager, James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Hollywood Bureau, Yusei-Vine-Bridge Building, William R. Waters, Executive Manager; London, England: News Bureau, Felix A. Davis; New York, N. Y.: News Bureau, Felix A. Davis; Toronto, Ont., 2400 Bay St., 4th Floor, Suite 100; 23, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.
M-G-M HITS ARE WEATHER-PROOF!

M-G-M presents "GREEN DOLPHIN STREET" starring LANA TURNER, DONNA REED, RICHARD HART - Frank Morgan, EDMUND GWEEN, DAME MAY WHITTY, REGINALD OWEN, GLADYS COOPER, SAMUEL RAPHAELSON. Directed by VICTOR SAVILLE. Produced by CAREY WILSON. A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE.

M-G-M presents "CASS TIMBERLANE" starring SPENCER TRACY, LANA TURNER, ZACHARY SCOTT, TOM DRAKE, MARY ASTOR, ALBERT DEKKER, DONALD OGDEN STEWART, DONALD OGDEN STEWART, AND SONYA LEVIAN. Based on the Novel by SINCLAIR LEWIS. Directed by GEORGE SIDNEY. Produced by ARTHUR FREED. A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE.

M-G-M presents "KILLER MCCOY" starring MICKEY ROONEY, JUNE ALLYSON, PETER LAWFORD, PATRICIA MARSHALL, JOAN MCCracken, Ray MCDONALD, MEL TORME. Screen Play by BETTY COMDEN and ADOLPH GREEN. Based on the Musical Comedy by LAWRENCE SCHWAB, LEO WAX, FRANK MARSHALL. Directed by ROY ROWLAND. Produced by SAM ZIMBALIST. A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE.

M-G-M presents "GOOD NEWS" (Technicolor) starring JUNE ALLYSON, PETER LAWFORD, PATRICIA MARSHALL, JOAN MCCracken, Ray MCDONALD, MEL TORME. Screen Play by BETTY COMDEN and ADOLPH GREEN. Based on the Musical Comedy by LAWRENCE SCHWAB, LEO WAX, FRANK MARSHALL. Directed by ROY ROWLAND. Produced by SAM ZIMBALIST. A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE.

Give Generously For American Brotherhood Week!
Additional Academy Award Nominations

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 17.—Nominations for the annual awards of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, in addition to those published yesterday, follow:


Nominated for the best direction were: Michael Curtiz, “Casablanca”; Victor Fleming, “Gone With the Wind”; George Cukor, “The Women,” and Frank Capra, “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington.”

For best actor or actress in a supporting role were: John Garfield, “The Lost Weekend”; Vincent Price, “Moulin Rouge”; and Bette Davis, “All About Eve.”

For best cinematography were: “Casablanca,” black and white; “The Search,” black and white; “A Letter to Three Wives,” color; and “Home of the Brave,” black and white.

Other nominees were: For best directorial achievement, “Casablanca,” black and white; “The Search,” black and white; “A Letter to Three Wives,” color; and “Home of the Brave,” black and white.

For best picture were: “Casablanca,” black and white; “The Search,” black and white; “A Letter to Three Wives,” color; and “Home of the Brave,” black and white.

Frohlich Completes Testimony For Mason in Rose Suit Here

Louis Frohlich, of the law firm of Sol Leventhal and Frohlich, yesterday completed his presentation of testimony in behalf of actor James Mason, who was sued by Rose Mason, the late Mrs. J. C. Knox in U. S. District Court here of the cross-claim breach-of-contract action brought by Mason and producer David Rose. Hearing will resume today with presentation of testimony in behalf of Rose by her attorney, Robert Gold.

Among the evidence presented yesterday was a stipulation by Universal executive Matthew Fox that U. was compelled to cancel tentative picture-making deals with Mason because of the actor’s memorandum agreement with Rose who sued Mason when the latter refused to enter a deal with Paramount. Mason, charging that his agreement with Rose was not binding to that extent, is suing to have his pact with Rose voided.

Jones, Bateman Flying to Chicago for SGP Meetings

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 17.—John J. Jones, president of Screen Guild Prod., and F. A. Emmer, assistant treasurer and general sales manager, will leave here today by plane for Chicago to attend the annual board of directors and franchise holders meetings at the Blackstone Hotel on Thursday through Saturday—deg—and a tour of exchanges after the sessions.

Winston Loewe Is Appointed Eagle-Lion Dallas Manager

William J. Heineman, Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president, has appointed Winston Loewe Dallas branch manager, effective Feb. 23. He will work under supervision of Clai Higgs, district manager.

Martini Renewes with Monogram

Rafael Martini, head of Tropical Films, San Juan, who for a number of years has been Monogram’s distributor in the island and in the Dominican Republic, has renewed his contract with Monogram International and has left by air for Puerto Rico.

WB Stock Retired

(Continued from page 1)

discussed a drop in box-office receipts and indicated further economies by the company would continue.

President and General Manager James M. Humes said at a meeting Feb. 28, Judge Morris said, are estimated at approximately one-half the gross of the corresponding period last year.

An operating profit drop of the company to head of London and tax has not yet been felt, Judge Morris stated. Although no American-made films have been sent to Britain since the imposition of the tax, unreleased pictures already there as well as a number of pictures released in Britain and Australia and Canada, the issue have continued to bring in revenue.

No improvement has been noted in the outlook for the foreign market and film rentals overseas continue to show a decrease compared with last year. Effort is being made to induce the British government to eliminate the tax and substitute a partial blocking of funds, it was said.

24 from U-I

(Continued from page 1)

of a day-long session. However, the board asserted that Allied members have local autonomy on such an issue and can do as they please, he said. According to the recent rate reduction announced by Ascap after conferences with Theatre Owners of America, ex-Ascap members declared, “The Motion picture settlement doesn’t change our stand one bit.” He indicated that the Allied executive committee would make recommendations to Allied members between now and March 15, when the solution of the effective period is expected to set the terms of the rates.

“We may protest to the Justice Department, but we can’t take it to court as we are not sufficiently armed in the law to do so.” He said that if the Berger case were decided in favor of Ascap, and the Lewis bill to curb Ascap still is not passed, National Allied would give

Allied Bd.

(Continued from page 1)

WB Stock Retired

(Continued from page 1)

of a day-long session. However, the board asserted that Allied members have local autonomy on such an issue and can do as they please, he said. According to the recent rate reduction announced by Ascap after conferences with Theatre Owners of America, ex-Ascap members declared, “The Motion picture settlement doesn’t change our stand one bit.” He indicated that the Allied executive committee would make recommendations to Allied members between now and March 15, when the solution of the effective period is expected to set the terms of the rates.

“We may protest to the Justice Department, but we can’t take it to court as we are not sufficiently armed in the law to do so.” He said that if the Berger case were decided in favor of Ascap, and the Lewis bill to curb Ascap still is not passed, National Allied would give

24 from U-I

(Continued from page 1)


“Jassy,” “Dear Murderer,” “The White Unicorn” and “Fame Is the Spur” are J. Arthur Rank’s for the fall.

Rauland Theatre Video 5 Years Away

Chicago, Feb. 17.—E. N. Rauland Video Corp., here, estimates that it will be another five years before large scale television will be ready for any extensive use by theatres.

Rauland’s statement came in the face of the fact that his company, many years in the development of the screen television method for theatres, Several of the major film production companies are known to be interested in the Rauland experiments and so is J. Arthur Rank of London, who invited Rauland here last year.

CBS Video Plant

(Continued from page 1)

Flat Rental Award

(Continued from page 1)
Kearns Hints

'Arch of Triumph'

(Continued from page 1)

declaration by committee chairman Carroll D. Kearns (R-Pa.) that
previ-ous attempts to get a motion picture union's jurisdictional strike which began
in September, 1946, was probably the re-
sult of confusion among the producers and
IATSE.
"Unless you have evidence to the
contrary to submit to my sub-commit-
tee that the producers engaged in the
inten-
tion to make a finding of the fact
that the present labor dispute in Hol-
lywood is not a jurisdictional strike by
the employers after having consulted
with certain officials of the IATSE to
create inter-union strife, it is impossible
for the members of those unions affiliated
with the conference of Studio Unions to continue to work in
the studio.

Johnston, a former member of the
longshoremen's union of the American
Federation, told Kearns his conclusions
were 'incorrect' and said he hoped
Kearns "still had an open mind on
the situation."

Johnston also called upon Congress
to require unions to arbitrate and set-
tle jurisdictional disputes before "picket signs have been hung up," and asked for legislation
that would compel the inclusion in all union contracts that he has clergies
pleading the unions to peaceful arbitra-
tion of inter-union strife.

Asks Hollywood Arbitrator

Hollywood should have its "own
paid arbitrator picked by the unions,
so that when trouble arises there will
be evidence in the arbitrator, he declared.

RKO president N. Peter Rathvon
as a matter of fact that he had been
into no conspiracy with Richard F.
Walsch, IATSE president, nor had any
other "union activity president," while
MPAA attorney Burton Zorn flatly
called Kearns' statement "one of the
most extraordinary...ever made by the
chairman of any other union com-
mittee." The chairman, he continued,
had no proof of the guilt of the pro-
ducer, he declared, and said, "I
believe, because there is no guilt.

After stressing the gravity of "my
proposed legislation," Rathvon
marked that he was "not blaming any-
one" until the hearings were con-
cluded.

Committee counsel Irvine McCann
attacked the producers for "not acting
with honor" when they refused to
recognize the painters union in the
March, 1945, dispute over 47 set dec-
imators, and charged IATSE with hav-
ing "encroached on the rights of every
other union in Hollywood."

"There is evidence in the record,"
McCann said, "that IATSE wanted to take any action, not only by the
other unions and the companies but
was reluctant to give into IATSE or else close the studios.

Rathvon Denies Conspiracy

Under repeated questioning by McC-
ann, Rathvon denied participating in
any acts of conspiracy at the time when, according to the studios, the
studios are taking this action. A motion
force to the unions solve the
dispute. He admitted that during this
period the studios "undeniably
made a move from time to time which
was in the direction of IATSE rather
than any other union," but insisted that
this was "strategy rather than conspi-
acy." He ascribed this policy to the
fact that Walsh did a great deal

is whether or not the time lapse has dulled its box-office potency. The
millions who read the novel will not have forgotten it, though the urgency
that made the Paris of the famous novel "The Man Without a Country,"
World War II is less compelling today than it was a year or
more ago.

Miss Bergman, as the Parisian romantic interest, and Charles Boyer,
as the refugee surgeon, are names that command box-office authority. In
combination with the title, and other of the picture's assets, it is certain
to be a strong draw up and down the line.

Boyé's license is a hounded man, con-
tinually in danger of arrest and deportation from France. He betrays Miss
Bergman after her lover has died and obtains employment for her as a night
cub singer. Friendship renews love but they are unable to marry because
of Boyer's illegal status in the country.

During the gay interlude on the French Riviera, the two have their first
quarrel over attentions paid to Miss Bergman by Stephen Bekassy, as a
manufacturer. Laughton, circumstances
lead to the Nazi in self-defense, etc.

On his return to Paris from his gruesome mission, Boyer is summoned to
the Ministry of Public Instruction of the Ministry of Public Instruction.
Miss Bergman successfully wages war on Bekassy in an attempt to stop her from returning to Boyer. She dies, pro-
claiming her love for the latter and Boyer returns to his quarters where,
war having been declared, he is rounded up with other refugees and headed for a
concentration camp by the Germans.

Lewis Milestone's direction is uneven, lagging in some spots but, on
the whole, executing the most of the numerous dramatic high spots. Milestone
may have lost material in the making of the
Remarque novel but it appears to be a weak main in maintaining
continuity and complete coherence in incidentals. Despite this, the editing and
cutting, reportedly done on the grand scale, shape up as major achievements.

Also, Lewis produced for the first two sets outstanding lighting, the
elaboration of the production is not to be denied. The settings are numerous
and varied; the cast is large and distinguished and the credit list the same.

Pittsburgh Area

There are 616 theaters, with an ag-
grate seating capacity of 382,768,
currently in operation in the Pitts-
burgh area. The Pittsburgh chamber of commerce reports that the Pitts-
burgh theatre directory compiled by the Motion Picture Association of
America.

The 27th in a series of 31, the Pittsburgh directory reveals that there are
81 theaters, with a total seating capacity of 49,331 in the city of Pitts-
burgh, or an average of 655 seats per
house.

In the territory, there are one or
more theaters in operation in 333
towns. Slightly more than one-
fourth, or 17 of the area's theaters,
are located in towns with a population
of 2,500 and under. These theaters ac-
count for a total seating capacity of
55,895, or an average of 335 seats per
house, according to the MPAA survey.

Poster Group Chicago

Meet Set for March 13

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 17-The newly
formed Associated Theatre Poster Ex-
change will hold its third meeting in
Chicago on March 13, it was revealed here by Don Svartz, secretary-trea-
gership of the organization. Counsel will be engaged and a report on processing
materials will be presented at the meet-
ing.

The ATPE was organized recently in
Chicago at a meeting of poster ex-
change operators, Mitchell Panzer,
Philadelphia, is president, and
Schneider, Charlotte, is vice-president.

Eleven More Pictures

Given Legion Ratings

Five of 11 films reviewed by the
National Legion of Decency have been
classified A-1: they are: "Bill and
casa," "The Man Who Came to Dinner,
RKO Radio; "Shogh," "Rocky" and "Song of the Drifter,"
all Monogram, and "The Wreck of the
Hesperus," Columbia. Rated A-
for adults, were "Open Secret," "The
Life," both Eagle-Lion; "The Pearl," RKO Radio; "Saigon," Paramount, and
"To the Ends of the Earth," Columbia.

Republic's "Campus Honeymoon,"
placed in Class B.

Pickets RKO in Utah

In Film Buying Tiff

Salt Lake City, Feb. 17-Irving Gilman, former United Intemational Thea-
tres, buying and booking com-
pany, has created a stir on Film Row here when he had the RKO Radio branch
picketed in protest against the company's alleged refusal to
grant his combine product for the past 19 months.

He said the deals are too high and that RKO and other ex-
changes are trying to break up his organization.

'Secret of the Bells,' RKO Radio release, will have its world premiere at New
York's Rivoli Theatre as its next attraction.
This is the title page of a presentation now being shown to motion picture industry executives in New York and Hollywood by the ASSOCIATION OF SCREEN MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS, INC.

The presentation, which is the result of a two-year survey, contains irrefutable facts and figures of vital importance to motion picture distributors, exhibitors and advertisers.

Now is the time to be among the first to see this startling presentation. If you have not yet scheduled an appointment, you may arrange one through:

ASSOCIATION OF SCREEN MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS, INC.
37 West 57th Street • New York 19, New York

DELL PUBLICATIONS
FAWCETT PUBLICATIONS
HILLMAN PUBLICATIONS
HUNTER SCREEN UNIT
IDEAL PUBLICATIONS
MACFADDEN PUBLICATIONS
Ainsworth Is Allied Head

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—William L. Ainsworth, president of Wisconsin Allied, yesterday was elected president of national Allied to succeed Jack Kirsh of the national organization’s board of directors, meeting here.

Truman T. Rembusch was moved from his former post of secretary to replace Ainsworth as treasurer, and Charles Niles was elected the new Allied secretary.

Steady Increase in Canadian Imports

Ottawa, Feb. 18.—Continuing a trend shown for the whole of last year, imports of films into Canada increased during Dec., 1947, from $135,906 in the corresponding 1946 period to $234,000.

Film imports—mostly from the U. S.—totaled $2,325,000 during all of 1947, compared with $2,418,000 in 1946. In the last complete pre-war year of 1938, imports totaled only $1,318,000.

Trials of 10 Are Delayed to March 8

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—Trials of the 10 Hollywood writers and directors charged with contempt of Congress have again been postponed, for about two weeks so that defense attorneys can summon House Un-American Activities Committee Chairman Thomas as a witness. Thomas is ill in Walter Reed Hospital here.

The U. S. District Attorney's Office has announced that they will take a break from the trials until March 8.

California Theatres Faced with Blackout

San Francisco, Feb. 18.—A blackout, and possibly a blackout, faces California theatres due to power shortages. Governor Warren informed theatre executives here today that daylight saving time may be adopted, temporarily, to alleviate the situation. The theatres have pledged support.

Lantz Offers Plan To Aid Cartoons

Cartoon producer Walter Lantz has suggested to United Artists, distributor of his shorts, that the “rank-and-file” exhibitors he asked to augment the average $1-per-day cartoon short rental which they now pay for Lantz product with the price of two admissions. The extra amount suggested would be added to the rental.

Trials of 10 Are Delayed to March 8

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—Trials of the 10 Hollywood writers and directors charged with contempt of Congress have again been postponed, for about two weeks so that defense attorneys can summon House Un-American Activities Committee Chairman Thomas as a witness. Thomas is ill in Walter Reed Hospital here.

The U. S. District Attorney's Office has announced that they will take a break from the trials until March 8.

California Theatres Faced with Blackout

San Francisco, Feb. 18.—A blackout, and possibly a blackout, faces California theatres due to power shortages. Governor Warren informed theatre executives here today that daylight saving time may be adopted, temporarily, to alleviate the situation. The theatres have pledged support.

Ainsworth Will Appoint Special Study Committee

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—National Allied will get to work on a campaign against what it describes as “distributor coercion” of exhibitors into paying unreasonably high film rentals, Allied’s mid-winter board meeting decided today, in its final session.

Board chairman and general counsel, Abram F. Myers said that newly-elected Allied president William L. Ainsworth would shortly name a “special committee of the board” to investigate complaints of various types of pressure put on exhibitors to pay high rentals, get all the evidence, study the situation, and decide what to do about it.

He cited as typical instances of this “coercion” campaigns by phone or mail among theatre-goers urging them to call their local theatre and ask the exhibitor to play the films a particular...
Personal Mention

JOSPEH BERNHARD, Film Classics president, will return here over the weekend from Hollywood.

WALTER COMPTON, former publicity manager for Loew's Ohio and Broad in Columbus, Ohio, returned to that city from Hollywood after several years as a studio publicist.

HENRY NEEDLES, Warner Theatres district manager in Hartford, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Hartford Rehabilitation Workshop.

JACK LEVEN, Warner Pathé News editor, will be one of three judges at the annual Press Photographers Association contest at the Hotel Astor here on Feb. 29.

E. O. GILBERT has resigned as manager of the Strand Theatre, Berlin, N. H. He has left Hollywood for E. R.ON FLETCHER, manager of the Albert.

SIR PHILIP WARTER, Associated British Picture Corp. chairman, will sail from England on the SS Queen Elizabeth today for New York.

EDWIN KNOTT, M-G-M producer, and GEORGE CUKOR, director, will leave here today for England on the SS Queen Mary.

LOUIE A. NOVINS, assistant to Paramount president BARNEY BALANIN, is due back in New York next Wednesday from Hollywood.

SAUL KRAMER, president of Screen Plans Inc., and GEORGE GLASS, vice-president, are in town from the Coast.

ARTHUR B. KRAM, Eagle-Lion president, left here yesterday for the Coast. He will return in Chicago and Dallas en route.

EDWARD STEVENS, Eagle-Lion booker in St. Louis, and FRENCH S. MILLER have been appointed E-L salesmen in that exchange.

ED MCD MACK, former manager of the Music Box Theatre, New Britain, Conn., has become manager of the Grand in New Haven.

FRANK J. DOWNEY, M-G-M manager in Detroit, will leave here tomorrow for his headquarters.

VLAMIR VELUCX, M-G-M studio story executive, will leave New York Feb. 27 for the Coast.

B. G. KRAENZI, Film Classics general sales manager, is in Boston from the Coast.

JACK NEEDHAM, 29th Century-Fox salesman in Columbus, O., for the past 27 years, has retired.

News Briefs

Ten Ad Art Chiefs on AMPA List

Ten motion picture company advertising art directors will occupy the dais at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' 18th Annual Dinner, to be held at the Town Hall Club here tomorrow, at which time, according to Vincent Thomas Smith, art director of D'Arcy Advertising Co., will be the principal speaker.

Invitations have been accepted by the following film art directors: Hal Levien, 20th-Fox; Charles Strabel, Paramount; Ed Walsh, Warners; Stanley Sherwin, RK0 Radio; Herb Juedes, United Artists; Jack Meyers, Columbia; Harold Gunman, Universal; Robert Hadley, Eagle-Lion, and Nicholas Demo, Republic. Special guests will be Marilyn Butler, "Miss America of 1946," and Carol Ohmart, Miss Utah of 1946. Phil Williams, acting president of the AMPA, will preside.

NCA Advises Against Any Ascap Payments

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 18.—Charging that only a few members of the membership, and not all the publishers and authors, are doing business with North Dakota in violation of the state law which compels a person who files a list of members' works with the secretary of the state, North Central Advisers is advising its members in the state to refuse to pay Ascap "anything now or ever" as a music performance license fee.

Circulation Returns from Thomas Hall, North Dakota state secretary, reveals Ascap has filed a list of its numbers since 1943.

Industry Representatives at Premiere of "Arch of Triumph"

BROOKLYN, Feb. 18.—Among its industry representatives attending the dual world premiere of "Arch of Triumph," at the Colony Theatre here, were: Miss Stubbins, Paramount in Palm Beach, Fla.; Nicholas Schenck, Jack Cohn, Joseph Hazen, St. Fabian, J. Meyer and St. Fabian, National; and Barney Bala- ban, Walt Disney, George J. Schaefer, Larry Pinanski and Walt Disney.

Johnston Again at White House

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Motion Picture Association of America president ERIC JOHNSTON called at the White House today. This time he went with American Federation of Labor economist Boris Shiskin to invite President Truman to speak at the Conference on Family Life, which will be held here in May.

Assails M-G-M Prize Novel

Refl. Alfred Barrett, professor at Fordham University here, yesterday attacked "Rainier County," a novel convention of a poet named Lockridge, Jr., which was awarded the $125,000 prize in M-G-M's novel contest for "any book dealing with blasphemy and sacrilege." He spoke at the Critics Forum on Catholic Thought on Best Sellers.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY: Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Shernon C. Quigley, Associate Editor; George Shernon, Circulation Manager; 752 Third Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 22, N. Y. Phone: 3-8700. Telegrams: Quigstogo, New York. Mailing address: Quigstogo, New York.

Mississippi Bill Would Cut Taxes 11%

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 18.—The state senate here has passed a bill reducing the Mississippi theatre tax administration fee from 6 percent to 4 1/2 per cent. Senator Farese fored $1,335,000 in taxes would be saved. The measure will go into effect in April.

Improve Promotion, Hal Chester Asks

The answer to declining grosses lies, Hal Chester, president of Chester Productions, Inc., independent releasing through Monogram-Alleged Artists, asserted here yesterday. In New York on his honeymoon, the 26-year-old producer, who has acquired rights to several Craig Rice comedy mysteries and also an option on the Kopet's stories for the next two years. The first, "Sister, Will You Be the Sunday Pidgeon Murders," will star Michael O'Shea.

Chester said the use of a sliding scale of admissions based on the cost and entertainment value of films, utilizing television and radio, could be determined by test runs.

Chester will leave for Bermuda in a few days and return to Hollywood at the end of the month. He has been producing the "Joe Palooka" films. His next release will be "Smart Woman" with Constance Bennett and Brian Ahern.

$500,000 Annually in Egyptian Remittance

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Arrangements have been made for eight major U. S. film distributors to convert into dollars up to 35 percent of their current Egyptian pound earnings, plus 35 percent of future Egyptian pound earnings for the last six months of 1947, according to a U. S. Commerce Department report. The agreement was with film remittance consultant Nathan D. Golden, estimates that on the basis of present rates, he would earn about $500,000 per year from current earnings, and immediate remittances of about $250,000 from accumulated earnings that have been blocked since exchange control legislation was enacted last July.

The entire situation will be reviewed again in April, according to the Golden report, "with a view to possible upward revision."

Variety Cancer Gift

Boston, Feb. 18.—A gift of $40,000 has been given by the Boston Variety Club to the Children's Hospital to establish the nation's first children's cancer foundation. The presentation was made to Vice-President of the Hotel Statler at which M. Murray Weiss, retiring chief barkeeper, received the first annual "Great Heart Award" of Agafcolor film has been issued by the Office of Technical Services, Commerce Department.

Agafcolor Report

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—A report on the acceptance of Agafcolor film has been issued by the Office of Technical Services, Commerce Department.
WE ARE RELEASING IT AGAIN!

SO RIGHT RIGHT NOW!

WARNER BROS. filmed all its splendor in color by TECHNICOLOR!

The Adventures of Robin Hood

Errol Flynn
Olivia de Havilland
Basil Rathbone
Claude Rains

THE 24-SHEET COMPLETE NEW LINE OF ACCESSORIES AND COMPLETE NEW PRESS BOOK ALL READY AT THE BRANCHES
Kearsn Defers

(Continued from page 1)

Kearsn, president of the Carpenters' union. Scheneck's appearance indicates that he is well positioned because of illness, while Hutcheson is expected by Kearsn to appear within the next few days.

Kearsn's statement came after four more company officials followed the tenor of testimony presented yesterday by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and RKO president J. Peter Rathvon. Both film executives denied conspiracy with B. B. Kahane and insisted that their studios open in September, 1946.

Parliamentarian Barney Ballaban, representing president W. Frank Freeman, 20th Century-Fox executive vice-president William C. Michel, and Columbia vice-president B. B. Kahane all emphasized the fact that the studios had been kept open only as a last-ditch measure to avoid the great financial loss that would have resulted from closing them.

Balaban Denies 'Collusion'

Balaban declared that there had never been any meeting of company presidents for the discussion of a strike agreement, only conversations keeping the studios open with the help of any particular union. When the presidents decided to keep the studios open, they agreed to give the carpenters every opportunity to work, and if they refused to sign the contract, the studios would provide the studios with workers.

The Paramount head stated that at first he had sided with Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, in believing that the studios should be closed, but later had changed his mind. He said he had "given up many years ago" the hope that the studio jurisdictional strike situation would ever be solved.

Following the procedure established yesterday by the committee chairman, attorneys were permitted to submit questions to witnesses. In reply to a question by George Bodle, counsel for the companies, Mr. Kahane said he had "never heard" that representatives of the IATSE had sat with the producers on the question of the sub-committee for the mass discharge were worked out.

Expected Hutcheson's Stand

Freeman stated that he and the other company heads had regarded the December, 1945, directive of the three-man AFL committee as a binding contract which had to be followed. But he added that he had been permitted to submit questions to witnesses. In reply to a question by George Bodle, counsel for the companies, Mr. Kahane said he had "never heard" that representatives of the IATSE had sat with the producers on the question of the sub-committee for the mass discharge were worked out.

"When you kept open," Congressmen Owens (R., Ill.) asked, "you then discharged the men who had not abided by the contract?"

"That's right," Freeman replied.

Freeman told the committee that he "championed the members of the union against any policies and action of 20th Century-Fox." He insisted that he had fought Johnston's efforts to "run the gauntlet and nail" because his company "was in no position to close the studio." He denied he had received the release he said he had instructed his Hollywood representatives to "operate as well as they could to keep the studios open.

The producers did not want a strike to occur inside the studio, B. B. Kahane, chairman of the producer's liaison committee, told the House sub-committee, but wanted it "outside there would be no damage to property." He said that the companies had "stoutly" called the carpenters in one by one and laid "clear-decked the crews to get them out of the buildings.

"This is the first time we have been told that the companies planned to get rid of the men," interjected Irving Gold, counsel for the House unit.

Kahane Gaves Testimony

Kahane denied any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

Kahane Gave Testimony

Kahane denied any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.

Dole labor witness today was William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, and a member of the three-man group which headed the American Federation of Labor's direct action on the jurisdictional strife.

Kahane denies any conspiracy in the plan, but said it was "just the means decided on to continue operation." He said the companies had freed all the other unions and crafts working in the studios to see if they would go along with the September strategy.

The companies' agreements were reported. Had they refused, he explained, the companies would have been forced to continue the strike.
Reviews

"Caged Fury" (Paramount-Pine-Thomas)

COMPARED to the sort of melodramatics that go into the making of the film’s prospects as far as the younger element. Under the direction of William Berke the picture takes on a suspense which, though artificial, never misses the mark where young people are concerned. The story of a feud between a lion tamer (Richard Denning) and a circus clown (Buster Crabbe), with the latter cast as a villain of the deepest hue. Crabbe brings about the death of a friend, a lady lion trainer, with the hope of pursuing a romance with Sheila Ryan, eurastic aspiring to become a lion tamer with his assistance. When Denning, who is in love with Miss Ryan, tries to upset his plans, Crabbe plots to kill him. The story is revenged by Denning in an exhilarating battle ending in the circus clown being unable to carry death to a terrific set-up with Denning.

The David Lang screenplay follows a well-wool faring in piecing the story together.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, March 5.

P. E.

“Design for Death” (RKO Radio)

GRANTED access to the U.S. Alien Property Custodian’s library of confiscated Japanese newreel and theatrical footage, producers Theron F..Ruley and Richard O. Fleischer have compiled an excellent short feature documentary on Japan’s seventh-decennium into an aggression nation of fanatical, suicidal warriors bent on conquering the world. Recounted here is the story of a Japanese army division on the scene during World War II. The documentary pictures the rise from the obscure family wars and peasant rebellions explode upon the screen until finally a mammoth “rack” is feuded by the feudal lords when democratic thinking threatens their power. They found that a state religion could be used to dupe common men into killing and dying so the masters could further agrarianize themselves with the spoils of foreign wars.

This short, which runs in two parts, contains footage of Japan’s military history coming to life on the screen, a forceful commentary, written by Theodor and Helen Geisel and narrated by Kent Smith and Hans Conried, underscores the visible lesson on the dire consequences of too much power in the hands of a few. But, in addition to the hour-long documentary, a wallow that alone should entitle it to prominent billing wherever it plays. Commendable background music serves to complement the swift melodramatic pace.

Sibyl Leff was executive producer.


Charles L. Franks

"Adventures of Casanova" (Eagle-Lion)

MORE outdoor adventure and romance has been compressed into Leonard B. Clue’s lavish budget by the use of Technicolor, the camera. This time the master of two or three similar dramas, the venture coming off quite successfully for Eagle-Lion.

The fictionalized screen account of the adventures of that saucy rascal, Casanova, has plenty of action and popular appeal, though quite often the plot runs into weaker medium. For casting, an impressive job has been done, with Arturo de Cordova in the title role; Turhan Bey, as his dashing aide, and Lucille Bremer and Noreen Nash holding up the distaff side.

The period drama records the turbulent times of 18th Century Sicily. With the land crushed under the conquering army of the Emperor of Austria, it falls to Casanova’s lot to rally patriotic partisans into guerrilla tactics against the aggressive Emperor, and as Casanova proves throughout, he is just as adept at swordplay as he is at love-making. Many daring feats and exciting activities pass across the screen before the patriots are successful, and these are usually shown against eye-stumping backgrounds. A two-way romance also runs through the plot, but while de Cordova finally wins the hand of the governor’s daughter, Miss Bremer, a mortal wound keeps Bey from his fair one, as played by Miss Nash. All perform quite enjoyably, with competent George Tobias and Brian Donlevy making attractive mumps; John Sutton as the velvet-tongued villain, and Fritz Leiber as an insidious leader. Given brisk direction by Roberto Gavaldon, the film rates well in its classification.

Running time, 93 minutes. General audience classification. For set for February release.

Charles L. Franks

Trials of 10 Delayed

(Continued from page 1)

Brodly to Promote

Hollywood, Feb. 18. — Headed by producer Sidney Brodly of Allied Artists, a contingent of stars will leave here to attend the world premiere of the company’s recent triumph, "Panhandle," to be held in Amarillo, Tex., on March 3.

Show Safe-Driving Short

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18. — Washington theatres will show the short "February "Safe-Driving Campaign" with the showing of a short haz-

Short Subjects

“Make Way for Youth” (Association Films)

Produced by the youth division of the National Social Welfare Assembly, this short is a worthy contribution to the drive against intolerance and discrimination. By playing it in schools it will not only be offering a film entertaining in its own right but will be rendering the community a service.

It outlines a youth program to eliminate racial, religious and other barriers, patterned after the one in Madison, Wis., and North Dakota. The subject is simple and interestingly various steps in putting the program into operation are described. It is still promising to give the community a set.

"Marriage and Divorce" (March of Time—20th Century-Fox)

The latest March of Time looks at the topic of marriage-divorces and comes up with a batch of statistics and sobering newsworthy information. The subject is a brisk and engrossing one, and calls upon several authorities in the field to stress its points.

Before probing the topic, the film points out that last year’s marriages ran over 5000 daily and statistics indicate that one out of three marriages in 1948 is headed for trouble. The film concludes on the note that marriage advice is needed and self-realization than any other course. Running time, 17 minutes.

“Operation White Tower” (This Is America-RKO Radio)

The story of a scientific expedition to Mount McKinley, highest and coldest peak in North America, is told by Ted de Haven and Ambrose Bierce. It is an unusual subject of general interest. Before taking the audience to Mount McKinley, remote interior of Alaska, the film shows the elaborate preparations necessary for the long trek by plane and foot. Among the many highlights are the snow trails cracked by huge ice pikes and crevasses. The journey was made by 12 men and one woman of the Waltham expedition. Running time, 18 minutes.

 Allied Probe

(Continued from page 1)

cent of which go for labor, have increased from 1947 to 1948, and rentals have increased only 15 per cent. Lantz said. Whereas in 1941 it cost $12,000 to produce a cartoon short, today the cost is between $26,000 and $35,000, he added, explaining that if he had not undertaken meanwhile to produce independent cartoons, he would not have been able to continue producing for theaters with rentals at their present low level.

Exhibitor resistance to pay increased rentals, Lantz said, has brought about a 50 per cent reduction in the production of cartoons. This year, between 90 and 92 cartoons will be produced, compared to the 190 or more in previous years, the producer said.

The fact that exhibitors are willing to pay the same rental price for cartoon short reissues as they do for new product, Lantz said, proves two things: that the exhibitor needs shorts to fill his screen time, and that he is unreasonable in his reluctance to help the producer surmount production costs.

Lantz, who will leave here for Hollywood on Sunday following a two-week visit, said he sees "a great future for cartoons in television."

Trials of 10 Delayed

(Continued from page 1)

service was willing to go ahead with Representative Republican present at the October hearings, as a witness, but defense attorney was unable to obtain the District Court granted the postponement to give Thomas a chance to recover and testify.

This was the first trial, that of John Howard Lawson, will open on March 8, instead of Feb. 24, as previously scheduled. All other trials are pushed back a corresponding period.
She keeps the romance running smoothly...

THE spell of this picture's song and story might suddenly be broken... but for film row's "first lady," the exchange inspectress.

With unrelenting vigilance, she has inspected every inch of film before each booking... checked it for worn perforations, torn splices, and other signs of wear and tear that might hinder smooth projection and mar the enchantment of the show. By this painstaking care of film and unceasing effort to keep each reel running smoothly, the inspectress has earned a place of importance behind the scenes of motion picture distribution.

And her work is all the more easily done for the quality and reliability she finds in the release prints made on Eastman film.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
Industry Ends Its Story Of Studio Strike

House Group Will Hear Labor Chief Organic Today

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The industry's side of the Hollywood jurisdictional strike situation was completed today when five major film companies testified before a House labor subcommittee currently holding hearings on the subject. All underlying testimony given by company executives during the two previous days of the hearings, declaring that the decision to keep the studios open in September, 1946, was based purely on financial reasons and was not reached after consultation with any union.

The industry officials who testified today were Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic; Robert W. Perkins, Warner Brothers vice-president and general counsel; Carrol Sax, in charge of labor relations for Warners; John O'Connor, Universal vice-president, and Charles Boren, vice-president in charge of industrial relations for the Motion Picture Association of America.

(Continued on page 4)

Ascap Trust Trial Is Expected in a Week

With the termination in U.S. District Court here yesterday of the trial of the James Mason-David Rose cross-complaint breach-of-contract suit, the way was made clear for the hearing of the monopoly action brought by the 160-old New York exhibitors against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Louis Frolich, of the law firm of Schwarzs and Frolich, counsel for both Mason.

(Continued on page 4)

Horizon to Produce For M-G-M Release

Hollywood, Feb. 19.—M-G-M has closed a deal with Horizon Pictures, consisting of Sam Spiegel and John Huston, to produce an undetermined number of features independently for M-G-M release. The association is effective April 1, after "Key Largo." For Warner release is finished by Horizon.

Horizon is the fifth outside source acquired in recent months by M-G-M, the others being Frank Capra, Hal Roach, Merian Cooper and John Ford.

Chicago Tax Yield Is $125,567 for a Month

Chicago, Feb. 19.—The city has so far collected $125,567 in the first month of its new three per cent amusement tax on January collections, it was reported by comptroller Robert B. Upham, who stated the figure was below the $200,000-a-month which the tax was expected to yield. Some amusement organizations have not yet filed reports, the deadline for reporting on January taxes being March 1.

RKO Steps Up New Chicago Sales Plan

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—RKO Radio, under its new sales plan in compliance with the Jackson Park Theatre decree, here, is now offering "Riff Raff" to a selected group of theatres wishing to license it at specified rentals.

RKO recently sold "Tycoon" to 17 theatres day-and-date following a Loop run, and to 25 theatres in the following week. Houses in this instance were hand-picked for test purposes.

"Night Song" and "If You Know What I Mean" will be sold on the same basis as "Riff Raff." RKO stipulates, however, that theatres located within a radius of a mile-and-one-half of each other are considered competitive and (Continued on page 3)

U.S. Lists Incomes of Top Industry Earners

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Louis B. Mayer was third highest salary earner in the United States in 1945, with $302,571 received from Loew's, according to figures released here today by the Treasury Department.

The salaries listed are gross and do not give effect to large federal and state income taxes.

The release was a supplemental list of individuals standing for corporate compensation for personal services in excess of $75,000 during fiscal years ending in 1945 or 1946 and during the calendar year 1945. An earlier list, released in August, showed Charles F. Loomis, president of the National Amusement Amusement Co., to have been the top wage earner, with $568,143. Mayer was top man on the list today.

Motion picture figures dominated today's list even more than they did the August list, with returns listed today from Loew's, Warner Brothers, and Universal, all omitted from the August report. In the film industry reported more than $200,000 on today's list, compared with only six on the August returns, with many more companies reported in the earlier list than in today's. Salaries paid by M-G-M during 1945 still have not been reported.

Today's list gave Ginger Rogers the top woman wage earner title. She reported $152,000 salary from Loew's, with which, in 1938, and $117,159 reported in August from Vanguard Films, gave her a total of $295,159. Deanna Durbin moved into the second woman's spot with $360,875 reported from Universal.

(Continued on page 4)

TAX PEACE NEAR, PARLIAMENT TOLD

New Funds to Push U. S. Film Plans

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The State Department's Overseas Information Program appears likely to get over $350,000,000 in the 1948-49 fiscal year, according to the schedule for the next three years. The Department's general budget for the entire 1948-49 fiscal year is expected to be $470,000,000, a new all-time high.

The question of where private film companies fit into the picture came up today when it was indicated that a House appropriation sub-committee will vote the program $30,000,000 of the $36,000,000 it asked for operations during the year ending June 30, 1949. This is in keeping with the expanded operations authorized by the Smith-Mundt bill. The Senate may increase the total. But since the greatest part of the allocation is earmarked for personnel, equipment, travel expenses, exchange... (Continued on page 4)

Assurance Given by Ex-BOT President As Quota Bill Passes

LONDON, Feb. 19.—Lord Swinton, former president of the British Board of Trade, expressed in the House of Lords today his belief that an ad valorem tax solution advantageous to both the U.S. and England will be reached shortly. His statement came with the passage by Lords of the Cinematograph Films (Quota) Bill, which already has passed Commons and which will become law officially when King George VI affixes his signature. Motion Picture Daily reported on Wednesday that U.S. Ambassador William O. Douglas, who is en route here, will open discussions with U.K. government on the film tax immediately on his arrival.

Prior to Swinton's utterance, Viscount Hall declared in Lords during discussion on the bill today that the British government is prepared to agree to modification of the ad valorem duty if British films shown abroad achieve dollar earnings required to meet the nation's dollar shortage.

The British government does not merely want British films distributed abroad, but wants them shown abroad effectively to bring about real dollar earnings, Hall said, in pressing for passage of the quota bill. Tory oppos... (Continued on page 4)

PCCITO Trustees in Favor of Lewis Bill

SEATTLE, Feb. 19.—Support for the Lewis bill which has been introduced in Congress to have Ascap negotiate with producers on music licensing fees coupled with a resolution backing Beul Berger, Minneapolis theatre operator, in his suit against Ascap was voted here today by trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independents.

(Continued on page 4)

No Paper Monday

Motion Picture Daily will not be published on Monday, a legal holiday in observance of Washington's Birthday on Sunday.
New South Wales.

**Personal Mention**

**Insider's Outlook**

By RED KANN

WITH all the resources at their beck and call, wouldn't you think it a simple matter for the major studios to assemble some of the unchallengeable statistics about the operation of the big five companies? Especially when their high-powered attorneys, assembled in impressive and expensive array in Washington, are arguing their clients' position in the Paramount, et al., suit before the Supreme Court. But no, a witness for the plaintiff nevertheless always the case.

*Wild Bill* Donovan, picking up the cudgels of resistance for RKO, had one set covering numbers of theaters arrayed in affiliated theatre ranks and percentages of domestic film rental gross, including Canada, enjoyed by each of the five principal defendants. John W. Davis, lance carrier for Loew's, had another. Judge Joseph Proskauer, valiantly defending Warners, had still a third.

Counsel from Clark, on the other side of the fence, of course had his own.

Dealer's choice, therefore.

For example, Donovan asserted there were 18,000 theaters in the United States, a figure which would strike many as exceeding significantly unless RKO's legal protagonist was referring to accounts, not theaters; a point, incidentally, which he never made clear for perhaps good and understandable reason from which he stood.

On his statement, however, Paramount with nine per cent of the total had 2,000 houses; 20th-Fox, at 3.5 per cent, 630; Warners, at 2.77 per cent, 1,053; Loew's, at .74 per cent, 132, and RKO, at .60 per cent, 108. Nobody bulked them, and so we now do, for a combined 16.07 per cent and 3,285 theaters.

Disagreeing by indirection and never challenging Donovan or anyone else Davis, however, placed the five affiliated circuit holdings at a combined 9.3 per cent, whereas Proskauer practically agreed with Donovan when he informed the high bench Warner holdings today were about 500.

One of the interesting analyses sprang from Attorney General Tom Clark, understandably inclined to stress his own statistics, and centered on 1943-44 film rentals, he set forth this: Paramount's return from affiliated circuits was $23,000,000 or 54 per cent; Warner's, $15,000,000 or 52 per cent; Loew's, $27,500,000 or 43 per cent; RKO's, $18,000,000 or 35 per cent, and 20th-Fox's, $18,000,000 or 35 per cent. Committed to the situation in terms of affiliated producer-distributor power and the extent of their dealings with affiliated circuits, the Attorney General never rounded out the picture, which we are prepared to undertake on the basis of his calculations.

Paramount, perforce, must have done $18,000,000 or 46 per cent, with unaffiliated houses; Warner, $14,000,000 or 48 per cent; Loew's, $27,500,000 or 50 per cent—a very surprising figure, by the way; RKO, $16,000,000 or 57 per cent; and 20th-Fox, $32,000,000 or 65 per cent, which is even more of a surprise than Loew's.

Separately and variably in arguments on behalf of their clients, what seems to be the statistical fabric of this industry at its topmost levels was divulged further by other lawyers.

There was Thomas Turner Cooke, who stated Universal was so far reversed in its position with a reliance on the unaffiliated exhibitor for 58 per cent of its return and only 42 per cent from the five theater-operating majors.

Jules Frohlich went beyond on behalf of Columbia with his statement this company depended on fully 70 per cent of its domestic income from its affiliates to the little fellow at the crossroads.

On the other hand, Proskauer's breakdown of Warner at home take credited 14 per cent to the company's own theaters, and 25 per cent to the remaining four affiliated chains for a combined total of 39 per cent, which left 61 per cent from independent theater operation.

Conclusions to be drawn from these conflicting sets of figures, of course, could be many. One that stands out, probably above all others, is this: That despite the first, the big and the predominant money which the producer-distributor draws from the first runs largely controlled or operated by affiliated producer-distributors, the independent is a factor in continuing operation.

No distributor can get along without him, regardless of what he may do or say.
Jackson Pk. Official Hits Bidding, Booking System

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—An "unreasonable and complicated system" of competitive bidding and booking practices by major circuits is violating the Jackson Park decree, ac- cording to Richard Sallan, manager of Jackson Park Theatre. "I don't have a chance when I have to pay the same price for films as a house with twice as much seating capacity, like the 3,000-seat Balaban and Katz Tivoli."

Confusion arising from the decree is expected to be clarified next Tuesday when Judge Michael Igoe will pass a petition for contempt against theatre circuits and distributors.

Far Eastern Troubles Cause Recall of U-T's Berger

Recall of Universal-International's supervisor in the Far East, Michael Berger, because of the chaos in that part of the world does not mean the company will abandon its operations there, nor will it reduce them in any way unless military necessity warrant. This was brought out at an interview yesterday.

Berger expressed the hope that in any negotiations with China some consideration be given to investments by U. S. film companies in that country. He said Universal will be closed soon, due to its frozen funds in Canada to invest in negotiable securities.

Berger is here for reassessment.

Seven More Apply to FCC For Television Station Permits

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The Federal Communications Commission has received seven new applications for commercial television stations. Applicants are American Republican, Waterbury, Conn. Chicago Broadcasting, Indianapolis; Buffalo Foundation, Buffalo; T-V Inc., Columbus; Cleveland Broadcasting, Cleve- land; New England Television Co., Springfield, Mass., and St. Louis.

Washington, Feb. 19.—California with its 12 authorized television stations and 87 frequency modulation (FM) stations, leads all other states in these fields, according to a survey by the Federal Communications Com- mission. New York has 10 radio and 79 FM stations, while Pennsylvania has six television and 40 FM outlets on the FCC states. Eighteen states are still without any video authorizations.

Loew's Books Louis Film

Four Loew neighborhood theatres in Brooklyn and Harlem will hold world premiers of heavyweight champi- ons Joe Louis. "Sparks" is featured within a few weeks, it is announced by Alexander Productions. Titled "The Fight Never Ends," the film is designed to combat juvenile delinquency. Louis stars.

Utah Theatre Damaged

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 19.—Damage estimated at more than $10,000 was sustained by the Grove Theatre, Pleasant Grove, Utah, last night by a fire and explosion which occurred 10 minutes after manager Keith Miller closed the house for the night.

AMPA "Art Salute" Meeting Today Termined a "Sell-Out"

Virtually all reservations for the Associated Motion Picture Adver- tising Executives' "Art Directors" luncheon-meeting, which will be held at the Town Hall Club here today, have been filled, Phil Wil- liams, AMPA president, reports. Ten film company advertising art directors will occupy the dais, and Paul Smith, art director of D'Arcy Advertising Co., will be the principal speaker. Vincent Trotta is chairman of the affair.

Kranze Names Cohen Head Of FC's Capital Exchange

Max Cohen has been appointed head of the Washington, D. C., exchange of Film Classics, by B. G. Kranze, FC vice-president and general sales manager. Richard de Burges, former branch manager, will serve under Cohen as exchange sales manager. Cohen goes to Film Classics from United Artists and has been with the company for 20 years as branch manager in Washington, Pennsylvania and Cleveland.

Compulsory Theatre Parking Lot Bill Due Out of Committee

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 19.—Senator Edward F. Bragdon, who has been given the bill requiring owners of theatre buildings hereafter erected in cities to provide off-street parking, including 200 square feet units for each 40 persons of the total seating capacity in theatres, might be reported this week from committee.

No memoranda has yet been filed by theatre interests on the bill.

L. T. Stone Is Named Aspistant Resident Counsel

Louis T. Stone, an attorney with the law firm of Cravath, Swaine and Moore in this city, has been named assistant resident counsel of the American Society of Composers, Au- thors and Publishers by Herman Finkelstein, resident counsel.

Four Cuban Awards to M-G-M

The Federation of Cuban Motion Picture Writers, an organization of editors and critics of Cuban newspa- pers and magazines, has given four awards to M-G-M, one each citing "Sea of Grass" and "Undercurrent" as among the five best films released in the country last year, and awards to Spencer Tracy and Katherine Hep- burn for the best performances. Loew's International discloses here.

Neumade Display at Convention

Accompanied by L. E. Jones, sales manager, and G. H. Totten and R. E. Herndon, the sales department, Oscar F. Neu, president of Neumade Produc- tors Corp., is in Atlantic City, displaying the company's equipment line at the American Association of Administrators convention.

San Francisco Brown-out

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19.—A brown-out went into effect here tonight for the first time since the war, with neighborhood and downtown exhibitors voluntarily agreeing to keep off all decorative marquee lights except reader boards.

New Construction Approved by OHE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The Office of the Housing Expander has approved the construction of a $154,300 theatre in Olympia, Wash., to be built by Thomas L. O'Leary.

Also approved was a $175,000 expenditure for maintenance and repair of the Fresno Theatre, in Fresno, Cal., and expenditures of $33,000 for repairing a Balaban and Katz theatre in Chicago. Total OHE approvals for the week ending Jan. 30 reached $552, 805 for seven theatres, denials were $1,430,200 for 13 theatres.

Construction Begun On Video Station

Work on the television station for The New York Daily News has been begun by the Turner Construction Co. The station, which will be atop the newspaper's 36-story building, will be the fourth television station in the New York area.

RKO's Chicago Plan

(Continued from page 1)

may not play the same picture at the same time. The exhibitor who bids first gets the run for 24 weeks, the second highest bidder 21 weeks, the third 18 weeks, the fourth 15 weeks, the fifth 12 weeks, the sixth 9 weeks, the seventh 6 weeks, the eighth 3 weeks, and the ninth 2 weeks. The top bid may be a minimum of seven days; second sub- sequent run, from four to seven days; with a Friday opening; third subse- quent run, a minimum of three days, with a Sunday opening.

Dedicated to Sound at its Best for Every Theatre

One Standard of Quality Only...THE HIGHEST

INFORMATION OF VALUE TO THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

"VOICE OF THE THEATRE" SOUND SYSTEM

CHOSEN BY THE ACADEMY AWARD THEATRE TO PROVIDE OPTIMUM SOUND PROJECTION

HOLLYWOOD.—To make it possible for the sound directors of the producing companies to hear and judge the sound quality of their respective products under conditions that meet the stringent re- quirements set by the Academy for sound reproduction, the Academy has installed an Altec Lansing standard A-2 type "Voice of the Theatre" loudspeaker system in the Academy Award Theatre. The studios use the Academy Theatre as a "proving ground" for new products as they are issued, since the theatre provides optimum conditions of sound projection for testing.

The Altec Lansing A-2 and A-2X "Voice of the Theatre" speaker systems are for use with amplifier ratings of 100 watts and up to 150 watts respectively. These systems make 100 percent use of the complete frequency range as recorded on the sound track. Ask your supply dealer about the right size "Voice of the Theatre" for your theatre. "Voice of the Theatre" sound systems are supplied as regular equipment by most leading manufacturers of theatre systems.

1161 N. Vine Street
Hollywood 36, Calif.

250 West 57th Street
New York 19, N. Y.
 renowned film owners also were tops, Barbara Stanwyck reported $166,666 from Warner's today's list, which, with which Robert S. Loew's: Other

Also Morgan, Aug. 30, 1948: Also Schenck, $105,299. Therefore, compensation); for the second time, the following points. Also Edward Pidgeon, Pidgeon, $104,500. Furthermore, according to the law of Mason's case.

At the conclusion of yesterday's hearing, which shows Mason's-rose movement around which the two-week trial centered. Robert Persinger was trial counsel for Rose.

PCCIT Trustees
(Continued from page 1)

dent Theatre Owners. PCCITO counsel, it was reported, will appear as a friend of the court in the Berger case. The Trustees also accepted a short feature, short film, separate quotas on "first features" and "supporting program features," calculated by the number of days of exhibition and supporting program featured. Hall told the upper house of Parliament that the bill was necessary in view of the British industry's having been irritated and impressed by the war and because of the subsequent dislocation which it suffered. "It isn't good," Hall said, "and the Bill has to be withdrawn if the picture is to reach the quota this year." Without the picture, the quota will remain in effect for 10 years. During its consideration the government refused to accept an amendment offered by Sir Oliver Lyttleton in Commons, through which he sought to write into the bill the assurance given by the Ministry that the exhibition quota for British films to be fixed next July would be at least as advantageous as that fixing until Oct. 15, 1946. Government resistance was on the ground that no one can forecast the box office results of the pictures, and that the flow of films produced in Britain would steadily increase and it is impossible to quote the quota year by year. The motion picture industry, such as 50,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, and 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, and 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000, 505,000

U. S. Film Plans
(Continued from page 1)

of students and other "programmed" items, State Department officials add little will remain for paying out of the $150,000 to $200,000 which companies and other information media.

Despite the outlook for the industry generally, the prospect for the department's international motion picture division is fairly bright. The division is asking for $2,500,000, if the program gets $3,000,000, it seems certain to wind up with over $2,000,000, with $1,000,000 to $1,500,000 during the current year.

Among plans for the 12 months starting in July are 60 new films in 26 different languages, slightly more than half of the films coming from privately-owned companies while the rest will be produced by the division itself. The division has also asked, for the first time, for funds to operate 60 mobile film units overseas.

Strike Hearings
(Continued from page 1)

ca., and former industrial relations manager of Paramount. This time there will be labor union heads, committee chairman Kearns (Rep., Pa.) said. Kearns declined to discuss the hearings or to name the dates to which the hearings to date, repeating that he would need the testimony of Nicholas M. Schenck and William L. Foxhoe-

Lays Strife to 'Communists'
The hearings went off temporarily on a new tack when Matthew Levy, attorney for IATSE, stated emphatically that the recent jurisdictional strife was Communist-caused. "No investigation of the jurisdictional strife on a complete picture without investigating the part played by Communist infiltration in the studio," Levy said. He added that Communist activity had played an intensified the crises of the jurisdictional rift.

Chairman Kearns answered via telephone from his Brookline, Mass., home no mention of Communism at the current hearings. If anyone gives testimony on a jurisdictional on any alleged Communist background to the jurisdictional dispute, he said, he would turn over the answers to the Senate committee on Un-American Activities. If the Thomas committee found evidences of Communist influence, he continued, he would investigate it from a labor viewpoint.

Boren refused charges made by Herbert K. Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, who took the stand for a short time and maintained that the motion pictures were "necessarily"

Boren Explains Production Lag
Sorrell implied that this was due to the strike, but Boren declared that any current abnormal-operation was due to a falling off in the box-office "take" which forced studio retribution. Tomorrow's witnesses are expected to be J. Franklyn Pindler, president; Richard F. Reel, IATSE head; Harvey Brown, president of the International Association of Machinists; Joseph Tockey, formerly the Teamsters Union, and now in charge of labor relations for Fox-West Coast Theatres; and Sorrell.

Majors Not Expected To Top 25 in Italy
While major U. S. distributors have ended their understanding to limit themselves to 25 pictures each for the Italian market annually, it is not expected that this figure will be exceeded, according to a Motion Picture Association of America spokesman. It was pointed out that only about 15 pictures were released in Italy by each company under the agreement.

Ascap-Juke-Box Bill
WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 — Senator Harkness has introduced in the Senate a bill permitting Ascap to collect royalties on the sale of juke-box records. There was no opposition to the bill in the House where the measure is pending. A House judiciary sub-committee held hearings last year on a companion bill.
Atlas' Film Stock Halved During Year

No Longer Lists Loew's, 20th and WB Securities

Atlas Corporation's holdings of film securities were reduced by approximately 33 per cent in a year, from $20,034,371 to $10,110,341, according to the holding company's current report.

During the year, Atlas disposed of its holdings of Loew's 20th Century-Fox and Warner securities.

In addition to the disposition of some of its film stock holdings, the company reported that the market and book value of other film shares held by Atlas declined during the year.

The Atlas portfolio now includes the following film securities: $331,375 of Walt Disney Prod. bonds; 70,500 common shares of Paramount, listed at $1,515,750; 929,020 common shares of Radio-King-Orpheum, at $7,664,415; $7,612 RKO option warrants, at $655,624; 91,700 common shares of Walt Disney Prod., at $275,100.

The previous Atlas report included the following: 2,000 shares of Loew's.

(Continued on page 3)

L. B. Mayer Bought Rivoli on Broadway

Hollywood, Feb. 23.—Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M head, has identified himself as the purchaser of the Rivoli Theatre on Broadway, New York. It was purchased, he said, as a personal investment.

Sale of the first-run house was reported two weeks ago. It was said at the time that the sale was subject to an open mortgage of $370,000, held by the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Co. The property reportedly was held at $1,500,000 by heirs of the late Mayer.

(Continued on page 3)

Appeal Goldman Suit To Supreme Court

Washington, Feb. 23.—The major film distributors and the various Warner subsidiaries on Friday asked the Supreme Court to reverse the Third Circuit, (Philadelphia) Court of Appeals' decision in the Goldman Theatre treble damage anti-trust appeal.

The appeal filed by the distributors declared that the lower court's decision, "if unreversed, may well spell the ruin of the motion industry."

Inter-State Sales Taxable: Georgia

Atlanta, Feb. 23.—Motion pictures sold through Atlanta exchanges for exhibition in other states are taxable in Georgia, the State Court of Appeals has ruled here, in a test case decision involving all film companies operating in the state.

The Court upheld Judge Bond Almand of Fulton Superior Court in dismissing affidavits of illegality filed by 20th Century-Fox against Revenue Commissioner Glenn Phillips.

The commissioner filed attachments against the company for $14,764 alleged to be due on state taxes for 1941-42-43. The company had paid $9,034 in taxes for those years and claimed that it had been overcharged by its sales in Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida, while made through its Atlanta office, were not taxable in this state.

The company also contended that it did not actually sell films, but merely rented them for exhibition. The Court of Appeals ruled that the company did sell its copyrights and franchises.

Brotherhood Lunch At Astor Today

Annual luncheon of the amusement division of "Brotherhood Week," sponsored by the National Conference of Fortunes and Jews, will be held here today at the Hotel Astor. Some 800 are expected to attend, according to David Weinstock, campaign chairman.

Spyros Skouras is national chairman of the film division, and J. Robert Brown is national chairman of the amusement division. David O. Slezick is chairman of production.

The luncheon program includes: 2

(Continued on page 2)

Harvey Heads Unit to Plan PCCITO Meet

Seattle, Feb. 23.—Rotus Harvey was named general chairman of the forthcoming Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners convention to be held in San Francisco April 5-8, at the final meeting of a PCCITO trustees' four-day session here. The convention committee will also include Hugh Braun, William Graeber, L. O. Lukian, Jack A. Mastro, Harold Chesser and Robert H. Poole.

Harvey has also announced that the trustees have drawn up plans for recommendation to its units urging Con- gressional support of the PCCITO. He said they also will make the Lewis bill (H.R. 5014), providing for Ascap to negotiate directly with producers on theatre music licensing fees.

Paramount Affiliates Lose Video Protest

Washington, Feb. 23.—The Federal Communications Commission has turned down the protests of three Paramount subsidiaries applying for television channels against taking testimony from other companies applying for the same channels at a coming FCC hearing.

The protest came from United Detroit Theatres, New England Theatres and Television Productions, applying for stations in Detroit, Boston and San Francisco, respectively. The FCC hearing, set for March 1, is to determine whether Paramount controls these companies and Allen B. DuMont Laboratories and thus already has more than five stations maximum allowed any one company by the FCC.

Kearsney Probe Of Coast Strike

In Final Phase

Hutcheson Heard; Await Testimony from Schenck

Washington, Feb. 23. — The House Labor committee's hearings on the Hollywood jurisdictional strike situation are expected to end tomorrow or Wednesday, with the testimony of one or two union leaders and company and labor attorneys.

Although chairman Kearsney at the weekend heard testimony from one of his two "key witnesses," Carpenters' union head William L. Hutcheson, he stuck by his earlier statements that he still needs the testimony of Loew's executive Nicholas M. Schenck before deciding whether to change his opening day charge that the September, 1946, dispute was "probably the result of collusion between the producers and IATSE."

Hutcheson head Richard Walash followed Hutcheson to the stand Friday. He denied any collusion between his union and the studios. The committee also heard from other union leaders involved in the dispute—the International Association of Machinists, the Teamsters, and the Operating Engineers.

Harvey W. Brown I.A.M. president, at the committee's opening statement and declared: "Producers are responsible for all the losses suffered by all parties in the motion picture industry," arising from the dispute.

Joseph Tooby, labor relations director for Fox West Coast Theatres, who was associated with the Teamsters' union during the strike, denied that his sympathies with any party and the producers during the period of the dispute. Committee questioning brought out the fact that Tooby has entered negotiations for his current position during that period.

Lester Wilson, Hollywood representatives of the Operating Engineers, testified for his organization.

MPAA to Oppose New Mexican Import Duty

Washington, Feb. 23.—The Motion Picture Association of America is expected to oppose a proposed increase in import duties on Mexican film to Mexico when it testifies before the Committee for Reciprocity Informa tion. Though the amount of the boost has not been made known, industry officials have always considered the recent increase from 20 pesos to 22 pesos only a "stop-gap measure."
Personal Mention

EDWARD MOREY, vice-president of Allied Artists, will leave New York today for Washington, while MACKY GOLDSTEIN, general sales manager, will be here for Boston.

MAX YOUNGSTINE, vice-president of Eagle-Line, so excited over opening business of "The Smugglers," he distributed the bottle variety around the trade press.

JOE C. GOLTZ, of the Motion Picture Export Association staff here, and MRS. GOLTZ have become parents of a third child.

WILLIAM F. ROGERS, M-G-M general sales manager, arrived in Chicago yesterday from New York en route to the Coast.

MAX MILDER, Warner managing director of production in Great Britain, is due in New York today from the Coast.

CHARLES K. STERN, Loew's assistant treasurer, will leave here tomorrow for a Palm Beach vacation.

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, Paramount production executive, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

ROBERT MOCIRIE, RKO radio general sales manager, left here at the weekend for the Coast.

GARDWELL SEARS, United Artists president, returned here by plane at the weekend from Hollywood.

MEK KERMAN, Favorite Films president, left New York over the weekend for the Coast.

MERRY LEVY, M-G-M director, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

Yeshiva Study Fund Headed by Eyssell

Chairmanship of the motion picture industry scholarship fund for Yeshiva University has been accepted by Gus Eyssell, Radio City Music Hall president and managing director, who succeeds George Schaefer in the post.

Among industry executives who will cooperate in this year's drive are Schaefer, Barney Balaban, Dan Michale, Charles D. Pruten, Samuel Rosen, Abe Schneider, George Skogkas, Nate J. Blumberg, Herman Robinson, Irving Greenfield and Harold Rodner.

Denies Polish Charge

Irving Maas, Motion Picture Export Association vice-president and general manager, characterizes as without foundation, statements credited to Film Polski, attempting to discredit him by charging that it was forced to import American films earmarked by the U.S. State Department.

News Briefs

Avoid 'Masterminding': Film Advertising Chiefs Are Told

Speaking at a gathering of 125 from the industry at the Associated British Pictures, a luncheon-meeting in the Town Hall Hotel, London, an official of the advertising agency, said that the film advertising industry is avoiding the "temptation to mastermind the creative work" of its art staff. When Masterminding occurs, he pointed out, the last minute changes and other "masterminding" efforts by department chiefs, Smith said, not only cost the advertiser, but the film, and increase the turnover rate, but costs become higher.

The meeting was presided over by acting AMPA president Phil Williams.

Warter, ABP Chief, Due Here

Today for luncheon is Philip A. Water, chairman of Associated British Pictures, associate corporation of Warner's in Great Britain, is due in New York today, having accepted the Queen Elizabeth award for a series of conferences with Warner home office and executive staff.

Mr. Philip and Lady Water will be in New York until March 5 when they will leave for Barbank, California, to be present at the opening of "Hillman," Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd L. Water, Jr.

Greenthal Ad Agency Will Represent Screen Magazines

Monroe Greenthal Advertising Agency has been named advertising and promotion director for the Association of Screen Magazine Publishers, here.

Formerly recent to become common advertising and exploitation problems of screen magazine publishers and the motion picture industry, the association is composed of the following publication groups: Dell, Fawcett, Hillman, Hunter, Ideal, Macfadden.

ITT, Film-Tel Debt Payment Arrangement Is Confirmed

International Teatrical and Television Corporation and Film-Tel, will continue in business under an amended plan for arrangement of ITT's debt by the U.S. District Court here on Friday by bankruptcy referee Irwin Kurtz. Petition for arrangement was filed by ITT head George A. Hirlman on June 5.

Feature-Length Olympic Film Acquired by United Artists

Westport International's "King of the Olympics" has been acquired by United Artists for distribution in the U.S. The feature on the 1936 Olympic Games was edited from the work of 60 cameramen. It will be released next month.

AI Sherman Incorporates

Washington, Feb. 23.—In order to develop the "Sherman Plan for Controlled Distribution" of 16mm films, Al Sherman, Sherman Company, Inc., with headquarters here, has been formed. Al Sherman is president.

Newsreel Parade

T HE start of "Brotherhood Week," and final rites for Gandhi are recurved highlights in current reels. Sports and general interest stories round out. Complete contents daily.

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 15—New China army, Emlyn de Varens' Irish prime minister, Pennsylvania 'quadux,' Allen Daily's picture, brotherhood week, Golden Gloves, Housewives lists in right against high cost of living.


PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 52—Basket ball story, morning star, distribution, 'Brotherhood Week.' King and queen of figures skating.


Johnston Urges ERP Voice for Business

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—"A partnership capitalism" plan under which U.S. banks and private industrial men would aid in the administration of the European Recovery Program was advocated here by John Johnston.

Under Johnston's proposal, made to the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Banking, a Peace Loan Agency Board would have authority to make and guarantee private investments abroad by American banks. The lending bank in America would assume five per cent of any loss, and the borrowing bank another five per cent. The 90 per cent remainder of the loan would be guaranteed by the Government as in the days of war production.

Brotherhood Lunch

(Continued from page 1)

Including in their current releases a speci- "Babi de paro" and "Brotherhood Week,"speakers at today's luncheon will include Dr. Daniel A. Poling, editor of a variety of "Quigub." Mrs. James R. Batson, chief of the "Brotherhood Week' Credit to the producer was omitted inadvertently in the re- production in the Motion Picture Daily on Feb. 19.

Transfilm's Short

Transfilm, Inc., the producer of the short subject, "Make Way for Youth," which is being widely booked by the public during the current "Brother- hood Week." Credit to the producer was omitted inadvertently in the re- production in the Motion Picture Daily on Feb. 19.
**Reviews**

**"Sitting Pretty"**
(20th Century-Fox)

HERE is an engaging attraction, toiled with laughs and a merry assortment of pleasantries. "Sitting Pretty" is of, by and for audiences anywhere.

A novel by Gwen Davenport provided the base for a clever and freshly contrived screenplay by F. Hugh Herbert. The subject is baby sitters and 40 Robert Young and Maureen O'Hara, attractive parents of three delightfully rambunctious boys, expect "Lynn Belvedere" to be a woman only to discover he's Clifton Webb.

Webb is the central character by the very nature of the part. He dominates the picture and delivers what is easily the best performance and the best lines. Webb's failure to understand and accept the responsibilities that fall on him and so, finally, do the parents. Obviously something more than a baby sitter, no one knows exactly who or what he is until a sensational best seller based on one of the family's stories has been published, is his baby-sitting hits the newstands. There is the devil to pay and threats of libel, but through it all Webb, as the author, remains assured, self-reliant and completely undisturbed.

Running time, 84 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 15.

**"Speed to Spare"**
(Paramount)

A Paramount swift of activity is stirred up in "Speed to Spare," a formula action drama from the production team of William Pine and William Thomas. Richard Arlen is featured as a stunt driver who takes up a quieter profession as a driver with a trucking firm. Also in the cast are Jean Rogers, Robert Reilly, and Nanette Fabray.

Events go nicely for Arlen in his new job, and he even considers marriage with pretty Miss Parks. However, a fellow employee with a grudge against Arlen gets busy with a stunt, disguising the stunt with truck and trailer, and in general, being a dangerous nuisance.

Working from a routine screenplay, provided by Milton Raison, director William Berke stressed action. The climax has the trouble-maker snaring himself with the dynamo on the truck making the vehicle too hot for a freight load of chemicals, causing it to blow up. The film ends on a slightly different note, as Arlen goes on to jail for his "negligence" which paved the way for the explosion.


**Skouras, Schafer In Coast Conference**

Studio conferences on plans for key 20th-Fox pictures have sent president Spyros Skouras and Charles Schafer, advertising-publicity director, to the Coast. Participating in the discussions will be Joseph M. Schernik, Darryl Zanuck and Harry Brand.


**Kill Censorship Bill**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—A censorship bill introduced in the Massachusetts State Legislature has been withdrawn in accordance, according to Jack Bryson, legislative assistant to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America.

**Plan State Dept. Film**

Joseph Bernhard, Film Classics president, has arranged with U. S. Government officials to produce a picture based on the history of the State Department. Story will be done by Milton Raison.

**Response Favorable To TOA-Ascap Pact**

Reporting "overwhelmingly favorable response among music publishers to the outcome of recent (music rate) negotiations between Theatre Owners of America, Inc. and Mr. W. D. Conye, TOA executive director listed congratulatory messages from the following:

William R. Griffin, president of Alabama Theatres Association; R. B. Wilby, Wilby-Kinsey Service Corp.; Ben L. Whitten, president of Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina; William Crockett, president of Virginia Motion Picture Theatre Association; Paul Williams, Southern California Theatre Owners, Russell Hallock, president of Nevada Association; Fred H. Kent, Florida Theatre Association; A. A. Adams, New Jersey TOA; W. F. Rufin, MPTO of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee; G. D. Carpenter, Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina; Harold E. Fox, Wisconsin Amusement Corp.

**Two New Television Companies in Ohio**

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 23.—Two new television corporations, one capitalized at $3,000,000 and the other at $317,000, have been formed here.

Dalton R. Kincaid, local attorney is listed as agent for the T-V Corp., and Picture Waves, Inc., is headed by Elmer E. Schatz, local businessman, and Louis W. Adams is attorney and vice-president.

**Hit Unfavorable Publicity**

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 23.—Exhibitors are up in arms against the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana to get against film stars who get unfavorable publicity in newspapers. There is only one way to handle the situation, and that is for exhibitors to insist that terms on pictures which include in their casts persons of questionable conduct be relegated to low brackets, ATOI declares.

**RKO Promotes Pearlman**

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—Harold Pearlman, manager of the Astra Palace here, has been transferred to New Orleans, where he will function as advertising and publicity director for the circuit's houses there.
"One of those bright pieces of entertainment which comes along all too infrequently ... provides nothing but amusement and laughs."
—M. P. Herald

"Audiences looking for laughs will find them in abundance ... entertainment that should result in popular and profitable box-office."
—Boxoffice

"Should gaily make the big-money grade ... loaded with everything the target demands."
—Film Daily

"There can be no question of the picture's performance at the box-office ... A fast-paced, volatile and highly amusing example of how to entertain the public."
—M. P. Daily

"The family aura of this comedy should help ... Should do okay at boxoffice."
—Variety

"Howls interspersed with constant chuckles ... Apparently headed for top-money brackets ... good songs and strong exploitation possibilities."
—Showmen's Trade Review

"Cantor-Davis team hits comedy stride ... bright boxoffice prospects ... one laugh sequence after the other."
—Hollywood Reporter

"Chock full of the good old kind of comedy which audiences go for in droves ... slick entertainment."
—Daily Variety
CRITICS' "BIG-MONEY" TIPOFF OKAY!

RKO PRESENTS

EDDIE CANTOR + JOAN DAVIS

"IF YOU KNEW SUSIE"

with ALLYN JOSLYN
CHARLES DINGLE
BOBBY DRISCOLL

Produced by EDDIE CANTOR
Directed by GORDON M. DOUGLAS
Original Screen Play by
Warren Wilson and Oscar Bradney
TRAILERS
ARE YOUR
BEST BUY
IN
ADVERTISING!

NATIONAL SCREEN SERVICE

SALUTE TO AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD WEEK
SCTOA Code Would Control Theatre Video
Seeks Elimination of Experimental Confusion

Los Angeles, Feb. 24.—Six-point code regulating theatre presentation of television programs was submitted by Southern California Theatre Owners Association's television committee chairman James H. Nicholson to representatives of broadcasters and ad agencies at a joint meeting held at the Variety Club, here, this afternoon.

Proposed code, based on several months of study, research, demonstrations and actual television theatre tests by SCTOA's committee, would bind some 590 theatres in the Los Angeles territory, and seeks to obviate confusion and the complications of several kinds, including legalistic, during a developmental period.

Suggested code provides: Theatres shall present each program intact, not

(Continued on page 2)

MOT to Produce Films for Video

Richard de Rochemont, March of Time producer, said yesterday that MOT will be producing films for television in the near future.

De Rochemont said the films will be made for sponsors of television programs, not for television stations directly. He emphasized that the subjects which MOT produces for theatre exhibition will not be released for telecasting. The subjects which will be made for television, he said, will be keyed specifically to the requirements of that entertainment medium.

Ascap Seeks End of Trust Charge by US

Ascap entered a general denial of all charges and asked for dismissal of the case yesterday in filing an answer in U. S. District Court here to the Government's action accusing the society of violating trust laws through alleged international affiliations.

Warning the dismissal, counsel for Ascap said that prior to 1914 American authors, composers and publishers

(Continued on page 4)

$570,200 Net for 1947 Is Reported by Republic

Republic's net for the year ended Oct. 25, 1947, was $570,200 after all charges, including taxes, Herbert J. Yates, president, disclosed. After deducting annual dividends requirements on 400,000 shares of preferred stock, the net is equal to 9.3 cents per share on 1,817,860 shares of common stock, Yates reported.

Last year's net compares with a $1,097,940 net for the year ended Oct. 26, 1946, which was equalized to 38 cents per share on the common.

The decrease, Yates said, "reflects

(Continued on page 4)

Twelve Millions from "Lost" U.K. Market

London, Feb. 24.—Questioned in the House of Commons on the yearly rate dollars are remitted to American companies for film hire in November and December of 1947 and January, 1948, Chancellor of the Exchequer Cripps replied, 12,000,000 pounds ($45,000,000), equivalent to $12,000,000 for the quarter.

Rubin Cited By NCCJ

A citation of distinguished merit from the National Conference of Christians and Jews was presented to J. Robert Rubin, Loew's vice-president and general counsel, at the annual Brotherhood Week luncheon of the amusement division at Hotel Astor here yesterday.

Principal speaker was Dr. Daniel A. Poling, editor of the Christian Herald and Rabbi Joshua Loth Liebman, author of "Peace of Mind."

In the absence of Dr. Everett R. Clinch, president of the NCCJ, Martin Quigley made the presentation to Rubin, who is national chairman of the amusement division. The citation, as it read in part, was for "his effect

(Continued on page 4)

Senate Restores Construction Curb

Washington, Feb. 24.—In an unexpected move, the Senate today voted to restore to the pending long term rent control bill a provision giving the Administration power to curb theatre and other amusement construction through April 30, 1949.

The power, which had been dropped by the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, was put back in the bill on the Senate floor by a voice vote, with a scattering of Senators supporting the amendment and a handful voting against it. Not more than 25 Senators voted in all.

New Films, Holiday Boost N. Y. Grosses

New product and an extended Washington's Birthday holiday weekend proved to be a shot-in-the-arm combination for Broadway first-run. Current business at many situations has an atmosphere of prosperity reminiscent of the prewar period. Long lines were in evidence at a number of box-offices on Saturday, Sunday

(Continued on page 4)
Skouras Heads Drive For Overseas Relief
Spyros P. Skouras, general chairman here of American Overseas Aid—United Nations Appeal, yesterday said that the New York City drive will start on April 12 and extend through May 15. The city's quota has been set at $6,600,000,000,000.

20th Century Plan Altered for '77

Chicago, Feb. 24.—Beginning Mid-Day Sunday at Century Northside '77 will be available for first-run in a theatre in each of 16 key zones in the Chicago area, J. H. Lorentz, Central division sales manager, announced here today. The plan, he said, is in keeping with the company's objective of providing a flexible method of distributing pictures in Chicago.

Pointing out that in connection with distribution of “Daisy Kenyon” and “Captain from Castile,” Andrew W. Sommers, president of the company's managing manager, had announced a flexible and variable plan of licensing those films for the number of key centers, a basis of competitive negotiation and had stated that modifications in the plan would be made on the basis of Napier's experience in distributing those two films, Lorentz said, demonstrated the soundness of the plan as a fluid method of licensing its pictures.

Among changes announced is the creation of a new key zone on the Southside of Chicago, which will include the Jackson Park, Tower, Jefrey, Shore, Ray, Hamilton, and Kinnsbark theaters. The Tivoli, Midway, Ark and Maryland theaters are being included in a zone with the Roseland, Metropolitan and some other theaters. Additional sub-key zones are being created, and some changes made in the grouping of theaters in the zones.

Besse Mack, 56, Theatre Veteran

Besse Mack, 56, onetime publicity director of the Capitol Theatre here, died at his home in Brooklyn. Miss Mack entered the show business in 1913 in the Shubert publicity department, later switching to the Capitol. She accompanied the late Major Edward Bowes into radio in 1928 and served with the Royal Mediterranean and some other theaters. Additional sub-key zones are being created, and some changes made in the grouping of theaters in the zones.

New Producer for Columbia Release

Hollywood, Feb. 24.—Philip N. Knapp, head of World-Adventure Pictures Co., Inc., with George Byrklston as vice-president, and York Coplan as secretary, was today announced as producer for the Columbia Pictures Corporation.

Attorneys are working on final details of a deal under which Columbia will distribute an undetermined number of pictures to be produced by the newly-formed company also headed by Knapp. Mr. Byrklston is President and Robert Lord, to film properties owned by the late Mark Lawrence.

News Briefs

Pre-Hearing Conference On Para.-DuMont Video

Washington, Feb. 24.—A pre-hearing conference will be held today by the Federal Communications Commission and company attorneys in the Paramount-Dumont television case.

Issue is whether or not Paramount controls DuMont and certain other subsidiaries and whether it has more than five television stations, which the FCC has set as the maximum for any one company.

The regular hearing before the Commission is still set here for Mar. 1.

SMPE's Semi-Annual Meeting At Santa Monica, May 11-21

Hollywood, Feb. 24.—Society of Motion Picture Engineers will hold its 63rd semi-annual convention May 11-21, inclusive, with the Pacific Coast section playing host to 2,500 technic- tens and others from the motion picture industry, manufacturers, scientific foundations, and experimental laboratories who are expected to assemble here from the United States and a dozen other nations, it was announced today by A. M. Ryder, president of the SMPE. Actual scene of the convention will be the Santa Monica Hotel, Ambassador Hotel, in Santa Monica.

Eagle-Lion Sets March, April for "J. Arthur Rank" Shows

Eagle-Lion has designated March and April as "J. Arthur Rank Month" as part of the company's "New Look Up North," produced by William J. Heineman, vice-president in charge of distribution announced here yesterday. Designation of the period as a tribute to the British producer-exhibitor coincides with Rank's impending arrival here in March.

Attorney General Tom Clark Will Attend TOA Board Meet

U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark has accepted the invitation of Ted R. Logan, president of the Owners of America, to speak at the TOA directors' meeting at the Hotel Statler, March 9, or March 10, if the TOA reported here yesterday.

Hast Demolishes Theatre

Memphis, Feb. 24.—Diane Theatre at Pocahontas, Ark., was demolished, along with three other buildings in an explosion there today. One man is missing and believed dead as the men went into the building to investigate a report of escaping butane gas. One man a muck in the dimly-lighted building and the explosion followed.

Jacob Blumberg Left $100,000

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—Jacob Blumberg, 77, of 1220 South Broad St., Philadelphia, died Sunday following a long illness. Surviving are the widow and two daughters.

Newsreel Parade

A SPEECH by President Truman, and the opening of 1948 political campaigns by the current newsmen. Other items include food for China, a carnival in Rio, floods in Spain and films of Tokyo Rose. Navy wrestling. Sal juggling.


5-Day MGM Coast Meet Starts March 1

Hollywood, Feb. 24.—William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general manager of the company, called the five-day conference of field sales managers, territorial assistants and home office executives, to start here on Monday, March 1. Primary purpose of the conference is to screen a number of productions scheduled for release during the next six months. Rodgers, now in Chicago, plans to leave there Wednesday to return by train for advance studio discussions.


SCOTA Video Code

(Continued from page 1)

eliminating commercials; they shall not increase admissions over normal schedules at any time; they shall not present a so-called "day of the week" program offering, but shall augment the film of stage presentation; they shall use the paying program presentation offered as an added service to patrons. Television is a free pub- lic service and is presented here as such.

All advertising in newspapers, bill- boards, etc., which refers to specific show dates and call letters of the station and the name of a sponsor.
MARCH COMES IN LIKE A LION!

Give Generously
For American Brotherhood Week
N. Y. Grosses Soar
(Continued from page 1)
and Monday, and adjectives such as "sensational" and "terrific" were employed by many managers to describe business.

Thursday through Monday brought $111,500 to Radio City Music Hall, where the last week of "A Double Life," plus Russell Markert's stage presentation, is expected to wind up with a high of $245,000. By the week of April 17, when Washington's Birthday business was described as 25 per cent over that of the same week in the previous year, "Call Northside 777," and stage shortstop by Hazel Scott, is heading for a very big $130,000 in a first week. Also April 17 is "Road to Rio," with Louis Prima's band on stage, at the Paramount, where $120,000 was grossed for a first week ending yesterday. "The Pearl," at the Sutton, is proving to be a record sensation with the play, bringing its sensational $13,800 after a slow start.

Body and Soul Rebounds
Heavy business is being enjoyed also by "Three Daring Daughters," plus Horace Heidt's band on stage, at the Roxy. "Body & Soul" is second at the Globe; second week of the former is on its way to a robust $80,000, and the 16th week of "Body" is expected to bring a rebooking $23,000. At the Palace, "If You Knew Susie" is having a rousing first week with $38,000.

"Gentlemen's Agreement" is still going strong at the Mayfair, where a 15th week brought in $44,038. Also performing solidly are "The Bishop's Wife," which is due to bring the Astor $34,500 for its 11th week, and "My Girl Tisa," with Vaughn Monroe's band on stage, at the Strand, where $65,000 for its first week is expected. In a second week, "To the Ends of the Earth," at the Rivoli, and "Killer McCoy," at Loew's State, are both up well; the former is on its way to $40,000, and "Killer" looks good for $35,000.

Winter Garden, Rialto 'Good'
At other situations business is expected to improve up about as follows: "Sleep Well, My Lady," first week, $30,000 (satisfactory); "Jassy," Winter Garden, first week, $21,000 (good); "The Great God Bass," first week, $7,500 (good); "Furia," Rialto, fifth week, $13,000 (very good); "The Burning Cross," first week, $6,500 (moderate); "The Burning Cross," Victoria, first week, $15,000 (satisfactory); "A Miracle Can Happen," Warner, third week, $10,000 (so-so).

Oregon Business Off 30%
PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 24.—Heavy rains, an increase in influenza cases and increased unemployment are described as being responsible for a 30 per cent reduction in grosses in Oregon theatres this month.

Rank Moving In on Ad Valorem Levy
London, Feb. 24.—J. Arthur Rank will convene a secret meeting of leading British exhibitors in his headquaters here tomorrow for the purpose of deciding on joint action against the British of ad valorem tax on foreign film imports, principally Hollywood product.

Johnston to London
(Continued from page 1)
ably be to see what can be done to step up film remittances and to explore the situation behind the French request to revive the Blum-Bynes accord.

The MPAA executives will leave from LaGuardia Airport, New York, Friday afternoon and will be gone from the city for two weeks.

Meanwhile, Lewis O. Douglas, U. S. Ambassador to the Court of St. James, is understood to have arrived in London, where he reported last week by Motion Picture Daily, he is scheduled to open talks with British film officials immediately on the film levy. He may therefore have some proposals for Johnston's consideration when the MPAA head arrives.

To Revolve Eire Levy
DUBLIN, Feb. 24.—In line with its program, Prime Minister John A. Costello's new government today announced new restrictions to be applied in taxation on foreign films, which increases placed last fall on films and other commodities.

Republic Net
(Continued from page 1)
conditions in which pictures produced at relatively high costs during a period of expanding markets and increased domestic and foreign receipts, which the management expected to continue, are subsequently distributed, is expected to be followed by commitments and diminishing box office receipts.

During the 12 months ended in August, 1947, Republic's income from foreign sources in Britain was seven per cent less than for the corresponding period of the preceding year, Yates said.

The report points out that even before the British ad valorem tax, the company commenced a program of economy in anticipation of possible decline in receipts, adding that the program has become accelerated and extended, particularly in terms of production costs.

During the last fiscal year the company made payments of $822,935 in Federal taxes, $773,115 in retroactive Federal taxes on wages, plus his headquarters in London 15,000 plus on principal on bank loans, said the report.

US-Canada Talks on Dollar Situation
OTTAWA, Feb. 24.—Trade Minister Howe has informed the Dominion's Parliament that dollar situation facing the U. S. film industry in Canada "calls for a more imaginative and constructive approach than the application of quotas on film rentals".

At the same time he revealed that, due to co-operation, official discussions with U. S. industry heads are proceeding satisfactorily.

Reporting that last year Canadian rentals for U. S. films amounted to $1,000, Howe said that "this situation will help resolve the exchange problem not by Canadian business contraction but by production development here.

Kearns' Hearing
(Continued from page 1)
union president William Hutcheson, who calls briefly to the stand and was asked if he would cooperate with this plan. Hutcheson replied that he would try to do "anything within his power" to help the people whom he represents.

Lindell, in today's testimony, called the September, 1946, dispute a "lock- out" of the painters, and asserted that the painters abided by the August, 1946, clarification. The painter's strike in 1945, he said, because labor conditions "had become so bad."

Lindell said the contention that the three-man AFL arbitration committee had merely put in effect the old union contracts in its 1945 directive, was argued in opposition to the committee that all the work in the studios belonged to IATSE.

Denying any collusion between his union and the producers, Walsh declared that his union "kicked itself back into the studio," and that the studios "didn't want us back."

The employers "don't love IATSE any more than they love the CSU (Conference of Studio Unions) or anyone else," he asserted.

Much of the testimony by Hutcheson on Monday consisted of a review of the intricacies of the jurisdictional strife, with the witness reading to the committee correspondence with AFL leaders, resolutions and minutes of AFL meetings, and contracts—all proving to his own satisfaction a point: that the Carpenters' union could not possibly go along with the 1945 directive from the three-man AFL committee.

Joseph Cambiano, who presented the carpenters' case before the three-man arbitration board during its West Coast hearings, was "only assisting the committee," according to Hutcheson.

CFA to Join
(Continued from page 1)
relationship of theatres in this sector of California in the TOA.

Roy Cooper of San Francisco was elected to represent the CFA on the TOA board of directors, and will attend the latter's meeting in Los Angeles on March 9-10.

ARMIT Hits Ascap, Sets Meeting Date
DENVER, Feb. 24.—Directors of Allied Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres hit Ascap and voted support of the Lewis Bill at a meeting here today. The bill would take away power of Ascap to tax theatre seats.

The directors voted support of the stand of undecision of national Allied on the Motion Picture Foundation. They also voted for an extensive membership drive and set May 18-19 as the dates for the annual convention.

Ascap Trust Charges
(Continued from page 1)
sers received no payments for public performances of their works in this country and abroad, while those in foreign countries had no way of collecting the fees for their compositions in other countries they formed cooperative associations consisting of a number of their craft.

Rubin Cited
(Continued from page 1)
give and constructive leadership of the amusement division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews in interpretation and support of its program."

Also cited was "his profound faith in the power of education to point the American Way free of prejudice."

David Weinstein, campaign chair- man, cited the firm newsreel through which $90,000,000 will receive the message of brotherhood, and also Robert Mohrle, Harry Brandt and their Studio News is in distribution, exhibition and publicity, respectively.

In this speech Rabbi Liebman referred to "the tremendous power of the motion picture industry" with which "it could make people understand that bigotry is a crippling disease."

Rubin was chairman of the meeting. Others on the dais were: Robert Christenbery, Max A. Cohen, Jack Colin, Robert W. Coyne, Emil J. German, William J. Heineman, Edward Lachman, Arthur Mayer, Miss Lucy Monahan, E. C. Moore, John J. O'Connor, Walter Reade, Jr., Samuel Rosen, James E. Sauter, and Joseph R. Vogel.
Labor Probe Swings Into 'Red' Charges

‘IA’ Allegations Alter House Inquiry Approach

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—In a surprise move late this afternoon, the House Labor committee's one-man investigation of the Hollywood jurisdictional strike blossomed out into a full five-man sub-committee, which will go into the full Alleged Communist aspect of the studio labor situation and may continue hearings for several more days.

Rep. Carroll D. Knears, who has been carrying on the investigation since last summer, has been ruling out any testimony concerning alleged Communist activity, on the ground that Chairman Hartley of the full Labor committee around the country is only to investigate the labor aspect.

But today, drops TATC counsel Matthew Levy charged, in the third time in the current hearings, that one of the key elements in the dispute is the subservive drive to bring all Hollywood labor under the influence of the Communist Party and those who follow the Communist line, which drive centers around the Conference of Studio Unions and Herbert K. Sor.

TOA Asks Hearing On Tax Cut Need

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—Theatre Owners of America, through Washington representative A. Julian Brylawski, has asked the Senate Finance Committee for a chance to testify on the need for an admission tax cut.

The Senate group will open hearings on Monday on the income tax reduction bill. It has been delayed with requests to be heard from groups seeking reductions in various excises but is sticking to a policy of hearing only income tax proposals.

Hopes Allied Will Change MPF Stand

First expression of opinion to come from the Motion Picture Foundation on the national Allied board's disapproval of the organization's participation in the MPF was made here yesterday by Leonard Goldenson, co-

Plan Local Allied Decree ‘Vigilantes’

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 25.—First of an expected nationwide set-up of Allied Theatre Owners “Vigilante” committees, dedicated to fighting any violations of any final decree that may be handed down by the U. S. Supreme Court in the industry anti-trust suit was set up here yesterday by Allied of Kansas-Missouri.

The committee, formed at a Kansas-Missouri Allied board meeting, will serve as a connecting link between local and national organizations in the detection of violations.

(That a nationwide web will evolve appears a certainty on the basis of information received from national Allied headquarters in Washington. However, at the national organization’s board meeting last week at the Capital, it was decided to hold up a national plan until the decree is handed down.—Editor’s Note).

At yesterday’s meeting here O. F. Sullivan, president of the Kansas-Missouri unit, presented a report on the national board meeting and the steps looked to implement regionally actual actions of the national board. A committee was appointed to follow through and support for the Lewis (Continued on page 4)

Para. Insisted on Clearance: Salkin

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—Richard Salkin, manager of the Jackon Park Theatre, was the witness in the second day’s hearing of the Jackson Park decree contempt citation against five distributors. U. S. District Court here today. He was asked by Paramount attorney Ed Johnston to recount particulars involving clearance and film rental of his individual negotiations for product since the decree went into effect on Nov. 19, and stated

New Million-Dollar Trust Suit Filed

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—Second million-dollar motion picture anti-trust suit within a week was filed in U. S. District Court here today by Charles and Herman Nelson, former operators of the Lawndale Theatre, who charge 10 distributors with violation of Sherman and Clayton Anti-Trust Acts.

The bill charges that from Oct. 23, 1939 to May 8, 1947, when the Nelsons operated the house, the defendants discriminated against the theatre in pre- senting film bookings. The Lawndale was in the 10th week of release. Frank Rief, Sr., and Frank Rief, Jr. present owners, are not involved in the suit.

Kane, Wirthwein in NewPara.SalesPosts

Charles M. Reagan, Paramount distribution vice-president, has promoted Albert M. Kane of Boston and Harold Wirthwein of Los Angeles.

Kane, district manager of Boston, New Haven, Albany and Buffalo, has been promoted to assistant division manager of the Eastern division, becoming assistant to Hugh Owen, Eastern-Southern division manager, Wirthwein, assistant district manager of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle.

(Continued on page 4)

Lewis Bill Hearing Is Delayed 3 Weeks

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Hearings on the Lewis bill to force Ascap to bargain with motion picture producers and relieve theatre owners of any direct Ascap licensing tax have been delayed to March 22 from March 1.

Representative Lewis, chairman of the House judiciary sub-committee which conducted the hearing, said that the delay was granted at the request of both proponents and opponents of the bill who require more time to prepare their cases and line up witnesses.

Lewis said Allied counsel Abram F. (Continued on page 4)

BRITISH FILM TAX PEACE IN SIGHT

New MPAA Building Making ‘Progress’

Washington, Feb. 25.—The District Fine Arts Commission has been asked to pass on the Motion Picture Association’s plans for a new headquarters building here. The zoning board went over the plans at a hearing here last week, then “passed the buck” to the Fine Arts group.

Action on the plans, which has been bogged down for some time, is expected to accelerate from here on in. If approved, the MPAA would probably begin work “in the reasonably near future” on the first section of the new building, including a projection room. Eventually the building will occupy the entire 16th and 1 Street corner now owned by the association.

Formula, Linked to ERP, May Await Johnston On Arrival in London

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Feb. 25.—Inner governmental circles here believe that an acceptable formula for settlement of the 75 per cent ad valorem tax film is now in view and may be in readiness to transmit to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, on his arrival here at the weekend.

It is known that Ambassador Lewis O. Douglas already has had several detailed discussions with key ministers of the government here concerning the operational framework of the European Recovery Program in anticipation of its approval by Congress. The possible inclusion of motion pictures in the operational framework was explored during the discussions.

Authoritative sources reveal that the Douglas talks followed precisely along the previously reported lines of classifying motion pictures as incentive goods under the Marshall Plan.

The Foreign Office is aware that the MPAA has conferred with State (Continued on page 5)

U-Rank Talks Near End; Resume Here

LONDON, Feb. 25—Discussions of new contractual relations between Universal-International and J. Arthur Rank have made progress here during the past week, but will be suspended in an inconclusive state tomorrow, it is learned.

Rank is scheduled to leave for New York on the Queen Elizabeth, March 1, and U-I top executives probably (Continued on page 5)

MPAA Acting On Canada Film Quota

U. S. industry efforts to dissuade the Canadian government from applying a quota on films to ease the dollar situation are being spearheaded by Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association of Ameri-
Personal News 

STID DENEAU, Selznick Releasing Organization, assistant general sales manager, has left New York for Toronto.

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, EDWIN W. AARON, FRANK C. HENSLEDGE, JOHN J. MALONEY, JOHN F. BYRNE and HENRY RYPPS, all M-G-M sales executives, will leave here today for the coast.

LYNN FARKN, Eastern advertising-publicity director for Samuel Goldwyn, has returned to New York from a tour of the South and Southwest.

MARTIN H. SCiECkOW, low vice-president and Eastern M-G-M representative, will leave New York tomorrow with his wife for a vacation at Hot Springs, Ark.

SI STRADLER, M-G-M advertising manager, will leave here tomorrow for a vacation at Big Boulder Ranch, Castle Hot Springs, Ark., and then will visit the M-G-M studio.

JOHN MURPHY, general manager of Loew’s out-of-town theatres, and DAS S. TKBEL, of the publicity department, are on a Southern trip from New York.

GEORGE HIRLMAN, president of Film-Tel and International Theatrical and Television Corp., left here yesterday for the coast.

JOSEPH McMAHON, Republic secretary, and MRS. McMAHON have become parents of a daughter, their fourth child.

HENRY L. NATHANSON, president of M-G-M Films of Canada, will leave Hollywood March 1 for his Toronto headquarters.

L. J. SCHLAFER, Eagle-Lion distribution side, has left New York for Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.


VOLDEMAR VELLUGO, M-G-M studio editorial chief, will leave New York tomorrow for Hollywood.

NORMAN TAUBO, M-G-M director, and MRS. TAUBO are in town from the coast.

Zion Myers, 50

Hollywood, Feb. 25.—Funeral services for Zion Myers, 50, director-writer who died here yesterday, will be held tomorrow at Forest Lawn. Among the films which he directed were “Roberta,” “Hey, Guy Divorce,” and “Here Come the Waves.” Surviving are the widow, a son, a daughter and a sister.

Sturdivant Sues National for $500,000 on Mexican Deal

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25.—V. S. Sturdivant has filed a Superior Court action against National Theatres, asking for $500,000 allegedly due him from the former operator of New York’s Mexican theatre holdings one year ago. Sturdivant claims that the arrangement with Charles Skouras, circuit president, permitted for the plaintiff to receive all monies obtained from the sale in excess of the investment made originally.

"Sitting Pretty" Charity Showing Nets Variety Heads

MIAMI, Feb. 25.—The charity world premiere of 20th-Century-Fox’s “Sitting Pretty” at the Lincoln Theatre here last night grossed over $10,000 for the Children’s Club Heart Fund with acapacity house of prominent personalages paying $10 to $500 for seats.

The film was selected by Mitchell Wolfson and Sidney Meyer of the Screen Guild to highlight the benefit premiere. It began its regular first-run at both the Lincoln and Miami Theatres today.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston was top speaker at the Brotherhood Week luncheon of the local Variety Club at the Statler Hotel here today. Loew’s World’s Fair representative, Carter Barron, was toastmaster. Drew Pearson also spoke.

Allen Confirmed by Senate as Assistant Secretary of State

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The Senate today confirmed the nomination of George V. Allen as Assistant Secretary of State for foreign affairs, to succeed William Bentley. Much of the Department’s overseas information program, including solution of the frozen funds problems of the film industry, and other information that had been delayed awaiting confirmation of the new head of the program.

Extensive Television Network Arrangements Planned by A.T.&T.

Plans to provide additional interstate television network facilities this year extending from the East Coast as far West as the Mississippi River, have been announced here by Bartlett T. Miller, vice-president of American Telephone and Telegraph.

Included in the plans are 2,000 miles of television network channels from Buffalo to St. Louis, and other extensions.

Cinema Lodge Honors Two

New York’s Cinema Lodge of Bonal Prich will pay tribute tomorrow to executive chairman J. Kavits and pianist Hazel Scott as American champions of the oppressed, at the Hotel Astor and Stuyvesant Hotel. John H. Meier, president, of the Lodge announced.

NSS Concludes Two-Day Chicago Sales Meeting

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—National Screen Service has concluded its two-day sales meeting at the Blackstone Hotel. Among those attending were Herman Rosenbluth, vice-president; Melvin DeNosmzet and William Bremer, vice-presidents; Louis Pabst, Kansas City district manager, and all Mid-west sales managers.

Truncale Is Disqualified in Suit Against Head of Universal

Federal Judge Simon H. Rikfnd yesterday disqualified Universal minority stockholder Stephen Truncale from suit against the Court here against five “U” directors whom he had charged with questionable stock option deals. Truncale was ruled out when Judge Rikfnd granted a motion by the defendants on the grounds that the plaintiff was not a stockholder in tffice company at the time the deals in question were consummated.

Truncale did not permit an intervention, William Friday, to take over as plaintiff in the suit for an accounting of profits allegedly made by the directors.

Harold Smith Off for PCA Post

Frank McCarthy Back to Paris

Harold Smith, who served as liaison for the Motion Picture Export Association of America in Germany has left New York for the Coast to assume new duties as adviser to the Protestant Code Administration on the contents of U. S. films intent for showing abroad.

Frank McCarthy, Continental representative of Motion Picture Association of America, flies back to Paris headquarters from New York today.

Distributors and Veterans Start Talks on ‘Yet’ Films

Discussions on ways of improving and extending the program of film entertainment for disabled veterans during the veterans’ convention were held here yesterday at conferences held at the Barzin Plaza Hotel between chiefs of the several branches of the Veterans Administration and representatives of the Motion Picture Association of America, and other film distributors. The conferences began on Monday and will terminate tomorrow.

Winkle Working on Variety Convention Press Campaign

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 25.—Al Winkle, formerly office publicity manager for Paramount, is assisting Tom Jefferson on the publicity campaign for Variety Clubs International convention here April 12-17.

To Produce 3 Yearly for E.L

Hollywood, Feb. 25.—William moss Pictures, Inc., has been formed here to produce three films annually for E. L. Tunstall and the program is described as “Judgment in the Wilderness,” in Cinemilan.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-In-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturday. Sold by rail and handels. Quigley Publishing Company, Jany 2576 South Wabash Avenue. Telephone Rockefeller 13-2200. Address: "Quigleo, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kahn, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Vice-President and Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; Harry E. Cohen, Assistant to the Secretary; Ernie Jaffe, Art Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street. Editorial and Advertising, Wilbur, Advertising Representative, Washington, J. A. Otto, 814 South Arlington Mill Drive, Arlington, Va.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sts., London W.1, Hope Burnup, Mayer, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigleo, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. 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 copy, 10c.

Magic Shadows, By Martin Quigley, Jr., Is Published Today

"Magic Shadows," The Story of the Origin of Motion Pictures," by Martin Quigley, Jr., Editor, is published today by the Motion Picture Herald and Motion Picture Daily, is being published today by the Grace Publishing Co., Inc.

Ending where other histories of the motion picture begin, i.e., with Thomas Edison, "Magic Shadows" is a contemporary story, "Magic Shadows" goes back through the centuries, tracing through the ages the many theories and experiments which made the motion picture possible. The trail leads to Archimedes and Aristotle and, before them, to Plato, to the Babylonians, Egyptians and Chinese.

The 13th contributions of Ritho Bartos, the "motion" monk of Leonardo Da Vinci, two centuries later, and of Giovanni Battista della Porta, are reported. With the aid of that background, Johannes Kepler developed the scientific principles of the camera obscura in the early 17th Century, and soon after, Athanasius Kircher produced a magic lantern which projected pictures. Numerous other people are added to and popularized the magic lantern. The quest for real motion pictures continued in earnest, and, finally, in Belgium, in 1829 achieved devices for projecting images in motion. He, "more than anyone else" is credited with the title, "Father of the Motion Picture."

Employing the Kircher and Plateau-Stamper contributions, Franz Uchatius, and an Italian, invented about 1850. From that point on, the history of motion pictures moves rapidly to Edison and the contemporaries, and the World Premiere of Edison’s Kinetoscope in New York, April, 1894, within this space, became a popular medium and a rapidly growing commercial success.

"Magic Shadows" contains 28 illustrations and a bibliography and index. There is a foreword by Terry Ramsaye, editor of Motion Picture Herald and "Hit and Run," and "One Night’s—An History of the Motion Picture."
WARNER BROS'. TRADE SHOWINGS OF

JACK CARSON - ANN SOTHERN

IN

"APRIL SHOWERS"

with

ROBERT ALDA • S. Z. SAKALL • directed by JAMES V. KERN • produced by WILLIAM JACOBS

Screen Play by Peter Milne • Suggested by a Story by Joe Laurie, Jr. • Musical Numbers Created and Staged by LeRoy Prinz

Music Arranged and Adapted by Ray Heindorf • A WARNER BROS. First National Picture

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1948

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>PLACE OF SHOWING</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td>79 N. Pearl St.</td>
<td>8:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>197 Walton St. N.W.</td>
<td>2:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>RKO Screening Room</td>
<td>122 Arlington St.</td>
<td>2:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paramount Sc. Room</td>
<td>464 Franklin Street</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>308 S. Church St.</td>
<td>10:00 A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td>1307 So. Wabash Ave.</td>
<td>1:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RKO Screening Room</td>
<td>Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th</td>
<td>8:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td>2300 Payne Ave.</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td></td>
<td>1803 Wood St.</td>
<td>10:00 A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td></td>
<td>2100 Stout St.</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>1300 High St.</td>
<td>12:45 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paramount Sc. Room</td>
<td>2310 Cass Ave.</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>517 No. Illinois St.</td>
<td>1:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td>1720 Wyandotte St.</td>
<td>1:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland</td>
<td></td>
<td>2025 S. Vermont Ave.</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>151 Vance Ave.</td>
<td>10:00 A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td>212 W. Wisconsin Ave.</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1000 Currie Ave.</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>70 College St.</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>Warner Th. Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>200 S. Liberty St.</td>
<td>1:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Des Moines</td>
<td></td>
<td>321 W. 44th St.</td>
<td>2:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>10 North Lee St.</td>
<td>1:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Film Exchange Bldg.</td>
<td>1502 Davenport St.</td>
<td>1:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
<td>Universal Sc. Room</td>
<td>230 No. 13th St.</td>
<td>2:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>1715 Blvd. of Allies</td>
<td>1:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td>1947 N.W. Kearney St.</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memphis</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td>216 East 1st South</td>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee-</td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td>221 Golden Gate Ave.</td>
<td>1:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td></td>
<td>2318 Second Ave.</td>
<td>10:30 A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Haven</td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td>3143 Olive St.</td>
<td>1:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans</td>
<td></td>
<td>13th &amp; E Sts. N.W.</td>
<td>10:30 A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaha</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>Warner Screening Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>Jewel Box Sc. Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>Republic Sc. Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>Jewel Box Sc. Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>S'tenko Sc. Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Earle Th. Bldg.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
20th-Fox Promotes Six in Foreign Dept.

Six promotions have been made in the 20th-Century-Fox foreign department, as follows:

Gustavo Ochoa, formerly manager of Venezuela, has been named manager in the Philippines; Albert Leonard, who was attached to the home office, has been appointed manager of Venezuela; Carlos Herrera, formerly manager of Ecuador, was named sales manager of Mexico under manager Allen Noye; John Finder, formerly manager of the Dominican Republic, becomes manager of Ecuador, while Orlando Calvo has been promoted from his post as booker in Panama to manager of the Dominican Republic.

Dan Lederman, who was manager of the Philippines prior to Joffe's appointment, will return to the home office for a new assignment.

Mintz UA Manager In Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 25—Leonard Mintz has been promoted to manager of United Artists' branch office here by Mark N. Silver, district manager. Mintz, formerly manager in Phila.
delphia, replaces David Leff, who has resigned.

Silver also announced that Joe Young of the Philadelphia sales force has been transferred to Washington, and Clayton Bond, Jr., of Washington has been moved to Philadelphia.

Heineman Names Towner Manager

William J. Heineman, Eagle-licensing division vice-president, has promoted Nelson Towner, former sales manager in the Atlanta exchange, to be Atlanta branch manager.

F.P.-Canadian Dividend

OTTAWA, Feb. 25—Famous Players Canadian Corp., Ltd., has declared a 25th dividend payable March 27 to shareholders on record on March 12.

**Reviews**

**"The Bride Goes Wild"**

(M-G-M)

THROUGH an astound combination of robust humor and romance this Van Johnson-June Allyson starrer bids for the favor of both men and women patrons with equal success. It starts slowly, but keeps stepping up its pace until works into a frenzy at the finish, generating enough entertainment to make one charitable about the tendency of author and director to protract an undue number of sequences in the hope of extracting an extra laugh or two.

In an attempt to writers the audience is the production is not above resorting to unshackled slapstick when it is felt the occasion warrants.

With considerable bonfire Johnson essays the role of a famous writer of kiddies' books, an endearing who must sustain the pretense of being a model Miss Allyson is an artist from the sticks who has won a contest to illustrate his latest book. They fall in love after a lot of back-biting while a rich charmer (Arlene Dahl) tries to chisel in Johnson. Johnson's success is a test of the coming of the future, a last-minute dash packed with excitement saves the day for both.

Butch Jenkins, an orphan, is brought into the lovers' lives to add human interest and a touch of pathos. Hume Cronyn, Una Merkell and Lloyd Corrivan, all excellent, complete the cast.

The running time, 98 minutes. General audience classification. Set for March release.

**P. E. L.**

**"The Challenge"**

(Reliance-20th-Fox)

In this Ben Pivar-Bernard Small production Bulldog Drummond is unveiled again in the latest of the melodramatic. "Sapper's" sleuth serves the cause of justice nobly but with his customary unemployment of excitement. Although the suspense is not killing, it does provide enough inducement for the undivided attention of those addicted to melodrama, and there are scattered moments when the acting is a bit dodgy.

Pivar and Small produced the film with a gloss which makes it compulsive; there. is evident a physical attractiveness that the fragility and commonplacenness of the story may not deserve, although the appeal to the eye is certainly to the ear.

The contention is over a ship model. The miniature passes from hand to hand as Drummond seeks to discover what secret the model holds that is bought even at the price of murder. It seems the model's sails constitute a secret which, in case of difficulties, is to be handed over to the fortune left by the original owner of the model. Drummond comes close to death trying to prevent the villains from decoding the message and stealing the treasure.

Tom Conway is a polished Drummond. June Vincent, rightful claimant to the fortune, supplies the romantic interest. Jean Yarborough directed, from a Frank Gruber-Irving Elman script.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. For March release.

**Insisted on Clearance**

(Continued from page 1)

the only Paramount film offered him immediately after a Loew's film, which was other films were offered after 14 days or more of clearance.

It was brought out that Jack Kirsch, president of Allied Theatres of Illi.
nois, negotiated in behalf of the Jack.
son Park as adviser on buying pro-
duct, but that Salkin signed all con-
tacts. Salkin stated there was a shortage of product available in the Park because competitive Balaban and Katz outlying houses played double features. The hearing is expected to continue for several weeks.

**Lewis Bill Hearing**

(Continued from page 1)

Myers had requested a postponement early in the week but had been turned down on the ground that such a delay at the present time would make no difference.

The delay will give the Theatre Owners of America a chance to work out their stand more fully at their West Coast meeting on March 9-10.

**FCC Alters Set-up On Para. Video Golds**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—The schedule for the Federal Communications Commission hearings on applications for television video permits is being completely revamped. At a pre-hearing conference today, it developed that the Washing.

Instead, they will come at the conclusion of many weeks of field test-
mony on whether the Paramount company produces competing film or not.

These hearings are expected to open in Boston on March 15, to be followed by hearings in San Francisco, Dallas, Cleveland, Detroit, and possibly other locations. The full FCC will determine the schedule tomorrow.

**Allied 'Vigilantes'**

(Continued from page 1)

anti-Accip bed pending in Congress. It was agreed to take associate mem-
ners into Kansas-Missouri Allied board, but there are no Allied organiza-
tions and extend to the associates full Caravan service.

The board also provided for a series of district meetings, the first to be held in Webb City, Mo., on March 11.

A committee was appointed to explore the possibility of a reduction in film delivery prices, which are believed to be out of line and to en-
courage cooperatives, if necessary, to compete with them.

A spring convention is to be held at a date not set; probably about the mid-
date of the year. At this adjust-
ments was appointed with the authority to act. Jack Stewart at this, the first board meeting since he became general manager, outlined his plans.

**Allied's MPF Stand**

(Continued from page 1)

chairman of its finance committee, who said he believes the Allied board is not aware of the extent to which the MPF intends to assist the industry's needy. It would not have expressed disagreement, Gold-

Edson, however, said he hopes Allied's high command will reverse its stand. Gold-

Edson said the first full meeting of MPF trustees, following the initial organiza-
tional meeting held here last December, will take place sometime next month, probably in New York. It is expected to produce a full-scale blueprint of the MPF program, based on all the data and current information being made by a number of Foundation com-
mittees and sub-committees.

**Kane, Wirthwein**

Ile, Salt Lake and Denver, have been appointed co-managers of the Western division, to assist George Smith.

Another group of theatres are newly-created, in line with a number of steps being taken to synchronize the work of the various department under "changing conditions," the company said.
U-Rank Talks
(Continued from page 1)
will accompany him and resume negotiations there.

Negotiations are concerned with the possibility of a reciprocal relationship in the light of experience to date and future effects on U.S. film census in the event of a British-U.S. record deal. Rank's general manager, Arthur Rank, has been reporting to the distributors that he was being satisfied at this stage of the talks that his viewpoint as to the need for increased production of films in America is appreciated.

J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal booking director, and Nate J. Blumberg, president; Charles D. Prutzman, vice-president and general counsel, and Joseph H. Smidt, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, went to London last week for a screening of the Rank-Laurence Olivier production of "Hamlet" and to confer with Rank's production executives there. With their wives, they will leave for London this week and return next week preparatory to embarking for New York.

MPAA, Canada Quota
(Continued from page 1)
canada, an MPAA spokesman disclosed yesterday following a report from Ottawa that official discussions between the Dominion and the U.S. industry are proceeding satisfactorily. Also participating in the discussions is J. J. Fitzgibbon, head of Famous Players Canadian Corp.

MPAA has been in touch with Ottawa for some time on the possibility of a successful quota arrangement. The Dominion Parliament that the dollar situation facing the U.S. film industry in Canada "calls for a more imaginative and constructive approach" than the application by Canada of quotas on film imports.

Rank's new production of "Casablanca" has been granted Canadian rentals for U.S. films amounted to $12,000,000. Howe said that the industry's efforts to solve the exchange problem, not by Canadian business contraction but by production development in Canada, in reporting the 1947 rental figures.

Morton's picture "Queen Mary" was indicated to be $12,000 a typographical error.

Archibald, Bennett On Visits to U. S.
LONDON, Feb. 25.—George Archibald, secretary of J. Arthur Rank's Independent Producers, Ltd., and Compton Bennett, British film director, will have leave for New York this day on the SS Queen Mary. Archibald will make preparations for Rank's visit to New York, March 10, and will also give the industry a statue of "Foryst Sagar," greeter Garson.

British Monarch to 'Hamlet' Premiere
LONDON, Feb. 25.—The King and Queen of England will attend the world premiere of J. Arthur Rank-Lawrence Olivier production of "Hamlet" at the Odeon Leicester Square here on March 10. Proceeds will go to King George's pension fund for actors and actresses.

This will be the first occasion on which Britain's reigning monarchs have attended the first night of either a play or film.

Labor Probe
(Continued from page 1)
rell," the hearing decided to go into the matter.

First of all, ranking labor committee member Gerald W. Lands (R., Ind.) asked for the appearance of witness "from each side" to testify on the Communist charge. Then, late in the afternoon, after telephone conferences with Hartley in New York, Lands announced the enlargement of the committee and the fact that it was now charged to investigate the alleged Communist aspect of the strike.

"We will have a full hearing from all sides," Lands said, "and let the chips fall where they may."

Kearns, who will be chairman of the five-man group, explained that the investigation of alleged Communist activity was "in no way to be considered as a single angle of the hearings, but was part of the overall testimony."

The other members of the committee are Lands, O. C. Fisher, John S. Wood and Thomas L. Owens.

In outlining his policy for the new aspect of the inquiry, Lands declared that every person whose name is mentioned at the hearings will be notified and given an opportunity to present his case. Levy, only witness today, told the House Labor subcommittee that there are forces at work in the Hollywood dispute "which normally would not be allied, but in this particular instance at least are joined in a marriage of convenience for the purpose of destroying the dominant position which IATSE holds in the industry."

Names Reds,' Hutcherson
He identified these "forces" as the Communist Party for control of Hollywood labor and "the Carpenters' union, and the burning ambition of William L. Hutcherson to dominate studio labor."

Levy said IATSE was the only bull in Hollywood against the Communist conquest of studio labor. If IATSE were eliminated, he continued, then there would be a struggle for supremacy between Hutcherson and the Communist Party. "Mr. Hutcherson would then quickly find out how little real economic strength he has in the studios," Levy added.

Hutcherson has already indicated that he wants a chance to reply.

Levy submitted to the Congressional group a letter which he sent to Kearns in November, 1947, for Richard B. Schulman, attorney for the writer. In the letter, Levy asserted that the 1946 strike was "only one of a series of strikes, all of which were part of the agitation to disrupt labor relations in the Hollywood studios, to destroy the IATSE as a collective bargaining representative of the studio unions, and to install in its place a pro-Communist industrial type of union which would, at the appropriate time, join hands with the pro-Communist elements in the studio talent guilds, and especially in the Screen Writers' Guild, so as to place the motion picture industry under the domination of the Communists and their pro-Communist friends and sympathizers."

Alleges Sorrell-CSU-'Red' Ties
Levy read various documents purporting to show the Communist record and associations of Sorrell and the CSU.

In his morning testimony, Levy read from a letter by Walsh to AFL head William Green, charging that there had been a "false clarification" made in August 1946. One, he said, was the clarification drawn up by the three-man arbitration committee. The other, he maintained, was a "false clarification" sent out to the unions on the West Coast, which interpreted the disputed jurisdiction to the benefit of the car- pen ters.

Later he quoted from a letter he wrote to Kearns in which he declared that the differences among the unions might have been resolved through the arbitration channels if not for Communist infiltration and tac-

Levy is scheduled to return to the stand tomorrow, with tentative appearances slated for former Motion Picture Writers' Guild executive director and expert Pat Casey, Hutcherson and Sorrell.

SWASHBUCKLING SPECTACLE
IS BACK ON THE SCREEN!

"Rousing plume-and-sabre saga... geared to sweeping action... superbly staged 10-minute dueling match between De Cordova and Sutton!"

"ADVENTURES OF CASANOVA"

An Eagle Lion Films Production

Thursday, February 26, 1948
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Category</th>
<th>Nominees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best Motion Picture of the Year</td>
<td>&quot;GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT&quot; · &quot;MIRACLE ON 34th STREET&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best performance by an Actor</td>
<td>GREGORY PECK · &quot;Gentleman's Agreement&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best performance by an Actress</td>
<td>DOROTHY McGUIRE · &quot;Gentleman's Agreement&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role</td>
<td>EDMUND GWENN · RICHARD WIDMARK · &quot;Miracle on 34th Street&quot; · &quot;Kiss of Death&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role</td>
<td>CELESTE HOLM · ANNE REVERE · &quot;Gentleman's Agreement&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Achievement in Directing</td>
<td>ELIA KAZAN · &quot;Gentleman's Agreement&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Written Screenplay</td>
<td>MOSS HART · RICHARD MURPHY · GEORGE SEATON · &quot;Gentleman's Agreement&quot; · &quot;Boomerang&quot; · &quot;Miracle on 34th Street&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Original Motion Picture Story</td>
<td>VALENTINE DAVIES · ELEAZAR LIPSKY · &quot;Miracle on 34th Street&quot; · &quot;Kiss of Death&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Achievement in Film Editing</td>
<td>HARMON JONES · &quot;Gentleman's Agreement&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Achievement in Black-and-White Art Direction</td>
<td>LYLE WHEELER · MAURICE RANSFORD · &quot;The Foxes of Harrow&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Scoring of a Musical Picture</td>
<td>ALFRED NEWMAN · &quot;Mother Wore Tights&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Scoring of a Dramatic or Comedy Picture</td>
<td>ALFRED NEWMAN · DAVID RAKSIN · &quot;Forever Amber&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Original Song</td>
<td>MACK GORDON · JOSEF MYROW · &quot;YOU DO&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Cinematography, Black and White</td>
<td>CHARLES LANG, Jr. · &quot;The Ghost and Mrs. Muir&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Cinematography, Color</td>
<td>HARRY JACKSON · &quot;Mother Wore Tights&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Salutes All Those Whose Achievements Have Been So Honored!
Casey Places Studio Strike Blame on AFL

Prescribes Round-Table Talks for Settlement

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Pat Casey, former chairman of the producers’ labor committee, today blamed the American Federation of Labor for the studio jurisdictional strikes and declared that there was no Communist element in the situation. Casey told the House Labor subcommittee, now in its eighth day of hearings on the matter, that the AFL had given the producers’ labor committee “a job no human being could have done in the time they were supposed to do it,” and added that the only way to settle the jurisdictional situation was to have “all the people around a table giving and taking.”

Committee chairman Carroll D. Kears selected this point later, when William L. Hutcherson, president of the Carpenters’ Union, took the stand briefly. He believed, Kears (Continued on page 4).

Paras., 20th, WB Win Percentage Motions

A precedent was said to have been established respecting demands of bills-of-particulars which are customarily made by exhibitors in answering percentage complaints, when Justice Ferdinand Pecora of the New York Supreme Court ruled yesterday in favor of Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Brothers on motions (Continued on page 4).

O’Connor and Sanford Head Charity Group

John J. O’Connor, Universal-International, is chairman and Bert Sanford, Altee Service, vice-chairman of the motion picture division of Cardinal Spellman’s Committee of the Laity for the 1948 Apostles of New York Charitable Services. They will be aided by a score of film leaders here.

A goal of $2,500,000 has been set for the appeal, which begins on April 15 and will run through the 28th.

Will Demand UK Nationalize Its Production

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The British Film Industry Employees Council, central agency of film unions here, will call for nationalization of the British production industry when the new British Joint Production Council meets in London, probably early next month.

George Elvin, FIEC secretary, has acknowledged that he will introduce and press a recommendation at the Council meeting that all film studios and production equipment in Britain be put under government control.

Meanwhile, the British Board of Trade, which called for formation of the Council, has requested admissions of individuals to head the new organization. Seven production representatives are expected, and seven trade union leaders will make up the Council.

The BOT, headed by Harold Wil- (Continued on page 4).

First Mexican Film Firm ‘Nationalized’

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 26.—Clas Films Mundiales, a top film producer in this country, is the first motion picture company to come under government supervision, having been placed under the wing of the National Properties Ministry, which was organized in 1946 by President Miguel Aleman for the announced purpose of controlling government expenditures. Clasa is one of several producers subsidized in part by the government.

The Properties Ministry supervise the Bank of Mexico, Petroleos Mexicanos, oil company; the Mexican Social Insurance Institute, and Azucar, S.A., large sugar company.

Johnston Off Today For British Talks

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, will leave New York by plane for London this afternoon for a series of top-level conferences looking to a settlement of Britain’s 75 per cent ad valorem film tax. He is due in the British capital tomorrow noon.

Making the flight with the MPAA head will be Joyce O’Hara, his executive assistant, and Allen Dulates, MPAA adviser on foreign affairs. From London the party may go to Paris later.

Rodgers Testifies On Loew’s Plan for Chicago Releases

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—W. F. Rodgers, Loew’s general sales manager, was called to the stand today in the Jackson Park Theatre decree, contempt hearing in U. S. District Court here and admitted the company had devised a new clearance plan ranging from seven, 14 and 21 days over first subsequent-run theatres. Rodgers said the new plan, which resulted from the Jackson Park decree was tentative and has not yet been reduced to writing.

“I feel we should be granted first-run clearance of at least three weeks to protect our interest over first subsequent-run houses,” Rodgers said.

“Frankly,” he added, “I don’t know (Continued on page 2).

Meet on Voluntary Censorship March 3

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The meet of film, radio and press representatives to discuss the advisability of “voluntary censorship” on national security news will be held here March 3, according to Capt. R. W. Berry, press aide to Secretary of Defense Forrestal.

No list is yet available of who will represent the newspapers and film producers, but only about 25 persons are expected for the meeting from all of the groups.

“We’re not going to fight for this all the way,” Capt. Berry said. “We want to sound out opinion. If this meeting wants to knock down any such schemes, they’re dead—we’ll not push them any further.”

Douglas Meets Bevin for Tax Peace Parley

Both Scheduled to Talk To Stafford Cripps Next

LONDON, Feb. 26.—American Ambassador Lewis O. Douglas and Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin conferred at length here today on Britain’s 75 per cent ad valorem film tax, exploring possible settlement avenues.

Indications in governmental circles are that continued pressure is being made and that Douglas and Bevin next will handle the dispute with Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, prior to the arrival here Saturday from Washington of Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Foreign Office authorities re-embassied today that Johnston’s position here is best defined as that of an observer.

Meanwhile, Harold Wilson, presi- (Continued on page 4).

Reels Act Today on Rank Olympics Deal

Representatives of the five U. S. newsmen will meet here today to consider action against an arrangement under which J. Arthur Rank is understood to have acquired exclusive rights to coverage of the Olympic Games in England this summer. The form of the protest, and to whom it will be directed, will be decided at the conference.

A spokesman for the newsmen said yesterday it was not clear (Continued on page 4).

Sherman To Produce Series of Westerns

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 26.—Harry Sherman has purchased screen rights to William C. Tuttle’s “Hashknife” stories for $100,000 with the intention of re-entering the Western series field and producing new “Hashknife” stories. Sherman, whose agenda of major feature productions will not be affected by this additional activity, is negotiating with Joel Mccrea to star in the “Hashknife” group series. Distribution arrangements have not been set.
Personal Mention

E. S. GREGG, Westrex vice-presi-
dent, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

SID KRAMER, RKO Radio assistant short subjects sales manager: WALTER BORANSON, Western division manager; and Lt. Col. J. C. Smith, district manager, will attend a company sales meeting in Salt Lake City this weekend.

Tommy Breen, M-G-M actor and son of Joseph L. Breen, Production Code administrator, has two popular songs, written in collaboration with NACO HERR Brown, Jr., published by Broadway, Music, Inc.

STEVE BADDY, Allied Artists-Mon-
ogram president, will begin his tour of company exchanges next week after the premiere of "Panhandle" in Ama-
tillo, Texas, on Tuesday.

Henry J. STYVES, general counsel of the Kentucky Association of Thea-
tre Owners, has returned to Louisville from Washington.

Harold Merisch, Allied Artists vice-president, has returned to Holly-
wood from a national exchange tour.

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-Interna-
tional Western division sales manager, is on a two-week tour of the Midwest.

HENDRON RICHIE, M-G-M ex-
hibitor relations head, will leave for the Coast on Monday.

WILLIAM S. ZOELENSKY, M-G-M short subjects sales head, will leave here Monday on a Western trip.

Robert INSAGH, Columbia South-
ern district manager, has returned to Atlanta from New York.

Production Drops Slightly to 30

Hollywood, Feb. 26—Production activity lagged slightly with the index dipping to 30 from last week's 34. Work started on six new films while 16 went to cutting rooms.


Shooting finished on "Thunderbird," formerly "Wild Fury," and "Love Me or Leave Me" (Columbia); "Blonde Ice" (Mooney); Film Classics: "A Southern Yankee," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; "Murder by Airplane," RKO; "A Foreign Affair" and "Disaster" (Pine-Thomas), Paramount; "Carson City Raiders," Republic; "The Pigeon" (Regal); "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven." (United Artists).

Proposes National Daylight Saving

Washington, Feb. 28—A bill to end the entire U.S. on daylight saving time was introduced in the Senate today by Sen. Reed G. Kauffman. "National daylight saving prevailed during the war.

Red Cross Appeal Now in Newsreels

A special three-minute Red Cross appeal trailer tacked on to current issues of the five newsreels is now being used to boost the cause of the annual fund drive. Making the appeal is Gregory Peck.

CHICAGO, Feb. 26—Appointment of the following committees to assist him on the 1945 American Red Cross Fund was announced by Jack Kirsch, president of Allied Theatres of Illi-nois, and this year's chairman of the annual division fund drive in the near

Circuit theatres: Edwin Silverman, Ar-
lington, James F. Jones, Roberl; John Balihan, John Balihan, Frank Smith, Hart- ton; Harold independent. Weekends: Jack Rose, Harold Gollod, Charles Lidall, How- ard and Samuel Roberts. Film dis-

tributors: W. E. Benson, T. R. Gilliam, J. H. Stevens, Remsche, Louis Reinhilde,

Manhattan: Edward L. Bowers; Charles publishers: Jerry Baxter, producers and M. T. Harvey. In the region of the Atkinson; opera; Thos. J. Barke, assoc. others' union; Frank Coyne, Theat-

ical Protective Union; Sam Lamasky; Film others' union; Robert T. Gehring; Thea-
tical Protective Union; legitimate the-

ices: Herbert Ries.

Jersey Allied Meets In N.Y. on Monday

Edward Lachman, president of Al-
lied of New Jersey, and Harry H. Lowenstein, retiring secretary of na-
tional Allied, will present to the mem-

ership of the Jersey organization on Monday in a meeting in New York on Monday a report on national Allied's board meet-

ing held in Washington last week. The report will discuss the developments in 16mm. competition. Aasco's new rates, and other matters, but it is expected to be an important dis-

cussion of the Allied board's opposition to participation in the Motion Picture Foundation, according to Lachman.

Consider Ad Films For Capital Houses

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26—Washington independent theatre owners are "seriously considering" opening their screens to sponsored advertising films as a means of boosting declining rev-

enue, head of one in-

dependent declared here today.

To Replace Burned Food

Hollywood, Feb. 26—The Friendship Train food recently destroyed by a French warehouse fire will be completely replaced, according to Harry M. Warner, national chairman of the Friendship Train Committee. Cash donations of $40,000 received earlier this year will be used to purchase canned milk, Warner said, and shipment will go forward immediately.

TODAY

Rodgers

(Continued from page 1)

how to release pictures in Chicago without a great deal of study and time, and therefore withheld pictures until late December unless we could come to some decision.

Rodgers said he had made these decisions in consultation with Louis Melnick, Loew's New York attorney, and E. M. Saunders, Loew's assistant general sales manager. He denied any plan to defeat the decree. Rodgers, said, however, that he thought the decree would be reversed on appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, and there would not pay much attention to it.

Sought to Protect Clearance

Rodgers admitted Metro held up pictures in the Chicago area to pro-
tect clearance on first-runs. When asked by Thomas McConnell, Jackson attorney, about his 20 days clearance for subsequent runs in "Green Dolphin Street" after it had played the Chicago Theatre, Rodgers said his interpretation of the decree was that it prohibited any uniform plan of all films and that certain pictures could be granted clearance. McConnell stated the decree did not contain the words with respect to Rodgers. Rodgers said that "Green Dolphin Street" was the company's biggest money-maker in recent years, and Chicago, he added, was the fourth largest city for film revenue.

16-Day Clearance for 'Kenyon'

W. C. Gehring, general sales man-
ger of 20th Century Fox, followed Rodgers to the stand. Gehring stated that 20th-Fox's zoning plan was formulated with his participation for the purpose of dividing and subiding theatres into a competitive area, geo-

graphically and theatre-wise. He ad-

dressed on behalf of "Gentleman's Agreement" that the decree so the picture could play at the Apollo Theatre because it was a trial run and the picture's purpose was to combat anti-

Semitism.

Gentleman's Agreement" Exempted

McConnell said he could not interfere with such a program as long as it was not used as a precedent. Judge Michael Igoe, pres-
iding at the hearing, had also con-

ceded. Gehring said he did not think they were violating the decree by playing "Nightmare Alley" at the State Theatre over the two-week limit as long as it was released to outlying theatres. The Jackson Park played the film simultaneously with the State-

Theatre in its third week.

McConnell produced for Gehring the contracts for "Daisy Kenyon" at the United Artists which provided a 16-days clearance for subsequent runs. Gehring said it applied uniformly to all films and very large shows which played the Chicago Theatre, had a 14-day clearance. Gehring said he felt the purpose of the court's decision on these pictures was not for setting admission prices.
It's the word behind the word-of-mouth that counts!

Just a short time ago "SITTING PRETTY" went on the 20th sound stages...and by the end of the first day's shooting the grips were telling the carpenters...the carpenters were telling the electricians...the electricians were telling themselves and everybody else who'd listen about Belvedere*-and the word was out before a single ad, still or publicity story appeared...

That's the trade-mark of a truly great picture! "SITTING PRETTY" has just been previewed in New York...and from what we could hear between the laughs we know that it will make you glad you're in show business.

It's so good you wouldn't believe us if we told you...so we're rushing prints to your territory and you'll soon be invited to see for yourself!

And what that word-of-mouth will do for your boxoffice!

*Sitting Pretty

ROBERT YOUNG · MAUREEN O'HARA · CLIFTON WEBB in "SITTING PRETTY" with RICHARD HAYDN · LOUISE ALLBRITTON · Randy Stuart · Ed Begley · Larry Olsen · John Russell · Betty Ann Lynn · Willard Robertson · Directed by WALTER LANG · Produced by SAMUEL G. ENGEL · Screen Play by F. Hugh Herbert · Based on a Novel by Gwen Davenport

Belvedere does what the man behind "The Miracle On 34th Street" couldn't!
Casey Blames AFL

(Continued from page 1)

said, that Hutcheson and Richard F. Walsh, president of LATSE, could settle the matter between them.

Kearns declared that in his opinion the jurisdictional situation could be settled by negotiations between Walsh and Hutcheson.

Reminding them that the motion picture industry was the fifth largest,est industry in the United States, Kearns told the carpenters' chief, "It is my wish and prayer that you sit down and discuss the matter. I hope you will be able to render the industry in the way of approaching the hearings in the way of capital outlay to the men who have jobs in it."

Hutcheson replied to this that all the carpenters want is carpenters' work. "The 'I.A. wants all the work," he asserted. "When Walsh is ready to concede to us we can settle this in five minutes—even in three months."

Previously Congressman Owens had told Hutcheson that "the key" to the jurisdictional problem was in Hutcheson's hands.

Casey, who was recalled for questioning in the afternoon session, told the committee that from what he had heard in testimony at the hearing "there should be a lot of housecleaning in the AF of L." He declared that "the status rates had never been closed," and added that in the whole history of the AFL he didn't know of "a single jurisdiction that both sides have lived up to."

Both Casey and painters' head L. P. Lindelof, who appeared briefly at the afternoon session, declared they did not think Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Carpenters, was a Communist. Casey stated that Sorrell was "honest."

Screen Guild Sets 28 for 1948-49

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—A 1948-1949 release schedule of 28 films was announced at the recent annual meeting here of the Screen Guild Producers, directors and franchise holders. Among the releases will be three Robert Lippert independent productions: Edward Small reissues and 12 Hopalong Cassidy. The Lippert trip will comprise "Return of Wildfire," "Last of the Wild Horses," and an untitled dog yarn.

All directors were re-elected. An increased assessment from each franchise holder for the financing of future productions and purchase of outside product for the year was approved.

President John J. Jones, Western sales manager F. A. Bateman, Eastern sales manager Arthur Greenblatt, and vice-president Lippert presided.

Review

"Let's Live Again" (Selset—20th Century-Fox)

Hollywood, Feb. 26

ON the basis of its first picture produced independently for 20th-Fox release, Frank N. Selset rates a warm welcome from exhibitors as a new source of feature comedy material all too rare in the flow of Hollywood product. The primarily-conceived, tastefully handled subject, co-starring John Emery and Hillary Brooke. It is designed to pleasantly amuse rather than rock its audiences and in this it succeeded completely.

The production reflects the producer's versatility in all branches of the industry and is highly polished merchandise with no limitations whatever on programming suitability.

Emery portrays an atomic scientist whose brother, an explorer, played by James Millican, has been reported missing. He is rendered in the way of capital outlay to the men who have jobs in it."

Hutcheson replied to this that all the carpenters want is carpenters' work. "The 'I.A. wants all the work," he asserted. "When Walsh is ready to concede to us we can settle this in five minutes—even in three months."

Previously Congressman Owens had told Hutcheson that "the key" to the jurisdictional problem was in Hutcheson's hands.

Casey, who was recalled for questioning in the afternoon session, told the committee that from what he had heard in testimony at the hearing "there should be a lot of housecleaning in the AF of L." He declared that "the status rates had never been closed," and added that in the whole history of the AFL he didn't know of "a single jurisdiction that both sides have lived up to."

Both Casey and painters' head L. P. Lindelof, who appeared briefly at the afternoon session, declared they did not think Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Carpenters, was a Communist. Casey stated that Sorrell was "honest."

Screen Guild Sets 28 for 1948-49

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—A 1948-1949 release schedule of 28 films was announced at the recent annual meeting here of the Screen Guild Producers, directors and franchise holders. Among the releases will be three Robert Lippert independent productions: Edward Small reissues and 12 Hopalong Cassidy. The Lippert trip will comprise "Return of Wildfire," "Last of the Wild Horses," and an untitled dog yarn.

All directors were re-elected. An increased assessment from each franchise holder for the financing of future productions and purchase of outside product for the year was approved.

President John J. Jones, Western sales manager F. A. Bateman, Eastern sales manager Arthur Greenblatt, and vice-president Lippert presided.

UK Nationalization

(Continued from page 1)

son, suggested formation of the Council a few months ago, envisioning it as a clearing house for ideas on ways and means for increasing British production and an agency wherein labor-management problems might be solved to the advantage of the industry.

Many observers here discern considerable tangibility in the threat of nationalization. No one believes it may come overnight. Government ministers have declared often that they have no such intention.

Although the government has no mandate to nationalize the industry, Tom J. O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kind Employees, stated, "the inescapable consequences of the muddled tax position on imported films will compel it either to stand by and see the entire industry disappear or take it over and save it from its oncoing paralysis."

Douglas-Bevin

(Continued from page 1)

dent of the Board of Trade, as the principal speaker at a dinner tonight for Sir Michael Balcon, made it unmistakably clear that the government is prepared to conduct its negotiations for settlement of the tax in a fair and equitable manner.

TOMORROW, the British offering is a mystery to Sir Michael, who will be accompanied by an expert in the field of international law. It is reported that he will be able to advise the exhibitors as to the best course of action to take in their negotiations.

Ask Bulgarian Nationalization

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Bills for the nationalization of the Bulgarian production picture and radio industries were introduced today in the Bulgarian legislature, according to press reports reaching here from Sofia.

Sharin Quits E-L Post

Eugene Sharin, Eagle-Lion foreign sales executive since March, 1947, has resigned.

Percentage Motions

(Continued from page 1)

in their percentage actions against Jesse L. Stern, Abram H. Levy, and their corporations, operating the Park-west and Washington theatres in Manhattan and the Howard in Brooklyn.

The court granted the motions of the distributors to modify certain demands made by the exhibitor defendants for detailed bills of particulars of the distributors' complaints against them. The distributor plaintiffs represented by the law firm of Farris, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, as attorneys.

The court held that the distributors were not required to furnish copies or contents of statements made by the defendants showing that they knew that the reports of gross admission receipts were a material factor in determining flat rentals, or other details as to how they acquired such knowledge, and that the distributors need not furnish copies of statements of receipts made by the exhibitors.

The court also struck out the defendants' demand for a statement of the law providing that the exhibitors are required to preserve their records and their demand for copies of the license agreements, except for specimens.

Re-elected to AMPM Post

Hollywood, Feb. 26.—Robert M. W. Vogel has been re-elected chairman of the international committee of the Association of Motion Picture Producers.

M.G.M TRADE SHOW

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY TERRITORIES ONLY

"SUMMER HOLIDAY"

WED., MARCH 3rd

1:30 P.M.

M-C-M SCREEN ROOM

630 Ninth Avenue, New York City
Federal Tax Cut Hopes Are Dim Here

50 - 50, or Less, Chance Of Relief Is Seen Now

Expectations in exhibition circles here that the Federal wartime emergency admission tax will be abrogated by Congress this year have dimmed considerably since last fall, notwithstanding the fact that several bills designed to bring the present 20 cents levy down to the pre-war 10 per cent level have been introduced in Congress meanwhile.

Citing the Czechoslovakian crisis and other ominous developments abroad in the "cold war" as calculated to swell the government's financing of the Marshall Plan thus sustaining and perhaps increasing the need for tax revenue, many theatre organization representatives here believe there is no chance whatever for a Federal tax reduction this year, or even next.

Robert W. Coyle, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America (Continued on page 3)

'Motion Picture News'

MPAA Aide Denies Bars for Studio Jobs

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—Motion Picture Association of America attorney Maurice Benjamin declared here at the weekend that the men who engaged in the 1946 studio strike are free to make application for work in the studios and will be employed "if, as and when there is work for them.

He made the statement before the House Labor sub-committee on Friday.

"For a long time before this committee began its investigation of [the Hollywood jurisdictional strike] in Los Angeles," Benjamin said, "members of all existing unions have been free to work in the studios by applying for employment." Employment has been available to them without discrimination whether they are members or non-members of unions, he added.

Benjamin took the stand after Paul Hirst, a member of the Carpenters' union, testified that he was laid off on the last day of the strike, Sept. 23, 1946, and had never worked since.

(Continued on page 3)

Exchange Pay Raise Effective Today

Within the next two weeks, some 6,300 film exchange employes in the country's 32 exchange circles will receive retroactive pay checks totaling about $400,000 under the new IASTE wage contract which became effective last week.

Beginning today, the 6,300 workers' salaries are subject to a 15 per cent cost-of-living raise, representing an increase of $11,719,000 annually over present combined payrolls of 29 companies: Universal, RKO Radio, United Artists, 20th Century-Fox, Republic, Loew's, Columbia, Warners and Paramount.

Increases are retroactive to last Dec. 1.

(Continued on page 3)

Johnston Dubious Of Tax Settlement

Do not that his London visit would lead to a settlement of the Anglo-American dispute over the 75 per cent of ad valorem tax on U.S. films was expressed by Eric Johnston on Friday afternoon before the Motion Picture Association of America president took off for the British capital from the Guards Club Field here.

"I'm not very optimistic—quite the contrary," Johnston said when asked if he expected a settlement to come out of any conferences on the tax situation in which he might take part.

(Continued on page 3)

Cripps Parley Advances Tax Peace Formula

Douglas Sees Chancellor; London Is Optimistic

LONDON, Feb. 29.—Well informed governmental figures declared with evident assurance yesterday that a formula for settlement of the British ad valorem film tax now is well in sight.

The statements were made following a lengthy meeting between U.S. Ambassador Lewis O. Douglas and Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

It is understood that the Douglas-Cripps talks were definitive and progressed without serious problems being encountered, although adjustments of 10 to 15 per cent in the Cripps formula were made on the advice of his colleagues.

It is indicated in official quarters that a settlement formula already has been agreed to.

(Continued on page 3)

MPAA Asks US Bar Mexican Ad Valorem

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—The Motion Picture Association of America on Friday asked the Government to make sure that the Mexican government did not establish any ad valorem taxes on films and advertising products for the use of the Motion Picture Association of America's offices here on Friday.

Ted Smith, who presented the (Continued on page 3)
**Personal Mention**

**JEREMY GURY** has been elected vice-president and appointed copy director of Doubleday and Co.

**FRANK BOUCHER** of the Motion Picture Association has been appointed a partner in the law firm in Washington, D.C., has returned to the Capital following conferences here with Ros- sert Coston, President of American executives.

**JOHN MURPHY** of Loew’s has returned from a tour of Southern theaters; Dan Terrell of Loew’s advertising department, who accompanied him, will return today.

**DAVID D. HORNE,** Monogram inter- national inspector of the Caribbean and South American exchanges.

**B. G. KRANE,** vice-president and general sales manager of Film Classics, here, in San Francisco surveying that territory.

**OSCAR A. DOOR,** Loew’s general theater manager, will return today from a Havana vacation.

**1,302 Theatres Are in Dallas Exchange Area**

There are 1,302 theaters in the area’s capacity; 707,682, in operation in the Dallas exchange area, ac- cording to the Dallas Film Directory released by Motion Picture Association of America.

The 28th in a series of 31, the directory reveals that there are 971 of the circuit-operated, a circuit being defined as four or more theaters operated by the same management. The area’s four largest cities: Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and Fort Worth have 394 theaters, with a seating ca-

**Craddock Is Named E-L Branch Head**

William J. Heineman, Eagle-Lion vice-president in charge of distribution, has appointed Gordon C. Craddock, Indianapolis branch manager, to succeed Craddock, who assumes his new duties today, has been with Universal for more than 15 years, in sales posts. He was branch manager in Indianapolis and Portland, and is now a sales de-

**Dudelson Rejoins UA As Cleveland Head**

Harris Dudelson has been appoint- ed executive sales manager for United Artists, by J. J. Ungere, general sales manager, Dudelson rejoins United Artists after a short absence. He previously held the posts in St. Louis and Cincinnati.

**Increase Budget for Overseas Film Unit**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—House App- ropiations Committee has recommend- ed giving the State Department $28,000 to operate its overseas in- formation program, including the international motion picture division, during fiscal 1949.

This is $6,378,000 less than was asked for by the President, but is $10,000,000 more than the budget for the current year.

No funds were asked for or voted in this budget to aid the film industry in overcoming its overseas information problems. Presumably this will be in- cluded in a supplemental budget when the Senate and House committees meet on the budget.

**Cleston On Stand in Jackson Park Case**

CHICAGO, Feb. 29.—Hearing of the charges that the defendants in the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust case will go on trial within the next few days, Coston, head of the program, that action is to be taken next week has been delayed, head of the executive department, said that he has been placed at a disadvantage because the decree has suppressed competition with theaters not involved in the case.

**Chart Regional Premiere**

Preparations leading up to a six- state regional premiere of 20th Century-Fox’s, “Scudda Hool Scudda Hay” will get under way this week with the arrival of Rodney Bush, ex- ploitation manager, in Kansas City and Florida on Monday. Rob Hinder, head of the the Fox Midwest Circuit, and his staff, Bush left New York yesterday.

**Paul Everton, 79**

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 29.—Paul Everton, stage and screen actor, died at the weekend of a heart attack at the Hotel Hollywood Country House. He had retired to Los Angeles from Beverly Hills months ago.

**Emerling To Speak**

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 29.—Ernest Emerling, national advertising publicity director of Loew’s Theatres, will speak at the “Motion Picture Theatre Advertising Convention,” the New England Newspaper Adver- tising Executives Association convention which will be held March 9 at the Hotel Kimball, here.

**Video Clinic Set By CBS March 31**

A nation-wide television network clinic will be held in New York by Columbia Broadcasting System on March 31, Frank Stanton, president, temporarily at the helm of the station, said that the event marks another phase of CBS’s long-range network plans.

Stanton has been sent to key management executives of 163 stations on the CBS network. Citing one rea- son for the clinic, Stanton said that while the general and trade publicity have done an outstanding job in covering the many facets and con- stantly redefined pattern of television growth, broadcasters far removed from the present key television centers are often in trouble in trying to grasp the scattered segments of television information to make a comprehensible whole.

Stanton will make the opening address at the clinic. Presiding will be Lawrence Lowman, CBS vice-president in charge of television.

**Universal News, No. 132.—Universal Pictures Corporation, President, released a statement today that, "the picture of the week," released a statement today that, "the picture of the week," as follows:

The committee voted a substantial increase in anti-trust funds for the next fiscal year, recommending 10 percent.

**UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 132.—Universal Pictures Corporation, President, released a statement today that, "the picture of the week," as follows:

The committee voted a substantial increase in anti-trust funds for the next fiscal year, recommending 10 percent.

**Cohn, Bricken Form Pioneer Pictures**

Ralph Cohn, producer, has formed Pioneer Pictures, Inc. to make picture, as follows:

The committee voted a substantial increase in anti-trust funds for the next fiscal year, recommending 10 percent.

**Technicolor Cited**

(Continued from page 1)

"long-range program of attacking un- lawful economic power in various in-

The committee voted a substantial increase in anti-trust funds for the next fiscal year, recommending 10 percent.

**Lawrence Hospitalized**

Laudy Lawrence, vice-president in charge of foreign sales for the Sel- neick Releasing Organization, who arrived here recently from Europe for conferences with David O. Selneick, has been taken ill and is now con- fined to New York Hospital. Confer- ences with Selneick, as well as with SRO president, will be held later.
Reels Defers Action

Finding clarification of reports that J. Arthur Rank has entered into an arrangement giving him exclusive coverage of the Olympic Games in England, injectors, representatives of the five U.S. newsreels here on Friday postponed action on the matter. The group met before a cable to the British Olympic committee asking for verification or denial of any deals with Rank on Friday that no answer had been received by the American reels to a similar request made to the committee some time ago.

Tax Cut Hopes (Continued from page 1)

ica, said that whereas a few months ago he saw a nine-to-one chance favoring elimination of the wartime tax in the present session Congress, at present he believes there is only a 50-50 chance.

A more pessimistic outlook was expressed by Edward Lachman, president of the Allied of New Jersey, who holds that there is no chance that the wartime tax will be abolished this year, claiming that the Government cannot afford the reduction at this time. Lachman fears that even if the 20 per cent Federal cut has been cut in half this year or next, such action would not work to the advantage of the theaters and their employers, and the state and city governments would immediately increase existing admission taxes or impose new ones where such taxes are not already in effect.

MPAA Aide Denies

...and that this was a motion that the problem was averted because it was handled by the American industry.

It is known that Johnston and Mulvey have veto power over any agreement concluded by the government representatives or whether it will be necessary to submit to Congress for final decision.

No authoritative information is available concerning the proposed settlement of the multiplex picture dispute, but it is expected to be similar to that agreed upon in the European Recovery Program, and a settlement developed with that as a basis.

Johnston (Continued from page 1)

with British government officials and schedule a meeting in England. Johnston decline to anticipate what such conferences might produce. "I'd be an oracle to forecast," he said.

The MPAA president added that London dispatches that he was going there with specific intentions of parlaying to Japan, if continued, the effects of tax impasse were "a little inaccurate."

Discloses UK Invitation

Johnston disclaimed that he was prompted to make the trip to London at the invitation of the government or other groups for the deliberate purpose of trying to solve the tax impasse. However, he added, he would "explore the problem if they wanted him to. At the same time, no appointments to discuss the matter with anyone in London, he said.

[London sources have described Johnston's role in the British film tax settlement negotiations which are now in progress as that of an observer or, if required, adviser.—Ed. Note.]

According to the MPAA head, even if a settlement were to result from any meetings in which he participated, nothing would be done without the authority to approve it officially.

Johnston said he was doubtful Congress would be given films in the Marshall Plan "probably," adding that taking too much of material things when the world problem of world security is more important" be observed.

May Visit Belgium, Italy

From London, Johnston said he planned to go to Paris to discuss the entry of American films into the French market. He disclosed that visits to Belgium and Italy might also be on his itinerary.

In the Johnston party were Joyce O'Hara, his executive assistant; Allen Dunlap, trade adviser on foreign affairs, and James Mulvey, head of Samuel Goldwyn Productions who went along as representative of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

Showman's Awards (Continued from page 1)

spheres of exhibition. Great Britain and other foreign countries alone will be represented by some 30 finalists.

Following the judging, Martin Quigley will be host at a luncheon at which Fred Schwartz, vice-president of Century Theaters, will be the principal speaker. Many out-of-town theatre executives will attend.

MPAA position before the Committee for Reciprocity Information at hearings on the proposed reciprocal U.S.-Mexican trade agreement, also asked that the U.S. ensure continued unrestricted importation of these items and that there be no increase in existing specific duties on any of these items.

He pointed out that Mexican films gross approximately $2,000,000 in this country annually, while American films earn $5,000,000 in Mexico.

Hyman, Fellerman to Rochester

Edward L. Hyman, vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., and Morris Fellerman, executive, will leave here tomorrow to attend ceremonies in conjunction with the change in name of the Theatre to the Rochester Theatre in Rochester, N. Y. After the ceremony they will proceed to Cincinnati to consult with Jack Keegan, head of North Theatre, a Paramount affiliate, and will visit all of the theaters in North territory.

New Screening Date!

RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

of

"I REMEMBER MAMA"

will be held at the
NORMANDIE THEATRE
51 East 53rd St., at Park Ave., New York, N. Y.
MONDAY, MARCH 8, at 10:30 A.M.
—and not on Wednesday, Mar. 3, as previously advertised.
... ANYTHING WITH YOUR BUS Dissertation GREAT WOMAN'S WON'T CURE?
MORE GOOD NEWS ABOUT "A DOUBLE LIFE"

SENSATIONAL BUSINESS
AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL!

and more praise
from the critics...

"Rich and exciting... Colman has the most spectacular role of his career." —N.Y. TIMES

"A milestone in movie entertainment." —N.Y. WORLD-TELEGRAM

"Places Colman among the immortals of the screen." —N.Y. DAILY NEWS

"Tops is the word for 'A Double Life'... it's upper bracket in every department." —N.Y. DAILY MIRROR

"Excellent... everyone and everything is top-flight... Colman is magnificent." —N.Y. JOURNAL-AMERICAN

"Splendid... enough to fill a dozen Broadway theatres and give each one a hit." —PM

"A real delight." —TIME MAGAZINE

Truly justifying
Ronald Colman's Academy nomination!

KANIN PRODUCTIONS Presents

Ronald Colman

giving NEW greatness to the Screen in

"A DOUBLE LIFE"

with

SIGNE HASSO, EDMOND O'BRIEN
SHELLEY WINTERS • RAY COLLINS • PHILIP LOEB
Written by RUTH GORDON and GARSON KANIN
Directed by GEORGE CUKOR • Produced by MICHAEL KANIN

A Universal-International Release
Admission Tax Collections In A New Record

Washington, March 1.—Motion picture theatre grosses in 1947 were better than in record-breaking 1946, according to admission tax figures released here today by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

They show that general admission tax collections from February 1947, through January 1948, reflecting box-office business for the 1947 calendar year, totaled $385,950,164, compared with $385,550,164 for collections in the 1946 calendar year.

Motion picture theatres are generally considered to account for 80 to 85 per cent of general admission tax collections. Although receipts apparently continued at much the same level in 1947 as in 1946, this does not mean that attendance continued at the same rate, nor that profits did.

Top Showmen Judge Entries in Quigley 15th Annual Awards

Judging of the entries in the 15th annual Quigley Showmanship Awards, a competition held yesterday in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

Some 60 home office advertising and publicity executives and circuit leaders inspected and voted on 63 final entries for the awards, made yearly by the Manager's Round Table of Motion Picture Herald.

Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president of Century Circuit, was the principal speaker at the luncheon that followed the judging, attended by more than 100 persons. Schwartz was introduced by Martin Quigley.

Schwartz said that the entries provided evidence that the industry was entitled with the annual competition "to combat the lethargy that sometimes cripples showmanship."

Asserting that our sense of showmanship has become dull, the circuit executive said that "we have all been guilty in accepting our patrons as a matter of course," adding: "I'm afraid.

(Continued on page 3)

FEVER SAYS: 'THIS MUST BE SETTLED'

Senate's ERP Bill Omits Film Mention

Washington, March 1.—Any mention of films was conspicuously lacking in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's report on the European Recovery Program, made public here over the week-end.

In the incentive goods classification, tobacco was the only item mentioned. It is believed that the committee's report from London that a possible basis for settlement of the British film tax would be to have films classified as "incentive goods," while ultimate decision rests with the person finally chosen to administer the plan, several Congressmen and Senator, here express doubt that films could ever be put in this category.

It is interesting to note, however, that the names currently mentioned for ERP administrator is Allen W. Dulles, MPAA foreign adviser.

45 Will Attend TOA Coast Board Meeting

Some 45 from exhibition and Government will attend the Theatre Owners of America officers and directors meeting to be held March 9-10 at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, it was announced here yesterday by Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director.

2nd 'Vigilante' Unit Planned by NJ Allied

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey completed plans at a membership meeting here yesterday for setting up a "vigilante" committee dedicated to detecting any distributor violations of any final decree that may be handed down by the U. S. Supreme Court in the industry anti-trust suit.

It was the second Allied unit to take steps to cooperate with the national Allied board decision to spread a network of such "vigilante" committees across the country, the first being Allied of Kansas-Missouri, reported in "Motion Picture Daily" last Thursday.

“The Miracle of the Bells”

IMMENSE audience satisfaction seems destined to be the happy fate of this sterling attraction, “The Miracle of the Bells” develops and more to the point, maintains a high level of emotional content. It achieves this by the nature of its story, the calmness of performances delivered by its principal players and the warmth and appreciation which obviously found ready way into script, direction and production superintendence.

Russell Janney’s novel provided the structure for this drama with its recurring note of tragedy. Largely through the flashback technique it tells about Vaili, urged by her Polish miner-father to forsake the grime and disease of underprivileged Coaltown, Pa., for life elsewhere. Her determination is the stage through which she struggles from one-night burlesque stands to Hollywood, propelled there by an unfailing faith which assures her that success will be great.

At intermittent intervals prior to this, Fred MacMurray, press agent, crosses her path. Once, at a rehearsal where he saves her job; again, on a lonely Christmas Eve in water-tower town. As understudy for a
Personal Mention

CHARLES SKOURAS, president of National Theatres, and DANNY McBAULIE, vice-president, will fly to Australia this month or next to survey the circuit's holdings in Hoyt's Theatres there.

LOUIS A. NOYES, assistant to Paramount president BARNEY BANAN, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast where he has been working in behalf of the Freedom Train.

ROBERT MCHURIE, RKO Radio general sales manager, is expected back in New York Thursday from Hollywood.

JACK and Mrs. AUSLET of Dixie Films, New Orleans, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary last week. It was also Mrs. Auslet's birthday.

F. J. A. McCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave New York today for Charlotte, N. C.

DUDLEY NICHOLS, RKO Radio writer-director, returned to Hollywood from New York.

JEROME J. COHEN, film insurance specialist, will celebrate a birthday next Monday.

JOHN J. JONES, Screen Guild Productions president, has left Hollywood for Chicago.

Thomas Still Ill, Hearings Delayed

WASHINGTON, March 1.—Continued illness of the National Motion Pictures Industry Committee Chairman Thomas has caused another postponement, this time for a month, in the trials here of the 10 Hollywood writers and directors charged with contempt of Congress.

Trial of John Howard Lawson, first of the 10, was today put back from March 8 to April 12.

Finston to Meet Press

Nathaniel Finston, co-producer and musical director of Monogram-Alamed Artists' "Song of My Heart," will be host to the press today at the Warwick Hotel here. "Song of My Heart," based on the life and music of Tchaikovsky, will open at the Park Avenue Theatre here on Thursday.

Casey's Brother Dies

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., March 1.—Daniel Casey, 76, brother of Pat Casey, film industry labor relations consultant, died Saturday morning at Springfield General Hospital. He was a former vaudeville agent in New York. Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

List WB Holdings of $8,165,000 in ABP

Hollywood, March 1.—Holdings of $8,165,000 in American British Pictures, London, were reported today to the Securities and Exchange Commission by Warner Brothers Pictures.

The report, which included the company's financial statement for 1946-47, as published last Jan. 7, listed Humphrey Bogart as top Warner wage-earner for that year with $467,361, followed by Betty Davis, who received $325,000, and Dennis Morgan, $258,820.

25% Wage Increase Urged by UOPWA

Salary increases of 25 per cent, or $15 a week, were recommended yesterday in the writers' report to the 20th Century-Fox unit of the Screen Publicists Guild in an arbitration announced by the American Arbitration Association.

Need Single License For US Film Experts

WASHINGTON, March 1.—A consolidated license for film experts to European countries has been approved by the Department of State, according to the Department's motion picture consultant, Nathan D. Golden.

The department's policy of requiring licensing for all experts going to Europe took effect today. The original plan was to require a license for each individual shipment, but Golden said the simplified procedure for films was approved at the 11th hour.

Lodge Cites Javits

New York Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith will pay tribute to S. Representative Jacob K. Javits for his Americanism, at a special meeting at the Hotel Astor here tonight. Javits will be presented with the Cinema Lodge "Honor Scroll" by Robert M. Weitman, president of the lodge. Pianist Leon Scott will also be cited.

Lew Kerner Resigns

Hollywood, March 1.—Lew Kerner, executive talent director for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, has resigned.

Herschell to Filmack

Max Herschell, veteran film trailer executive, has joined Filmack Trailer Co. as Eastern sales manager, with headquarters at the company's newly opened studio here, it was announced yesterday by Irving Mack, general sales manager.

NEW YORK THEATRES

ROCKEFELLER CENTER

RUDY COLOMAN

"A DOUBLE LIFE"

SYNOPSIS

A Universal-International Release

SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

BING CROSBY

BOB HOPE

DOROTHY LAMOUR

ROAD TO RIO

THE ANDREWS SISTERS

"A VERY FUNNY PICTURE"

SANDY GOLDBYN presents

CARLY OBERMAN

GRANT - YOUNG - NIVEN

"The Bishop's Wife"

DOUG O'NEILL

78TH STREET

MOTION PICTURE DAILY Tuesday, March 2, 1948

LILLI PALMER

WANAMAKER

MY GIRL "TISA"

VAUGHN MONROE

AND HIS ORCHESTRA

WALLY JOHNSON

BROADWAY, LTD.

ADAMS, O'NEILL & O'BRIEN

THE PALACE

LORRAINE CAHILL

"YOU CAN'T COUGH"

ANNA Q. NULAND

EVA MARIE STANDISH

PARK DE REAL

DORIS DAY

"YOUNG LADY"

"IF YOU KNEW SUSIE"

CHARLES DINGLE - ROBBY DODGIE

DCEAN'S 10-cent NEWS

BRAND NEW ALMANAC

1000 YEARS IN BRUSSELS

WALT DISNEY'S Bambi

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

105TH CENTENNIAL ISSUE

As A PERSONAL MEMORY 200,000 COPIES

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturday, by Motion Picture Daily, Inc., 120 South Sixth Avenue, Rockefefler Center, New York 19, N. Y. Telephone Easte 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigunco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Vice-President and Treasurer; Lee J. Brady, Secretary; James F. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert W. Rand, Advertising Manager; F. P. Kennedy, Jr., Regional Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street, Editorial and Advertising, Urban Farley, Advertising Representative, Washington, J. A. Oetten, 91 South Arlington Mill Drive, Arlington, Va., London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Bureau, Manager, Peter Bures, Editor; cable address, "Quigunco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 21, 1923, 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.
**Quigley Awards Luncheon**

Martin Quigley addressing 100 judges and other guests at 15th annual Quigley Showmanship Awards luncheon held yesterday at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here. Others in the photo above are, from left to right: Gus Eyssell, at the Radio City Music Hall; Fred Schwartz, vice-president of Century Theatres, principal speaker at the luncheon; Quigley; Harry Arthur, Fanchon and Marco, St. Louis, and Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres.

---

**Quigley Awards**

(Continued from page 1)

those days are over." As a remedy for the decline in business he offered "a revitalized conception of showmanship." He advocated "showmanship that births, develops and cements the movie-going habit.

Schwartz said that experiments conducted by his circuit had redefined showmanship in terms of community service. "We believe," he asserted, "that by performing community services, we are insuring good will and that the good will, apart from being its own reward, creates good business." Schwartz saw in television "one of the greatest mediums for creating the desire for seeing a picture if trailers were projected into every home having a television set." Schwartz voiced warm praise for the Quigley Awards, saying "they have tripled in importance—they are a great spur to showmanship."

Others introduced at the luncheon by Quigley were Harry C. Arthur, Jr., head of St. Louis Amusement Co.; his brother, Edward B. Arthur, Jr.; Martin Quigley, Jr., and Harry C. Arthur III.

G. S. Eyssell, managing director of Radio City Music Hall; Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres; and Harry C. Arthur, Jr., were seated on the dais.

Others present, besides members of Quigley Publications, were:


---

**Boston Rental Suit Motions Are Filed**

Boston, March 1.—Both plaintiffs and defendants have acted officially on the findings of special master Philip A. Hendrick in the flat rental and percentage damage actions filed in U. S. District Court here by Loew's and Paramount against Fred E. Lieberman and his corporations.

Loew's and Paramount filed for confirmation by the court of Hendrick's finding that both flat rental and percentage damages, in the case of Loew's, and percentage damages, in the case of Paramount, arising out of a charge concerning percentage returns, was suffered by the distributors. Lieberman's attorneys, meanwhile, have filed detailed objections to Hendrick's findings. The court is expected to rule on both motions in about a week.

**DuPont Radio Award To Be Made Monday**

Sixth annual awards of the Alfred L. DuPont Radio Foundation will be presented next Monday at a dinner at the St. Regis Hotel here. Mark Woods, president of the American Broadcasting Company, will preside, and the presentation will be made by Dr. Francis P. Gaines, president of Washington and Lee University, who is chairman of the awards committee. Among those on the committee with Dr. Gaines is M. H. Aylesworth.

The awards winners, a commentator and two radio stations, will not be announced until the night of the dinner.
CELEBRATING 1st
OF LONDON

Samuel Goldwyn's
The Best Years
Opened March 5, 1947, at the Odeon, moved to Marble Arch on July 10, 1947—where it is doing even **bigger business today than when it opened**!
Bevin Says

(Continued from page 1)

American Ambassador, and a subsequent lengthy conference between Douglas and Cripps. It is generally assumed here that either the ground-work for a settlement formula or a provisional basis for a settlement was developed at those conferences and will be delivered to the meeting here tomorrow for finishing

British government and trade circles continue highly optimistic over development of a settlement of the long-standing stalemate being near at hand. The optimism persists despite the fact that the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Johnston, assumed upon his arrival here from New York by plane last night

Johnston insisted to interviewers that the main reason for his visit here is not “tax troubles, but other MPAA business.” While saying he would like to see Cripps, Bevin and anyone else who might be of help, he said he had no appointments to meet with government ministers. Protest

The likelihood of a settlement is greater now, as the government tacitly admits the ad valorem tax not only was a hastily improvised but also an ineffectual instrument, since American remittances, seven months after imposition of the tax, still are running around $14,000,000 annually. In addi-

Both Governments Represented

Present, in addition to those named, were Sir Wilfrid Eady, Treasury official; Rupert Somervel, B. of T. Undersecretary; James Malvey, repre-

senting the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers; Joyce O’Hara, assistant to Johnston, and Don Blais, commercial attaché of the American Embassy here.

The likelihood of a settlement is greater now, as the government tacitly admits the ad valorem tax not only was a hastily improvised but also an ineffectual instrument, since American remittances, seven months after imposition of the tax, still are running around $14,000,000 annually. In addition, British production obviously is running down under present conditions, with industry financial interests apprehensive.

Bevin’s luncheon today followed the extended conferences which he held last week with Lewis O. Douglas.

“Free for all” Direction by State

Later, Johnston expressed the view that it is contrary to American ideology and tradition that any industry’s direction be mapped by the state. He said it is desirable that matters, like other industries, contrive their own destinies. In other words, Johnston intimated he would like to see a clear cut settlement irrespective of European Recovery Program con-

Johnston, in fact, suggested that motion pictures are unsuitable for inclusion in ERP, although that inclusion has been explored, as they had the possible means of settling the tax problem.

Malvey said today he is in complete accord with MPAA’s position.

Blumberg Meets Johnston

London, March 1.—Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president, and Joseph H. Selchman, vice-president and foreign manager, postponed their sched-uled trip to Paris to meet and confer here with Eric Johnston and his party. In consequence, their plans for their New York stay next Friday may be delayed until a later date.

House Labor Probe

(Continued from page 1)

some of the detailed reasons why IATSE charges Communist agitation in the jurisdictional situation.

At the close of the day, however, chances seemed likely for a wind-up this week. Herbert K. Laszlo, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, is slated to be the last witness, following Brewer to the stand tomorrow. When Sorrell finishes, chairman Carroll D. Kearsn said, the hearing will go into temporary recess. Should any of the persons charged with communism wish to tes
tify, he declared, they may be called to return again at an unspecified date.

Bevere told the committee that as soon as he came to Hollywood in 1945 it was apparent to him that Com-
munists were creating a serious prob-

some of the detailed reasons why IATSE charges Communist agitation in the jurisdictional situation. At the close of the day, however, chances seemed likely for a wind-up this week. Herbert K. Laszlo, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, is slated to be the last witness, following Brewer to the stand tomorrow. When Sorrell finishes, chairman Carroll D. Kearsn said, the hearing will go into temporary recess. Should any of the persons charged with communism wish to testify, he declared, they may be called to return again at an unspecified date.

Bevere told the committee that as soon as he came to Hollywood in 1945 it was apparent to him that Communists were creating a serious problem. He declared that he had found positive proof of Communist domination in the CSU when known Communists in IATSE locals followed the CSU decisions.

Form Midwest Prod.

Hollywood, March 1—Daniel E. Field has organized Midwest Productions and already has completed the script of “The Student Nurse.” Con锡dered to be of second rank, the film is “Make Mine Romance.”

Greatest of all Great Action Spectacles!

Slick exploitation picture... romantically treated, fast-paced... should pay off handsomely at box office!”

—DAILY VARIETY

"Adventures of Casanova"

An Eagle Lion Films Production

GROSS TO AID SCHARY

Hollywood, March 1—Jack J. Gross, the RKO Radio executive producer, has been appointed assistant to Dore Schary in charge of pre-filming analysis as a member of Schary’s five-man production cabinet.

FOREIGN STAR WHOSE TEMPERAMENT CANCELS HER OUT OF THE NAME ROLE IN “JOAN OF ARC.” Valli again meets MacMurray, this time as a studio press agent. The inner light that guides her is something MacMurray gets to understand. Valli takes over the role of Joan through his efforts, delivering an intelligent and warm direction provided throughout by Irving Pichel. The kudos would not be complete without recognition of the well-knit script by Ben Hecht and Quentin Reynolds, Jesse Lasky and Walter MacEwen produced jointly.

Running time, 126 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April.

RED KANN

GROSS TO AID SCHARY

Hollywood, March 1—Jack J. Gross, the RKO Radio executive producer, has been appointed assistant to Dore Schary in charge of pre-filming analysis as a member of Schary’s five-man production cabinet.

Form Midwest Prod.

Hollywood, March 1—Daniel E. Field has organized Midwest Productions and already has completed the script of “The Student Nurse.” Considered to be of second rank, the film is “Make Mine Romance.”

Greatest of all great Action Spectacles!

Slick exploitation picture... romantically treated, fast-paced... should pay off handsomely at box office!”

—DAILY VARIETY

"Adventures of Casanova"

An Eagle Lion Films Production
Theatres Want Trailers with That New Look

Suggest Many Changes; Duck British Accents

A 15-point program for the improvement of trailer standards has been presented to the industry by a trailer committee representing a cross-section of the nation’s exhibition business.

The program is based on a list of recommendations contained in a report prepared by the committee following a meeting at the Hotel Astor here on Feb. 12, at which $600 of the country’s theaters with affiliated and non-affiliated circuits, as well as independents, were represented.

The program calls for shorter trailers, the creation of a special short trailer for multiple-change houses, the arousing of immediate interest, the reduction of superlatives, the minimizing of stereotyped material, and making of more use of music setting a mood and possessing continuity.

‘Red’ Issue Must Be ‘Forced,’ Levy Says

WASHINGTON, March 2.—IATSE counsel Matthew Levy declared today that the producers know all about Communist activities in the studios, but won’t do anything about them until they are “pointed up.”

“In my judgment,” Levy told the House Labor sub-committee, now in its 11th day of investigating Hollywood jurisdictional strikes, the producers knew as much as the Un-American

MPF Trustees’ Meet Postponed to April

The second Motion Picture Foundation trustees meeting, tentatively scheduled to be held in New York on March 16-18, will be held instead in April with a definite date to be set. E. V. Richards, Jr., MPF president, announced through foundation headquarters here yesterday.

Reason for the change, Richards

Judge Flays Para. Aide’s ‘Disregard’ Of ‘Loop’ Decree

CHICAGO, March 2—Judge Michael Iggo of U. S. District Court, here, today upbraided Ed Johnston, Paramount and Balaban and Katz attorney, for disregarding the Jackson Park decree and for “a contemptuous attitude toward the court.” The remarks were made during Johnston’s cross-examination of Jim Donahue, Paramount regional division manager, at the hearing for contempt citations against the major distributors and theatre circuits.

“The more I hear of this case, the more I believe how shock ing it is that a member of the bar should go ahead and make his own interpretations of the decree,” Judge Iggo declared. He was referring to Paramount’s imposed clearance on “Unconquered,” “Where There’s Life” and “Golden Earrings.”

After indicating that Johnston should have consulted him about the clearance provisions of the decree, the

(Continued on page 7)

Mulvey Will Head Brooklyn Drive

Right Rev. Monsignor J. Jerome Reddy, on behalf of Bishop Thomas E. Molloy of the Brooklyn and Long Island diocese, yesterday disclosed that James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, had accepted the chairmanship of the amusement division of the Catholic Charities Drive for Brooklyn and Long Island. Others named on the committee were: Edward C. Dowd, and

(Continued on page 7)

SETTLEMENT OF UK TAX MOVES AHEAD

Says MGM Trailers Agitate Against Tax

London, March 2—A Socialistist in the House of Commons today charged that M-G-M’s trailers on new features banned by the American embargo are intended to agitate for a change in Britain’s fiscal policy in its relation to the ad valorem tax. The MP suggested that the government forbid them.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps replied that he is uncertain whether the trailers are likely to agitate for removal of the levy, but in any event he is sure the public understands Britain cannot afford to spend dollars on films at this time.

UA Board Approves Five Producer Deals

Five deals with producers were approved here yesterday by the United Artists board of directors.

Leading the list was an arrangement with Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan to make pictures to be produced by the pair in England with all-American casts, the first being a Marx Brothers item.

Involved in the other deals passed upon by the directors are: “An Inno

(Continued on page 7)

$1,500,000 Advance To Korda on Three

LONDON, March 2.—Alexander Korda, head of London films, declared on his return here from a trip to New York and Hollywood, that he will receive a $1,500,000 advance payment against the American earnings of his new films “Anna Karenina,” “Mine Own Executioner” and “An Ideal Husband.” The three are being rec

(Continued on page 7)

Film Center Building Here Bought by Reade Enterprises

NY Operators Reject Pact; Strike Looms

IATSE Projectionists’ Local No. 306 has voted to reject a contract negotiated two months ago with six leading New York theatre circuits here, according to Herman Gelber, president of the local. Reason for the members has renewed the threat of a strike against 120 theatres in the metropolitan area.

With the signing of contracts yesterday for purchase of the stock of the Film Center Building Corp. here, Walter Reade, Jr., Enterprises became owners of the 13-story Film Center building on Ninth Avenue between 44th and 45th Streets. Stock sale was made subject to a mortgage of about $1,700,000, with Marquand Feldman and Blinkoff representing Reade.

The buyers immediately assigned the contract to a syndicate represented by Judd and Garlein, attorneys.

(Continued on page 7)

‘Full Dress’ Meeting Held Formula Goes to Committee for Drafting

LONDON, March 2—Breaking of the deadlock caused by enactment of Britain’s 75 per cent ad valorem tax progressed with the holding of a “full dress” meeting of government-industry representatives at the House of Commons today.

It was the first full-scale effort by properly accredited officials to settle the dispute that has raged over the tax since it became effective seven months ago. It was, in fact, the first meeting of the real principals since the problem arose.

At its conclusion, an Anglo-American committee of “experts” was designated to perfect a settlement formula along suggested lines.

American members of the committee are: F. W. Alport, European representative of the Motion Picture Association of America; Allen Drelles, MPAA adviser on foreign affairs, and James Mulvey of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. British members are: Sir Wilfred Eady, Treasury official; Rupert Somervel, Undersecretary of the Board.

Eagle-Lion Weighing Film Block-Booking

Eagle-Lion, which has been selling its pictures singly, will adopt block-booking if the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the industry anti-trust suit does not outlaw the practice, William J. Heineman, distribution vice-president, said at a press interview here.
Personal Mention

JOSEPH HUMMEL, Warner general manager for Continental Europe, and C. J. Van Nelt, Eastman Kodak representative among passengers slated to sail from New York today on the SS America.

GEOFFREY ARCHIBALD, managing director of Independent Producers, Ltd., and J. Arthur Rank Organization executive, Miss. Astrophel and Colleen Bennett, director, are among passengers who will arrive in New York today on the SS Queen Mary from England.

TRACY BARHAM, vice-president and general manager of Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City, has resigned as senior coordinator of Utah's drive in the American Overseas Aid United Nations Appeal for Children.

JOHN M. WHITTAKER, RKO vice-president, and WILLIAM FARMAN, production aide, will leave the Coast Friday for New York.

PAUL HOLSTON, RKO Radio national director of publicity, has returned to the home office following three weeks in Hollywood.

E. L. McEvoy, Universal-International short subject sales manager, has left New York for Charlotte and Atlanta.

FRED G. SLITTER, 20th Century-Fox salesman in Albany, N. Y., is vacationing at Hot Springs National Park, Ark.

HENRY L. NATHANSON, president of M-G-M Films of Canada, and Mrs. Nathanson have returned to Toronto from Hollywood.

ROBERT S. TAPLINGER, Enterprise advertising-publicity chief, has returned to New York from a vacation in Nassau.

MAX WEINBERG, M-G-M Eastern short subjects representative, is in Chicago from New York.

CECIL BARKER, assistant to David O. Selznick, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

C. J. LATTA, Albany, N. Y., zone manager for Warner, is in town for a few days.

Bergner to Brazil, Szekler Back to US

Michael Bergner, Universal-International Far Eastern supervisor until recently, has been appointed managing director for Brazil, succeeding Al Szekler, who has managed the company's activities in that country since 1932. Szekler will return to the home office here.

Motion Picture Daily

News Briefs

Paramount Party to Leave on Sunday for Studio Talks

A Paramount home office group is scheduled to fly to the Coast from New York on Sunday to take part in studio conferences and view forthcoming product. The group will include Paul Raitt, Bruce Washor, Stanley Shuster, Sid Melso1 and Paul Ackerman. Accompanying them will be Rudy Mongelas of the Buchanan advertising agency.

Hollywood Charity Drive Nets $1,212,190 for 193 Organizations

HOLLYWOOD, March 2.—The Permanent Charities Association allocated $1,212,190 to 193 charitable agencies as a result of Hollywood's third annual united appeal. Included among the funds were the amounts refused last year by the American Red Cross and National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Three Per-Cent Admission Tax
eraised by Eugene Oren

EUGENE, Ore., March 2.—The City Council here has passed a three per cent admission tax on admissions, box office sales, general parking lots, and automobile owners. Owners of America, and an exhibitor, will seek to have the tax nullified by the courts. Objection is based on the claim that it is discrimination against theatres and does not apply to other businesses.

HARTFORD, March 2.—The state sales and use tax will be reduced from three per cent to one per cent, effective April 1. The Legislature has already approved the change.

William Shields Named SRO Manager in Illinois

NEW ORLEANS, March 2.—William Shields, for a number of years a salesman for RKO Radio, has been appointed local manager for Selznick Releasing Organization.

Cresswell Named Manager

Norris Cresswell has been named manager of Selected Pictures in Denver, succeeding Tom McCormack, who has retired from distribution to enter exhibition in Illinois, according to R. M. (Bob) Savin, president of Astor Pictures. Selected is one of five Western offices handling Astor product.

Joins WB Studio Publicity Staff

HOLLYWOOD, March 2.—Milt Harken, who resigned last week after 11 years as Los Angeles bureau manager for International News Service, has joined the Warner studio publicity staff.

Schoenstadt Joins Ill. Allied

CHICAGO, March 2. — H. Schoenstadt and Sons, owners of 17 theatres in Chicago, Angeles bureau manager for the International News Service, has joined the Warner studio publicity staff.

Eagle-Lion Adds 2 Reissues

Reissues of "Seven Sinners" and "Sutter's Gold" are additions to Eagle-Lion's 1948 line. "Seven Sinners" was released in 1929 and "Sutter's Gold" is a 1927 release.

Cinecolor Cuts Price

HOLLYWOOD, March 2.—In letters to its customers, Cinecolor today announced a one-half cent reduction in the price for 35mm. of Cinecolor prints.

M. P. Associates Plan to Include Warner Color Movies

Under a recommended change in the Motion Picture Associates' constitution, women would be invited to join the organization which has had a membership of industry men exclusively since it was set up here in 1919. The change will go into effect before the associates' board on March 24. The organization has launched a drive to double its present membership of 450.

Moe Sanders and Myron Segel have been named by Arthur Mayer, associates' president, to handle arrangements for the annual dinner-dance to be held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on May 21.

Coast NRLB Dismisses "Unfair" Practices Challenged to 'LA

HOLLYWOOD, March 2.—National Labor Relations Board regional director for the west last week dismissed 15 charges of unfair labor practices filed by individual workers against Warner-LASFE in connection with the studio jurisdictional dispute. Insufficient evidence was cited by LeBaron in his action.

Ziv Acquires 76 Features Television Station Rental

Ziv Television has acquired television rights to 76 features from various producers. John L. Siegel, president of the new company, said the features are apart from the General Film Corporation.

Skouras Organizing Drive Unit

Spyros P. Skouras yesterday named Harry Brandy chairman of public relations committee for the New York campaign of the American Overseas Aid and United Nations Appeal for Children. The program provides for a children's parade in this city on April 12, to be followed by a Madison Square Garden show on May 15 to point up the importance of aid to the world's needy children.

$15,000 in "Dimes" Collections

CLEVELAND, March 2.—Cayaboga Circulation Committee has been presented with $15,000 from independent theatre collections here. The drive was presented by Ernest Schwartz, president of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitor Association.

Records Set Again

Eagle-Lion Adds 2 Reissues

Reissues of "Seven Sinners" and "Sutter's Gold" are additions to Eagle-Lion's 1948 line. "Seven Sinners" was released in 1929 and "Sutter's Gold" is a 1927 release.

Newsreel Parade

APPEARENCES in Czechoslovakia, Greece and Tokyo occupy newsworthy highlights this week in Sports, fashions and human interest items round out the reeels. Complete compilation in next week's issue.

MOVIEONE NEWS, No. 19.—President Truman visits Cuba. U. S. returns Red sheet to Parisian school children. 600 flee from blanket market. Navy displays "V-Fighters" picture to "Norlang" 77,000 Rally. Horse-racing at Hialeah, Boxing, shooting, shooting.


Senate Passes Bill

Easing Child Ban

ALBANY, N. Y., March 2.—The bill extending to towns the right to admit unattended children to film houses when a manager's application has been passed by the N. Y. State Senate and sent to the Assembly.

The measure, sponsored by Senator William S. Halts, Jr., and Genesta M. Strong, member of the Assembly, both Long Island Republicans, will benefit scores of theaters, principally independents, led by the Skouras and Century circuits in the Metropolitan area in particular.

At present authority to show pictures to unescorted children when a manager is present, is limited to cities and villages. Children covered by the bill are from eight to 16, and films must be approved by the State Education Department. Children cannot attend during hours when their school classes are being held or after six P.M.

Finston Sees Video Producing Changes

Television is going to make many changes and bring much "entertainment to theaters, Nathaniel Finston, co-producer with Barney Glazer of the Finston's "Sings of My Heart," predicted here yesterday, in a press reception at the Warwick Hotel. He asserted in Hollywood, "They are doing nothing but just waiting to see what happens.

Finston's independent producing units, "New York" Films has three pictures in preparation, on the lives of Stephen Foster, Rossini and Litzel of Charleston, S. C., 21,323, at the post office New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $2 foreign; single copies, 10c.
THE Dickey Bird TELLS YOU WHY 'THREE DARING DAUGHTERS' IS FOR YOU!

"It's terrific at Capitol, N. Y., second best in 12 months—topped only by 'Hucksters.' It's doing great in all openings, too! Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, New Orleans, Toledo rate with top M-G-M hits of the year!"

"It's something absolutely new, novel and different in screen musicals. Not in many years an entertainment so sparkling with charm, excitement and melody!"

"Technicolor at its best . . . revealing the lavishness aboard a luxury liner . . . the spectacle of exciting night club life . . . the exciting escapades of three mischievous daughters who try to block the romance of their beautiful, young, flirtatious, divorcee mother."

"A cast with unusual appeal. A New JEANETTE MacDONALD in better voice than ever. JOSE ITURBI in a real-life role, wait till you hear his boogie-woogie. JANE POWELL, rising young movie star, of radio and record fame . . . and many more."

"Bubbling with songs—12 to be exact and including the newest hit of the airwaves—The Dickey Bird Song. That's me folks!"

M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL!
"THREE DARING DAUGHTERS"
Starring
JEANETTE MacDONALD • JOSE ITURBI
JANE POWELL
with
Edward ARNOLD • Harry DAVENPORT
Color by TECHNICOLOR
Original Screen Play by Albert Mannheimer,
Frederick Kohner, Sonya Levien, John Meehan
Directed by Fred M. WILCOX • Joe PASTERNAK
Produced by JOSE PASTERNAK
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

"Jimmy Fidler gave it top rating on his nationwide broadcast!"
for the Best Motion Picture of the Year:
J. Arthur Rank’s “GREAT EXPECTATIONS”

for the Best Performance by an Actor:
RONALD COLMAN in “A DOUBLE LIFE” A Kanin Production

for the Best Performance by an Actress:
SUSAN HAYWARD in Walter Wanger’s “SMASH-UP”

for the Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role:
THOMAS GOMEZ in “RIDE THE PINK HORSE”

for the Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role:
MARJorie MAIN in “THE EGG AND I”

for the Best Achievement in Directing:
GEORGE CUKOR for “A DOUBLE LIFE”
DAVID LEAN for “GREAT EXPECTATIONS”

for the Best Original Screenplay:
RUTH GORDON and GARSON KANIN
for “A DOUBLE LIFE”

for the Best Original Motion Picture Story:
DOROTHY PARKER and FRANK CAVETT for “SMASH-UP”
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEES

Best Written Screenplay:
DAVID LEAN, RONALD NEAME, and ANTHONY HAVELOCK-ALLEN for “GREAT EXPECTATIONS”

Best Scoring of a Dramatic or Comedy Picture:
DR. MIKLOS ROZSA for “A DOUBLE LIFE”

for Best Achievements in Film Editing:
FERGUS McDonnell for J. Arthur Rank’s “ODD MAN OUT”

for Best Achievements in Cinematography (Black-and-White films):
GUY GREEN for “GREAT EXPECTATIONS”

for Best Achievements in Cinematography (Color films):
JACK CARDIFF for J. Arthur Rank’s “BLACK NARCISSUS”

Best Achievements in Art Direction (Black-and-White films):
JOHN BRYAN for “GREAT EXPECTATIONS”

Best Achievements in Art Direction (Color films):
ALFRED JUNGE for “BLACK NARCISSUS”

Best Achievements in Short Subjects (One-Reel):
Thomas Mead’s “BROOKLYN, U.S.A.”

Best Achievements in Short Subjects (Two-Reels):
Thomas Mead’s “FIGHT OF THE WILD STALLIONS”
N.Y. First Runs Hit Normal Level Again

Broadway first-run business has settled back to normal this week following last week's flourish of high prosperity. The general grosses are on the go with holdovers prevailing at all but one key situation.

Among the new openers, bowed in big at the Victoria where a first week is expected to result in an impressive $20,080; final three days of "The Wonderful Cousin" gave the house only $2,700.

$129,000 for 'Double Life'

Outstanding among hold-overs is "Double Life" which, along with Russell Markert's stage show, is heading for a very big $125,000 in a second week at Radio City Music Hall. "Road to Rio," plus Louis Prima's band on stage, is also very firm at the Paramount, where a solid $105,000 is seen for a second week. At the Roxy, "The Naked City" is doing well, with Hazel Scott heading a stage bill, drew $76,000 for the first five days of a second week which is expected to wind up with a good $91,000. Although still strong at the Capitol, "Three Daring Dolls," plus Horace Heidt's band, did well on second week, "The Naked City" tomorrow after an anticipated $69,000 in a second week.

New Films at 3 Houses

Grossing impressively are: "Killer McCoy," Loew's State, third and final week, $21,900; "Our Mr. Smith," Northside 277, with Earth, Rivoli, third week, $22,600; "Sleep, My Love," Criterion, second week, $16,600; "A Miracle Can Happen," Paramount, fourth week, $10,000; "Holiday Camp," Park Avenue, sixth and final week, $5,000; "Jassy," Winter Garden, first week and a second and final week, $15,000.

Opening this week: "Black Bart," Winter Garden, today; "The Sign of the Ram," Loew's State, today; "Reckless," Criterion, Saturday; "Song of My Heart," Park Avenue, tomorrow.

Legion Classifies 12 Additional Features

Five of 12 additional pictures reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classified A-1; they are: "Fort Apache" and "The Miracle of the Bells," both RKO Radio; "Speed to Spare," Paramount; "Tornado Range," Eagle-Lion, and "Schwartz's" and "Welcome." Wien Films, Rated A-II were: "Mr. Reckless," Paramount; "Fanhandle," Monogram; "Piccadilly Incident," M-G-M; "Sitting Pretty," 20th Century-Fox.

Placed in Class B were: "All My Sons," "International," "Man of Evil," United Artists, and "Ungeste Zu Dir" (German), Wien Films.

Theatrical

NIK

Reviews

"Scudda-Hoo! Scudda-Hay!" (20th Century-Fox)

T HE story of a country lad with a love for two mules has been embellished by Technicolor drama of standard proportions. Its performance at the box-office can, in some measure, be determined by the performances in given situations of such predecessors as "Smoky," "In Old Chicago," "My Friend Flicka." The story of a lad who, with June Haver as a sprightly farmer's daughter, provide the romantic angles. Others in the cast are Natalie Wood, as Miss Haver's precocious, gadabouting kid sister who knows all the answers, and Walter Brennan and Anne Revere.

Taken from the George A. Chamberlain novel, the film's exploitive title, "Scudda-Hoo! Scudda-Hay!" is a rallying cry for working mules. The tale itself ambles along in a pleasing way, at times reaching pitches, but generally it is a film that is doing the same. The opening is likely to be expected to start the Pine-Thomas product when he buys two mules from his employer and decides to work off the debt by putting in a year as a farm hand. In the meantime McCallister is parasitized with romance, melodrama and humor and mixed together to suit the preferences of film patrons to whose tastes the P-T productions cater.

The picture range from scene to scene of a story which, while pretty funny, still possesses holding power and rarely fails to generate interest enough for booo-foos purposes.

The picture gains a further advantage on the strength of a cast with such names as in the leading roles Virna Lisi and Ray Milland with Barbra Britton, Evelyn Ankers, George Meeker, and Charles Burrell. The picture is likely to be a big winner in the theater.

"Mr. Reckless" (Paramount-Pine-Thomas)

N EVER wanting for action, "Mr. Reckless" is just that when it comes to excitement. It crowds a lot of attention-getting elements into its limpid range, as a love triangle, as the situation which is marked with romance, melodrama and humor all mixed together to suit the preferences of film patrons to whose tastes the P-T productions cater.

The picture ranges from scene to scene of a story which, while pretty funny, still possesses holding power and rarely fails to generate interest enough for booo-foos purposes.

The picture gains a further advantage on the strength of a cast with such names as in the leading roles Virna Lisi and Ray Milland with Barbra Britton, Evelyn Ankers, George Meeker, and Charles Burrell. The picture is likely to be a big winner in the theater.

"Tornado Range" (PRC-Eagle-Lions)

S INGING western, Eddie Dean is in especially fine voice in this latest PRC offering from the producer-director team of Jerry Thomas and Taylor Taylor. With instrumental accompaniment provided by Andy Parker and the Plainsmen, Dean renders dually two outdoor ballads: "Song of the Range," which he himself composed, and "Little Ranch Upon the Hill," by Curt and Alan Massey.

In other departments—story, acting and photography—"Tornado Range" is right in the routine Western groove, with the usual gun-fights, hard riding and rough-and-tumble business demanded by the customers of this type of film entertainment. The plot of William Lively's screenplay is the old one about leading cattlemen and homesteaders and how a band of rustlers cast aside the law at the behest of a falceter. Things go well for the rustlers until Dean and his sidekick, Roscoe Ates, bring peace and harmony to the range. Others in the cast are Jennifer Holt, George Chestno, Brans Blaven, Tall Reed and Steve Clark.


Charles L. Frank

MPF 'Trustees' Meet

UA-Hawks Hearing

United Artists' suit for an order to Howard Hawks and his Monterey Pictures to deliver "Red River" to it, will have a hearing to day before the American Arbitration Association here. Abraham Beans stock will be arbitrator for UA and Charles Abramson for Hawks, with William Zimmerman, RKO executive, as impartial arbitrator.

Summary

US Reports Banner Year for Mexico

Washington, March 2—The Mexican government is looking forward to a banner year, according to a U. S. Commerce Department report. The study, prepared by motion picture consultant Nathan D. Gordon, lists three reasons for the optimistic outlook. One has been in breakdown for producing and for making prints; an increase in the number of theatres; and a two-year film labor truce.

Most U. S. and other film companies made greater profits last year than during 1946, the report says.

'IA' Winter Meeting Opens in Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, March 2—Mid-winter meeting of the IATSE got under way yesterday at the William Penn Hotel here, with a jam-packed agenda awaiting decision by the close of the convention on Saturday. Almost 50 officers and delegates were on hand to attend the meeting. Walsh opened the first session, which was devoted to routing of motions to committees. Only "minor" business, such as review of committee reports, was acted on. According to Walsh, "It is hardly possible that any business will be transacted that has not been given out for publication," he added.

"Red Issue"

(Continued from page 1)

Activities Committee did but they wouldn't act until the committee pointed it up for them. Therefore the international representative Roy Brewer were the only witnesses to appear today. The hearings are expected to conclude tomorrow or Thursday with testimony from Conference of Studio Unions leader Herbert K. Soroka.

After listening to Levy's week-long fight to prove that Communist elements are responsible for at least 50 per cent of the jurisdictional strikes and activity in Hollywood, Congressmen Owens still insisted today that the "big question" was whether the situation was why top American Federation of Labor leaders had not prohibited a Communist affiliation by his union, which was settled among themselves. Chairman Kearns insisted that he needed "proof before the committee could get to work" on corrective legislation.

Brewer told the committee that as far as the unions were concerned the Communist "threat" was still under control at present, and that if the committee had not agreed to hear evidence from the three new Labor Organization Com- mittee activity in the jurisdictional situation, "it would have given tremendous backing to them to do the same thing all over again."

1,184 Loew and RKO Workers Get Raises

Wages ranges from $5 to $12 have been awarded to 600 of Loew's Eastern unit of the Screen Employees Union, while $84 of the RKO Radio union won increases of $5 to $10, 95 per cent of the 2,500 members decided by the American Arbitration Association. Increases are retroactive to last Sept. 27. The 1,184 workers affected are predominantly of home offices.
U. K. Tax

(Continued from page 1)
of Trade, and Andrew White, who is responsible for details of the British film quota system.

This working committee went into action immediately today and will resume its deliberations tonight and tomorrow.

A definitive statement on the situation is expected from Thursday.

A report of the Board of Trade, presented at the "full dress" meeting at the House of Commons earlier today. Present in addition to members of the working committee were: Eric Johnston, MPAA president; Joyce O’Hara, British assistant; Minister of the Chequester Sir Stafford Cripps; Sir John Henry Wood, Foreign Office official, and Don Bliss, commercial attache of the American Embassy.

Johnston and Wilson dined together tonight.

Johnston’s Attitude Changes

Perhaps indicative of the progress being made and of the chances of an agreement being reached was the noticeable change in Johnston’s attitude toward the discussions today. On his arrival here he denied that the settlement talks were the major reason for his visit, openly expressed doubts that anything would materialize and described himself as “not very optimistic—quite the contrary.”

Today he met managing directors here of all American companies and, among other things, told them: “Persuasion lies nowhere.”

The MPAA chief was anxious to emphasize performers’ rights and today to demand them. “We feel sure that all the companies have an absolute disregard of the decree and what appears to be a contemptuous attitude toward the court. A situation has never before been duplicated in this area like this, where counsels would go ahead and make their own interpretations.”

In reply to Judge Iggo, Johnston said: “We might not be right but we believe we are right. We did honestly and in perfect good faith. We felt we had a right to grant clearance so long as it was done on a “trade-to-trade” basis and not on a uniform basis.” Variations of clearance, he added, were permissible depending upon a picture’s merit.

James Coster, Warner Brothers Circuit Management head, took the stand today to deny that he made the statement that he would not play Eagle-Lion’s “Lost Honeymoon” at the Avalon and Cahuza theatres if the Jackson Park played it first.

Eagle-Lion Considers

(Continued from page 1)
yesterday. The company is not a party to the industry trust suit.

Heine man said the company has decided to release its lower budget films in blocks, but has chosen to wait until the anti-trust suit is determined.

Meanwhile, he disclosed, the company has a new in terms of booking on every R-E-L, lease, except those companies who have not made a deal. The goal for the latter is about 10,000, Heine man added, admitting it will be a tough job. He also said in the attainment of its booking goal for domestic product, he said, the company has bought or through changes a poll of the nation’s exhibitors to determine what kind of product their experience has proven to the industry and distributors. E. L. Heine man stated, now averages between 8,500 and 9,000 bookings on domestic product, and considerably less on British.

Heine man said the company “hasn’t done a good job” thus far in selling British product, but expects its results. He disclosed that the company has no unreleased product left in British theatres, all of its films that had been available have been used up, through the imposition of the ad valorem tax having been released.

Judge Iggo Flays

(Continued from page 1)

judge asserted: “It seems from what I have heard thus far in this case, that we have taken an absolute disregard of the decree and what appears to be a contemptuous attitude toward the court. A situation has never before been duplicated in this area like this, where counsels would go ahead and make their own interpretations.”

In reply to Judge Iggo, Johnston said: “We might not be right but we believe we are right. We did honestly and in perfect good faith. We felt we had a right to grant clearance so long as it was done on a “trade-to-trade” basis and not on a uniform basis.” Variations of clearance, he added, were permissible depending upon a picture’s merit.

James Coster, Warner Brothers Circuit Management head, took the stand today to deny that he made the statement that he would not play Eagle-Lion’s “Lost Honeymoon” at the Avalon and Cahuza theatres if the Jackson Park played it first.

Trailers

(Continued from page 1)
care against revealing too much of the plot or too many of the bank gags, the elimination of critics’ comments, no publicity for directors, advertisement of use of costumes wherever possible, employment of American voices in the commentary of trailers for British pictures, caution in the preparation of trailers for pictures dealing with subjects, semantics of company advertising, with tie-in limited to one picture.

As for a manager’s endorsement, the suggestion is made that if it is to have any weight at all in a town it should be built up by his reputation and should not be used too often or too loosely.”

Finally, it is recommended that a trailer be a “custom-built ticket-selling medium.”

Copies of the list of recommendations have been sent to the presidents of all the important production and distribution companies, various top distributors, some of these companies, leading studio men, chief advertising men, and a wide representative group of exhibitors, including all the major theatre operators, to the five majors, heads of all important unaffiliated theatre circuits and all exhibitors assisted in the preparatory of the report.

Members of the committee which compiled the report included Edward L. Hyneman, Paramount Pictures Theatre Service Corp. chairman; Earl Hudson, United Detroit Theatres; Charles Winchell, Minnesota Amuse ment Co.; Dick Kennedy, Willy-Kin cey circuit; Bill Holland, Balaban and Katz; Lenner and Robert Wettman of Paramount, as well as independent theatre operators representing more than 320 theatres from the New York area.

Advance to Korda

(Continued from page 1)
base in the U. S. by 20th Century- Fox.

Korda claims this is the highest single payment to be made to a British producer for American exhibition. The money will be paid to the British Treasury.

“Own Executioner” will be shown on Broadway shortly after Easter, while “Ideal Husband” and “Anna Karenina” will be given a general American release in a few weeks.

Asks for Renewal of Trade Agreements

WASHINGTON, March 2. — A hang-up possibly is expected in the renewal of the Administration’s authority to enter into reciprocal trade agreements, the Commerce Department said that President Truman has asked Congress to extend the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, through June 12, 1951. This authorizes, in part, the extension of reciprocal trade agreements.

Republicans on the House Ways and Means Committee, which must pass on the legislation, are disposed to kill the extension, however, because of the extremely hot political potato in an election year, and some Republican Congressional leaders are urging a simple one-year extension to take the matter off over into 1949, which is not an election year. Ways and Means Committee Chairman Knutson, however, is reported to be fighting even this short extension.

Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston has testified several times before Congressional groups in support of the reciprocal trade agreement program.

The President in his message to Congress said renewal of the Act would be “in the public interest, not only for the Administration to negotiate trade agreements but also to carry out the Geneva Conference agreements and the International Trade Organization.”

UA Board Approves

(Continued from page 1)

cent Affair,” which James Nesser will produce and which Ira Segalson has written, an Elie Rothlischild picture, to be produced by Leopold Schlossberg in Canada in English and French versions.

Dink Templeton’s Technicolor production of “The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come,” and “Confessions of a Communist,” an A. Edward Sutherland film based on material supplied by William J. Donovan. UA has found the production of “An Innocent Affair” to the tune of $150,000, representing a quarter interest.

FILMACK OPENS IN NEW YORK

Here we are at 2:25 W. 55th St. Ready to go with you in the finest special announcement trailers. NEW YORK PHONE PLAZA 73869

MEMO TO FOREIGN FILM OWNERS, PRODUCERS, DISTRIBUTORS (Independents and majors)

AND TO MANAGERS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE THEATRES IN THE U.S.

—first cut what we can do to assure you greater box office returns. Write or Wire:
The Foreign Films Movie Club Inc.

ARTHUR DAVIS, President

429 W. 27th St., N.Y. 1, N. Y., A-4-4660
When we say that the light from a "National" High Intensity Carbon Arc is an ideal balance of all the colors of the rainbow, there's no guesswork involved.

We split that snow-white light up into its individual bands of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet in the monochrometer shown above. Then we measure the intensity of each band by means of electrical impulses.

What do we find?

We find that the light from a "National" High Intensity Carbon Arc is the closest to sunlight of any man-made light. Its color balance is nearly perfect. It insures that your color film will glow with the rich vivid detail that thoroughly satisfies your patrons.

Moreover, a "National" High Intensity Carbon Arc is the most powerful point source of light in existence. It projects pictures that can be seen clearly from every seat in the house. Box-office insurance? Yes, sir!
Ament Is Reels' Spokesman in Security Drive

Named to Committee Set Up at Capital Meeting

Washington, March 3.—Walton C. Ament, vice-president and general manager of Warner Pathé News, will represent the newsreels on a special committee of information media representatives set up today to figure out how best to answer a government plea to safeguard information vital to national security.

The group is a sub-committee of a gathering of some 25 information media officials who met at the Pentagon Building today at Secretary of Defense Forrestal's request. Ament, who represented all of the reels today, said the meeting was "generally sympathetic" to the Government's plea, and agreed to the need for some protection.

Sorrell Denies He Is a Communist

Washington, March 3.—Herbert K. Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, today flatly denied under oath that he is or has ever been a member of the Communist Party.

At the same time he launched a counter-offensive against IATSE charges of Communist membership by telling the Kearns House Labor Sub委员会 that a "conspiracy" between the IATSE and film producers began in 1934 or 1935 when Loew's Nicholas M. Schenck and Paramount's Barney Balaban "made a deal" with George Browne, then international president of the IATSE, giving "LA" a closed shop and wage increases.

Sorrell took the stand this morning.

Approve $200,000 For Thomas Group

Washington, March 3.—The House Administration Committee today recommended that the Thomas House studio, American Activities Committee receive $200,000 to carry on its activities during the balance of the year. This sum, which still must be approved by the full House, is double the 1947 appropriation and would be the largest the committee has ever received.

Balaban Testifies at Jackson Pl. Hearing

Chicago, March 3.—John Balaban, chief executive of Balaban and Katz, was called to the witness stand today in the seventh day of hearings in the Jackson Park Theatre contempt citation in U. S. District court here.

Cross-examined by Thomas McCon nell, plaintiff's attorney and Ed Johnston representing Paramount and B. and K., Balaban said he had a meeting last Nov. 10 with Arthur Goldberg, B. and K. Counsel and Harry Lastgarten, B. and K. official, for the purpose of having the decree explained and how it would effect buying and booking for local downtown theatres.

Balaban said he had nothing to do with activities of Paramount and that (Continued on page 4)

Treasury Against Admission Tax Cut

Washington, March 3.—Although recommending 49 changes in the Federal tax laws to the House Ways and Means Committee, the Treasury Department today failed to suggest a reduction in the admission tax or other excise.

"Under present conditions, we cannot safely undertake this year some of the basic structural changes that will ultimately be desirable, due to the large losses in revenue they might entail," A. L. Wieg, Treasury Under-Secretary, declared.

Try '306' Solution At Meeting Today

Representatives of IATSE projectionists' Local No. 306 and affiliated circuits here will meet again today in an endeavor to reach an agreement on the long-standing contract dispute which yesterday threatened to result in an operators' strike that could close some 120 theatres in the New York Metropolitan area, including some of the larger Broadway systems.

The local's membership voted Tuesday to reject a contract negotiated two months ago when "IA" International (Continued on page 4)

British Tax Settlement Plan Emerging

$36 Million Remittance In 1948 Could Be All

London, March 3.—The pattern of discussions for an attempted settlement of Britain's 75 per cent of vintage film tax were partially revealed today.

It appears to involve arrangements covering remittance to the United States of $16,000,000 in 1948 and the retention in Britain under conditions so far not disclosed of the balance of American company earnings here.

The general plan of settlement, particularly with respect to the amount of earnings to be retained here, was referred for study by the U. S. negotiators to their respective companies' accounts today.

Under the chairmanship of Joyce O'Hara, assistant to Eric Johnston, (Continued on page 4)

Archibald Predicts 40 for Rank in '48

The Rank Organization in England, working full capacity, will produce 40 features this year, an increase of 12 over last, George Archibald, managing director of Independent Producers, Ltd., major Rank producing unit, disclosed here yesterday. Archibald, who arrived here from London yesterday, pointed out that in 1946, 19 features were made by Rank. The budget for the current year's production has been set to run from $6,000,000 to $10,000,000, he observed, which is two-and-a-half times the budget of 1946.

Archibald asserted that no specific attempt is being made by British film (Continued on page 4)

Good Films Key to Prosperity: Taurog

Norman Taurog, veteran M-G-M director, observes here that with good pictures the industry can operate on an economically sound basis with or without the foreign market. Hollywood has always proved itself in times of urgency, Taurog said, and present

(Continued on page 4)

'Bleak House' Look Greeted Eric Johnston in London

Canada Hopes for More British Films

Ottawa, March 3.—Strong pleas are being made by the Canadian Parliament here to induce the government to encourage more British film imports to save U. S. dollars by replacing American films as much as possible this year, however, reports reaching here do not hold much hope of Canada being able to get the desired number of British imports to replace Hollywood product, since British production is not progressing sufficiently to meet such demands.

LONDON, Feb. 29 (Via Airmail).—Upon his arrival here yesterday from New York, Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, found the British capital's film theatres wearing a sort of "Bleak House" look.

In the 21 West End houses there were on view only seven new U. S. pictures not generally released. They were "Unconquered," "The Best Years of a Man's Life," "The Road to Rio," "Cry Wolf," "Heaven Only Knows," "Personal Column" (shown in the U. S. as "Lured") and "The Red Stallion."

Also playing were nine U. S. reissues, among them "Mrs. Miniver"; six new British productions, "My Brother Jack," "Anna Karenina," "Just William's Luck," "Blonde Fury," "Daughter of Darkness" and "An Ideal Husband". Five British re-issues, one

(Continued on page 4)
Personal Mention

NEIL F. AGNEW, president of Selnecia Releasing Organization, is in Los Angeles from New York.

MAX MILDER, president of Warner International, and MRS. MILDER and JAMES E. PELKINS, Paramount manager-directing Great Britain, will leave New York tomorrow on the SS Queen Mary for England.

HAROLD POSTMAN, assistant to M-G-M exchange operations head RAY P. CARLINGTON, is back in New York Monday night from a tour of the South.

ROBERT W. COYNE, Theatre Owners of America executive director, and HERMAN LEVY, general counsel, will leave New York today for the Coast.

NORMAN ELSEW, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres here, is in Washington today and is expected to return tomorrow.

SIR PHILIP A. WALTERS, chairman and director of Associated British Pictures, will leave here tomorrow for the Coast.

STANLEY KRAMER, Screen Plays, Inc., producer, and GEORGE GLASS, vice-president, are en route to the Coast from New York.

JOEL BEZAHLER, M-G-M sales executive, has returned to New York from Chicago.

PAUL N. LAZARUS, Jr., United Artists advanced publicity director, left here yesterday for Hollywood.

BENNETT COLUMBUS, who arrived here yesterday from London, will leave today for the M-G-M studio.

BEY LAUKIN, of M-G-M's legal department, is expected back in New York today from Chicago.

JAMES COSTOK, Warner Brothers Circuit Management head, has left Chicago for Los Angeles.

ROBERT SXTON, Exhibitor's Service, Chicago, has been hospitalized following a minor operation.

J. S. ANDERSON, has been named chairman of the Manitoba (Canada) film censor board.

FRED ZINNEMANN, M-G-M director, is in town from the Coast.

AAA Hearing Backs UA on 'Red River'

An arbitrators' panel here yesterday ruled in favor of United Artists in an American Arbitration Association hearing of the dispute with Monterey Pictures (Howak Hawkins) over delivery of 'Red River' to the plaintiff. The arbitrators held that the picture was complete and instead made over to UA for distribution under the terms of the defendant's contract with the company.

News Briefs . . . .

Irene Kuhn and Daughter to Write Luncheon Irene Kuhn, National Broadcasting's assistant director of information, here, and her daughter, Rene, radio and television speakers at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers luncheon at Town Hall, will drive tomorrow to 25 different of the industry's advertising and publicity women. Also on the dais will be advertising and publicity women from the major companies, Fleischhacker, Evelyn Koleman and Marie Jorie Harker will be the meeting's co-chairmen.

Agnew Heads Independents in New York Boy Scout Drive Neil Agnew has been named chairman of the independent producers' committee of the Boy Scout drive of the Greater New York Councils of the Boy Scouts of America. Assassination division committee chairmen also appointed include Leonard Goldenson, producers and distributors' representative, the independent theatres; Frank Meyer, motion picture suppliers and laboratories; Martin Quigley and John W. Berle, artists. Goldenson is also chairman of the amusement division.

Desmond Theatre Parking Bill Is Killed in N.Y. Assembly

ALFANY, N.Y., March 3.—The Assembly's Committee today killed the bill providing for the creation of parking facilities of 200 square feet for each 10 seats in theatres hereafter erected in cities. The measure had unanimously passed the Senate.

Copyright Fee Increased

WASHINGTON, March 3.—The House has approved a bill raising the copyright fees by 7 cents to 16 cents. The bill, which was supported by the Motion Picture Association of America and other intellectual property owners, is expected to increase efficiency in the Copyright Office. It now goes to the Senate.

2 Bills Cut Tax on Story, Music Sales

WASHINGTON, March 3.—A bill has been introduced in the House to put a 25 per cent ceiling on taxes which authors and composers must pay on the sale or assignment of motion picture rights to any literary, dramatic or musical work. At present such income is subject to the regular progressive income tax. The bill would treat such as a capital gain, which is subject to a maximum tax of 25 per cent. A companion bill would hold the tax to 30 per cent of the total proceeds.

Both bills, referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, where similar bills were introduced, were represented by Scott of Philadelphia as being of interest to private persons.

Realign E-L Sales District Supervised by Clair Hilgers

The Eagle-Lion sales territory supervised by Clair Hilgers, southwestern district manager, will hereafter go under the direction of J. M. Smith of Oklahoma City, Dallas, St. Louis, Des Moines and Omaha, William J. Heine, vice-president in charge of distribution, announced here yesterday. The district will now be known as the Southwestern-Central district.

The change, Heine, said, is in keeping with plans to realign existing sales department assignments and to rezone existing sales districts.

Columbia Upheld in Parks' Suit; Court Hits Film 'Loan-out' Deals

LOS ANGELES, March 3.—Ruling against Larry Parks in the actor's suit for $80,000 for re-zoning relief from his contract with Columbia, Federal Court Judge William C. Mathes today held that since Parks remained in the state of California he had to continue his work under the agreement for two years he was bound to continue for the duration of the contract. A side issue of the trial was one of the court criticized Hollywood contracts which enable employers to loan out talent.

Albright Heads Film Council

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Roger Albright of the Motion Picture Association of America, was elected chairman of the Washington Film Council at a meeting here today. Samuel F. Harby, of the Veterans Administration was re-elected vice chairman and Will Carrick of the MPAA, secretary, and Marian Jarnagin of the Agriculture Department, treasurer.

Selhafer Conferring in Field

Charles Selhafer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, enroute to New York from the West, will participate in a conference across the country on publicity-advertising plans for Darryl F. Zanuck's Producing and Distribution Enterprises, among other pictures scheduled for release in the near future.

Mochrie Places 'Joan' At Top of RKO List


Finkel Joins E-L

Robert Finkel has resigned assales man for Screen Guild Productions to join Eagle-Lion in the same capacity.

Record Rise in Film, Equipment Exports

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Exports of motion picture film and equipment were at record levels in 1947, according to a preliminary estimate of the U.S. Commerce enjoy.

Shippments of unprocessed film (raw stock) amounted to 454,905,051 feet, approximately 39 per cent greater than in 1946. Value of the 1947 shipments was $8,749,822, compared with $4,136,198 in the preceding year. The value of 1947 shipments was $8,749,822, compared with $4,136,198 in the preceding year.

Exports of exposed features totaled 311,240,153 feet last year, about 10 per cent greater than in 1946. The value of these exports was $5,202,258, compared with $5,277,076 in 1946.

Rockey Mt Allied Spurns Foundation

DENVER, March 3.—Endorsing national Allied States' policy of non-participation in the Motion Picture Foundation, industry-wide humanitarian organization here, said yesterday that the board of directors of Rocky Mountain Allied here has voted against giving aid to the MPF.

"If any individual exhibitor wants to contribute to the Foundation, that is his business," the organization said. "But we do not urge and will not sponsor any collections for the Foundation." National Allied, in refusing its cooperation, said individual Allied units were free to set their own policy with respect to the Foundation.

66% of Fan Papers' Readers in 83 Cities

Analysis of the readership of the 12 fan magazines represented by the Association of Screen Magazine Publishers, Inc., reveals, that some 66 per cent is concentrated in 83 cities, it was announced here yesterday by the group's president.

The 83 are said to be those responsible for the overwhelming percent- age of the fan's film industry's domestic revenue, sales departments having noted that the success of a picture in the 83 cities and their trading areas indicates the ultimate success will be in point of total revenue.

Miami Beach in Film

Arrangements have been consummated for producing what is described as a $2,000,000 motion picture based on South Beach, it was announced by Robert Taplinger, vice-president of Enterprise, for which Enterprise has purchased the rights to "Fabulous Hoosier," written by Jane Fisher, widow of Carl Fisher, "the Father of Miami Beach." The picture will be titled "The Miami Beach Story."

New NBC Video Link

SAN FRANCISCO, March 3.—The television station to be constructed by the National Broadcasting Company in the city will be an NBC-owned and operated station under a National Broadcasting affiliate in this city.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY is published weekly by Motion Picture Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rochester, N. Y. Entered as second class matter, March 23, 1938, at the post office as 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.

Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturday, Sundays and holidays by Motion Picture Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rochester, N. Y. Entered as second class matter 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.
APRIL SHOWERS IN MARCH

SING, EXHIBITORS! WARNER BROS.
FLOOD THE INDUSTRY WITH SUNSHINE!

starring JACK ANN

WE POUR IT ON!
TORRENTS OF TUNES!
BUCKETS OF FUN!
AND IT'S RAINING GIRLS! GIRLS! GIRLS!

with ROBERT ALDA * S.Z. SAKALL

Directed by JAMES V. KERN
Produced by WILLIAM JACOBS

Screen Play by Pierre Mire - Suggested by a Story by Joe Laurie, Jr. - Musical Numbers Created and Staged by LeRoy Prinz - Music Arranged and Adapted by Ray Heindorf
Good Films the Key
(Continued from page 1)

of the public interest against premature news disclosures.

The meeting was addressed by Forrestal and top Army, Navy, atomic energy and defense officials, all of whom made the same request: Some way must be devised to make sure that the information does not leak out before national security allows it to. The sub-committee will attempt to come up with an answer to the problem.

Amet said everyone at the meeting seemed to be making a "genuine effort to cooperate," and predicted the sub-committee would come up with some plan within 30 days.

Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston had accepted an invitation to the meeting, but in the haste of getting ready for his European trip overlook designate a substitute. Consequently no representative of the producers was present.

Ament Named
(Continued from page 1)

conditions are bringing the industry down to a national-business basis.

Taurog, whose newest release is "The Bride Goes Wild," with Van Johnson and June Allyson, said that in his opinion there is going to be an increased trend toward comedy. He pointed out that in recent audience research polls, preference for comedy was expressed.

Taurog sees television as a form of competition that will stir Hollywood to greater effort. He said that one medium need not fear the other, adding that they will both eventually be a "wedding of the two." Among other observations, Taurog praised the script writer as being "the most important base of any picture."

Taurog, who also recently completed "Big City," with Betty Garrett and Margaret O'Brien, will leave here for the Coast tomorrow.

British Tax
(Continued from page 1)

British Tax
(Continued from page 1)

French picture and one Italian picture. 

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)

Sorrell Denies
(Continued from page 1)
He gives the scene its heartbeat...

THIS meeting of mother and child is no make-believe—not to the movie-goers!

To them, it is as real as life itself, thanks to the director of the picture. Through his perceptive handling of action, dialogue, and camera, he has given the scene its human touch, its heartbeat...made the audience feel its warmth, its mood—and live the moment, one with the personalities on the screen.

And this achievement is the mark of his mastery of the dramatic; the gauge of his creative contribution to the motion picture art.

But if such artistry is to have full expression, the director must have the assistance of film that gives him ample freedom to achieve the effects he desires. This freedom he finds in the family of Eastman motion picture films.
UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL proudly heralds "ALL MY SONS" as a significant event in motion picture history.

"ALL MY SONS" was the New York Drama Critics' prize play in 1947. We feel that it has been brought so gloriously to the screen that it will be automatically acclaimed as the prize motion picture of 1948.

Already the picture "ALL MY SONS" has received sufficient critical acclaim to warrant this prediction.

It is our intention in future advertising to acquaint the entire motion picture industry with the aggregate values contained in this picture.

It is our firm conviction that you will want to make a point of seeing this picture as soon as it is made available for screenings.

It is one of those magnificent dramas that must be seen to be appreciated.

In the meantime, let us leave you with a quotation from a review which recently appeared in The Film Daily which states:

"'ALL MY SONS' has all the fine qualities for making and breaking records. 'ALL MY SONS' is as fine as they come".

This is typical of the pre-release publicity which is attending this memorable motion picture.
TOA Board to Approve New ASCAP Rates

Coyne Says Overwhelming Support Is a Certainty

Virtually unanimous approval of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers' new schedule of theatre seat music taxes will come from the Theatre Owners of America's board of directors when it meets Tuesday and Wednesday in Los Angeles, Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, predicted here yesterday as he boarded a train bound for the Coast meeting. TOA board represents 26 affiliated units across the country, with a claimed membership of some 10,000 theatres.

Presentation to the board of the new rates, which evolved on Feb. 6 after months of negotiations between Ascap and TOA, will be in the form (Continued on page 3)

ITOA-Ascap Trust
Trial Starts Here

Monopoly action brought against Ascap by Alden-Rochelle, Inc., and 150 other members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York went to trial in U. S. District Court here yesterday, before Judge Vincent L. Lieboll.

Opening day was taken up primarily by the presentation by Milton C. Weisman, counsel for the plaintiffs, of documentary evidence.

The trial will be resumed this morning with the presentation of further documentary evidence in behalf of the plaintiffs, who seek to restrain Ascap from levying any music tax on theatres.

Sorrell Again Hits Walsh and Brewer

WASHINGTON, March 4—Herbert K. Sorrell, Conference of Studio Unions president, charged today that Richard F. Walsh and Roy Brewer, IATSE president and international representative, respectively, are “following the same line” as George Browne and Willie Beef.

Sorrell said that Walsh and Brewer are talking money from Hollywood producers, Sorrell replied, “I’ll tell you that when I’m ready.”

(Continued on page 2)

HOLLYWOOD ON TRIAL

by MARTIN QUIGLEY

THERE is no secret in the fact that Hollywood production in this post-war period is confronted with the necessity of following a line of critical readjustments.

That fact is well-known, even to certain recalcitrant elements who up to now have chosen to ignore the necessity for change and continue intent upon the pursuit of policies and practices which have long since been lacking in economic justification.

A public hungry for amusement during wartime, and well-supplied with money, built the typical Hollywood mind a whole structure of false and unsubstantial assumptions. Despite many outstanding attractions, the war years saw no general improvement in the quality level. Many pictures of indifferent merit went out, produced encouraging returns and thereby were the cause of enabling those responsible for them to indulge in the illusion that they were making good.

Many persons in Hollywood have been shocked to find the easy glide downhill abruptly ended. Too many of these remain unadjusted to the new conditions and are still wandering about in a haze of disillusionment.

Serious and widespread attention is being given to the reduction of a cost level which had become unacceptable under any foreseeable conditions. The result of this attention indicates some lessening in costs. Subjects are being selected with an eye to the avoidance of that type of story and treatment which naturally involves heavy expenditure. Shooting schedules are being shortened and an all-around effort is being made to speed-up the work in every phase of the process. New contracts covering the lesser talent in all categories are being negotiated on a more realistic basis. Principal personalities, however, are reaching for and frequently obtaining compensation deals that even top previous records.

The influence of the combination of measures being employed to control costs will be reflected in the new product. It will be reflected in reduced outlays for product. It may also come into evidence upon the screen as a cheapening of the product.

This latter possibility arises out of the fact that while efforts are being made to effect savings under the existing system of production which has been grafted onto Hollywood during the past twenty years little or nothing has yet been done in the direction of reforming the system itself—a system which has taken on a rank and odorous growth of privilege, abuse, politics and extravagance.

THE godlike importance in Hollywood of many rather ordinary men and women who are the accidental beneficiaries of the importance and financial significance of the medium with which they happen to be associated is something much more suited to a kindergarten class playing at make-believe than to a practical world of mature reality.

It is not just a matter of having innocent fun when such a person insists upon being called a “creator”, thus appropriating to himself an appellation which in all previous history served only to mark the distinction between the divine and the human. The influence of this kind of insistence and all that goes with it has nurtured an impracti-

U.K. Tax Talks
Continue; May Finish Today

Johnston Meets Wilson
Today; Mulvey Staying

LONDON, March 4—Completion of efforts to reach a settlement of Britain's 75 per cent ad valorem tax, which it had been hoped might be achieved today, was slightly delayed. Meanwhile, movement of the negotiations appears to be in the right direction.

During the day accountants for American companies completed a report on the still-unreleased amount of earnings of Hollywood films in this market which would be retained here under the formula for settlement of the tax under discussion.

The accountants' report was submitted to the main negotiating committee.

(Continued on page 3)

Hacker, Fitzgibbons
Are Award Winners

Charles R. Hacker, now with Standard Theatres, Milwaukee, is No. 1 showman in the Annual Quigley Showmanship Awards, so designated by some 888 showmen, including circuit heads, home office publicity, advertising and exploitation men, and others, at the Annual Quigley Awards competition, held last Monday in the

'306' Official

Threat of “drastic action” by projectionists in the Metropolitan area, affecting operations of some 120 theatres here, was raised last night by an official of LATSE Local No. 306 as representatives of the union and affiliated circuits prepared for an all-night session. "Drastic action" would be decided this morning by the projectionists if the negotiation failed to solve the impasse revolving about certain clauses of the contract offered by the circuits.
‘Loop’ Decree Case Terminates Today

CHICAGO, March 4.—Final arguments were presented today by Thomas C. G. Jackson, Park Theatre attorney, in his contempt citation against the majors and circuits, while Lewis F. Koegel, U.S. District Court attorney, represented the Motion Pictures Exhibitors of the United States, Inc. Koegel attacked the defendants through Ed Johnston, Paramount and B'way, and Burt Katz attorney.

‘It is quite apparent from final evidence that when you took the position to have the conspiracy broken up, you assumed elements of evil could be continued individually,’ the judge said.

Koegel reviewed the charges of violations made against each defendant company and concluded by asserting that there had been a well-thought-out scheme to circumvent the decree. The entire motion picture industry, he charged, was threatening the entire system of the U. S. District Court.

Ed Johnston and Otto Koegel, 20th-Fox counsel, contended the decree was susceptible to ambiguity insofar as clear and accurate wording time were involved. In the day, Saturday, RKO Radio branch manager, testified on the negotiations he had with the plaintiff and explained the RKO transactions.

The hearing will conclude tomorrow with other defendants presenting their final arguments.

Sorrell

(Continued from page 1)

Executive day before the House Labor Committee’s investigation of the studio jurisdictional dispute, Sorrell, who did not conclude his testimony today, will be followed by CSU attorney George Bode. IATSE spokesmen are slated to follow to answer the CSU allegations, thus extending the CSU’s examination for another week at least.

Sorrell today said that Walsh and Brewer represent only ‘a change in names from their predecessors and that they came in with the Communist, charge only to protect themselves.’

Earlier, Sorrell described his attempts to organize workers in the Los Angeles exchanges in 1941 or 1942. He was accompanied, Walsh and Nicholas Schenk ‘got together and made a deal covering the entire country.’

Under the agreement, Sorrell said, exchange workers were let into the IATSE, “but they didn’t get enough power to raise to pay their dues.” He admitted, however, it is not a conspiracy for a labor union to deal with producers on behalf of the workers, but, he added, the ‘IA’ protects the producers and both the ‘IA’ and the producers were put into a position where they could ‘hurt’ the workers.

Congressman Kearsin, chairman of the sub-committee, also announced today that the unit would go into a full hearing session to decide whether to call in a handwriting expert to determine the handwriting of a Communist Party card alleged to be Sorrell’s.
TOA Board

(Continued from page 1)

of a resolution of acceptance which the members will be asked to ratify, Coyne said. He termed ratification a virtual fait accompli, pointing out that all TOA units had been apprised of the move in advance. Moreover, the vast majority had already signed a petition in favor of the new contract, and about 20 units have wired congratulations on the outcome of the negotiations, Coyne said.

Standard had said that some of those who have not done so were among those which expressed approval of the new contract.

Typical of the reception accorded the new rates by TOA units is that expressed in a wire received here yesterday by Morris Loevenstein, head of Theatre Owners of Oklahoma. He said: "Decision approving TOA-AOF cap deal practically to testify in favor of an admission tax cut during current hearings on the Knutson income tax bill, according to Wisconsin law, TOA legislative representative.

QP Awards

(Continued from page 1)

Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York. Hacker will receive the Silver Plaque for his performance in "Murder on the Orient Express," managing the Palace Theatre in Milwaukee for Fox Wisconsin Theatres. No. 2 showman, and recipient of the Bronze Plaque, is Mildred Fitzgibbons, for her campaigns in Flushing, N. Y., where she manages the Roosevelt Theatre, Flushing, N. Y.

The special Overseas Plaque goes to Len Chant, for his campaigns in Preston, England, where he manages the New Victoria Theatre for Gaumont-British.

Honorable Mentions were awarded to five motion picture dealers:
Willis Shafer, Fox Athixon Theatre, Atchison, Kan.; William V. Novk, according to Wisconsin law, TOA legislative representative.

Deny Rank Demands 'U' Film Deliveries

LONDON, March 4.—Reports published here and in American papers to the effect that Universal, under alleged compulsion to fulfill contractual commitments to Fox, and that Arthur Rank, would ship pictures to Britain even though the ad valorem tax credits, were denied officially here today.

J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal board chairman, and Nate J. Blumberg, president, denied the reports, describing the stories as "sheer imagination and without the slightest basis in fact."

The reports indicated that Rank was interested that the films be shipped here despite the tax, and would even though that might necessitate Universal's withdrawal from the Motion Picture Association of America, and perhaps even the surrender of the embargo on shipment of American films to this country.

According to these reports, Rank denied this phase of the stories, saying that he, Rank, certainly would not make such a demand, particularly in view of Rank's friendly relations with other American distributors.

According to another report, Rank supposedly asked the demand at his meeting with exhibitor representatives here last weekend. An exhibitor who was present said that Rank did not make any such denunciation that rank had mentioned, entirely incidentally, that Eagle-Lion, not Universal, is responsible for the TV shows and with 30 pictures annually, but Rank definitely did not say he proposed to enforce even that contract, regardless of the tax situation.

U. S. Representatives Leaving

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, probably will confer with Harold Wil- son, president of the Board of Trade, tomorrow, to get a full wind-up of the discussions. Most of the American representatives participating in the discussions plan to leave for New York by plane on Saturday.

There was no confirmation here of widely-circulated reports that the govern- ment will not abandon its 75 per cent film tax and that, in conse- quence, prospects of a settlement are hopeless. A second report to the ef- fect that James Mulvey, representa- tive of the Society of Independent Theatre Owners, had withdrawn from the negotiations in the belief that they will prove fruitless, was denied. While noncommittal about his view of the outcome of the negotiations, Mulvey said he would not return to New York ahead of schedule, as had been reported. He said he does not plan to leave before Saturday, in accordance with original arrangement.

See $16,000,000 Limit

However, it still appears likely that the government is not prepared to do anything for motion pictures for 1948, and whether or not sufficiently attractive concessions to interest the American industry can be offered for disposition of the residue has not been disclosed.

HOLLYWOOD ON TRIAL

(Continued from page 1)

cal and fantastic system that needs sharp pruning, root and branch. The system costs millions which never show on the screen.

The Hollywood agent, generally speaking, contributed nothing to production but expense and nothing to his client but discontent. And strange, indeed, is the gracious acceptance that the studios bestow upon him and his efforts in pyramiding talent costs to a point at which the goose of the golden egg has become seriously undernourished.

Hollywood has provided a rich labor market. It gives employment to artisans of fifty-odd crafts and occupations at wage rates unsurpassed anywhere in the world. The work-day and the work-week have in many instances been increased at a point at which gainful employment is practically a part-time job. Intricate divisions of work, operations and responsibilities, all coming under the general head of "featherbedding", have been so artfully contrived that the resultant regulations would be plain funny if it were not that they have come to entail an expense to production which is more than the normal traffic will bear. Hollywood labor is coming dangerously near to either pricing itself out of employment or pricing the employer into insolvency.

The production community has given rise to a group of publicity dynasties which rule tyrannically. These dynasties seek, and frequently and mischievously achieve, dictation over what stories are to be made, who is to make them, how they are to be made, who is to write them, direct them and play in them.

Much of the executive personnel of the studios is so involved in deals and counter-deals with these dynasties that the keeping of lines straight becomes a major daily occupation. To find the chief contributing cause of much of the adverse public relations that plague the industry one needs to turn only to the publicity which issues across the nation and the world from these sources.

These dynasties have long since departed from the simple journalistic practice of printing the news and molding their own business. Their purposes are largely political, social and financial. They are king-makers and star-makers, courts of last resort and prosecuting attorneys. They have established a rule of terror. They are a reckless part of a system which must be dealt with if Hollywood is to get itself in gear with the heavy responsibilities which the post-war period imposes.

HOLLYWOOD has been making and certainly will continue to make great motion pictures. This year will be no exception. But the spread between the outstanding attractions and the run-of-the-mill job is dangerously wide—so wide that unless it is quickly and definitely narrowed the screen will have a smaller and not a greater audience in the immediate years ahead.

Every needed type, and kind of skill and talent is present in the production community. There is plenty of know-how but there is also an vast accumulation of hindrances and distractions which get in the way of effective and consistent application of the know-how. There is too much dependence upon reputation rather than performance, especially in view of the fact that often the reputation in the first place was based more on window-dressing, intrigue and privilege than on performance.

Hollywood would like to explain its predicament by reference to the external dislocations of the post-war period, social, financial and whatever; by reference to the British tax scheme, the Supreme Court decision; by reference to the present economic plight of the industry traces primarily to the gradual and persistent growth of a production system that became top-heavy with expense unsustainable by this or any other business.

The system, allowed a free sway during the lush war years, wound up eventually with inventories that have neither the merit of great quality nor sensible cost. Hence the inevitable day of realistic adjustment has arrived.

The next few months will determine whether the outcome is to be an expedient patch-work of compromise and evasion or whether it will be a genuine reformation of a system, filled with attitudes, assumptions and indulgences, that inevitably sacrifices quality and wastes money.
The Event of the Season!
New York
TRADE SHOWING of
GEORGE STEVENS' production of
"I REMEMBER MAMA"

NORMANDIE THEATRE
51 East 53rd St., at Park Ave., New York, N. Y.
MONDAY, MARCH 8, at 10:30 A. M. SHARP

Dore Schary presents
IRENE DUNNE
in GEORGE STEVENS’ Production of
"I REMEMBER MAMA"
co-starring
BARBARA BEL GEDDES
OSCAR HOMOLKA • PHILIP DORN
with SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • EDGAR BERGEN • RUDY VALLEE • BARBARA O'NEIL

Executive producer and director GEORGE STEVENS • Produced by HARRIET PARSONS
Screen Play by DeWITT BODEEN • Based upon the play by JOHN VAN DRUTEN
U.S. Has Plan To Unfreeze Some Dollars
Would Pay for Out-of-Pocket Selling Costs

WASHINGTON, March 7.—State Department officials, according to a top-ranking U.S. film industry official, have assured the U.S. film industry in its current overseas monetary problems now center around strict contracts to pay film companies in dollars for their out-of-pocket expenses in distributing a limited number of films in selected foreign countries, it was learned here today.

In the early stages of aid discussion plans ranged all the way from having the American Embassies put the blocked funds into some sort of international clearing house where the funds would be held. Said the official, however, "such a plan was not considered practical from the time we first started to consider the problem." It was decided, he said, to look to the State Department for a solution of the problem. But the State Department turned down the request for assistance.

"The memorandum the Department sent back to us said that under existing law the Department had no authority to do anything," said the official. "They rationalized this on the basis of the State Department's need to conserve funds for other purposes, which included their desire to avoid possible political embarrassment on the part of the countries which might receive such aid."

It was estimated that the film industry has lost about $5 million in the current exchange situation, with much of this coming from the inability to pay distributors here and abroad. The official said that he was not aware that the State Department would refuse to aid in such a situation and that a State Department official seemed to have "written off" such aid.

Another Trust Suit Hits Distributors

MEMPHIS, March 7.—Cape Pictures, Inc., Memphis, has filed a $330,000 suit against a group of distributors and exhibitors charging monopolistic practices in the release of films to theatres in Cape Girardeau, Mo. Cape Pictures, a Tennessee corporation, is headed by Harold Roth and Barney Woonher of Memphis and operates the Esquire in Cape Girardeau.

The bill of complaint names as defendants Warner Brothers, Universal, United Artists, 20th-Fox, Republic, Fox Mid-West Amusement Corp., Fox Cape Theatre Corp., National Theatres; Glen Carroll, manager of two Cape Girardeau theatres; Elmer C. Rhode, Kansas City, president.

MGM to Release 11 Films in 5 Months

Hollywood, March 7.—M-G-M will release 11 productions between April 1 and May 31, Louis B. Mayer, E. J. Mannix and William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, announced here today. The announcement was made following the close of a week-long sales conference at the studio.

Overseas Budget Is Approved by House

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The House on Friday gave final approval to a $28,000,000 appropriation for the State Department's overseas information program, but rejected by a 78-41 vote, a move to increase it to the $34,738,000 asked for by the President. The measure now goes to the Senate.

The motion picture division was allotted $4,878,749 of the $34,738,000 requested, but will probably see the budget reduced slightly as a result of the House action.

TBA Urges FCC to Reduce Video Time

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The Television Broadcasters Association and the Federal Communications Commission to reduce the number of hours for which television stations must show programs during their early stages of development.

Need for sufficient film production and time to build up film libraries was one of the reasons, TBA said. Its request was necessary. Others were the need for more network programs, for more live television programming and for increased receiver production. FCC rules require each station regularly to schedule not less than two hours a day and not less than seven a week. The Commission has been waiving these rules every three months.

Ask 6 Film Leaders To Aid Bond Drive

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Six film industry leaders, including Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston, have been asked by the Treasury Department to meet here March 18-20 to map out what day and week bond drive. Others called in by the department are Ted Camble, Theatre Owners of America head; Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio distribution executive; Robert Coyne, TOA executive director; Sid Fabian and Paramount News general editor A. J. Richards.

Mrs. R. V. Oulahan, chief of the savings bond drive's motion picture section, has just returned from the Coast where she worked with Warner Brothers on a revised version of "Power Behind the Nation" to tie in with the drive.

Allied Units Will Accept Ascap Rates

But Are Advised To Make One-Year Deals Only

KANSAS CITY, March 7.—Allied States has advised its affiliated units to accept the new music licensing rates negotiated by the rival Theatre Owners of America with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and which are scheduled to become effective on March 15.

According to the Allied ITO of Kansas-Missouri, however, national Allied has warned its exhibitor members against entering into any contract with Ascap for more than one year's duration.

The new Ascap rates represent an average 25 per cent increase over current music taxes. However, Ascap's original pitch was for a 300 per cent increase. In originally announcing the new rates, Ascap said...

'306', NY Circuits Reach an Agreement

Agreement on a new contract was reached here at the weekend between representatives of the affiliated circuits and IATSE Local 306, following several days of closed meetings conducted in the atmosphere of a strike threat and accompanied by widespread disturbances in theatres.

The new contract, covering some 120 theatres in the Metropolitan area, will provide wage increases of 15 per cent over the $76.20 base weekly pay which the affiliated neighborhood projectionists now receive for a 28-hour week.

CSU Head's Charges Denied by Walsh

WASHINGTON, March 7.—IATSE president Richard F. Walsh at the weekend branded as a "vicious lie" a charge he said was made by Herbert K. Sorrrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, to the effect that Walsh had "accepted money from film producers and that George E. Browne..."
Personal Mention

CHARLES SCHLAFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity head, will return here today from the Coast.

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, H. M. KICHER, JOHN P. BYRNES and HERMAN RIFFE of A. L. Suchak's sales promotion division, are due back in New York today from the Coast, while JOHN J. MALONEY, Central Theatre manager, will return to his Pittsburgh headquarters.

RAY LANNING of Motion Picture Herald's editorial staff, and URSULA CONNOR, secretary to TERRY RAMSEY, Herald editor, will be married May 6.

JOHN KIMSKY, formerly manager of Buchanan and Company's motion picture division, has joined the Institute of Public Relations here, in an executive capacity.

JAY GOEY, head of M-G-M's sales development division, will return to New York today from a vacation at Nassau.

G. S. EYSSELL, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall here, left New York at the weekend for Hollywood.

J. E. CURRIB, manager of National Theatre Supply's drive-in theatre department, has returned to New York from the Coast.

SOL KLEIN, owner of the Rialto Theatre, Baltimore, and Mrs. Klein, are celebrating their 16th wedding anniversary.

RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount Eastern production head, is due in Hollywood today from New York.

JACQUES KOFFSTEIN, Astor Theatre vice-president, has returned to New York from the South.

Proposes Ticket Tax: To Aid NYC Finances

ALBANY, N. Y., March 7—A tax not exceeding 10 cents for admission to any place of amusement or entertainment with a minimum charge of $1 would be authorized for New York City, to be used exclusively for municipally-owned and operated transportation system, under a bill sponsored by Senator Fred Moritt of Brooklyn. It would be one of a series of emergency levies that the city could impose.

E-L Appoints Three

Three Eagle-Lion appointments have been made by William J. Heineman, distribution vice-president. Alex Cooperman has been appointed booker of the Angeleno exchange. Clarence B. Wilson has been appointed salesman in Dallas, and Benjamin Landy, chairman of the board, has appointed Harry Gans as manager and office manager in Minneapolis.

WOOD if the British market is not restored to the industry immediately, intimating that corrective efforts now in progress would be nullified or abandoned with reopening of the British market.

Other Selznick observations: The greatest need of the industry today is showmanship. If “Best Years of Our Lives” hasn’t played up in the “machine method” of the major studios, not having a widely known story or outstanding star names, it would have gone out and earned a $4,000,000 gross. It was Samuel Goldwyn showmanship that made the picture an $8,000,000 grosser.

An exhibitor is a person who makes less money with failures than he does with “hits.”

Selznick is apprehensive of television competition in the world of motion pictures. He is not convinced that the gregarious nature of the average human being is sufficiently strong to make him stay away from the annoyances of theatre attendance when an entertainment equivalent is available in his home.

It has been many years since Selznick was interested in acquiring control of RKO. The deal might have gone through at that time except for the unwieldy cost of $50,000,000. It wouldn’t have been accpetable to “Go With the Wind” as part of the terms.

In the kind of market shaping up ever more rapidly in these post-war days, there is less and less room for wishful thinking and a great deal more for aggressive selling and merchandising.

Look around you and note how sales managers are taking to the field—out there where the customer wants to be shown.

The lush days are gone.

The incurable optimist thinks they’re gone only for today. The sterner realist feels safer in concluding they’re just gone. The 1948 slant looks almost to more effort, greater diligence.

At 20th-Century-Fox there seems to be an alert appreciation of these latter day requirements. But the appreciation without the product can be pretty futile. At 20th-Fox the feeling is anything but that.

CHARLES SCHLAFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity head, will return here today from the Coast.

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, H. M. KICHER, JOHN P. BYRNES and HERMAN RIFFE of A. L. Suchak's sales promotion division, are due back in New York today from the Coast, while JOHN J. MALONEY, Central Theatre manager, will return to his Pittsburgh headquarters.

RAY LANNING of Motion Picture Herald's editorial staff, and URSULA CONNOR, secretary to TERRY RAMSEY, Herald editor, will be married May 6.

JOHN KIMSKY, formerly manager of Buchanan and Company's motion picture division, has joined the Institute of Public Relations here, in an executive capacity.

JAY GOEY, head of M-G-M's sales development division, will return to New York today from a vacation at Nassau.

G. S. EYSSELL, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall here, left New York at the weekend for Hollywood.

J. E. CURRIB, manager of National Theatre Supply's drive-in theatre department, has returned to New York from the Coast.

SOL KLEIN, owner of the Rialto Theatre, Baltimore, and Mrs. Klein, are celebrating their 16th wedding anniversary.

RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount Eastern production head, is due in Hollywood today from New York.

JACQUES KOFFSTEIN, Astor Theatre vice-president, has returned to New York from the South.

Proposes Ticket Tax: To Aid NYC Finances

ALBANY, N. Y., March 7—A tax not exceeding 10 cents for admission to any place of amusement or entertainment with a minimum charge of $1 would be authorized for New York City, to be used exclusively for municipally-owned and operated transportation system, under a bill sponsored by Senator Fred Moritt of Brooklyn. It would be one of a series of emergency levies that the city could impose.

E-L Appoints Three

Three Eagle-Lion appointments have been made by William J. Heineman, distribution vice-president. Alex Cooperman has been appointed booker of the Angeleno exchange. Clarence B. Wilson has been appointed salesman in Dallas, and Benjamin Landy, chairman of the board, has appointed Harry Gans as manager and office manager in Minneapolis.

WOOD if the British market is not restored to the industry immediately, intimating that corrective efforts now in progress would be nullified or abandoned with reopening of the British market.

Other Selznick observations: The greatest need of the industry today is showmanship. If “Best Years of Our Lives” hasn’t played up in the “machine method” of the major studios, not having a widely known story or outstanding star names, it would have gone out and earned a $4,000,000 gross. It was Samuel Goldwyn showmanship that made the picture an $8,000,000 grosser.

An exhibitor is a person who makes less money with failures than he does with “hits.”

Selznick is apprehensive of television competition in the world of motion pictures. He is not convinced that the gregarious nature of the average human being is sufficiently strong to make him stay away from the annoyances of theatre attendance when an entertainment equivalent is available in his home.

It has been many years since Selznick was interested in acquiring control of RKO. The deal might have gone through at that time except for the unwieldy cost of $50,000,000. It wouldn’t have been acceptable to “Go With the Wind” as part of the terms.

In the kind of market shaping up ever more rapidly in these post-war days, there is less and less room for wishful thinking and a great deal more for aggressive selling and merchandising.

Look around you and note how sales managers are taking to the field—out there where the customer wants to be shown.

The lush days are gone.

The incurable optimist thinks they’re gone only for today. The sterner realist feels safer in concluding they’re just gone. The 1948 slant looks almost to more effort, greater diligence.

At 20th-Century-Fox there seems to be an alert appreciation of these latter day requirements. But the appreciation without the product can be pretty futile. At 20th-Fox the feeling is anything but that.

TRADEWISE...

By SHERWIN KANE

Motion Picture Herald's weekly column.

CHAIRMAN S. SELZNICK of the studio board of directors has not only been a key figure in Hollywood’s hard years, but has also been an active participant in the industry’s efforts to improve its public image. His actions have been a symbol of the industry’s determination to overcome the image of corruption and incompetence that has dogged it for many years.

Selznick’s efforts have included the formation of the Motion Picture Relief Fund, which has raised millions of dollars to help artists in need, and his work with the Motion Picture Advertisers Association, which has been instrumental in improving the industry’s image.

Selznick’s involvement has been crucial in bringing about the industry’s renewal and has helped to establish Hollywood as a symbol of American creativity and excellence.

Selznick’s contributions have not been limited to the industry itself. He has also been involved in efforts to improve the image of Los Angeles as a whole, and has worked to bring about the development of the city’s cultural and artistic institutions.

Selznick’s legacy continues to be felt today, as the industry and the city he helped to shape continue to grow and thrive.

CHAIRMAN S. SELZNICK of the studio board of directors has not only been a key figure in Hollywood’s hard years, but has also been an active participant in the industry’s efforts to improve its public image. His actions have been a symbol of the industry’s determination to overcome the image of corruption and incompetence that has dogged it for many years.

Selznick’s efforts have included the formation of the Motion Picture Relief Fund, which has raised millions of dollars to help artists in need, and his work with the Motion Picture Advertisers Association, which has been instrumental in improving the industry’s image.

Selznick’s involvement has been crucial in bringing about the industry’s renewal and has helped to establish Hollywood as a symbol of American creativity and excellence.

Selznick’s contributions have not been limited to the industry itself. He has also been involved in efforts to improve the image of Los Angeles as a whole, and has worked to bring about the development of the city’s cultural and artistic institutions.

Selznick’s legacy continues to be felt today, as the industry and the city he helped to shape continue to grow and thrive.
MORE ABOUT “ALL MY SONS”

WHEN UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL acquired the screen rights to “ALL MY SONS,” one of the prime considerations in the production of the motion picture was the casting.

“ALL MY SONS” had been selected as the PRIZE PLAY of 1947 by the New York Drama Critics Circle, and the U-I studio was determined that all the vitality, all the dramatic values which marked the stage presentation should be bettered, if possible, in the screen presentation.

The motion picture trade journal critics have saluted U-I’s choice of stars and featured players. They were really hand-picked, and each rose to the very height of his talent.

READ THESE PARAGRAPHS FROM TRADE JOURNAL REVIEWS:

- "Edward G. Robinson has never given a more impressive performance.”
  —BOXOFFICE

- "Performances by an unusually good cast are tops. The players reflect sincerity and believability.”
  —MOTION PICTURE HERALD

- "Edward G. Robinson, Burt Lancaster, Mady Christians, Louisa Horton and Howard Duff fill the top roles and give performances which complement each other like well meshed gears in a perfectly running machine.”
  —MOTION PICTURE DAILY
50 Are Named for Charity Campaign

A committee of 50 industry representatives participates in the 1948 Catholic drive for the Archdiocese of New York was announced here on Friday by John O'Connor of Uni-versal-International Pictures and Bert Sanford of Altec Service Corp., chairman and co-chairman, respectively of the entertainment industry segment of the drive. The 1948 goal for all industries in the drive is $2,500,000. The drive is being conducted to raise money for the Archdiocese.

Known as the Cardinal's Committee of the Laymen in the entertainment industry, the committee of 50 includes: Charles J. Balaban, Allied Artists; J. Frank Adkins, UA; William J. Barry, Sherry Enterprises; J. R. Grainger, Republic; George H. Driscoll, Capstan; J. W. Girardeau, Universal; Albert Eagle-Lion; "Daredves of the Sky" and "Alcatraz Prison Train," Republilc; Martin B. Bennett, R.C.A.Victor; Martin Hayes, 20th Century-Fox; "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid," Universal-International; and "The Lone Star," Warner Brothers.

Profiles

Motion Picture Daily

Monday, March 8, 1948

Production Index

Shows 24 Filming

Hollywood, March 7.—This week's production index dipped to 24, compared with 30 for the week of February 28. Nine films were sent to cutting rooms, while only three new ones were started.

Shooting started on "Rusty Takes a Walk," Columbia; "Is It Roman-tic?", Paramount; "The Wonderful Country" (Tronolone); "The Love of the Last Long," Universal-International; and "One Last Fling," Warner Brothers.

News Briefs

Paramount to Seek Field Opinions On Expansion in New Product Plans to submit 52 cities to promote Paramount's "Empire Service" and "Empire Service International" at the same time to sound out exhibitors and branch personnel on their own ideas for improving services and advertising is disclosed here on Friday by Anita Colby, executive assistant to Lew Ginsburg, Paramount vice-president and studio executive.

The Technicolor film will have its Montana premiere at Butte, and shows will be shown at regular prices, in line with the belief of Charles Reagan, vice-president and general sales manager, that "this is not the time for advanced admissions."

Miss Colby will cover all of the country except the West. Her activities will also include the arrangement of charity balls in a tour with the Damascene Society, and arrange talks before different groups and make personal contact with newspaper editors and broadcasters.

WB Zone Ad Managers Open 2-Day Meeting Here Today

A two-day meeting of Warner Theatres district managers will begin here today at the company home office. Discussion will be on "The Victor," "The Woman in White" and "Rip City." Present from the home office will be: Harry Kalmine, president and general manager; Warner Theatres; Ben Kalman, division vice-president; Mort Blumenstein, branch manager; Walter and Harry Samuels, advertising and public relations director; and Barry Goldberg, advertising and publicity director.

Zone men attending will be: J. Knox Schackman, Cleveland; Rogers Finn return to the screen after eight years to play the top role in James Nasser's "An American Tragedy," due in the fall and March 15 at a budget of $1,500,000 for United Artists release. Rogers, who produced "The Girl from Jones Beach," is a co-producer of Triangle Production; following completion of the acting commitment.

FM Station for M-G-M

Hollywood, March 7.—Producer Charles (Buddy) Rogers will return to the screen after eight years to play the top role in James Nasser's "An American Tragedy," due in the fall and March 15 at a budget of $1,500,000 for United Artists release. Rogers, who produced "The Girl from Jones Beach," is a co-producer of Triangle Production; following completion of the acting commitment.

SRO Building Plans Set

Hollywood, March 7.—Architectural plans for the new office building of the radio-station group in Beverly Hills have been completed by J. McMillan Johnson, Self's firm. Board of Directors new, president of SRO, will approve the final plans during his current stay when his office is now in New York.

Foreign Film Club

Establishment of the Foreign Film Club is planned by Arthur Davis, president of Arthur Davis Associates, here.
U.S. Plan

(Continued from page 1)

blocked film currencies would be exchanged.

Now, however, the department is down to two solutions: outright pur-
chase of books, magazines, films and similar materials. Information Ser-
vice posts abroad as part of the regular overseas information-program are
M.-U.A.N.U.D. and pending appor-
ations; and a limited contractual arrangement with those commercial
houses that would not be helped by outright purchase.

How Plan Would Apply

This would work out, very roughly, as follows: Company X would sell the
Departments. The contract to be in
thirty thousand dollars to distribute six films in Poland
during 1948. Under contract, the company will distribute three films,
and the Government will give Company
X the dollar equivalent and receive from the company the blocked
dollars. This film which represents Company X’s profit, will remain
blocked in Poland to Company X’s accoun-
t.

The new plan would not in any way affect balances already accumu-
lated overseas—these are apparently a dead issue as far as U. S. Government
aid is concerned.

Two serious problems remain to be solved on the contract. First, the con-
tract with the Government officials admit: one is how this would work out in particular cases—what type of contract will have to be differ-
ent for slots and features, or for black-and-white films and Technicolor
features, for instance; second, and most important, is how much it would cost.

Sums to aid private industry in overseas markets have been
omitted from current appropriation requests, and would have to be sub-
mitted in a supplemental budget. The House Appropriations Committee has
already cut the $34,000,000 requested by the President for the information program to $28,000,000.

Indicate $60,000,000 Tied Up

Department officials have indicated that figures received so far from the “information” industries indicate that they are fairly reasonable, and it is anticipated that the contract will be
in the neighborhood of a “staggering” $60,000,
000 a year—with the film industry accounting for but half. This will be above paid in consideration, it is expected that the film industry in February
will be paid, and the state, before going to Congress, and paying down mean more detailed figures than have been sub-
mited so far.

Rank on Tax

(Continued from page 1)

British pictures would be aided there-
by and because of their large output. A short-
ly free flow of films is undesirable for everybody.

However, Rank said, those who
have suggested that the whole British
industry is now in bad shape are talk-
ing nonsense. Attendance during December, January, February,
and March, he said, “was 47 per-
cent higher than for the same period
in the previous year. He added there is no cause for gloom.

Rank is taking to America details on the 24 pictures which he has
in preparation, including “Hamlet.” He added that Rank Organization pro-
duction is increasing and its costs are decreasing.

Walsh Denies

(Continued from page 1)

and WJiU fio$$ exerted influence in the affairs of the I.A.T.S.E.”

In a telegram sent to Rep. Carroll
D. Kearns, chairman of the House Labor sub-committee inves-
ting a studio situation, Walsh also declared that he will come to
Washington to enter a personal

Uncertain If Charge Was Made

Both I.A.T.S.E. and CSU representa-
tives here, however, were uncertain Friday as to whether Sorrell had
already charged Walsh—and I.A.T.S.E. internation-external Roy
Bone—with having accepted money from the producers.

Questioned whether he had
made the charge, Sorrell said, “See
what it says in the record.” A check of the minutes of the last sub-committee
revealed, however, that Sorrell’s state-
ments were ambiguous. Nor did Sor-
rell deny a statement George Boye made
that Sorrell’s statements had been “mis-
interpreted” by Walsh. But Walsh said that he could offer no proof of
Sorrell’s statement. Walsh also said that he had some evidence that
Sorrell’s statement was not true, because he himself had been
in touch with the CSU officials.

Hits Attack as ‘Diversion’

Walsh, in his telegram, declared that
Sorrell’s charge, unprompted and un-
provoked, and made under the cloak of
I.A.T.S.E. authority, was an ob-
iously launched for the purpose of
diverting public attention from the sor-
row and network war damage and pro-
Communist activities.

Kearns also read into the record a
telegram from the business agent of the
Independent Make-up Artists and Hair Stylists Guild, purporting to re-
iterate a statement made by Motion Pic-
ture News which indicated that
Maureen J. Benjorn, a member of the Guild, had talked to
the press about his intention to
join the Communist party. The telegram said that
I.A.T.S.E. Local 705 had threaten-
ed producers with a work stoppage
if any member of the independent
union were hired.

Kearns also disclosed that the Com-
munity Party card alleged to be Sor-
rell’s had been turned over to the
Federal Bureau of Investigation for
fingerprint analysis.

Lessing Denies Disney Used

Terror Tactics in Strike

Hollywood, March 7—Walt Dis-
ney Production’s vice-president Gumber
was questioned at the weekend on
a statement categorically denying Her-
bert Sorrell’s testimony in Wash-
ington linking his studio with “torpedoes
and dynamiters” during the Disney
strike. Lessing said: “Our only con-
 tact with Blut (Walter Blut) is to be elec-
ted by him that projection-
ists in theatres throughout the coun-
try would continue to run Disney pictures.”

Import Firm Formed

Hollywood, March 7.—Creative
Films has been organized here to im-
port motion pictures. It is headed by
A. S. Weiser, Texas business man.

‘306’, Circuits Agree

(Continued from page 1)

work week, and over the $95,10 base-
pay which the affiliated’s Broadway
first-run projectionists receive for a
221-hour work week. The neighbor-
hood projectionists get $4.08 per hour,
now, with time-and-a-half for overtime.
Broadway projectionists get
$4.22 per hour now, with double
time for overtime. The new agree-
ment provides an hourly wage in-
crease of 41 cents in the neighbor-
hoods and 46 cents in the Broadway
area.

306 to Draft Clauses

Under the agreement, “306” will
draw up a contract which will include,
in addition to the 15 per cent pay in-
crease, certain mutually satisfactory working-conditions clauses. The strike
threat was raised by the local earlier
in the week after the companies had
presented a contract containing work-
ing-conditions clauses which the “306”
membership found objectionable.

A spokesman for the companies said a prime condition of the agreement
was that all agreements be made in a
number of R.A.O. and
Loew’s theatres be stopped immediate-
ly. According to reports, projection-
ists in many of those companies’ neighborhood houses, ran films upside
down, caused weird wails to emanate from the sound equipment and harassed the audience in protest against the terms offered by the employers.

Union to Vote This Week

The “306” membership will meet here this week—probably on Wednes-
tday—to ratify the agreement, a spokesman for the local said. Mean-
while, the pay increase agreed upon will not go into effect until the
contract is signed at a meeting which is expected to be attended by “306”
international president Richard F.
Walsh. Walsh, due back in New
York today from a Pittsburgh “1A”
board meeting, did not grant the strike
authorization request which “306”
president Herman Gelber asked for last week.

Other affiliated theatres involved in
the negotiations were Paramount,
Warner’s, Universal and United Arts.

Producers Should Pay Ascap: Weisman

The oft-heard argument that pro-
ducers should be made to pay the
Ascap music tax, then pass it on to
exhibitors, was repeated on Friday
by Milton C. Weisman, counsel for the
plaintiffs, as the monopoly action by Aiden-Rochelle, Inc., and
160 other members of the Independent
Theatre Owners Association of
New York against the Society went into its
second day before Judge Vincent L.
Lieber in U. S. District Court here.

The proposal was advanced by Weis-
man during the presentation of docu-
mentary evidence in the form of cut-
tings purportedly showing that almost every picture produced by major com-
panies contained Ascap music.

First two witnesses called by Weis-
man were: Joseph R. Vogel, Loew’s
theatre vice-president, and Herman
Starr, Warner vice-president. Vogel
Testified that theatres are unable to
operate without the product of major distributors. Starr testified briefly and
would testify today.

Allied-Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

the schedule would prevail for a mini-
num of 10 years, but that licensees
could take contracts for any shorter
period they wished and still be as-
sured of no increase during the next 10 years.

Allied States, however, is backing
Leving Bill in Congress, which would make a “hidden” tax of the
Ascap theatre fee by requiring produc-
ers to clear music performing rights with the Society before licensing a
picture. Producers, of course, then would add the music tax to the film
rental and probably add licensing service and bookkeeping fees also.

Hearings on the Lewis bill are sched-
uled to start in Washington, Allied hopes either for en-
actment of the bill or final adjudi-
cation of one of several court actions pending against Ascap.

Bing Crosby

Says

Ken Murray’s

and

It’s the greatest.

A FULL LENGTH FEATURE in TRUCOLOR

It’s the greatest.

The Republic’s Easter Surprise

5 MONITION PICTURE DAILY

Monday, March 8, 1948
AN EXPLOSION OF LAUGHTER
In the Greatest Double Laugh Show in Years!
BOOKED OVER THE LOEW CIRCUIT

A LAFF KNOCKOUT

Here is the FIGHT GAME at its FUNNIEST!
All Direct body BLOWS,
Each UPPERCUT goes Right
to your FUNNYBONE!

Favorite Films presents

KELLY the SECOND

A GANG OF GAGSTERS,
A LOAD OF LAUGHS!

FAVORITE FILMS PRESENTS
WILLIAM BENDIX
MAX BAER
in
TWO MUGS FROM BROOKLYN

"SLAPSIE" MAXIE
ROSENBLOOM
PATSY
KELLY
GUINN
"BIG BOY" WILLIAMS
HAROLD HUBER
BILLY GILBERT

A HAL ROACH PRODUCTION

FAVORITE FILMS CORPORATION
MOE KERMAN, Pres.
630-9th AVENUE, N.Y. C.
UK Optimistic of Tax Plan Today

But Johnston Still Is Noncommittal, Though Addressing CEA Tonight

LONDON, March 8.—Board of Trade officials expressed the belief that a “happy conclusion” of the efforts to reach a compromise on Britain’s 75 per cent surtax film tax will issue tomorrow.

The statement was made as they left a negotiating meeting that had continued throughout the day and ended at nine P.M. tonight.

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, was less positive, however. Johnston said merely that no formula has been devised for the disposition of the unimpeachable balances of American film earnings here. Presumably, that means all over $16,000,000, the amount repeatedly referred to by government officials as the maximum that Britain can afford to pay for films in 1938.

The negotiations will be resumed at noon tomorrow.

Johnston, who hitherto was reluctant (Continued on page 3)

Sees Restrictions Lasting 4 to 5 Years

The Australian News Bureau, official Australian government information agency here, declared yesterday that latest advices from overseas indicate that the dollar situation is further deteriorating, quoting that country’s Prime Minister Joseph C. Chifley as follows:

The situation is becoming so serious that dollar restrictions will be necessary for at least four or five (Continued on page 3)

Yates Appeals For Material Economy

Hollywood, March 8.—Predicting that the next six months shall be the crisis period in the industry, and that if the industry can survive it will be rewarded by a much better future, Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, climax a series of studio meetings here by addressing the company’s (Continued on page 3)

Dallas Trust
Suit Dismissed
By U. S. Court

Decision from Bench Is
Conspiracy Not Proved

Dallas. March 8.—In a case patterned along the lines of the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust suit in Chicago, Federal Court Judge W. H. Atwell has dismissed the action brought by B. R. McLendon against the eight major distributors and the Kobal and Kowely and Interstate circuits, charging with conspiracy to control first and subsequent runs in Dallas and suburbs.

Judge Atwell, announcing his decision from the bench imme- diately upon conclusion of the trial, held that the evidence pre-

(Continued on page 3)

Allied Units Seek
30-Day Ascap Pacts

While accepting the new Ascap theatre rates which become effective next Monday, Allied States members for the most part will endeavor to obtain music licenses on a month-to-month basis, in lieu of signing new contracts with Ascap, it was learned yesterday. Allied regional units are advising their members to follow this procedure and, in addition, to make the payments “under protest.” Some exhibitors, however, said they would make one-year contracts with Ascap to simplify their accounts and to avoid bother. Allied members have been advised to make no contracts with Ascap for longer than a year, in any event. While exhibitors appear to be skeptical of either legislative or court re-

(Continued on page 7)

TOA Asks Voice
In Public Relations

LOS ANGELES, March 8.—A “posi-
tive, aggressive” program for getting exhibition its rightful share of con-
trol over the motion picture industry’s public relations is being planned and set up during the Theatre Owners of America’s two-day session which opens tomorrow at the Ambassador Hotel here. Ted Gamble, president, declared today.

Pointing out that widespread news-

(Continued on page 7)

Firemen Bill
Debate Today

ALBANY, N. Y., March 8.—The
Fino-Clancy bill, which would author-
ize any city fire commissioner in the
state to assign at least two unifor-
med firemen to every theatrical or theater
performance in the state at fees of
$10 a man for each show, may fail to
pass at this session of the legisla-
ture as a result of a burst of organ-
ized exhibitor opposition which swept
across the state at the weekend. After
a third calendar reading tonight, the
measure was put over until tomor-
row’s Assembly and Senate meeting.

Orin Judl and Murray Gold attor-
neys for the New York Metropoli-
tan Motion Picture Theatre Associa-
tion, sent here today by various New
York City exhibitor organizations
which had joined forces to fight the
bill, were said to have been assured
in San Francisco in 1937 that and would be tabled in both houses of the legis-

ture pending consideration of an
amendment which would remove what
was described as the prospect of fin-

(Continued on page 3)

“I Remember Mama”

[RKO Radio]—A Motion Picture with a Heart of Gold

All that you have read and heard about this picture is understatement.

It is everything its sponsors have said it is and a great deal more. It is a picture to set house records of both kinds—the dollar kind and the audience satisfaction kind—in the biggest theatres and the littlest theatres in all the cities and towns and villages. And it is not especially necessary that its sponsors or its exhibitors succeed in fabricating advertising copy eloquent enough to describe its merits, because everybody in the world is going to find out about them before the first print sent through a first-run projector is cool in the can.

Your reporter is no more competent to tell you how good this pic-
ture is than the others who have tried to do so, and therefore shall not try. He will mention that it is a simple story about a small family living in New York City, that it is made up of small and many more

(Continued on page 6)

Local News: "I Remember Mama"
Personal Mention

JULES LEVEY, producer, will sail from New York on the SS Amsterdam on March 16 for Europe.

Ed Gregor, of the Altec Lansing sales staff in Hollywood, has been elected to the board of directors of the West Coast Electronic Manufacturers Association. He has also been elected secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles council of the organization.

THOMAS R. KUPPERMAN of the Warner legal department here, has been appointed by Justice to Justice Peck, presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Department.

FRANK C. WALKER, Comerford Theatres executive and wartime Postmaster General, has been awarded the Lacteau Medal for 1948 by the University of Notre Dame.

R. C. (Rudy) Kueker, assistant manager of National Theatre Supply’s projection equipment department, has rejoined the New York office of the department as assistant to J. E. Cukier.

JOSEPH I. BREEN, Production Code Administrator, has returned his post in Hollywood after a three-month vacation.

GEORGE STEVENS, producer-director, and HARRIET PARSONS, producer, were here from the West Coast for a business meeting in conjunction with TESMA.

Blumstock Conducts Two-Day WB Merchandising Meet Here

Mort Blumstock’s Warners’ vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, discussed merchandising plans on the company’s “To the Vic” at a home office meeting with theatre zone advertising managers yesterday. Blumstock also presented the department’s plans for presenting the new Swedish star, Miss Lindstrom, who makes her American film debut in motion picture “The Woman in White” and “Silver River.” The managers will return to their respective territories tomorrow.

Edward Shafton Resigns as Goldberg’s General Manager

OMAHA, March 8.—Edward Shaf- ton has resigned as general manager and continued for R. D. Goldberg Theatres. He will return to private law practice.

Kenny, formerly with radio station KOAD, has joined the Goldberg staff as assistant in public relations and advertising.

Pollak, Formerly of RKO, to WPIX

James S. Pollak, former Hollywood film executive, has joined WPIX, The Daily News television station, here, as assistant manager and assistant program director, in establishing a feature film department. Before entering the Army, in 1943, he was an RKO Radio producer-director in Hollywood.

$27,153 to ‘Dimes’ from Jenkins

ATLANTA, March 8.—William K. Jenkins, Atlanta, president of Georgia Theatres, has turned over to the Georgia chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, a check for $27,153, collected by that circuit’s theatres in the 1948 March of Dimes.

MOT to Revive Czech Film

The Communist coup in Czechoslovakia has caused the March of Time Forum Edition to cancel all foreign releases on its “Czechoslovakia” footage. The reissue of the reward will be added, and an entirely new treatment will be made. Tentative reissue date is now April 17.

News Briefs

TESMA Convention to be Held In St. Louis, Sept. 28-30

CHICAGO, March 8.—Preliminary arrangements have been completed for the 1948 national trade show and meeting of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association, which will be held Sept. 28-30 at the Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis, Robert Boomer, secretary, has announced here. The supply dealers, as has been the custom in the past few years, will meet in St. Louis for a business meeting in conjunction with TESMA.

Skouras, de Rochefort, Delbra To Address Boston University

BOSTON, March 8.—Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox; Louis de Rochefort, producer, and Arthur H. Delbra, director of community service of the Motion Picture Association of America, will com- mence their personal appearance pictures which will feature Boston University’s fifth annual Founders’ Day Institute, March 12-13.

“Great Expectations,” Peck, Russell Win NYU Film Club’s Citations

Annual film awards of the Motion Picture Club of New York University have gone to “Great Expectations” as the best picture, and Gregory Peck and Rosalind Russell as best actor and actress respectively.

“Shoe Shoe” was cited as the best foreign picture. Richard Widmark and Celeste Holm were cited as the most promising actor and actress. Citations also went to Elia Kazan, best direc- tion; Joe Kunitz, best script; “The Fugitive,” best photography. Special awards went to J. Arthur Rank, Charles Brackett and Dudley Nichols and Darryl Zanuck.

$883,000 Theatre for N. Y. Life’s Flushing Project

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The New York Life Insurance Co. told the Office of the Housing Expediter that it could build an $883,000 theatre in its new 3,000-seat housing project in Flushing, N. Y., from the income of the giving it to the N. Y. government $1 to $1.50 per room per month. The theatre was approved by the OHEC on grounds of “community essentiality.” Another project approved was a $100,000 theatre for Honest Enterprises in Nebraska City, Neb.

Heimann Reshuffles Heiber’s Eastern Midwest District

William J. Heimann, Eagle-Lion vice-president in charge of distribution, has set the sales territory under Art Heiber’s Eastern Central district manager, to comprise Chicago, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis.

William Feld has been named Eagle-Lion branch manager in St. Louis, by William J. Heimann, distribution vice-president.

Frenke Opens Store Office Here

Opening of a New York story-publishing office has been announced by Eugene Frenke, publisher of United California Productions, currently production publisher, tentatively will be Live a Little,” to be an Eagle-Lion release, starring Hedy Lamarr and Robert Cummings, as the first of a program of four feature films.

The New York branch will be called Discovery, Inc.

Arkansas Owners to Meet

ATLANTA, March 8.—The Arkans-Independent Theatres Owners will hold its meeting May 4-5.

Murrow, 2 Stations Win DuPont Awards

Sixth annual awards of the Alfred I. DuPont Radio Foundation were presented to Edward R. Murrow and radio stations WPIJ and WBMM, Chicago, at ceremonies at the St. Regis Hotel here last night.

Murrow, news analyst for Colum- bian Broadcasting, received the com- mentator’s award. He also won the “Best New Commentator” classification of the 12th annual radio poll conducted by Motion Picture Network for Radio, last December.

Mark Woods, president of American Broadcasting, president last night, and the presentations were made Dr. Francis P. Gaines, president of Wash- ington University and chairman of the members of the awards committee. Among those on the awards committee with Dr. Gaines are M. H. Ayresworth and William H. Goodman.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL—Rockefeller Center

RONALD COLMAN
“A DOUBLE LIFE”

A RKO Production

A Universal-International Release

Stuttgart State Presentation

BING CROSBY BOB HOPE
DOLORES LAMOUR
ROAD TO RIO

THE ANDREWS SISTERS

EDDIE CANTOR JOAN DAVIS
“IF YOU KNEW SUSIE”

P. J. QUIGLEY

WALTER B. McRAE

LORD AND TAYLOR

THE JAY PEACOCK BAND

ALWAYS A spectacle of grandeur!

“IT'S A VERY FUNNY PICTURE”—Ed SULLIVAN, host

CARY LORETTA DAVID GRANT - YOUNG NIVEN

“The Bishop’s Wife”

ASTOR THEATRE

“O…Y…A…”

“THE WINGED LION”

“THEBAPOLIS”

“REIGN OF CHARIOTS”

“BELLE OF THE NATION”

“THE MIGHTY CAESAR”

“THE HOUSE OF LEúY”

NEW YORK TIMES
Link Higher Rentals, Shorter Clearances

MINNEAPOLIS, March 8.—High pressure from opponents to the plan may well force an eventual clearance for Twin Cities deluxe neighborhood stands.

That seems likely if a "thick" demand in major distributors a month ago, when the Frank and Woempeener circuited over a 21-day clearance demand (April 27th), the Minneapolis, and West Twins, St. Paul, now seem like "a hot potato" in the hands of the independent exhibitors as they see mounting film rentals in any shortened clearance.

It is learned that local managers for major companies receiving the Frank and Woempeener demand recommend that clearance be lowered if the benefiting houses are willing to pay increased film rentals in proportion to the advancement of clearance. This information indicated was related to the independent exhibitors resulting in a majority siding against disturbing present clearance arrangements in the cities.

The companies receiving the F. and W. clearance demand have made no reply, but MGM is understood to have made it known that a plan has been under consideration to lower deluxe stand clearances from 42 days to 30, with a corresponding increase in rental terms.

Heart Attack Kills Ekerman in Brazil

A heart attack on Friday brought forth to the Rio Film Council for Quigley Publications in Brazil and reputedly that country's leading theatrical supply dealer, according to wording received here yesterday from Sao Paulo.

Ekerman also represented National Theatre Supply in Brazil. He held various Columbia Pictures posts in Latin America from 1935 to 1945. When he left the company, he was manager of the Sao Paulo office.

Surviving are the widow, Rosa, and a son, Raoul.

John Benas, Booker For Skouras Circuit

John M. Benas, well known in Metropolitan New York film circles as film Booker for Skouras Theatres, died here on Sunday. The remains are repatriated to the Frank C. Ellam 81st Street Funeral Church, from where the funeral service will be held on Wednesday afternoon at 3:45 at East 44th Street Greek Cathedral.

Surviving are the widow, Cortnie Stephenidis and two daughters, Virginia P. Constantine and Flora Wanda.

John M. Benas

Died

on March 7, 1948, beloved husband of Constance, daughter of Virginia P. Constantine and Flora Wanda Benas, son of Virginia Benas and the late John Benas, survived by his widow, Mrs. Flora J. Stephenidis. Reposing at Frank C. Ellam's The Funeral Chapel, 715 East 44th Street and 1st St. Services at Greek Cathedral. 3:45 at 4:30 P.M.

FBI Returns 'Red' Card, Unanalyzed

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The Federal Bureau of Investigation has in- between ongoing a new sub- stance, which has been conducting an investigation of the Coast jurisdictional dispute, that the Communist Party headquarters is located in New York, and is allegedly belonged to Herbert K. Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, cannot be as will be for some years. The FBI returned the card to the House unit.

In return to the witness stand tomorrow when the Congressional subcommittee's probe will be resumed.

463 Players Under Contract, Down 279

Hollywood, March 8.—Screen Actors Guild spokesman Jacko, Jr. released the results of an official check on SAG membership, showing 463 players under studio contract at the end of 1947. A year ago, Dales added "unquestionably there has been a still greater de- crease in the employment of free-lance players.

Yates Appeals

(Continued from page 1)

contract producers and directors.

Yates urged them to study and follow the methods of the mechanical operating department of the Republic, which during the past year, have elimi- nated "thousands of dollars of expense without impairing efficiency or quality.

Yates pointed out that "development work which all are have cause the business to become a virtual domestic enterprise. Producers, directors and creators must deliver pictures within the parameters of today's market and not the boom period of the past seven years."

Sees Restrictions

(Continued from page 1)

years. Even with the help of the Marshall Plan, Britain will have a long fight to overcome her financial crisis. It is up to Australia to do everything possible to help Britain, even to the extent of imposing greater restrictions on imports from the dollar countries if necessary. Dollar expenditure will have to be limited to a mini- mum in Australia for a long time.

Services Today for David Rosengarten

MIAMI BEACH, March 8.—David Rosengarten, 65, of New York, former chairman of the New York Film Institute, died here last Friday. He had been in film distribution in New York for more than 25 years. Rosengarten was born in Germany and was brought to New York when he was two. He had been New York manager of Fox Film and of Metro- Goldwyn-Mayer, and his death was attributed to heart disease. The widow, Mrs. Anna Rosengarten; two sons, Alan and Paul; two granddaughters and two grandsons; and a brother, Clara Neusteter and Mrs. Hannah Koenig, and a grandson survive.

Funeral services will be held here today at Riverside Memorial Chapel. Interment will be at Mt. Hebron, Long Island.

200 Export Licenses To Films in 1st Week

Washington, March 8.—Some 200 general consolidated licenses were granted to film companies during the first week of the Government's new export licensing policy, according to Natan Golden, chief of the Department of Commerce's motion picture and photographic section. The license cover shipments to Europe through June. Everyone is satisfied with the way the system is operating, Gold- en said.

U.K. Talks

(Continued from page 1)

ant to definitely accept an invitation to attend the annual meeting and presented to the settlement.

BOT Head to Speak

Another CEA party speaker will be Hamiltonian but informal personalities. He went to Oxford accompanied by Nicholas Davenport, an economist of standing here, who also is Sir Alex- ander Korda's chief adviser. He met with leading educational figures, including Lionel Curtis, an authority on Commonwealth affairs, and a friend of Dulles.

Johnston also conferred with Sir Oliver, the British Academy's Artistic Director, designate to the United States. Later he had a long talk with Lord Vansitt- tart, the Home Office chief and a leading unofficial authority on foreign affairs, at the latter's home in Denham.

Today's Session 'Cruicial'

It is generally conceded that tomorrow's talks will be crucial. Both British and American quarters almost fearfully express the hope that the difficult attitude of the Cabinet sec- retary is not the result of a wreck settlement.

It has been ascertained that the report of the negotiators' committee was not the latest, showing clear way out of the impasse. Also, Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin's de- termined stand for a settlement con- tributes to the extreme pressure being brought to bear on the negotiations.

Likewise, the critical effect of the film situation and the importance here is underlining the confidence of private investors to the point at which it has been believed that a court or not a settlement is reached, there is no hope for independent pro- duction except through state financing.

Wm. Selwyn to Goldwyn

Hollywood, March 8.—Samuel Goldwyn has engaged William Sel- wyn as executive talent director.

Dallas Suit

(Continued from page 1)

sented by the McLendon interests, doing business as Tri- State Theatres, had failed to show evidence of conspiracy to prevent the plaintiffs from obtaining product for exhibition on terms which would permit the plaintiffs to continue to operate. But, Judge and Robb and Rowley. He ruled the McLendons were not entitled to an injunction and ordered Robb in favor of all defendants.

Suing for treble damages of $2,000, 600, the plaintiffs claimed that unreasonable clearance by independ- ent circuit's theatres had resulted in a loss of $100,000 profits for each of their two houses involved in this action, the Casa Linda and the Beverly Hills, both in Dallas, and had forced them to dispose of the latter property at a price $200,000 below its full worth. The suit was filed on Sept. 17, 1947.

Fact-Finding, Judgment Due

No written decision was made by the judge, and the court is to hear special findings of fact and conclusions of law and enter a judgment in the case.

The decision was the reverse of that in the Chicago Jackson Park Theatre action, but it does affect the Dallas suit, and the judge said that if the ruling in the Dallas suit can be used as a precedent bearing on other pending industry-antitrust cases, it is believed.

George Wright of the Dallas law firm of Thompson, Knight, Harris, Wright and Weisbuch, which represents the distributors, Worsham, Worsham and Riley, also of Dallas, represents the plaintiffs. M. M. Redd co-defended Robb and Rowley.

McConnell Prepared Complaint

Thomas C. McConnell of Chicago, who was counsel for the plaintiff in the Jackson Park Theatre case was attorney of record for the McLendons. It was he who prepared the complaint and took depositions in behalf of the plaintiffs. Although Mc- Connell could not appear in court because he was engaged in contempt ci-

chased in the McLendon case, he advised Dick Holt, of the Dallas law firm of Clark, Coon, Holt and Fishman. Holt was of Chicago during the trial. The latter firm is headed by the brother of Attorney General Tom Clark.

McLendons Seen Planning Appeal

CHICAGO, March 8.—Thomas C. Mc- Connell, counsel for the McLendons, said he heard today that while he had not had an opportunity to speak to his clients, he was sure they would appeal the decision of Judge Atwell.

Chicaco Liberty Hearing Extended

CHICAGO, March 8—Hearing on the Liberty Theatre anti-trust suit against the Mann's of Elgin and major distributors and small independent companies has been extended to March 15 in U. S. District Court.

"Dolphin" in Chicago Subsequences

CHICAGO, March 8—Green Dolphin Theatre anti-trust suit against the Mann's of Elgin and major distributors. March 12 in 10 outlying theatres for its first sub-sequent run showing here. It is the only film of "The Mansions," the first M-G-M picture sold to the Chi- cago neighborhoods since the Jackson Park decree.
The Boxoffice Bells Are Ringing

WORLD PREMIERE
AT THE LONG-RUN
RIVOLI THEATRE

Produced by JESSE L. LASKY and WALTER MacEWEN • Directed
JESSE L. LASKY PRODUCTIONS, Inc.
presents
RUSSELL JANNEY'S

THE MIRACLE OF THE BELLS

Starring
FRED MacMURRAY VALLi SINATRA

with LEE J. COBB · HAROLD VERMILYEA

VING PICHÉL · Screen Play by BEN HECHT and QUENTIN REYNOLDS

Released through RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
New York Grosses (Continued from page 1)

Winter Garden, where $25,000 is seen for a first week. Third week of "Road to Rio," and band on stage, is good, with $90,000 expected. "Relentless" got off to a fair start at Criterion, and its first week is expected to wind up with $30,000.

The two Warner houses, the Strand and the Astor, are running 13th week bills this week. "The Fighting 69th" will replace "My Girl Tisa" on the Strand, and the Astor, where "Valerie," the 22-23 final week bill, finished, is expected to bring a fairly satisfactory $42,000. "Miracle Can Happen" on the Warner is losing money, and "Still the Same" heads the Criterion for the 14th week.

Monday’s rain took the edge off business at the Astor, where the 13th week of "The Bishop’s Wife" is expected to bring $22,000, and at the Criterion where the $11th week of "Body and Soul" is expected to bring $14,000.

Business is very mild for the following: "If You Knew Susie", Palace, third week, $14,000; "The Pearl", loosing money; "To the Ends of the Earth", Rivoli, fourth week, $25,000.

"End of the Ram" will last only nine days at Loew’s State where that period is expected to result in a total of $24,000; "The Making of Millie" will over take on Friday, "Furta" continues good at the Rialto where a seventh week week looks like $7,500.

N.Y. Firemen Bill (Continued from page 1)

executive committee of the MMPTA, has informed the bill’s sponsors and legislative leaders that theatres running five motion picture shows a day would have to pay two firemen $10 each for each show, or a total of $30,- 500 a year under the bill, which is more than the cost of all these small houses. In the case of theatres seating 5,000 or more, Doeb said, the bill requires that they sign as many firemen as they desire, but the total rate must not exceed $100 a week, for one pointout ed out that it would be possible in such cases for a theatre giving five shows daily to have to pay $7,500 per week.

The proposed amendment would call for elimination from the bill of the word “shows.” Under the bill the fee paid by the theatres would go into local firemen’s pension funds, it is assumed.

Bill Would ‘Bomb’ Theatres Out of Business: ITOA

arguing that theatres are the “safest investment in Hollywood’s assam- bleage,” the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York stated that its members have talked with its president, Harry Branzio, that the Flato-Clancy bill would “do more damage to theatre business than the complete elimination of strategically-placed atomic bombs.” The ITOA organization said it is ‘ridiculous that the theatres are required to pay more than it receives in gross revenue for the performance of an unproductive function.”

Omaha Closes Theatre

OMAHA, March 8—The fire depart ment has shut down the Cass Theatre, at least until repairs are made. Mil- hard and Lawrence Krasne of Council Bluffs own the house.

FASTEST COAST-TO-COAST SERVICE!

Go by TWA Constellation

For quick reservations, see your travel agent or call your local TWA office.

Filmack Opens in New York

Here we are at 215 W. 55th St. Ready to serve you with 100,000 entertainment trailer,

If you haven’t tried Filmack’s quality and rapid service, send up your next order and be agreeably surprised.

“Smart Woman” (Allied Artists)

Hollywood, March 8

THERE is box-office strength in a roster of names like Brian Aherne, Constance Bennett, Barry Sullivan, Michael OShea, James Gleason and John Litel, and this Constance Bennett production, produced by Hal E. Che- rnek of Allied Artists, shows most of it, owing to the success of the pictures that he has turned out as producer and the popularity of his names. Aherne is in his usual good humor and a very satisfactory character, and Aherne is a very agreeable company to work with. The film is not a bad one, and it is likely to do fairly well.

Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

Charles L. Frank

“I Remember Mama” (Continued from page 1)

marring it by retelling the story of the family’s experiences, but will venture the assurance that no one who shares those experiences by sitting in will wish that they were different than they are.

No more listing of the names of the players responsible for the finest group of performances in the motion picture industry is in order than an adequate impression of its aggregate effectiveness. Irene Dunn’s portrayal of the mother is fine beyond description. Oscar Homolka’s delineation of the uncle is an achievement. And so member of the cast—Barbara Bel Geddes, Philip Dorn, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Margaret Utz, Barbara O’Neil, Fromme, Peggie McIntyre, June Hedeen, Steve Brown, Ellen Corby, Hope Landin, Edith Evans, Tommy Ivo—permits the audience to be reminded for even a split second where they are, for they can’t pretend they are not there.

To executive producer and director George Stevens, whose insistence upon getting it right consumed 120 days of shooting time at a period in production history when 60 is considered long, must go top credit for the picture’s superlative craftsmanship, in entertainment, public favor and universality of commercial usefulness. But there is more than a single glory to be bestowed upon the picture was not available in time for consideration in the 1949 Academy Awards competition, but figures to monoprise the 1949 Oscars) and more than enough for producer Harriet Parsons, screen playwright DeWitt Bodeen, who based it on the play by John Van Druten and the novel by Kathryn Forbes, and for cinematographer Nicholas Musuraca, music director C. Bakaleinikoff and the production staff down to the last man.

“My Name is Mama” is a picture for everybody, everywhere. It is a picture for an exhibitor to underwrite to his customers over his personal signature. (Bank money—double-your-money-back) guarantee. And the customer who asks for a refund—if such there be anywhere—is somewhere—he must be regarded with suspicion.

Running time, 137 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

William R. Weaver
Nine Sales Meetings Are Set by M-G-M

Hollywood, March 8.—Following week-long sales conferences at the M-G-M studio, with new product and policy discussions led by Louis B. Mayer, E. J. Mannix and William F. Rodgers, nine divisional sales meetings have been scheduled in the field, two to be held on Thursday, five on Friday and the remaining two on Saturday.

Albany, Buffalo and Boston sales forces will meet on Thursday at the De Witt Clinton in Albany, with Herman Rings presiding, and the Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Omaha and Des Moines groups will gather on the same day at the Ambassador East in Chicago, with Burtis Bishop, Jr., and Ralph Maw presiding.

On Friday, the St. Louis, Kansas City and Indianapolis delegations will meet at the Coronado, St. Louis, with Frank Hensler presiding; New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and New Haven branches will meet on that day at the Hotel Astor, New York, with John Byrne presiding; Dallas, New Orleans, Oklahoma City and Memphis groups will also meet on Friday, at the Hotel Adolphus, Dallas, with John Allen presiding; Atlanta, Charlotte and Washington likewise meet Friday, at the Statler, Washington, with Rudolph Berger presiding, and the Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Detroit delegations will also meet, at the William Penn, Pittsburgh, with John J. Maloney presiding.

On Saturday, Portland, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles will meet at the St. Francis, San Francisco, with George Hickey presiding, and Denver and Salt Lake will meet at the Brown Palace in Denver, with Sam Gardner presiding.

M-G-M Contingent Due in New York from Hollywood

Chicago, March 8.—An M-G-M sales contingent which passed through Chicago today en route to New York included: J. J. Maloney, Southern division sales manager; J. B. Byrne, Eastern division sales manager; J. J. Maloney, junior division sales manager, and Eddie Aaron, assistant to William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president. The group was on the Coast to view forthcoming product. Rodgers is remaining there for another two weeks.

Western Pa. Allied to Mark Time on MPF

Pittsburgh, March 8.—The Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania has voted to hold in abeyance any decision supporting the Motion Picture Foundation.

The association also has decided to support the Teecis bill and has sent a letter to Jack Kirsch of Chicago, former president of national Allied, for his work on behalf of the organization.

Allied Units

(Continued from page 1)

Exhibitors Can See ASCAP: Frohlich

The argument that exhibitors enjoy the freedom to go to Ascap and make a deal with the society was presented in Federal Court here yesterday by Louis Frohlich, counsel for the defendant, in the trust action brought by Alden-Rochelle, Inc., and 160 other members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York.

Herman Starr, vice-president of Warner Brothers; Herman Greenberg, Ascap executive, and Louis Bernstein of the musical publishing firm of Shapiro, Bernstein and Co., testified on technical operations of the society.

TOA Asks Voice

(Continued from page 1)

paper and radio reports, tending to indicate that American films are being cheapened due to the loss of the British market, have begun to exert a depression influence on the box office, Gamble said that exhibitors, "by neglect or default," have too long allowed "other branches" to handle the industry's public relations despite the fact that exhibitors are the first and severest sufferers from unfavorable statements emanating "from Hollywood."

Directors to Map Plan

He declined to outline definite plans in this connection until TOA directors meet on the subject.

TOA's activities on admission tax reduction will be vigorously pressed, the TOA head said, but the present feeling is that "we are boxed in by the fact that this is an election year, and we may get an election-year decision, instead of a practical overhaul of excise and income tax methods which is properly due. We might do better next month."

Legislation, censorship, 16mm, films, membership drive, audience expansion and a Governmental proposal to be presented by Attorney General Tom C. Clark on Wednesday are among other items on the agenda. The new theatre music license rates offered by Ascap will also assume an important role among the discussions.

Will Also Discuss Video

Of television, which will also figure in TOA discussions, Gamble observed that the medium may develop in several directions and not necessarily remain under the control of radio. Television may even take a course which would give theatre owners their own television channels, he said, adding that final conclusions in video are impossible at the present TOA session.

Another Bill Seeks Cut in Ticket Tax

Washington, March 8.—Another bill to cut the admission tax to the pre-war rate of 10 per cent was introduced in the House today by Rep. Landis. The House Ways and Means Committee is now preparing a new tax revision bill, but a cut in the admission levy is regarded as unlikely.

2 Hours for 'Miracle'

RKO Radio said yesterday it was in error in giving the running time of "The Miracle of the Bells" as 120 minutes when the picture was trade-shown here last week. Correct running time, the company said, is 120 minutes.

(Film Daily said it first—about Paramount's new hit)
Every Exhibitor KNOWS...that TRAILERS are your Best Buy in ADVERTISING!*

* Woman's Home Companion PROVED that TRAILERS draw 31% of your Patrons... in authoritative 1947 Survey of Motion Picture Preferences!
Para. Films Without Clearance in ‘Loop’

Chicago, March 9—Pending a decision by Federal Judge Michael L. Fise on applications for contempt citations for alleged violations of the Jackson Park Theatre decree, Paramount has offered “I Walk Alone” and "Albuquerque" for immediate booking following their current Loop runs, with no clearance prevailing on either film.

The company still is undecided on (Continued on page 7)

TOA Board Accepts Bid by Clark on Delinquency Drive

LOS ANGELES, March 9.—Attorney General Tom C. Clark, in an address today at the opening session of the Theatre Owners of America board of directors meeting, called for exhibitor cooperation in activity designed to curb juvenile delinquency. The bid, he said, is the outgrowth of a suggestion made by President Truman.

TOA directors welcomed the invitation and guaranteed cooperation of exhibitors in the anti-juvenile drive. Herman Levy, TOA general counsel, asked for authorization at today's meeting to apply to the New York Federal Court to modify its decree in the industry anti-trust suit, regarding the company not being on the list of defendants.

Act to End Curb on Building by April 1

WASHINGTON, March 9.—The House Banking and Currency Committee today concluded to end the Government's power to limit theatre and other entertainment industry construction at the end of this month. The committee voted to eliminate the rent control bill, which was passed by the Senate last month, and a provision continuing the limitation power through April, 1949.

If the committee sticks by today's decision during the rest of its deliberations on the rent control bill, and if the House ratifies its action—both of which events are considered likely—(Continued on page 6)

Technicolor Netted $1,422,752 in 1947

A record net of $1,422,752 was made by Technicolor last year. Herbert T. Kalmus, president and general manager, disclosed the company's annual report, released yesterday. Net before deductions for taxes and other obligations amounted to $2,492,049. Last year's net compared with 1945's $436,168.

Last year, dividends per share of (Continued on page 6)

Report 50% Asked For ‘Miracle,’ Mama

RKO Radio is asking for a 50-50 split from the first dollar for both "Miracle of the Bells" and "I Remember Mama," circuit operators said yesterday. Increased admission scales are not being sought, it was said.

Text Peace Delayed; Talks Resume Today

London, March 9.—Settlement of the British film tax problem which it had been hoped might be achieved today was delayed for at least another 24 hours.

Both pre-luncheon and after luncheon talks between Sir John Thomson, Motion Picture Association of America president, and Harold Wilson, Prime Minister, proved inconclusive today, and the talks were adjourned at 6:30 P.M. until 2:30 Wednesday afternoon. The patient, intensive searching for a settlement formula is continuing among principals and within the committee of film experts.

New UK Unit Backs Production Rise

LONDON, March 9.—The recently-constituted Joint Production Advisory Committee for U.K. production has held its first meeting, and turned immediately to expanding domestic film output.

This committee—not to be confused with the National Joint Film Production Council being set up by president of the Board of Trade, Harold Wilson, has been conceded by the British Film Producers Association following pressure from trade unions for a greater share in management control.

It is comprised of seven producers and five trade-unionists, with Sir Henry Farnell, director-general of the BPCA in the chair.

At one of the first meetings was a general character and it was (Continued on page 10)

Johnston ‘Triumph’ Marks CEA Affair

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, has scored an immense triumph here tonight at the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association annual meeting and party, setting off the cold reception accorded Board of Trade President Harold Wilson who carefully eschewed disclosing details of proposals for settlement of the 75 per cent duties tax impasse.

When Johnston rose to address the CEA gathering, he was greeted with prolonged cheers, regarded as expressing the desire of the British ex—(Continued on page 10)

Amend Firemen Bill; Adoption Doubted

ALBANY, N. Y., March 9—Objections to the amended form of the Fino-Clancy firemen-in-theatres bill by representatives of theatres, both motion picture and legitimate, and the firemen who were united in the passage of the bill were expressed at the Senate today. A committee of five firemen was appointed to study the matter and report next week.

‘Arch’ Into Globe for Broadway Showing

"Arch of Triumph" will open on Broadway at the Globe Theatre at a date still to be determined. Policy for the Enterprise picture will be continuous performances at $1.50 top.

"Body and Soul," currently at the Plaza Cinema, is due to give way to Eagle-Lion’s "Adventures of Casanova" on March 20. "Arch" will open as the conclusion of the "Casanova" run.

Myers Hints at Ascap Suits

Cites High Court Rulings on Electric, Gypsum Cases

WASHINGTON, March 9—Abraham Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, today issued a thinly-veiled warning of new Allied trouble damage again the Supreme Court, which he called as "a blow to the music trust." If Ascap is held guilty of Sherman Act violations as a result of some of these two decisions, he warned, persons negotiating with Ascap will be just as guilty.

"Ludicrously these decisions will give rise to new law suits," Myers said, "and among the defendants to such actions may be some new and very red faces."

The decisions, in cases involving (Continued on page 10)

Slush Fund Money

To Walsh: Sorrell

WASHINGTON, March 9—Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, charged today that Richard F. Walsh, LATSE president, received yearly payments from LATSE's two per cent fund from 1935 until 1940.

Sorrell detailed the two per cent fund as a levy which all LATSE members paid in addition to their dues and which went to George Browne, former LATSE president, "and no questions asked." Walsh "was one of the family then," Sorrell told a House Labor (Continued on page 7)

Upholds Regional Verdict Against CSU Allegations

A ruling that major film companies were not guilty of unfair labor practice in their dealings with the IATSE during the period which preceded the long-standing studio strike has been made by Robert N. Denham, general counsel for the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C. as disclosed here yesterday by the "IA."

During the course of the current House Labor sub-committee hearings on the Hollywood jurisdictional strikes, Rep. Carroll D. Kearsan, chairman of the sub-committee, indicated that he intended to call a witness of the fact that the present Coast dispute was the result of a conspiracy between film company and LAB officials. Industry representatives, including Motion Picture Association of America president (Continued on page 7)
Personal

DISTRIBUTORS and law-
yers are positively high-
over dismissal of the Mc-
Lendon anti-trust suit in Dallas late last
Saturday, right after the bench
and immediately after con-
clusion of trial. This was the
action aimed at the eight majors,
plus the Interstate and Robb and
Rowley United circuits, charg-
ing a conspiracy to control first
and subsequent runs in Dallas and
enrons.

The popular impression is
that immediately after the
semblance to the Jackson Park
case in Chicago, which was one
of the distributors lost and over
which all of them have been los-
ing sleep.

The Dallas victory has sig-
ificance, of course. But it is in-
teresting to boot because this
anti-trust action was the second,
not the first controversy be-
 tween the McLendons and the
distributors. Last July, all
eight companies asked the right
to inspect the books of this cir-
cuit of 19 houses in Dallas,
and the rest in Texas, Okla-
ahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas.
What distributors said they
were after was verification of
receipt of percentages lately.
The exhibitor resisted and, and
while this point remained unres-
solved, the McLendons filed
their now-defeated anti-trust
suit in September.

Where the lines end or begin
to cross is not entirely in the
clear, and it could be merely
coincidence. But it is further
interesting to note that each of
the distributors involved in the
anti-trust action had charged
separate answers charging the
exhibitor had come into court
under a cloud by reason of eight
different suits. But, note that
the exhibitor’s report on
percentage returns were not be-
yond challenge as applied to his
Casa Linda and Beverly Hills
theatres in Dallas respectively.

Experienced lawyers are of
the opinion that this is the first
anti-trust litigation to reach ac-
tual trial where the distributor’s
action had been composed as one
of their defenses.

It is historically new, that
deal whereby Selznick Interna-
tional almost bought RK0. Jock
Whitney was to be board chair-
man and David O. Selznick
production works. “It was agreed.”

Selznick was reminding, “but
at what was supposed to be the
final get-together, I noticed
Floyd Odlum was not comfor-
table. Of course, the deal never
developed and it has been
12 years before I again saw Odl-
um. He asked if I recalled our
last meeting and if I had noted
anything peculiar in his attitude.
I said I had, whereupon Odlum
replied, ‘I didn’t want to go
through because of ‘Got With
the Wind.’ That shows how much
I knew about the film business.’”

On titles and another Selz-
nick yarn. His sales force at-
tributes much of the success of
“Body and Soul” to its title.
“I forgot I suggested it for
“The Paradise Case” and that
they turned me down, he de-
crated.

Bill Rodgers on the state of the
 celluloid union from Metro’s
capital at Culver City: “The ind-
ustry needs outstanding product now.
It is imperative every effort be made
to attract at least a good per-
cent of the more than 50,
000,000 Americans who do not
regularly go to theatres.

We believe there is such a pro-
duct...we are going to ask the
exhibitors of the nation for
their fullest cooperation in giv-
ing these new productions the
kind of support and important
presentation they deserve.

Since Leo does his roaring
silently these days, the question
is what kind of support will
Metro be giving the exhibitor?”

Eric Johnston was hardly
keen about Jim Mulvey’s pres-
eence on that plane which finally
came out of Britain on May 18
after British transit discussions.
Johnston is mainland for the
MPAA, while Mulvey’s responsi-
 bility is to the SIMPP. The
approaches are not necessarily identical
in all respects.

Before the plane left La
Guardia, however, there was an
unnamed Continental president.
Sam Goldwyn burned telephone
tones, distance and Johnston
Mulvey was included in.

Like the Romans, there may
be no need to beware the Idees
of March. You might watch for them,
however. Something big may break by next Monday.

$200,000 Voted for
Thomas Committee

Washington, March 9—After a
bitter debate, the House today voted
337 to 37, to grant the Un-American
Activities Committee $300,000 to con-
tinue in operation for the balance of the
year. The appropriation, from
House funds, does not require Senate
approval.

No mention of the Hollywood
hearings and investigations was made
during the debate, which centered
around Commission Chairman E. J. C. Arnold,
Chairman of the Reorganized
Bureau of Standards head Dr. E.
V. Condon. The small, vocal minor-
ity said that the committee was using its
funds for political purposes and
dealine-grabbing rather than con-
structive work.

The appropriation, a record for the
c committee, is more than double last year’s.

I. Mandell In Auto Crash

Miami, March 9—Irving Mandell,
motion picture exhibitor in Chicago,
go, sustained four broken ribs when, in
trying to avoid another car, he
struck into a tree here after return-
ning from fishing trip. Also injured
were his two brothers, Lee Mandell
and Dr. Robert Mandell, who were
in the car.
History was made at Loew's Yonkers Theatre when an SRO Preview audience welcomed the comedy hit that's headed for the box-office headlines! In a scientific survey by the Motion Picture Research Bureau, it registered the highest "will recommend" rating in years. There are few real belly-laugh comedies on the market. The public wants to laugh and here's your chance to give them the funniest film in 10 years!
In the kind of market shaping up ever more rapidly in these post-war days, there is less and less room for wishful thinking and a great deal more for aggressive selling and merchandising.

At 20th Century-Fox there seems to be an alert appreciation of these latter day requirements. But the appreciation without the product can be pretty futile. At 20th-Fox the feeling is anything but that.

—Sherwin Kane

... For Century-Fox has the Product!
Gentleman's Agreement

Its record at the boxoffice is matched only by its record acclaim!

Captain From Castile

TECHNICOLOR

2nd Consecutive month a Motion Picture Herald Boxoffice Champion!

You Were Meant For Me

The musical that's meant for audiences and showmen everywhere!

Call Northside 777

"Smash! Leading the field!" reports Variety as it outgrosses the biggest of 20th's outstanding "true" dramas!

Sitting Pretty

Setting records for laughs and ticket-selling in New York—Miami—Boston!

Scudda-Hoo! Scudda-Hay!

TECHNICOLOR

Matching the pace of "My Friend Flicka," "Smoky" and "Home In Indiana" in 6-state, 329-Theatre World Premiere!
E-K’s 1947 Income
At $43,199,254

Rochester, N. Y., March 9—With 1947 consolidated net earnings registering $43,199,254, compared with $35,691,318, Eastman Kodak’s production, sales and earnings last year were reported as being “larger than ever before,” Perley S. Wilcox, chairman, and Thomas J. Hargrave, president, disclosed to stockholders. Last year’s net of $43,199,254 was equal to $3.46 a share of common stock, compared with $2.85 in 1946.

Total sales in 1947 reached $351,751,098, while the previous year’s total was $327,051,233 last year.

Cash and securities of the company were reduced by $414,480,880 since the beginning of 1946, the report stated, adding that a considerable amount of cash resources were used to finance increased inventories and additions and improvements to plants and equipment. Cost of additions and improvements, postponed during the war period, amounted to $387,917,233 last year and $441,881,088 in 1946.

“U” Directors Up for Election Today

WILMINGTON, Del., March 9—Stockholders of Universal will convene at the company’s corporate office here tomorrow for their annual meeting and to elect 14 directors.


Technicolor Net
(Continued from page 1)

Net income amounted to $1.00 for a total of $613,497, compared with 20 cents in the previous year, when the total was $454,978. Net earnings per share were equal to 31 cents, which in 1946 they were equal to only 48 cents.

Output of Technicolor, 35mm, remained at a rather low rate during the year, with approximately 165,000 279 feet in 1946, the report states, adding that the company’s capacity has been sold out for 1948.

Features filmed in Technicolor during the year numbered 30. The report lists 48 films in production, preparation, or under contract to be photographed this year. Six were photographed in Technicolor for English-speaking British affiliate, Technicolor, Ltd., which is now filming, preparing, or has under contract nine features for 1948.

The report states that Technicolor net sales in 1947 were $17,077,557, whereas in 1946 they amounted to $13,057,510.

As of Dec. 31 last, Technicolor’s current assets were $9,123,002 and current liabilities were $4,024,646. Cash balance and government obligations totaled $7,636,850.

Kalmus said that Technicolor probably will reach a volume of approximately $15,000,000 in the next six months, based on contracts and active prints by the end of 1948 or early 1949. “About September, 1949,” Kalmus explained, “we can anticipate the receipt of new Technicolor three-strip cameras currently being built.

The following directors of the corporation were re-elected:


Goodman Leaves E-L; Sales Setup Revised

Del Goodman, Eagle-Lion’s West Coast division manager, has resigned, effective immediately, William J. Heine, president of the company, reported here Saturday that the West Coast division manager’s post has been eliminated.

Heineinan said a new post, that of Pacific Coast district manager, will be created shortly. Meanwhile, he added, a new chief of executive sales for the company’s Los Angeles branch, Sam Milner, will be branch manager. C. T. Charack will be sales ager.

Firemen Bill
(Continued from page 1)

to “live-entertainment” shows, would be returned to the legislators’ table for time action before the close of the current session on Saturday.

Hit Measure as ‘Vague’

Statements issued by spokesmen for the New York Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Owners Association, Independent Theatres Owners Association, the legislative committee of the IAITE, Upstate Theatres, Inc., the association of independent exchange owners, New York State’s League of New York Theatres (legitimate) declared that the bill is rigid under the constitution and that any type of entertainment or performance was included in the provisions of the bill. The legislation was loosely drafted and amended, likewise, are vague, the statements said.

Fate of the hotly-contested proposal, which has been altered to apply to “five” shows and limiting charges to $20 daily for two firemen in houses less than 500 seat capacity, is uncertain, although observers believed chances of passage are not too good.

See Delay from Printer

Doubt that the bill, as altered, would return from the printer in time to lay it on legislators’ desks for the required three days was expressed by Senator Paul Fino, while other observers, such as the Uniformed Firemen’s Association, who is chief supporter of the bill, contended that the new copy could be returned in time, and that it would come to a vote this week.

Orrin Judd, MMPTA attorney, and Abraham Mopper of the ITOA, returned to New York late this afternoon. They plan to return Thursday. Leonard Rosenthal of Upstate Theatres and the Albany area Theatre Owners of America will remain here, along with the IAITE committee.

Rites for Chet Bell
On West Coast Today

Los Angeles, March 9—Funeral services for Chester J. Bell, 50, Paramount Pictures’ associate director of publicity, will be held at 3 p.m. tomorrow at the Westwood Memorial Church, 2160 10th Ave., Los Angeles, with internment in Los Angeles.

Bell, who was Paramount’s branch manager in Los Angeles before taking over in Denver, died in a hospital here yesterday following a major operation. He had been with the company for 20 years of service.

Surviving are the widow, parents and a sister.
N.Y. 'Sun' Publishes Television Section

The New York Sun yesterday published a 20-page section devoted to television, the section including articles, advertiseing and art. Among contributors were Paul Raibourn, vice-president in charge of television at Paramount; Dr. Allen B. DuMont, president of DuMont Laboratories; David Sarnoff, president and board chairman of RCA; W. H. Dell, president in charge of engineering operations; J. R. Poppe, president of the Television Association of America; Mark Woods, president of American Broadcasting; Frederick D. Ogilvy, sales manager of the radio division of Philco Corporation; the head of the Federal Communications Commission, and others.

Raibourn wrote that television is "here," at least as far as the mechanics are concerned. He pointed out that many hurdles which still must be overcome "before television becomes an everyday part of the American entertainment scene."

1,048 Theatres Are In Atlanta Area

There are 1,048 theatres with a seating capacity of 639,296 currently in operation in the Atlanta exchange area, according to the Atlanta theatre directory published by the Motion Picture Association of America is releasing today.

In a 29th in a series of 31, the Atlanta directory reveals that in Atlanta and Birmingham, the area's two largest cities, there are 638 houses with 22,242 seats, an average of 272

306' Membership Will Ratify FactTomorrow

A full membership meeting of the Screen Employees Local No. 306, will be held at Palm Gardens here tomorrow to consider the agreement on a new contract which was reached last week between representatives of local affiliated circuits and "306."

The meeting is expected to ratify the agreement and elect a three-man executive board for the local, the resignation of the "306" negotiators will draw up a contract for signing.

'IA' Plot Ruled Out

(Continued from page 1)

Eric A. Johnson, have testified against that contention at the hearings.

Denham's ruling, "IA" reports, related to the refusal of the director of the 21st NLRA to hear the case of Thatcher, who was discharged with the "IA" to break up the CSU.

Confirming a decision handed down last week by the director of the 21st NLRA, in a Conference of Studio Unions on Sept. 30, 1946, that the companies had refused to bargain with the "IA" and had conspired with the "IA" to break up the CSU.

306' Membership Will Ratify FactTomorrow

A full membership meeting of the Screen Employees Local No. 306, will be held at Palm Gardens here tomorrow to consider the agreement on a new contract which was reached last week between representatives of local affiliated circuits and "306."

The meeting is expected to ratify the agreement and elect a three-man executive board for the local, the resignation of the "306" negotiators will draw up a contract for signing.

'IA' Plot Ruled Out

(Continued from page 1)

Eric A. Johnson, have testified against that contention at the hearings.

Denham's ruling, "IA" reports, related to the refusal of the director of the 21st NLRA to hear the case of Thatcher, who was discharged with the "IA" to break up the CSU.

Confirming a decision handed down last week by the director of the 21st NLRA, in a Conference of Studio Unions on Sept. 30, 1946, that the companies had refused to bargain with the "IA" and had conspired with the "IA" to break up the CSU.

Roger's Settles Tilt

Amicable settlement of differences was announced here yesterday by the company, producer of the pictures, "Eyes of Texas," Trucolor, will go into production on March 23.

Plan Restrictions on Theatre Marquees

Cleveland, March 9.—A proposed revision of this city's building code would restrict horizontal advertising over sidewalk marquees to five feet. No restrictions would be contemplated governing marquee advertising where the theatre marquee is set back from the sidewalk.

Ernest Schwartz, president of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association, states that a five-foot ruling would work a hardship on many downtown outdoor advertising, according to Schwartz, is 11 feet.

Para. Drops 2-Reel Shorts for '48-'49

Paramount has dropped its two-reel Technicolor musicals from its 1948-49 short subject program, at the same time it is building the single-reel Packmans and increasing its cartoon releases from 24 to 30.

In announcing the program yesterday, Oscar Morgan, Paramount's shorts sales manager, said that elimination of multiple-reel subjects from the lineup, which will consist of 70 one-reelers, plus Paramount News, had been prompted by the fact that for over a year there has been a definite trend to one-reel subjects, away from longer ones. The program will be made up as follows:

Eight Popeyes, 10 Noveltos, 12 Screen Songs, 12 Packmans, six Speaking of Animals, six Popular Sciences, six Unusual Occurrences and 10 Graniland Rice Spotlights.

Zoning Schedule for Toronto Blackouts

Toronto, March 9.—Because of protests against the interposition of power lines by the CSLTEAWA, the city, in making plans for the Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission has prepared a zoning schedule for three total blackouts, the exception of Saturday and Sunday, so that theatres, stores and industries can time their operations accordingly. The schedule probably will be in force for two months.

Para. Films

(Continued from page 1)

plans for subsequent run showings of "Unconquered," which is scheduled for general release April 9. If Judge Igoe decides the film was roadshowed when it first played here, it could be exhibited again in the Loop at regular admissions before playing neighborhood houses.

Richard Salkin, manager of the Jackson Park Theatre, said other companies have increased the number of showings from the constant threat of local theatres. Thatcher, who was discharged here last Friday, broke the record of the Loop is piling up and there's little we can do except to leave it. We can't pass up any good, new pictures to play product I missed."

MFA to Take Vote on Beacon Award Winner on March 23

A general meeting of the Motion Pictures Associates is scheduled for March 23 in the Piccadilly Hotel here. In an announcement made at an earlier meeting, MPA president Arthur L. Mayer informed former members that it is the vote to be taken for the recipient of the MFA annual "Beacon Award," given for meritorious service to the industry. Awards will be presented at the annual dinner-dance to be held May 21 in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Another matter to come up at the meeting will be a discussion on the executive committee's proposal that women in the industry be admitted to MPA membership.

'IA' Organizing Coast News Agencies' Television Units

Hollywood, March 9.—The local of the National Association of Broadcast News Units will announce its plan to organize the Independent Television News Units. The IATSE's right, representatives technical workers at Du Mont's television station WTTG, Washington.

Indiana Theatre Owners to Hold Annual Meeting July 26-28

Indianapolis, March 9.—The Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana will hold its annual convention and convention of the Independent Theatre Owners Association. The convention will be held at the French Lick Springs Hotel, French Lick, Ind., July 26-28. Plans for a Great Lakes road show are being made by IATSE's right, who represent technical workers at Du Mont's television station WTTG, Washington.

Coast Daylight Time Begins Sunday

Sacramento, Cal, March 9.—With passage by the state Assembly of the Senate-approved bill favored by Governor Earle Warren, daylight saving time will go into effect in California Sunday morning. The measure, intended to relieve the power shortage caused by a drought, will remain in effect until Jan. 10, unless the Governor declares the emergency ended prior to that date.

Daylight saving is expected to reduce theatre grosses 10 per cent or more.

Buchanan on Bischoff Picture

Buchanan and Co., advertising agency here, has been retained by Samuel Buchanan, whose activities "American Street Journal" is a national newspaper, radio and magazine campaigns for its forthcoming United Artists release, "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven."
A HEARTY WELCOME TO J. ARTHUR RANK

Concurrently with Mr. Rank’s visit to our shores at this time, is the good news that has accrued about the J. Arthur Rank Productions since his last visit here.

Such pictures as "GREAT EXPECTATIONS," "STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN" and "ODD MAN OUT" have received unprecedented critical praise in addition to being mentioned on important "Ten Best" lists.

Just last week "Life" magazine again pointed out that "GREAT EXPECTATIONS" was one of the fine motion pictures to be exhibited in this country.

Currently, "BLACK NARCISSUS" is not only receiving fine critical acclaim but is being patronized by the American public to a degree that indicates this picture will reach the same stature as "GREAT EXPECTATIONS."

Much good news already heralds the American release of the memorable production of "HAMLET" and last week "Life" magazine devoted much space in publicizing the production of "RED SHOES."

Such Prestige pictures as "I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING" and "BRIEF ENCOUNTER" have already made history with long runs and excellent boxoffice returns.

Soon to be released by Universal-International are "DEAR MURDERER," and "THE WHITE UNICORN" which portend to be up to the fine standard that has been associated with J. Arthur Rank Productions.

It certainly should be gratifying, not only to Mr. Rank, but to the exhibitors of America, that his pictures are making their mark in this country.
Watch for future announcements about J. Arthur Rank Productions to be released by U-I
**Reviews**

"April Showers"  
(Warner Brothers)  
*Hollywood, March 9*  
T HE song hits of 1908 and thereabouts, performed as they were in the vaudeville of that era, which is the setting of this story, may now be said to have about the same appeal for today’s youngsters as today’s oldsters, due to their wholesale revival by radio and dance bands. These numbers—the title song, "Pretty Baby," and others in kind—lay a pleasant veneer over a picture presenting the tribulations of a vaudeville act playing the West Coast and fighting for a Broadway break. Names for the performers are Jack Carson and Ann Sothern, and these proficient troopers, supported by Robert Alda, S. Z. Sakall and a versatile youngsters named Robert Ellis, extract quite a bit of entertainment from the somewhat formulaic production provided by William Jacobs and the casual direction of James V. Kern.

Peter Milne’s screenplay opens with Carson and Miss Sothern, a song-and-dance team which has not revised its material in five years, down on their luck in Los Angeles. Miss Sothern, who has graduated from the Army to November, gets a contract with a Broadway impresario and is permitted to join the act, into which he inflames so much spirit that the act is summoned to New York for a Broadway opening which blows up, a law prohibiting theatrical performances by child actors. Carson gets drunk and misses a performance, after which the act gets no more bookings until he persuades his wife to accept Alda as a partner in his stead. To accomplish this he feigns a wish to break up their marriage, and things go on like that until the formalistic ending in which he returns to the stage in a blaze of glory. It is hardly a picture to date eras from, but the popularity of the nostalgic type of subject which it represents pre-supposes a certain amount of affection for that period of the stage.

Running time, 92 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

W. R. W.

"Oklahoma Badlands"  
(Republic)  
C USTOMARY clichés which usually identify “standard” Westerns are used aplenty in “Oklahoma Badlands,” an Allan (Roky) Lane starer, starring Howard V. Koch, directed by Gene Marshall, and released by Republic, with nothing unusual in Bob Williams’ screenplay, which has hero Lane pitched against villainous rustlers, with the cattle herd of a pretty rancher, and Miss Paroles, representing the stake around which all the shooting, fistfights and general revolting excitement which should be well received by youngsters and others for whom cowboy fare is the ace in film entertainment.

When the rustlers shot down young Jay Kirby they believed they had finally succeeded in finishing off the Rawlins family, but they didn’t count on one Leslie Rawlins, a distant cousin. Lane leads the desperadoes, headed by gen- eral promoter Gene Marshall, and also is engaged in a love affair with Leslie’s cousin, Miss Missy Paroles. Of course, the gang is no match for straight-shooting, hard-riding Lane. Others in the cast are Eddy Waller, Roy Barcroft, Earl Hodges, Dale Van Sickel and Claire Whitney.


*Charles L. Franke*

**Publishers Testify on Ascap’s Music Rights**

Evidence purporting to show that performing rights to music are all vested in Ascap and that no competition exists in trying to obtain these rights is to be presented today at the trial of the Independent Theatre Owners Association members’ New York trust action against the society.

The testimony was brought out in U. S. District Court here by Milton C. Weisman, counsel for the ITOA, during questioning of publisher members of Ascap who are on the society’s board of directors.

**M-G-M Advances Susse**

ALBANY, N. Y., March 9—M-G-M’s office manager here, Edward Susse, has been promoted to Buffalo sales manager effective May 1. The move was advocated by fellow workers on Friday night. The post of office manager will be filled by Thomas Knapp, who will also continue as head booker.

**Asks Aid for Curfew**

OMAHA, March 9—City Welfare Director John Knapp called on theatres here to schedule pictures so that children under 16 can get home for the 10 p.m. curfew.

**New UK Group**

decided that statistics should be obtained as soon as possible on the recent output of films and labor forces engaged in individual studios at the present time, compared with an earlier date. Also to be sought will be information as to the future program of production at each studio.

It was further decided that at the meeting, a committee should be given to proposals put forward by individual members for increasing the efficiency of film studios, as well as the removal of obstacles to maximum production.

Objects and functions as stated in the constitution are:

1. To establish a permanent medium for the regular exchange of views relating to the size and growth of the industry and the general standards of British film production;

2. To consider suggestions from workers for production improvement, and to seek cooperation in bettering the organization and carrying out of production as planned by individual management.

It is emphasized, however, that the committee shall not be a medium for discussing wages, hours and similar trade questions, which are, generally speaking, covered by existing agreements.

It is considered also that the creative aspects of production are outside the scope of the committee’s functions.

*Tax-Free Admission Requirements*  
*Russell, March 9—Authority to increase theatre seat prices, with the dispensation that the increases be excluded from the entertainment tax, is being sought of the British Treasury by a deputation of representatives from the Cinematograph Exhibitors’ Alliance, the British Guild of Film Directors, the Motion Picture Projectionists’ Society, and the National Association of Theatrical and Kiné Employees.

The deputation sought that the increase be tax-immune on the grounds that employers’ wages recently were increased 20 per cent. The Treasury promised to consider the matter."

**Johnston ‘Triumph’**

hobitors to have done with the tax. The MPAA head touched on the role of motion pictures in international affairs.

Wilson, even in his tributes to Johnston's "friendliness" and understanding of Britain’s dollar difficulties, failed to evoke the response given to Johnston by the exhibitors. In a somewhat vague and furtive promissage, Wilson declared: "There’s a settlement awaiting."

After the affair, a government official privately reiterated the prediction that the adversarial situation would be reached tomorrow.

**Columbia Signs Young**

*Hollywood, March 9—Columbia has signed Collier Young, formerly with Warners and Goldwyn, as production executive.*
MAGIC SHADOWS
The Story of the Origin of Motion Pictures
By MARTIN QUIGLEY, JR.

... the enjoyable opportunity of following in detail the struggles of savants and quacks, of scientists and rogues, and of the thoughtful and the crackpots who, in one way or another contributed to the march of motion picture progress during its pre-history...

From a review by DR. ALFRED N. GOLDSMITH

QUIGLEY BOOKSHOP
1270 Sixth Avenue
Rockefeller Center
New York 20, New York

Gentlemen:

Send .............. copy[ies] of MAGIC SHADOWS—The Story of the Origin of Motion Pictures by Martin Quigley, Jr., at $3.50 per copy postpaid.

☐ Check enclosed.
☐ Send a bill.

Name ..............................................................................................................

Address .........................................................................................................

MAGIC SHADOWS adventurously explores long forgotten yesterdays in both science and showmanship. It is presented in 191 crisp pages, plus 28 rare illustrations.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY PRESS
SINCE SEEING "I REMEMBER MAMA" LAST NIGHT I HAVE REFLECTED OVER THE ENCHANTMENT OF YOUR DELIGHTFUL PICTURE DOZENS OF TIMES. YOU HAVE BROUGHT TO THE SCREEN A WONDERFUL STORY OF FAMILY LIFE WHICH IS FAR AND BEYOND ANY OTHER SUCH THEME IN ITS TRUTH, SIMPLICITY AND EMOTIONAL APPEAL. ALL PATRONS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO SEE YOUR PICTURE WILL FONDLY RECOLLECT COUNTLESS SIMILAR EXPERIENCES WHICH OCCURRED IN THEIR FAMILIES. THE PERFORMANCES ARE ALL EXCELLENT. IRENE DUNNE AS "MAMA" IS SUPERB, WHILE BARBARA BEL GEDDES, OSCAR HOMOLKA, PHILIP DORN, SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE, EDGAR BERGEN, RUDY VALLEE AND THE REST DELIVER SPLENDID PORTRAYALS THIS IS A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT FOR YOU, GEORGE, AFTER BEING AWAY FROM THE SCREEN FOR FIVE YEARS. THE ENTIRE RKO FAMILY EXTENDS HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU, HARRIET PARSONS AND ALL CONCERNED. IT IS WITH GREAT PRIDE AND PLEASURE THAT WE UNDERTAKE DISTRIBUTION OF "I REMEMBER MAMA" THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THE FIRST ENGAGEMENT WILL OPEN AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL MARCH 11TH. WARM REGARDS.
Chicago Set as Site of TOA's Fall Conclave

2-Day Coast Meet Closes; Directors Endorse MF

LOS ANGELES, March 10.—Officers and directors of Theatre Owners of America, who closed a two-day session at the Ambassador Hotel here on a high note of confidence with regard to the future of the industry, and set Chicago as the site for the TOA convention which will be held either Sept. 21 or 28.

In a final statement, the directorate endorsed the plans for the Motion Picture Foundation, industry welfare organization, and postponed action with respect to the Motion Picture Forum, pending the Supreme Court's decision in the Government's industry anti-trust suit.

Ted Gamble, TOA president, was named to head a many-sided program to offset unfavorable public relations.

A scrap in move for
Trust Suit Dismissal

A motion that the case be dismissed was made yesterday in U. S. District Court here by Louis Frohlich, counsel for Ascap, as the plaintiffs rested in the trust action brought against the society by Allen-Rochelle, Inc., and 60 other members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York.

Decision was reserved by Judge Vincent L. Leibel. At the same time the court reserved decision on a similar motion entered by F. Gilbert, counsel for the music publishing firm of G. Schirmer.

Frohlich moved for dismissal on the
(Continued on page 11)

U. A. Will Release 'Time of Your Life'

HOLLYWOOD, March 10.—“All difficulties” between Cagney Productions and United Artists have been amicably settled, with “The Time of Your Life” to be released by UA immediately, under the terms of an agreement announced today by William Cagney, Cagney Productions president, and Gradwell Sears, UA president.

The next Cagney picture may be made for another distributor, while the one following that will go to UA, it was said.

Would Resume Shipping To U. K. At Once

When a settlement of the British ad valorem tax impasse is set in motion, U. S. film companies will begin to resume almost at once the shipping tempo which was interrupted when the tax-inspired boycott was imposed last August, foreign department sources indicated here today.

Within a month after the boycott is lifted, it is expected that film shipments to England will be resumed.

Sorrell: Good Labor Relations Are Vital

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Concluding his testimony on the Hollywood jurisdictional strike, Herbert K. Sorrell today told a House Labor sub-committee he hoped the committee would be able to settle the situation and asserted that “the motion picture business will go to hell if they don't get good labor relations.”

The Conference of Studio Unions had told the committee, now in its fourth week of hearings, that labor
(Continued on page 10)

Defeat Stalks N. Y.
Firemen's Aid Bill

ALBANY, N. Y., March 10.—The Fino-Clancy firemen's aid bill, described by exhibition and other facets of show business as a prospective “death blow” for many theatres in the state, appeared doomed to defeat today following a five-day onslaught of opposition from theatre operators, stage producers, sports promoters, labor unions and even private citizens.

Assemblyman William E. Clancy, co-sponsor of the measure, said tonight
(Continued on page 10)

Kanturek: Break in Czech Impasse Soon

Executives of the industry met yesterday at a luncheon given at the Harvard Club here in honor of Louis Kanturek, Motion Picture Export Association supervisor of Eastern Europe. Kanturek, who arrived from Prague 10 days ago for conferences with MPEA vice-president and general manager Irving M. Mass, expressed confidence that solution to the present impasse in negotiations between MPEA and the Czech Film Monopoly for renewal of a distribution pact in 1948-49 would be reached within the next few months.

Present at the luncheon were: Norton V. Ritchey, Arnold Picker, Columbia; Louis Lober and Charles Goldsmith, Loew's; J. William Piper and Harry Bruckman, Paramount.

American Reaction to Terms Favorable; Plan Before Parliament Today

The proposal for settlement of the British film tax problem negotiated by industry-government figures in London, and which is expected to be officially announced today, was presented to heads of American companies yesterday in New York, Hollywood and Miami.

The utmost secrecy was imposed upon the several industry conferences on the tax settlement formula, despite which it was ascertained that the American reaction was favorable in the main and the negotiations are that Johnston was authorized to accept the proposal with but few minor changes.

While there was no official disclosure of the settlement terms on the part of industry sources at the meeting here yesterday, it was learned that the formula agreed upon calls for a combination of remittances, blocking and investment of earnings in Britain in almost equal proportions.

Thus, if $160,000,000 is the maxi-
(Continued on page 7)

London Awaits Tax Peace Plan Today

LONDON, March 10.—With a report on the proposed settlement of the film tax problem scheduled to be sought in the House of Commons here tomorrow, the “iron curtain” concealing last-minute developments was clamped down heavier than ever here today to prevent "leaks" which could upset the negotiations even in their final hour.

Status of the settlement will be
(Continued on page 7)

Tax Settlement Seen 'Any Day' by Rank

Optimism that the British ad valorem tax will be settled "any day now" was expressed by J. Arthur Rank here yesterday on his arrival from London on the Union Elizabeth.

Rank affirmed that he has rights to film the Olympic Games, but added that as far as he knows, this does not restrict American newsreel companies from filming the games. He revealed
(Continued on page 7)
**Personal Mention**

STEVE BRODY, Monogram-Affiliated Artists president, is in Atlanta from Jacksonville, en route to New York.

ERNST A. MARX, general manager of the television receiver division of Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, is scheduled to leave New York this week for the Coast.

CHARLES REAGAN, Paramount distribution vice-president, will leave here Sunday for the Coast and then will vacation at Camel Back Inn, Phoenix, Ariz.

ANN VETUS of Eagle-Lion publicity manager Leo Braw's staff, will marry to Angelo Zachariouls on Sunday at Holy Trinity Cathedral here.

MANNY REINER, Latin American sales manager for Selznick Releasing Organization, arrived in New York yesterday from Australia and New Zealand.

WOLFE COHEN, Warner International vice-president of Far Eastern and Latin American distribution, has arrived in Shanghai.

MILTON SPERLING, president of United States Pictures and Map, Sperling have become parents of a daughter, their third child.

HAL HONORE, formerly associated with Golden State Theatres, has become manager of Westside Theatres, San Francisco.

GEORGE RAFT will return to New York from Switzerland, where he will pay visits to friends in Amsterdam after several weeks in Africa.

C. J. FEIDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, is due back in New York today from Chicago.

JESSE L. LASKY, producer, is due in New York early next week from Hollywood for the premiere of "The Miracle of the Bells" at the Rivoli.

HOMER ROUCKEL, president of the Association of Screen Magazine Publishers, will leave New York today for Coast conferences.

CARL DREYER, European director, is due here March 26 from Denmark on his first visit to the United States.

LEVONTE KIPIS, president of Westport International, will leave here for Canada this week.

ALFRED HITCHCOCK, producer-director, is due here from New York, via Hollywood, on March 29.

GREGORY LACAVA, director, has arrived from Hollywood on Motion Picture Daily.

**News Briefs**

Harry and Jack Warner Hosts Today to Sir and Lady Warner

**Hollywood**, March 10.—Sir Philip Warner, chairman and director of Associated Film Enterprises, associate corporation of Warner Bros. and Lady Warner, arrived here today, from England, to attend at the Warner Bros. studios tomorrow at a luncheon to be given by Harry M. and Jack L. Warner. Producers, directors and stars will attend.

**Five Per Cent Admission Tax Defeated in St. Paul Election**

**ST. PAUL**, March 10.—Exhibitors are jubilant today over defeat of the referendum in the primary election here which would have imposed a five per cent municipal tax on admissions. Vote against the tax was four to one. Overwhelming defeat of the measure will likely halt similar bills in the Northwest cities, in the opinion of exhibitor leaders. Joseph Finley, industry attorney, and Stanley Kane, Northwestern Municipal admissions director, directed the campaign against passage of the tax.

"wartz Names Ernie Frace to Head Sales Out of St. Paul

**MINNEAPOLIS**, March 10.—Branch sales force for Independent Film Distributors, Minneapolis, Minnesota, in Sioux Falls, S. D., March 15, with Ernie Frace in charge of selling, Don Swartz, and ERNEST SULLIVAN, advertising director, will be continued out of Minneapolis, Swartz said.

Frace, veteran film salesman, formerly with RKO Radio and Paramount in Sioux Falls, will handle IFD sales in Western Minnesota and North and South Dakota.

**Gets Rights to WB and Para. Films for Uruguayan Market**

**MONTevideo**, March 5 (Via Air mail).—Donna Compania Nacional Exhibi- dora has acquired distribution rights to Warner's and Paramount's entire current film output, including all first-run films, for the Uruguayan market. The pictures will be offered at relatively low flat rentals instead of on percentage.

**Thompson, Coyle to DuMont**

Wade Thompson has been named sales promotion and advertising manager in the television station WABD, New York, by Lawrence Phillips, director of the DuMont television network. James Caldwell has been named program planning for DuMont, has appointed Harry Coyle manager of remote operations for WABD.

**Stronger Power for Television**

**OTTAWA**, March 10.—The estimated $191,000,000 schedule to be spent by radio authorities here, and about a changeover from 25-cycle to 60-cycle power is expected to speed up transmission to the air. The 60-cycle power is believed likely to provide clearer images and cheaper re-

**Soviet Composer in 'Dog House' Reviewed 'Russia for Daily'**

Aram Khachaturyan, noted Russian composer and one of three severely criticized in Moscow recently by the Communist Central Committee because of his reflected anti-Soviet and bourgeois influences of the Western world, cabled the first Soviet review correspondent in the U.S., requesting the press to motion picture Daily, in November, 1944.

The review of "Song of Russia," M-G-M, which had recently opened in Moscow, from where the cable had been sent direct to the Soviet Union, was based on a ministry of information in Russia, the cable must have cleared through the Soviet Foreign Office before it was filed.

Hit as "Bourgeois-Minded"

Consured for not composing music hewing more to Soviet ideologies, the reputedly "bourgeois-minded" Khachaturyan had this to say of "Song of Russia":

"I think the film would have benefited all the more if the rich reservoir of patriotic songs and songs of war (World War II) was drained and if they were rendered not only for its popular but also for its historically developed as well," adding, "Music helps to promote friendship among nations."

"Song of Russia," he added, is "a tribute to the cultural collaboration of the American and Russian people."

Robert Taylor's pictures were recently banned in Soviet puppet countries in Europe because he was among those who attacked Communism-in-Hollywood while a witness before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Washington. Of Taylor's performance in "Song of Russia," Khachaturyan had this to say, nearly four years ago:

"Banned in Soviet Sphere"

"Robert Taylor is to be congratu-
lated on his performance in the picture."

In the review, the Soviet-censured Khachaturyan observed: "I... owe my rise to the (Soviet) government's support."

**Board Approves New Building for MPAA**

**WASHINGTON**, March 10.—Plans of the Motion Picture Association of America to build a new headquarters building here have gotten a "green light" after a 20-year struggle. The zoning board, it was understood today.

Action is still subject to final ap-
proval at a board meeting March 24, but an official of the board said the Advisory Planning District Fine Arts Commission approved the plan, the board has given its tenta-
tive approval, and there is little doubt that approval of the project will be forthcoming later this month. MPAA plans to begin work as soon as possible on the 17-story building—312 feet in height and projection room unit—and then add other sections of the building.

**Motion Picture Daily**

Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1276 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigleynew, New York." Vice-President; F. W. C. Wells, Secretary. Postmaster: James P. Conningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Peck, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 109 South LaSalle Street, Editorial and Advertising, Urban Parsons, Advertising Representative, Washington, J. A. Dixon, 114 South Arlington Place, Hollywood 8, Los Angeles, California; Warren Johnson, Jr., Director; Charles Brandt, Harry S. Terris, Charles L. Carter, Charles Brandt, Jr., News Editors; Robert F. Sibley, Advertising Manager; George H. O'Brien, Jr., Advertising Manager; E. W. M. Zanuck, Russell, Colman


**The New York Foreign Language Film Critics' Circle will make its annual awards tonight here on a broadcast over Station WNYC. Producers of the best British film and the best foreign picture will be included among this year's award winners. George Archibald of the Rank organization, Charles Schnee of the T-P publicity-advertising chief, and Ilia Loterg, head of Lopert Films, will participate in the broadcast. Master of ceremonies will be Sir Monty and Gofflyth, executive director of the circle, Andrew Value-
chek, president of the circle, will pre-
Dinner's Guild Past Experts Tomorrow; Seek 100% Raise

**HOLLYWOOD**, March 10.—The con-
tract of the Screen Directors Guild with film producers will expire to-
to-night and the major change to be demanded by the guild for a new agreement will be an increase in the minimum wage for free-lance dire-
tors from $500 a week to $1,000 a week. The demands also include a minimum of two and a half weeks pay for pictures costing less than $50,000, with sliding scale up to a minimum of 10 weeks for pictures costing between $175,000 and $250,000.

**Kansas City Salesmen Plan Ball**

**KANSAS CITY**, March 10.—At a mee-
ting held here yesterday, plans for the House of the Hotel Phillips, here, a "movie ball" to be sponsored by film salesmen, for May 3 at an undetermined place, was planned. Designed to be an annual affair, the profits will go to the welfare fund of the local lodge of the Committee.

**Kiggins Heads Television Associates**

**CHICAGO**, March 10.—Keith Kiggins has been named president, director, and operating head of Television Asso-
ciates, manufacturers of commercial television equipment. He formerly was vice-president of American Broadcasting.

**$7,412,000 for Canadian Houses**

**OTTAWA**, March 10.—Contracts awarded for the construction of thea-
tums during the second quarter of 1947 ending on Dec. 1 totaled $7,412,000, according to the Canadian
TO THE TRADE:

Warner Bros. earnestly invite you to attend the industry-wide showings of the picture for which we sent an entire production company to France—stars, cast, director and crew. It is a picture of rare excitement.

DENNIS MORGAN AS THE MAN WHO SOLD HIMSELF TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER

VIVECA LINDFORS THE NEW STAR FROM SWEDEN—1948's MOST IMPORTANT DEBUT!

TO THE VICTOR TRADE SCREENINGS

March 29th

with VICTOR FRANCEN · BRUCE BENNETT · DOROTHY MALONE · TOM D'ANDREA · DELMER DAVES · JERRY WALD

Directed by

Produced by

Written by Richard Brooks
IRENE DUNNE
in GEORGE STEVENS’ Production of
REMEmBER MAMA"
co-starring
BARBARA BEL GEDDES
OSCAR HOMOLKA
PHILIP DORN
with
Sir Cedric Hardwicke • Edgar Bergen • Rudy Vallee • Barbara O'Neil

Executive Producer and Director • GEORGE STEVENS
Produced by • HARRIET PARSONS
Screen Play by • DeWITT BODEEN
Based Upon the Play by • JOHN VAN DRUTEN
Gov't Officials to 'Friendship' Show

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Warner Theatres has invited top Government officials to all Columbia premieres to the special premiere showing on March 20 of "Thanks America," Italian film made in appreciation of the "Friendship Show." The White House is also being scored out, but it is understood, on the possibility of President Truman being present.

The film, produced by Sandro Pazzavivaci and financed by contributions from several hundred thousand Italians, will have its premiere at the Washington Warner Theatre. The special program will also include a showing of the Warner documentary, "Friendship Train," made at the special request of Harry M. Warner, national chairman of the Friendship Train Committee. Warner will fly in from Hollywood for the event.

Special photographic shots of the premiere will be flown to Italy.

$2,000,000 from Ohio Taxes in Year

COLUMBUS, O., March 10.—Seventy-nine Ohio cities which have admission taxes expect to raise $2,000,000 this year, according to C. Emory Grammar, State Commissioner of Revenues. Glander said other Ohio cities are considering admission levies. Only three cities have a three per cent tax. That is worse than a three per cent tax, Glander found. Coshocton, Delaware and Pickua being the exceptions. Glander and Cochon have varying rates and Delaware has a brand system. Cities in nine of Ohio's 88 counties did not enact admission levies.

Glander said estimates of the annual yield ranged from $2,000 in Miamisburg to $600 for Cleveland.

Ten Additional Films Given Legion Ratings

Seven of 10 additional films reviewed by the National Legion of Decency in the present week, while three others were rated A-II.


Heads Parade Committee

Nick John Matsoukas, Skouras Theatres executive, has been appointed chairman of the parade committee. At the parade committee meeting, the American Overseas Aid-United Nations Appeal for Children. A parade will be staged along Broadway on April 12, launching the national's Crusade-for-Children drive for $500,000-000, Spyros P. Skouras is New York chairman of the parade committee.

Louisiana House Burns

NEW ORLEANS, March 10.—The Galile Theatre, 800-seat house at race track, owned by F. G. Pratt, Jr., was completely destroyed by fire. Loss is estimated at $70,000. It is the second time that the theatre has been destroyed by fire since 1943.

Reviews

"Madonna of the Desert" (Republic)

A JEWELLED MADONNA belonging to a country rancher becomes the heroine of an assortment of crooks in Republic's "Madonna of the Desert." The story, following standard melodramatic lines, has, however, been given considerable polish by associate producer Stephen Auer. Headed by the cast are Lynne Roberts, Donald Barry, Don Castle and Sheldon Leonard. The latter, source of this story, consults his comic effects, sending Miss Roberts to the ranch to secure her charms in getting the madonna. However, she soon learns of the miraculous power of the madonna and her ranch's marketable value, and may become the crook, Barry, gets out of jail, and decides to go after the madonna, too. In a final fracas, the two crooks shoot out among themselves, the madonna returns to the ranch, and the ranch looks things moving briskly. The original story was by Frank Wisbar. Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Feb. 23, 1948.

"The Tioga Kid" (Eagle Lion)

THIS picture may be something new for Eddie Dean, who gets a chance to play both villain and defender of the law, but it otherwise follows a strictly standard line involving routine gun fights, fistfights a couple of songs.

Dean's fans certainly will find nothing to complain about, providing they do not mind the triteness of the story and the obvious similarity of location with one or two Dean offerings. At least one song, "Driftin' River," has been used before. Dean's gun goes off with the same clockwork regularity as ever, his horse kicks up clouds of dust as he chases the rustler-villains cross-country in the snow. It has its usual dulling quality, tending to lift opponents into the air with the force of its blows.

Ray Taylor directed and Jerry Thomas produced. Ed Earl Repp wrote the standard Western screenplay. Besides "Driftin' River," songs include "Way Back in Oklahoma," "Standing in the Doorway," and "Someday." Asia Ates fulfills her comic chores to satisfaction; Jennifer Holt pleases the eye as the heroine and Lee Bennett and Dennis Moore make convincing heavies.

Bantor Dallas ranger, brings back some stolen cattle to Miss Holt's ranch. He is mistaken for his twin brother, an outlaw sought by the law. Dean tangles with a gang led by Moore. Ambush and murder occur and in a final showdown, the villain, joins Dean, the ranger, in cleaning up the gang but it is killed himself.

Running time, 54 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

"Paisan" (Mayer-Baryton)

A NOTHER superb film, one of striking impact, has been sent from Italian studios. The story of people caught in the war's unction, it was produced and directed by Roberto Rossellini, who will be remembered for his "Open City." Unfolding on an ambitious canvas, the film is told in six parts, and uses a variety of languages, with English predominating. The film is easily ranked among the best of these shores.

The six sequences are tied to the general theme of the Allied upward advance and conquest of Italy, and as the story rolls on, it gathers a hard, rhythmic power seldom achieved on the screen.

Bartlett Leo, a Negro from Jersey and a local Italian girl, and the fate that overtakes them at the hands of the Germans. The second part concerns a little street orphan who steals the shoes of a Negro "M.P." while the latter is asleep. The third sequence is about another "G.I." who falls in love with an innocent Italian girl. When the soldier returns to the Italian town months later, he finds the privations of war have had a corroding effect on the girl's morals. Episode four goes into the death agony of partisan fighting, as an American nurse goes searching for her lover, only to find him a victim of the war. In the fifth section is the cloistered retreat of a Fran- caniscan monastery. Three American chaplains go there as guests and leave behind them a big order. Episode five deals with the imprisonment of the monks. The final is the brisk and exciting story of an O.S.S. officer and the dome that is meted out to him by the Germans.

It is this but the barest outline of the picture. At times it has an almost spiritual dimension. The story is superbly acted, and the camerawork achieves an unpretentious poetry as it reflects the ghastliness of war. It is memorable drama, delivered adult in theme, and even starkly realistic. Its booking possibly will go beyond the limits of art and foreign-language houses.

Running time, 120 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

U.S., Canada Radio Makers to Meet

WASHINGTON, March 10.—U. S. and Canadian radio manufacturers held their fifth joint conference in Toronto on April 8-9 when the representatives of the National Assn. of Radio Manufacturers Association and the Canadian RMA meet at the Royal York Hotel.

"Duel's" Mexican Record

MEXICO CITY, March 10.—"Duel in the Sun" has established a record gross of $25,076 in its six months' exhibition here.

Bernhard Names Stern

Joseph Bernhard, president of Film Classics, has appointed Herbert Stern resident counsel of the company, here.

Newspaper Space Uncut: Emerging

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., March 10.—The industry hopes to spend as much in 1948 on newspaper theatre advertising as in 1947, "despite rising labor and production costs and new taxes and municipalities," Ernest Emerging, Loew Theatres' advertising director, yesterday told members of the New England Newspaper Advertizisit Exchange here.

Circulators were urged to "recognize the motion picture theatre as a legitimate retail establishment." Emerging said, adding: "It has merchandise which sells which has peculiar interest to almost all of your circulation. Theatres are probably 90 per cent dependent upon the newspapers to sell that merchandise. This makes the theatre a good customer every day you publish, because it spends a larger percentage of its gross than perhaps any other retail advertiser in town."

Emerging further urged that papers discard "the 30-year-old tradition that for some mysterious, unexplainable reason the movie theatre is not conformable for costs and comparable linenage—minus any cash discount, continuity rebates or other inducements to newspaper retail advertisers to increase linenage."

"Give the theatre the retail rate for the space they use and, at the same time, make it very plain that the theatre is buying display space and no so-called 'tie-up' or free publicity," he suggested.

FCC Gets Dozen New Video Applications

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Twelve more applications for television stations have been received by the Federal Communications Commission.

Video Broadcasting Co. applied for stations in Portland, Ore.; San Jose, Calif.; and Des Moines, Iowa. Other applicants were: Sunshine Television Corp., St. Petersburg, Fla.; Central Broadcasting Co. Des Moines; State University of Hawaii; Brown and Adams Network, Springfield, Mass.; WTAG, Worcester; WARC, Rochester; Inter- city Broadcasting Co., Charlotte, N. C.; and WACO Television Co., Waco, Tex.; Raldef Broadcasting Co., Madison, Wis.

Geo. Roscoe To Head Col's Atlanta Office

ATLANTA, March 10.—George Roscoe, manager of Columbia's Charlotte branch, has been assigned to a similar Cal., and San Diego. He should be here to-morrow to take over his new duties. Succeeding him will be R. D. (Skin- ner) Willmason, who has been on Columbia's west coast sales staff in Charlotte for 13 years.

Oscar Katz Named CBS Research Head

Oscar Katz has been appointed research director for Columbia Broadcasting System, April 1, by Howard S. McGilhan, vice-president.

100 View Set a Day

Television receivers are being produced at the rate of about 1,000 a day, the Radio Manufacturers Association discloses.
British Tax (Continued from page 1)

uum Britain will allow in remittances during 1948, as British government figures have said repeatedly, then a like amount may well be levied by the U.S. and another $16,000,000 could be invested there, probably in film production ventures under the Lease-Lend pro-
tog. The amounts specified are based on the approximately $48,000,000 already by American companies in Britain last year.

Remittance to Be Fixed

If 1948 earnings increased appreciably over that amount, indications are that the proportions blocked and to be invested in Britain would increase, but remittances would not.

It was unofficially reported that the agreement is tentative-
ly scheduled to be effective for a minimum of 12 months and would be subject to review before then in the event of ma-
terial improvement in Britain's financial and economic position. Britain's 75 per cent ad valorem tax would be repealed under the agreement.

It was reported that the formula, in addition to having been sent here for discussion and suggestions, also was telephoned to top company officials in Hollywood, among them Frank M. Scheck, president of Loew's; Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and Jack Collin, president of Columbia, who were in Florida.

The secrecy surrounding yester-
day's meeting here took on almost com-
proportion to the offices of the Motion Picture Association of Ameri-
can, where it was held after having been called by Francis Harron, head of the New York MPA office. Ap-
parently on instructions from Har-
ron, reporters who called at the of-
fice were turned away. The same was true of all other offices which were questioned, that no meeting was taking place.

Straight faces and blank stares were maintained even when reporters told MPA employees that company execu-
tives had been observed entering the offices.

Removed Tell-Tale Evidence

Harmon also had the laden coat trees removed from view in the office for a similar precaution in a further effort to throw the re-
porters off the track.

Among those attending the meeting here were: J. Robert E. Vogel, Norton Ritchey, Murray Sil-
verstone, Gradwell L. Sears, Gerald Mayer, W. C. Michel, Austin Kough, Abe Schneider, Joseph Hazen and others.

Industry officials explained that the secrecy surrounding the settlement had been largely imposed by the British who had indicated that, if the terms were published, they would be expecting a scheduled submission to Parlia-
ment today, the agreement would be cancelled.

Because the settlement involves the British tax problem, the new British tax pro-
TMA Meeting (Continued from page 1)

by launching campaigns, on both na-
tional and local levels, to sell pictures collectively as entertainment, and pos-
sibly a whole series of months set apart for special drives.
The "Save-a-Life" campaign insti-
tuted here by Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theater Owners, was explained to the members and recom-
mented for adoption nationally.

Set Up Unit on Delinquency

A committee, including non-TOA

members, was appointed to formulate a campaign along the lines suggested yesterday by Attorney General Tom Clark to combat juvenile delinquency.

Si Fabian was elected first chair-
man of the executive committee.

No action was taken with respect to advanced admission scales, which mat-
terial was left up to the discretion of the motion picture companies.

Loren Ryder, president of the So-
ciety of Motion Picture Engineers, told directors of the Owners of America this morning that tele-
vision manufacturers have gone as far as they are going with the develop-
ment of equipment and technique for theater television unless and until the-
theatre owners declare themselves with respect to the matter.

Ryder said facilities for putting television subjects on theatre screens by films are not yet available, or at least equivalent to instantaneous exhibition are at hand although not yet available for general sale.

Witness Television Screening

Ryder and RCA's Fred Alvin ad-
dressed themselves here yesterday in a screening of Paramount and RCA films made by local exhibitor Jim Nich-

From page 1

Some 500 sound projectors and accompanying films will be distributed within a month, I was told, in the reireration of Germans along democratic lines, the War Department disclosed today.

The projectors will be dis-
tributed in Germany's Ameri-

ca Zone.

US Forbids German Film Centralization

BERLIN, March 10—Decentraliza-
tion of the German film industry has been ordered by U. S. Military Occu-
pation authorities to offset any type of production-distribution exhibition control that existed before the war. It is the first formal order issued under the U. S. zone decentralization law promulgated within the zone.

Only exception in the order is that a producer may distribute his own product directly or through a wholly owned subsidiary.

Shipping to U.K.

would be sharply increased to replenish the now almost neglig-
ible stock of American films in British vaults. Shipments at the outset will be funnelled quickly into British theatres be-
fore backlogs of prints are built up in exchange vaults.

First product to go to Britain, it was said, will be those pictures which were about to be sent last August when the boycott became effective. Those films are still available and, so is the other paper work that is handled by film shipping agencies.

The organization and associa-
tion is not expected to be involved in any way in the resumption of ship-
ments to England, an MPEA official here yesterday, pointing out that although MPEA under the presi-
dency of Eric A. Johnston, participat-
ed in the policy-and-decision made by the ad valorem situation, it is not expected to formulate plans and es-
tablish arrangements for the resump-
tion of shipping. The only condition under which MPEA would step in to the point where it would be involved in shipping film to England would be the inclusion of Britain within the MPEA's sphere of operations.

Czech Impasse Break

Gordon E. Youngman, R. H. Haw-
kinson and B. D. Lion, RKO; R. W. Altschuler and Douglas T. Yates, Re-
skstudio; Howard E. W. M. Fabian, Loew's; Robert Cornfeld, 20th Century-Fox:
Walter Gould, United Artists; C. A. Kirby, Universal, and John J. Gynn, Motion Picture Association of America were: Carl E. Milliken, Edward T. Che-
fitz, for Fox; Jim Murray, Sam Smith and Frederick W. Du Vail. In addition to the honor guest and Maas,

More Ontario Premiums

Toronto, March 10.—The policy of giving premiums is steadily growing along the lines in Ontario, particu-
larly in neighborhood and rural areas, be-

amount of common which was out-
standing last Dec. 27. Number of shares outstanding was then 68,588. The number outstanding Dec. 26, 1946, was 62,782.

The per-share profit for the latest pe-
riod was $1,175,000, against $2,480,000 for the corresponding period of 1946. Provision for Federal taxes in the period was $450,000 and $720,000, respectively.

W.E. Dividend

Western Electric's board of direc-
tors has declared a dividend of $1.00 per share on the $2.50-par stock, payable on March 31 to stockholders of record on March 23. Included in W.E.'s operations are those of Electric Research Products.
Ask Mr. Joe Vogel of Loew's about this sensational business

MARK HELLINGER'S
"NAKED CITY"

STARRING
BARRY FITZGERALD

and featuring
HOWARD DUFF • DOROTHY HART • DON TAYLOR

Directed by JULES DASSIN
Produced by MARK HELLINGER
Associate Producer: JULES BUCK
Screenplay by ALBERT MALTZ and MALVIN WALD
From a Story by MALVIN WALD

A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE
CITY

 Ride high with U-1

all records

itol Theatre

aday

Congratulations to Manager Greenman and his efficient staff whose fine theatre operation made the huge crowds comfortable... they didn't mind waiting for seats with this courteous treatment.
Firemen's Aid Bill
(Continued from page 1)

it "may be on Friday's calendar," but he did not appear too certain. The current legislative session is slated to end Friday, but may be extended to Saturday.

Most significant assurance to date that the bill—which in its original form would have permitted any city fire commissioner in the state to assign at least two uniformed firemen to every theatrical or screen performance at fees of $10 per man for each show—will not pass at this session of the legislature comes with the report that Assembly Speaker Ovid D. Holcomb deems the measure "highly objectionable."

Heck, a top position in the lower house, is said to regard the bill's terms and conditions as unreasonable and capable of putting hundreds of small theatres out of business. It has been estimated that the bill in its original form would have cost the show business in New York State some $20,000,000 annually, with the bulk of that cost falling to film houses.

Heck and other legislative leaders believe Governor Dewey would not have signed the original bill, it was said, and doubt whether legislative machinery will permit a vote on the bill's softening amendments, offered yesterday, before the legislature's scheduled adjournment on Saturday.

IATSE and other representatives came here to explain the bill's "murderous impact," Harry Lamont, Theatre Owners of America chairman in Albany, and Leonard Rosenthal, counsel for Upstate Theatres, Inc., were among those who organized exhibitor opposition up-state. The New York

Review

"The Hawk of Powder River"

(PR—Eagle-Lion)

SOMETHING of a novelty in the Western theme, "The Hawk of Powder River" has, as the outlaw leader, pretty Jennifer Holt, known in the film as "The Hawk." The production has all of the standard ingredients necessary to satisfy Western fans. Eddie Dean takes the lead, once again playing the Federal agent sent out to investigate a crippled situation. Also on hand, holding up the comic angles and helping Dean in and out of trouble, is Roscoe Ates, while June Carlson takes care of the slighter romantic angle.

The original screenplay of George Taylor's "The Hawk," purporting the town of Powder River and scheming to take over a ranch by killing off its rightful heirs. After the usual round of mixups and gunplay, Dean settles matters, and a number of songs run through the proceedings, including "Black Hills," "Wild Country," "Punishment," "Rose of San Jose."


City owners' fight was led by Oscar A. Doob, chairman of the executive committee of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association.

Schwartz and Reilly Assail
Amended Firemen's Aid Bill

Fred J. Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, and James F. Reilly, executive director of New York Chapter, yesterday issued a joint statement here attacking the Fino-Clancy firemen's aid bill. The statement said, in part:

"A memorandum circulated to the legislators yesterday by the Uniformed Firemen's Association suggests that the amendments to the Fino-Clancy Bill were made by agreement with motion picture theatre owners. This is not so. The sponsors' amendments were compelled by the exposure of the most extreme features of the original bill. The bill is still entirely bad in principle and in practice, and we join with other branches of the humanitarian industries in vigorous opposition to the bill as amended."

Labor Relations
(Continued from page 1)

relations were "the worst thing they ever had to deal with."

Asked by both Chairman Carroll D. Keams and IATSE attorney Matthew Levy whether he had stated his case completely, Sorrell replied firmly: "I have stated all I wish to state at this point."

Sorrell said he would do anything in his power to clear up the situation and added, "You know how I feel about the opposing union, but I would still shake hands with them provided they treat me justly, and if they don't, I'll keep on fighting."

Rounding out his fifth day on the stand, Sorrell elaborated on the charge he made yesterday that Robert Denham, NLRB chief, was "in the pocket of the producers." The Hollywood union leader told the committee that in October, 1945, Maurice Benjamin, Motion Picture Association of America attorney, reported to a meeting of the producers that Gerald Reilly, former member of the NLRB, was "responsible for the appointment of Denham as trial examiner." Denham was trial examiner in the 1945 dispute over studio set directors. Sorrell told the committee that he received this information from Bert P. Guild, who attended the October meeting as a Republic representative.

Other points made in Sorrell's final appearance were: That the studio "lockout" was not over and that operation at the studios was far from normal; that major producers and the IATSE were "combining" in their demands to "make independent producers, some of whom do not need work and make them put some in supervisory jobs;" that Willie Bieff is still operating in IATSE affairs.

New MBS Building

Hollywood, March 10.—One entire week of special programming and spot schedules on regularly scheduled broadcasts have set with Mutual Broadcasting from Sunday, May 16, through Saturday, May 22, in connection with the opening of the new $3,000,000 Mutual-Dom Lee combination AM, FM and television broadcasting studios here.

Short Subject

"Photo Frenzy"

(This Is America—RKO Pathe)

As shown in the latest This Is America release, amateur photography is no longer an idle pastime, but America's No. 1 hobby, having some 20,000,000 fans. "Photo Frenzy" is a pictorial examination of a cross-section of these fans, their habits, hopes, dreams, and the immense industry they have spawned.

The subject is effectively done and is one of general interest. Jay Bonafield produced, and Larry O'Reilly directed and photographed. Running time, 16 minutes.

Brazil to Demand Import Licenses

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Brazil will soon require import licenses for practically all shipments, according to a Commerce Department announcement. Commerce officials said they expect films would be included.

The new ruling will take effect in "three to four weeks from Feb. 25," though there may be a brief period of grace for goods already in transit.

FILM BOOKER

Familiar with New York exchanges, to assist in operation of established exhibitor organization. Salary open. Must be available immediately. Write, citing experience and references to Box 412.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

DAILY TRADE SHOW

NEW YORK — NEW JERSEY TERRITORIES ONLY

** "THE SEARCH" **

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

9:30 A.M.

M-G-M SCREEN ROOM

630 Ninth Avenue, New York City
NEW ORLEANS, March 10.—Record rainfall for March to date which flooded the entire territory, and which reached a height of from eight to 24 inches on downtown New Orleans streets, resulted in as much as a 50 per cent drop in box-office grosses throughout the territory last week. All exchanges were forewarned of flood conditions and shipments were accordingly made early enough to avoid miss-outs.

Practically wasted was an exceptionally good product lineup at downtown theaters. Headed the list was the Saenger, with "Call Northside 777"; "A Double Life" was at Loew's State; the Joy featured "Pittsburgh".

The Bishop's Wife" was at the RKO Orpheum; RKO's Liberry featured "Badlands of Dakota"; "Time Out of Mind," was at the Balboa, while "The Maiden Tower" was "I Walk Alone"; at the Globe. "That Hagen Girl," the Strand double-billed "White Witch" and "Cheyenne Takes Over"; the Poche had Joe E. Brown in "Harvey" on stage.

At Des Allemands, the Fun Theatre, belonging to Felix Touchard, Jr., was closed for two days because of high water.

**Production Increases As Eight Films Start**

HOLLYWOOD, March 10.—The production tally rose to 28 from last week's 21. Filming started on eight films while only four were sent to competing exchanges. Shooting started on "Winner Take Nothing" and "Sweetheart of the Blues," Columbia; "Lady at Midnight" (a John Sutherland production) and "Born to Fight," Eagle-Lion; "Sofia" (Arpis), Film Classics; "Stage Struck," Halls; "Winner Take Nothing," Republic; "Smirhurs," Warner Bros.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>COLUMBIA</th>
<th>EAGLE-LION</th>
<th>M-G-M</th>
<th>MONO.</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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>THE WRECK OF THE HESPERUS Willard Parker D—60 min. (812) (Feb. Releases)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>PHANTOM VALLEY Charles Starrett D—66 min. (813)</td>
<td>TURNOFF RANGEROE Eddie Dean D—56 min. (813) (Rev. 3/3/48)</td>
<td>TENTH AVENUE ANGEL Margaret O'Brien D—74 min. (816) (Rev. 1/13/48)</td>
<td>PANHANDLE Red Cameron D—87 min. (816) (Rev. 1/13/48)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH Dick Powell D—107 min. (814) (Rev. 1/19/48)</td>
<td>MAN FROM TEXAS James Craig D—80 min. (814) (Rev. 2/10/48)</td>
<td>ANGELS ALLEY Leo Gorcey D—57 min. (813) (Rev. 2/19/48)</td>
<td>SAIGON Alan Ladd Veronica Lake D—94 min. (670) (Rev. 2/19/48)</td>
<td></td>
<td>CALIFORNIA FIREBRAND Monte Hale D—68 min. (807) (Rev. 3/6/48)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 28</td>
<td>SONG OF IDAHO Kirby Grant D—88 min. (819) (Rev. 3/1/48)</td>
<td>THE SIGN OF THE RAM Susan Peters D—84 min. (819) (Rev. 3/2/48)</td>
<td>RUTHLESS Zachary Scott D—74 min. (819) (Rev. 5/25/48)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 4</td>
<td>THE HAWK OF POWDER RIVER Eddie Dean D—64 min. (856) (Rev. 3/2/48)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 11</td>
<td>PORT SAID Gloria Henry D—73 min. (819) (Rev. 3/25/48)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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.*
BRITISH TAX SETTLEMENT FREES $17,000,000, PLUS

Settlement A Good One, US Industry Feels

‘Couldn’t Have Hoped For More’, Is Reaction

“It’s as much as we could have hoped for.”

This was the general feeling here among industry leaders regarding the British ad valorem tax settlement yesterday.

Typical of the comments which came from various quarters was the following from David O. Selznick: “Eric Johnston and James Matvey have informed us that we are indebted to Ambassador Douglas, who has performed an outstanding service for the motion picture industry and for everyone in it from the ‘grips’ on the Hollywood stages to the producers and the theatre owners.

In expressing ‘delight’ over the break in the tax deadlock, Paramount (Continued on page 4)

Companies Tackle Post-Peace ‘Kinks’

Next task for company officials following the London settlement which reopened the British market to Hollywood films is to find an agreement among themselves on the method of allocating to individual companies and independent producers the estimated $21,000,000 to $25,000,000 which may (Continued on page 3)

Goldman Moves to Halt Ruling Review

WASHINGTON, March 11—William Goldman Theatres, Inc., today asked the U. S. Supreme Court not to review a lower court decision in its favor in its treble damage anti-trust suit against major distributors. Citing a statement by the distributor (Continued on page 4)


Increased production in both the United States and Great Britain will result from the settlement of the ad valorem tax dispute, J. Arthur Rank stated yesterday.

The British film leader, who arrived in New York on Wednesday for a six-week stay in the U. S., indicated that the boost in production in his country would depend upon how soon increased studio space could be made available.

With the tax settlement Rank saw “very good prospects for an enlarged market for British pictures in this country. He said that Great Britain desired a ‘continued flow’ of American pictures. (Continued on page 4)

Rank Organization Of Canada Formed

TORONTO, March 11—Formation of the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Canada, of which J. Earl Lawson is general manager, was announced here today following the arrival of Rank on this continent for a series of business conferences with U.S. and Canadian associates.

“Matters of common interest to the different Canadian companies in this organization, which for operating purposes (Continued on page 4)

Trial of Ascap Suit Ends Abruptly Here

The trust suit of Alden-Rochelle, Inc., and 160 other members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York against Ascap ended yesterday in U. S. District Court here on the first day of argument by the defense. Decision was reserved by Judge Vincent L. Leibel. The trial lasted a week.

Louis Frohlich, counsel for the defense, called but two witnesses, Harry Brandt of the ITOA and Herman Greenberg of Ascap.

Frohlich elicited from Brandt the admission (Continued on page 4)

Formal Pact Allows Additional Amount Equivalent to British Film Earnings Here; Britain Will Withdraw Its Film Import Tax

London, March 11.—The seven-month old impasse over the 75 per cent British tax on film imports and the resultant embargo on the shipment of American films to Britain ended today with ratification of a settlement agreement by government and industry representatives.

Under the agreement, American film companies will be permitted to take out of England $17,000,000 annually for two years beginning June 14, next, plus an amount equivalent to the earnings of British films in the United States, its possessions and the Philippines.

Trade estimates place the latter amount variously at $4,000,000 to $8,000,000 for the first year of the agreement, and possibly more later.

20 Investment Sources

Unremittable balances of American film earnings, estimated at approximately $30,000,000 annually, may be invested in Britain in any of 20 ways reportedly approved but not yet officially ratified. Such investments would be under the supervision of a joint control committee consisting of representatives of the British government and the American industry.

The agreement contemplates that any residual balances not eventually disposed of in accordance with the above may be cleared through approved transactions which involve no strain on Britain’s foreign exchange (Continued on page 3)

Britain Considers State Film Bank

London, March 11.—A clear implication that the British government is considering establishment of a state film bank was given in the House of Commons today by Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade.

In replying to questions put to him, Wilson disclosed the government’s intention by saying he is exploring ways and means of assisting independent producers to obtain access to financing.

(Continued on page 3)
**Personal Mention**

Irv Ing MAck of Filmack Tract-

er, is in town from Chicago.

Henry A. Line, Universal-Inter-

national Eastern advertising,

will lecture on Motion Picture Ad-

vertising this Monday evening at

the American Theatre Wing’s “screen

seminar” here.

George Archibald, managing di-

rector of Independent Producers,

Ltd., a Rank production company,

is in Dallas, Texas, following an

attack of pneumonia.

Charles P. Segaras, National

Theatre president, left Los Angeles

yesterday to preside at a meeting

of Evergreen Circuit in Seattle.

Roy Svetz, owner of the Ains-

worth Theatre, Ainsworth, Neb., has

entered Clarkson Hospital, Omaha, for

operation.

William A. Colleran, Louis de

Rochemont, associate administrator

here yesterday for plane out South

Africa.

Newspaper Radio distribu-

tion vice-president, has left Hollywood

for a vacation in Phoenix, Ariz.

Douglas Fairbanks is in New

York from the Coast.

**Foreign Press Citations**

**‘Agreement’, Peck**

“Gentleman’s Agreement” was

named the best American film of 1947

by the Motion Picture Producers and

Distributors of America and the American

allied trade papers. The awards were

given in Los Angeles to Douglas

Fairbanks, producer, and to Henry

Koster, director, who were in town

to receive their honors.

Individual awards went to Gregory

Peck for his role in “Journey’s End,”

“Agreement,” and Moos Hart for the

screenplay and Elia Kazan for the

direction of “A Streetcar Named Desire.”

A tie for the feminine star of the year went

to Deborah Kerr, for “The Adventu-

rers,” and Rosemary Russell, for

“Mourning Becomes Electra.” Ed-

mund Gwenn was voted best suppor-
ting actor, for “Miracle on 34th Street,” and

Gloria Grahame, Celeste Holm, and Ann

Revere tied as best supporting actresses for

their respective roles in “Crosse” and “Gentle-

man’s Agreement” for the latter two.

The awards were made last night in a

broadcast over station WNYC.

The recipient was Charles Laughton,

20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity

director; Jean Holt of the J. Arthur

Rank Organization, London, who is

president of Lopert Films; Andrew

Valousek, president of the Film Crit-

ics Circle, and Aaron Seltzer,estival

president of the American Foreign

Language Press, Inc.
AAHAPPY SOLUTION

THE British tax situation was solved yesterday, bringing to friendly settlement that hitherto was confronting the American industry in recent years.

No authority claims the solution is perfect, but practically unanimous is the conviction that the agreement is as close to it as questions allow.

The American industry, steadfastly committed to the elimination of British taxes, was asked to pay 15,000 annually which she originally proposed, to the $17,000,000 stipulated.

The industry is credited to the negotiation powers of Mr. John for the MPAA and James Mulvey for the SIMPP with a very vital assistance of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps.

Press Interview Today

Wilson, Johnston and Mulvey will meet the press for their first detailed interview on the settlement tomorrow.

It was stated that shipment of American films to Britain will be reduced and the temporary withdrawal of the import tax.

Meanwhile, Johnston was confined to his hotel room tonight with a head cold and his colleagues, clear up the technical problems arising from the proposal prior to the agreement with Johnston and the American industry contingent on Saturday, were in conference with the U.S. group.

It is the present intention of both sides that the main structure of the agreement be maintained for four years. However, the agreement is divided into two periods of two years each with a provision for review at the end of the first period. It is understood also, that the agreement can be abrogated almost at will by either side.

The remittable sum, $17,000,000 plus the tax, $17,000,000, in the U.S., covers not only earnings of new films to be sent to Britain but the earnings of films already in Britain.

Hope to Boost U.K. Films

During a subsequent brief debate in the House of Commons over the tax settlement provisions, Wilson expressed the hope that exhibition of British films in America would be greatly stimulated by the provision which adds to American remittances, had been $24,000,000 under a 50-50 arrangement.

The problems on both sides were many and troublesome. But there are transcendental considerations which need to assume a correct perceptive.

The cause of Anglo-American unity which may prove a great force in establishing a balance in world affairs is reaffirmed.

On the industry level, Britain’s flight of dollars is checked, but that flow of dollars from London to New York not dried up. Britain’s exhibition industry—profits for its investors, salaries for its payrolls, taxes for the Treasury—be revitalized. The quality of a creeping paralysis is eliminated.

America retains her largest and best overseas customer. Elimination of the tax probably will have a salutary effect on other nations to the end that a freer journey of film to these other nations becomes more likely.

The financial structure of the industry assumes greater confidence and moresly economic standing, according to its makers who have been declaring that planning was difficult, if not impossible, to be carried out in London over the deeks cleared. They know where they stand. Knowing where that is, they now may proceed equably to push ahead.

R E I R N

Settlement Brings Rise in Stocks

Film stocks on the New York Curh and Stock Exchange shot up from one to another and the same price on March 11 with news of the British ad valorem tax settlement.

London, March 11.—Most leading film stocks advanced here on reports that the tax situation had been resolved.

Companies Tackle

(Continued from page 1)

be remitted annually under the agreement.

Company representatives have discussed the matter at length without reaching an agreement. Basis for division of the fund is something to be found in the wartime allocation of the 30 per cent of British revenue remitted to them and the proportion of business done by each company in Britain. However, in consultation everywhere, the method and under the present agreement they are to have assurances, with Mulvey of SIMPP, that they will receive an equivalent amount of the remittable revenue. In consequence, independent producers, who distributing companies, are expected to approve it almost unanimously.

Formal Trade Agreement

The settlement is expected to take formal shape in a trade agreement signed by the British Board of Trade and for the American industry by Mr. Johnston, MPAA president, and Mulvey.

Acceptance of the pact here was practically unanimous, everyone appearing to recognize that it was for nothing, as both Johnston and Ambassador Lewis Douglas were convinced.

Unremittable earnings in England, it appears, will be paid in part in production here. Also, such funds will be usable in sterling areas, officially sanctioned, the companies here understand. Production, of course, is not to be on a pretentious scale to obtain product wholly acceptable here. This could have a noticeable effect on Hollywood production schedules, availability of stars, directors, producers, technicians, etc., some company officials point out.

Would Reduce Debts

It is also believed that certain unremittable funds could be employed in England to pay off almost all forms of indebtedness including mortgages on studios, theatres, offices and other property.

Asks West to Spur German Pictures

Western occupying powers in Germany must spur film production in their zones if they hope to catch up with the aggressors, film production program which the Russians are sponsoring, for ideological reasons, within their own zone. That is the conclusion of Joachim Toeten in his new book, “Germany—What Now?” just published (Ziff-Davis).

FILM BOOKER

Familiar with New York exchanges, to assist in operation of established exhibitor organization, Salary open. Must be able to write, write, write. Write, citing experience and references to Box 412:

MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 Sixth Ave., New York 20

TAX PEACE

(Continued from page 1)

position and which do not create any further claims on sterling. Such transactions would take the form of charitable or public uses, including the encouragement of arts and sciences.

Investment in British production stands together on the list of uses to which remittances would be put.

With other approved investments in 24 standing areas—for instance, construction of theatres in South America—next in line. Support of civic and other social enterprises would be a third source for absorbing the balances.

Await Treasury Order on Tax

Britain agreed to withdraw the 75 per cent film tax as promptly as the necessary Treasury order eliminating the tax can be drafted.

Highlights of the agreement were first disclosed publicly to the House of Commons today by Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade. Wilson said that many details of the agreement are incomplete complicated and that the technical problems still are in the process of being worked out.

A notification to Commons was made by Mr. Wilson and Chairman of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Exexutives, Producers, and the various negotiating committee members of both sides.

Opinion was unanimous here in praise of the agreement, noting gain general public excitement over return of Hollywood films, predicted a vast upsurge in box-office revenue.

Weighed U.S. Reactions

At the conference, reactions of the American industry to the proposed settlement and accompanying suggestions from principals in the United States were taken into account the settlement formula had been transmitted to the American industry heads by telephone on Wednesday.

Wilson described the agreement as “a triumph of good sense, good understanding, and good neighborliness,” and paid tribute to Mulvey, Johnston and their colleagues on the handling of the negotiations.

Johnston and Mulvey gave much of the credit to the settlement for the American Ambassador, Lewis W. Douglas, who paved the way for the negotiations in advance meetings with Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin and Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps.

Press Interview Today

Wilson, Johnston and Mulvey will meet the press for their first detailed interview on the settlement tomorrow.

It was stated that shipment of American films to Britain will be reduced and the temporary withdrawal of the import tax.

Meanwhile, Johnston was confined to his hotel room tonight with a head cold and his colleagues, clear up the technical problems arising from the compromise prior to the agreement with Johnston and the American industry contingent on Saturday, were in conference with the U.S. group.

It is the present intention of both sides that the main structure of the agreement be maintained for four years. However, the agreement is divided into two periods of two years each with a provision for review at the end of the first period. It is understood also, that the agreement can be abrogated almost at will by either side.

The remittable sum, $17,000,000 plus the tax, $17,000,000, in the U.S., covers not only earnings of new films to be sent to Britain but the earnings of films already in Britain.

Hope to Boost U.K. Films

During a subsequent brief debate in the House of Commons over the tax settlement provisions, Wilson expressed the hope that exhibition of British films in America would be greatly stimulated by the provision which adds to American remittances, had been $24,000,000 under a 50-50 arrangement.

The problems on both sides were many and troublesome. But there are transcendental considerations which need to assume a correct perceptive.

The cause of Anglo-American unity which may prove a great force in establishing a balance in world affairs is reaffirmed.

On the industry level, Britain’s flight of dollars is checked, but that flow of dollars from London to New York not dried up. Britain’s exhibition industry—profits for its investors, salaries for its payrolls, taxes for the Treasury—be revitalized. The quality of a creeping paralysis is eliminated.

America retains her largest and best overseas customer. Elimination of the tax probably will have a salutary effect on other nations to the end that a freer journey of film to these other nations becomes more likely.

The financial structure of the industry assumes greater confidence and moresly economic standing, according to its makers who have been declaring that planning was difficult, if not impossible, to be carried out in London over the deeks cleared. They know where they stand. Knowing where that is, they now may proceed equably to push ahead.

James Mulvey

Wilson told another questioner that Britain is now remitting $50,000,000 annually, despite the existence of the tax, for American films in England including reissues. Under the settlement, remittances would be reduced to $17,000,000 plus the tax pointed out.

Wilson also told Commons that the settlement would have no effect on the British government’s policy of encouraging maximum quality in British film production.

Asked whether the dollars could be paid as a gasoline ration, Wilson said the agreement would save, not cost, dollars.

“Why not buy food instead of films?” the questioner interjected. Wilson made no reply.

Eric Johnston

Heads of \n
JAMES W. DAVIES

MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 Sixth Ave., New York 20

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1948
Industry Relieved

(Continued from page 1)

Rank, Reels Talk Olympics Tuesday

The five American news-
reel distributors, including Reel 4 Cornwall, have been granted by J. Arthur Rank of exclusive rights to film the Olympic Games this summer will be taken up with a meeting here on Tuesday.

That has been given sole
authority by the British Olympic Committee to shoot the games was conferred by Rank yesterday. The reels, which would have to buy their footage from Rank, want him to clarify his intentions.

Dutch Attendance Up 40-50%: ter Linden

Film attendance in Holland is up 40 to 50 per cent over pre-war aver-
ages, according to J. J. ter Linden, president and managing director of the Dutch industry, which is that territory that is completely Dutch-
owned. Ter Linden is here to inspect Hollywood activities, as well as confer with executives of the Motion Picture Export Associa-
tion.

The increase in attendance was cred-
ted to two factors: first to MPEA's policy of confining its exports to high-quality product, and second, that Holland, which is giving thousands of people the theatre-going habit.

The report indicated that the increas-
ing recognition on the part of church, denominations of spiritual and moral values in some motion pictures, Con-
tralsted with the clergy's pre-war
reservations on film attendance, cler-
ic leaders, explained, are now en-
couraging film-going to selected fea-
tures, even on Sundays.

Ter Linden is accompanied on his trip to London by the managing director of the London firm, M. G. Russell, Both will return to Holland on March 26.

Rank on Tax

(Continued from page 1)
can films because it is realized there that without them that due to econ-
omy measures put into effect follow-
ing the imposition of the ad valorem tax, production costs in Great Britain had been raised about 15.

E-L, U-I Officials on Hand

His press conference brought out an array of the J. Arthur Rank Or-
ganization, Universal-International and Eagle-Lion executives. On hand from the Rank Organization were Robert
Benjamin and Jock Lawrence. Present from Universal-International were Matthew J. Lerner, who also said he would make the decision be favorable, he would start
in Hollywood, not the theatre.

Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

Bevin Expresses Delight

foreign Minister Ernest Bevin, re-
maining basically that the compromise "in another step forward," expressed his delight.

Coast Officials Withhold Comment on Tax Compromise

Hollywood, March 11—Pending
official receipt of complete details of the tax compromise, which is based
upon by British government and indus-
tory representatives, top level film
executives today disclaimed comment on effect the deal would have on production and the level of salaries, revenue, said the British market to American films, it was generally indicated, is a welcome development, regardless of the fiscal aspects of the arrangement made.

Bank

(Continued from page 1)

Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-
president of United Artists, has made the following appointments involving executives in Europe and Latin America: Michael Green, formerly traveling auditor in London, has been appointed general and auditor for Continental Europe, Green, who will continue to make London his headquarters, will be in his initial assignment.

Henry Ronge, executive assistant to U.A.'s general manager in Cuba, has been made sales associate in Buenos Aires, succeeding Guy C. Smith. Smith has been appointed to take charge of the service bureau in Paris.

Other Latin-American changes include the appointment of Marcos Drukaroff as branch manager in Bar-
naquilla, Colombia, replacing L. E. Lonardo, resigned, and Armando B. B. B.head the company's office in Cali, Colombia.

Goldman Decision

(Continued from page 1)
doctors that the decision, if unresolved, would ruin the industry. Goldman promised that in the event the correct existing abuses is not to ruin but to restore the health of the indus-
tory.

Says Conspiracy Was Proved

The brief, filed by Goldman today, opposed a petition by the distributors seeking review of the decision of the District Court of Appeals, which was holding a $125,000 judgment in his favor and restraining the distributors from selling their pictures to the Earl-
Goldman's Erler Theatre, in Phila-
delphia. The brief maintains that in the lower court, Goldman had given sufficient proof of a conspiracy against the Earl-
ger and of the amount of damages suffered, and that therefore there was no reason for the high court to review the lower court's decision.

Goldman said that the distributors' argument that the decisions in his favor of a conspiracy was "so unfounded" that even Warner defendants had to admit it. But in his brief to the Earl-
Warner brief seeking review asked certiorari only on the issue of dam-
ages, declaring that the "question of nuisance...was not an issue...because by reason of new theatres acquired by Goldman and licensed by the distrib-
utors.

Cites Jackson Pk. Rule

Goldman says that since it never was able to operate the Earler, it could prove damages only by showing how the company's operation in permits of comparable Warner theatres, and that this is the rule laid down in the late case of Jackson Park.,

William A. Gray, Francis T. An-
derson, Lester J. Schaffer and Robert
Dechert signed the brief for Goldman.

Ascap Trial Ends

(Continued from page 1)
mission that in 1933-1934 the members of the ITOA negotiated with Ascap an agreement which they described as "good faith," he argued that Ascap was sued on the grounds it was a monop-
olly.

MacAloney said that for years ago producers flatly turned down a proposal to assume the payment of royalties on the performance of Ascap music in pictures.
Ascapi Seeks 500% Boost From Theatres

Special Rates for Stage Show Houses 50c to $1.00

Music listening rate increases ranging up to 500 per cent over previous schedules will be sought by Ascapi from theatres having regular stage shows, according to informed reports.

The rates, based on seating capacities of such theatres, range from 50 cents per seat annually to $1.00 per seat. Most such theatres heretofore have paid 20 cents per seat annually.

Thus, in the case of 6,000-seat theatres such as the Radio City Music Hall and the Roxy here, the new payment sought by Ascapi would amount 30-Day Contracts

Ascapi will reject Allied States and other exhibitor licensee requests for short-term licensing agreements and may institute actions for copyright infringements against those using the society's music without approved contracts, it was learned at the weekend.

The new Ascapi theatre licensing rates, representing 25 per cent increases over former rates, were negotiated by Theatre Owners of America and went into effect today. Ascapi, it was reported, has already received over 1,000 such notices.

Schwartz, Reade, Jr., Guide Trenton Unit

The RKO Theatres—Walter Reade Trenton—New Brunswick Theatres management was reorganized at the weekend with the appointment of an operating committee consisting of Sol Schwartz, Walter Reade, Jr., and Frank Hirst. It was announced by Malcolm Kingsberg, president, following a board of directors meeting. Committee's, operational activity is subject to the board's approval.

Reade, Jr., was elected a director and secretary in place of his father, who resigned, and Schwartz and Hirst were elected vice-presidents.

Expect Decision on Odlum's RKO Shares

Hollywood, March 14.—A decision on Howard Hughes' offer for purchase of Fred Odlum's holdings in RKO Radio was expected to be reached at a meeting of RKO executives at Odlum's Indio Ranch.

A conferences included N. Peter Rathvon, Dore Schary and Ned Depinet.

24 Houses Involved In 2 Circuit Deals

Boston, March 14.—Two deals involving 24 theatres have been consummated by Donald Jacks and A. Johnson of B. B. and Q. Theatre, with headquarters here, and the Aldon Theatre Corp., of New Jersey.

Jacks and Giphatrich have sold their 14 B. and Q. houses, in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and have purchased control of the 10 theatres in New Jersey:

Daniel Finn, Warner divisional manager in New England, has acquired an interest in B. and Q. and will leave his Warner post to become general manager of that circuit.

Chapman Named FC General Sales Aide

Jules K. Chapman has been appointed assistant general sales manager of Film Classics, by B. G. Kranze, distribution vice-president. Chapman has been with the company almost since its inception more than five years ago. Kranze also announced other appointments, including: Ted Birnhna, as executive assistant to Kranze; Albert Mannheimer, as director of exchange operations; Arthur Reiman, to head the contract department; Louis Bernhard, head of playdates and liquidation; William Markert, chief of the print department; and Herbert Stern, head of the resident legal department.

Named Alternate to Geneva Conference

Washington, March 14.—Frank McCarthy, Motion Picture Association of America European manager, has been named by the State Department as alternate delegate to the United Nations Freedom of Information conference at Geneva from March 23—April 24. Former assistant Secretary of State William Benton is chairman of the U. S. delegation.

AGREEMENT ADDS DOLLAR SOURCES

Mulvey Praised on Role in Tax Talks

London, March 14.—The work of James M. Mulvey, representative of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, in the film tax settlement here earned glowing tributes not only from Eric Johnston, MPA president, but also from Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade, and all of the latter's ministers.

In addition to his expert counsel during the negotiations, Mulvey obtained protection agreements for independent producers and rallied their support for the completed formula.

FBI: Script on ‘Red’

Card Is Sorrell’s

Washington, March 14.—The Federal Bureau of Investigation has identified as Herbert K. Sorrell’s the handwriting on a Communist Party membership card and a receipt for a party membership book. Both documents were introduced as evidence by Mary Evans, attorney for Robert Low, before the House Labor sub-committee hearings on the studio jurisdictional strikes.

Action to be taken by the House will be decided in executive session this week, according to Carroll D. Kearns, sub-committee chairman.

Barton A. Zora, attorney for the Motion Picture Association of America, was on the stand at the close of the fourth week of hearings on Friday. He described as false charges by the Conference of Studio Unions head.

T. Gamble Heads New Heart Committee

National Heart Committee, formed to combat heart disease has been organized with headquarters in New York City. Ted R. Gamble is chairman.

Among active sponsors are Robert Cooney, Walter Wanger, Samuel Goldwyn, Granlund Rice, Mrs. N. Peter Rathvon, Irene Dunne, Niles Trammell and Mark Woods.

Amount of British Film Earnings in South America Included

London, March 14.—The equivalent of earnings of British films in Central and South America and associated American territories, in addition to the income paid from the United States, its possessions and the Philippines, are embraced in the amounts remittable to British film companies under the settlement agreement reached last week. Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, said prior to his departure for New York on the Queen Mary yesterday.

British films in the United States, possessions and the Philippines previously had been estimated at from $4,000,000 to $6,000,000 for the first year of the settlement agreement, starting next June. Earnings in the other associated American territories could boost the figure to $10,000,000, according to estimates. The amount would be remittable to the United States in addition to the $17,000,000 in remittances granted outright in the agreement.

Dutch Quota Seen Abolished by Sept.

By Sept. 1 the film market in Holland will be “wide open” to all comers. This prediction came at the weekend from J. J. ter Linden, president and managing director of the only major theatre circuit in that country which is completely Dutch-owned. Ter Linden, visiting here until March 26, said a dropping of the quota restrictions will be of sweeping advantage to U. S. pictures, the most popular with the Dutch theatre-goers.

Present Dutch quota grants 32-weeks-per-year playing time to American pictures, and 20 weeks to films of other countries.
Personal Mention

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew’s vice-president and treasurer, is in New York today from the Coast.

ROBERT SIDEMAN, 20th Century-Fox director, and VICTOR MATURE and RICHARD CONTE, arrived in New York over the weekend for the Coast.

DON SWARTZ, head of Independent Film Distributors, ASTOR PICTURES, left Memphis and Milwaukee, is in town for conferences with R. M. SATZI, Astor president.

BEN BERK, general production manager of United Philippine Artists Films, left New York at the weekend for the Coast.

BERNARD R. GOODYEAR, Warner exchange supervisor, will return here today from a tour of Southern and Western exchanges.

DOUGLAS FARRANOS, Universal-International producer-star, will attend the United Producers Convention at Lake Success today and tomorrow.

WILLIAM B. JAFFE, industry attorney, celebrated his birthday last Thursday at a party attended by industry leaders and their wives.

SAM SPIEGEL, who recently organized his own company with JEREMY HUSTON, is in town from the Coast.

ALEX F. CUMMINGS, head of M-G-M branch operations, will be here today for Buffalo and Albany.

SAM ISRAEL, Eagle-Lion studio publicity director, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

WILLIAM B. ZOLLNER, M-G-M short subjects head, has left here for Chicago and the Midwest.

UA Directors Approve Cagney Settlement

United Artists board of directors was informed of an agreement between the company and Cagney Productions for distribution of “The Time of Your Life” at the board’s regular meeting here on Friday. The pact formally ends differences between the two companies over UA’s release of the film. Gradwell Sears, UA president, will fly to the Coast to have the agreement signed.

Fielding Resumes N.Y. License Post

Benjamin Fielding, whom New York City Welfare Commissioner John ranking has been called to New York from the Coast, Saturday, October 11. Fielding’s Department’s operations are more closely related to film industry activities here than those of any other city top agency.

News Briefs

* * *

SAMUEL WHEELER Is Feted by Executives of Film Classics

A testimonial luncheon to Samuel Wheeler was given on Friday at the Astor Hotel, here, by executives of Film Classics, on the eve of Wheeler’s departure for California to serve as executive head of the company’s West Coast division. Wheeler, a member of the company since 1939, was guest of honor at a luncheon at the Hotel Del Monte in Monterey, Calif.

JASPER BENHARD, FC president, lauded Wheeler. Others present were: AL ZINZELD, Ted Birnbaum and Eugene Arinstein.

Selznick Withdrawing ‘Paradise Case’ for Indefinite Period

Selznick Releasing Organization is withdrawing “The Paradise Case” for indefinite period. ASA Selznick made the decision on the theory the market will be short of important productions in six months or more.

“The Paradise Case” has had three runs, in New York, Miami and Los Angeles.

306’ N.Y. Circuit Pact Is Concluded

A memorandum agreement was initialed at the weekend by representa- tives of the ASCAP (N. Y. Local), No. 306 here and New York affiliated circuits pending the drafting of the formal contract which will end the long-standing battle over working conditions which ended informally on the eve of the memorandum. The agreement was initialed within a few hours of a unanimous vote of acceptance of the March 6 agreement by the full 306 membership. Herman Geiber, “306” mem- ber, then left here for a weekend in Florida.

Fights W. B. Move to Drop Trust Charges

CHICAGO, March 14.—Lloyd Root, attorney for Saul Meltzer, owner of the Rivoli and Rockne Theatres and plaintiff in a $900,000 anti-trust suit against 16 distributors and circuits here, on Friday filed a petition to quash a motion filed by defendants growers charging that it be dropped on grounds it is not licensed to do business in Illinois, does not have a registered agent and does not produce pictures in Illinois. Hear- ings have been extended April 1 in U. S. District Court.

Ed Fitzpatrick, 52

WATERBURY, Conn., March 14.—Funeral services will be held here to- morrow at the immaculate Conception Church for Ed Fitzpatrick, 52, man- ager of Loew’s Poli Theatre here since 1926, who died Thursday of a heart attack. He is survived by a son.

Before joining Loew’s Poli, he man- aged the Monticello and Bridgeport, O. A. Doob and John Murphy, Loew executives, will attend the rites tomorrow from New York.

End Of Ban On New Building Is Nearer

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The House Building and Currency Committee on Friday gave final approval to a decision to end, on March 31, the horticulture building’s power to limit theatre construction.

Debate will start in the House to- morrow on the Senate bill which this power was included. The rent bill passed by the Senate would continue the limitation power through April 30, 1949.

Ascap Will Reject

(Continued from page 1)

is reliably learned, will offer exhibitors licenses for a minimum of one year and a maximum of 10 years.

Allied States and some other ex- hibitor organizations have advised members to pay Ascap under protest for performing as little as 30 days, in the belief that the Lewis Bill or pend- ing litigation against Ascap may control the licensing picture in the near future.

Hearings on the Lewis Bill, which would prohibit “breach of contract” for performing rights to Ascap music, instead of exhibitors, are scheduled for April 25 in Washington. Allied is a sponsor of the measure. Allied-Ascap has expressed a preference for that licensing method in the past and offered it to producers, who rejected it. The society now is preparing to oppose the Lewis Bill, it is reported.

500% Boost

(Continued from page 1)

to $6,000 annually, compared with $1,200 under the old schedule.

Operators of Broadway theatres on a stage show policy said they have received notification of the in- creased rates from Ascap yet added that they expected to be given an opportunity to negotiate before new rates are imposed.

The 25 per cent increases in Ascap rates for all theatres not on stage show policy have come effective today. Those rates were announced Ascap noted that separate schedules would be subsequenly for stage shows.

Ascap officials could not be reached for comment at the weekend on their demands on the stage show houses.

‘Red’ Party Card

(Continued from page 1)

that the 1945 decision in the set dec- orations case was “fixed.”

Zorn also told the committee that IATSE president Richard Walsh has a reputation in the industry for being “clean, decent and honest person.”

He also called upon Kears to re- vive the charge of conspiracy be- tween American Federation of Musicians and the Congressman made at the opening of the hearings. The hearings were recessed until Tuesday.

Newsreel Parade

T HE arrival of J. Arthur Rank, along with other distinguished visitors, is highlighted in current newsreels. Also covered are the death of American stand-up comedians, car theft, sport, and other subjects. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE NEWS, No. 24, April 1, 1949

All-American: Faison, co- star of the popular radio series "The Whistler," is on the set of the new Technicolor musical "South Pacific" in an attempt to present a new image after his revival in the 1941 production of the musical "Brigadoon." Faison is seen in a scene from the new musical as he performs his first important role of the season.


Blizzard in Midwest Reduces Attendance

KANSAS CITY, March 14.—Down- town theatre attendance in the Mid- west area dropped to one-third of nor- mal the latter part of last week as a result of the severe snows and temperatures that reached below zero. In Nebraska, Minnesota, the Chicago area, reported attendance as low as 12 persons.

In Western Kansas where the bliz- zard was worst, 20 to 25 per cent of the theatres were unable to get print deliveries. However, no houses closed because of the snow. Lack of shorts, however, Sam Abend of the Exhibitors Film Delivery commented that it was the worst weather for delivery in 25 years.

Berry Directed “Casbah”

John Berry’s name was inadvertent- ly omitted as director of the re- vival, Eugene Leiters–International’s “Casbah,” which appeared in Motion Picture Daily on March 8.

FILM BOOKER

Familiar with New York exchanges, to assist in a newly established exhibitor organization. Salary open. Must be available immediately. Write, citing experience and references to Box 412.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

1270 Sixth Ave., New York 20
It is difficult to sum up the essence of a motion picture by the use of slogans.

However, "ALL MY SONS" has that natural, human, emotional quality that leaves a lasting impression.

One of the reasons why this prize play comes out so gloriously on the screen is the care given to it, not only during production, but for months prior to production.

And, in entrusting the writing of the screen play and the picture's production to Chester Erskine, co-producer-director of the "EGG AND I", U-I felt confident that in his hands the picture would assay all the sterling qualities of the play.

Also, in selecting a director, U-I felt that Irving Reis, noted for his excellent work on the "BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER", would have an unusual perception for the subject matter of "ALL MY SONS".

When you see "ALL MY SONS" you will be the beneficiary of the magnificent amalgam that results from all the elements of a production blending into a triumphant screen achievement.

There is not any one thing that you will remember about "ALL MY SONS"; instead, you will be deeply conscious of all the things that have gone into it.

For that reason, Motion Picture Daily said:

"Great skill and talent in acting, writing and direction combine to make this screen version of the Arthur Miller stage play a professional achievement!"

and Film Daily said:

"Written and produced for the screen by Chester Erskine, the story is lucidly translated into film terms by Director Irving Reis. In each category of production, the treatment is top drawer!"

and summed up generally

by Showmen's Trade Review:

"The way it has been written, acted and directed for the screen makes of it 94 minutes of superb entertainment!"
Remittances

(Continued from page 1)

and the productions to be made in them. From balances thereafter, a sum limited to $10,000,000 may be expended outside the film industry during the first two years of the agreement.

Wilson revealed a suggestion has been made, and remains to be explored, which would permit investment of the $10,000,000 in real estate, probably the hotel industry here which would help Britain's tourist trade and earn additional dollars.

Wilson made it clear that the American companies will not be permitted to invest their blocked funds in theatres here without the consent of the Board of Trade, nor could they make any investment likely to conflict with legitimate British film interests.

A representative of M-G-M present at a Wilson-Johnston press conference here disclosed that his company intended to increase its production activities in England as a result of the tax settlement, plans calling for the services of many of the studio's Hollywood stars. Similar disclosure was made by a Warner Brothers representative.

MGM to Boost Its Activities

The M-G-M spokesman said that the company planned to expand its production in England to the extent of constructing new studios there.

At the end of the first two-year period of the four-year agreement, 50 per cent of the unexpended blocked funds, or $8,000,000, whichever is greater, can be carried forward to the second period to take advantage of prospects of better investing conditions which might prevail then for production or studio expansion here.

In no eventuality, however, is there any intention of permitting permanent freezing of balances or other expedients which might add an increased dollar drain on the country. The ultimate residue may be devoted to charitable or artistic purposes, and this prospect is regarded highly by the government.

There is no intention to restrict the number of American pictures which may be imported here, in regard to the box office being the obvious criterion of both quantity and value of films. An important consideration, however, is the likelihood currently of a 35 per cent quota eventuating.

Sees Jump in Earnings

Johnston said the amount in remittable dollars earned by British pictures in America in 1947 was several times larger than in 1946 and that he looks forward to future earnings two to three times greater than last year under the new arrangement.

Johnston repeated that the vital figure conditioning the American companies' dollar withdrawals from Britain is the net receipts, after distribution costs, of British pictures in America.

The 75 per cent film tax cannot be revoked before April because of the inevitable Parliamentary formalities. The complexity of an agreement covering national treaties, trade agreements and trade contracts involved in the settlement was emphasized with the implication that a great volume of work remains to be done before the agreement can become operative.

American films will begin coming in again immediately the tax has been repealed and irrespective of the June 14 effective date of the settlement agreement, which primarily relates to fiscal conditions.

New Treaties Will Be Needed

Revocation of the film tax will automatically include all countries as well as America, but it is likely that there will be trading in connection with it with respect to some countries, France, for example. This implies that separate treaties may be made later.

Wilson emphasized at a press interview the vast ramifications and difficult conditions embraced in the agreement and the attitude reflected therein which allowed "the good will of good neighbors."

Zukor Views British Film Tax Settlement as Being Favorable

HOLLYWOOD, March 14.—The British revocation of the 75 per cent ad valorem film tax represents a realization that the government was ill-advised in passing that legislation, Paramount board chairman Adolph Zukor declared here at the weekend.

He voiced the opinion that the new arrangement would have a favorable effect, but declined to predict the extent to which it will change Hollywood's production level, budgetary commitments or employment.

Present general tightening of production costs, he said, are not essentially different from that affected by World War II, and is salutary in effect. He said entertainment quality, now as always, is the sole determinant to the success of any picture, regardless of cost.

Zukor paid tribute to Henry Ginsberg's Paramount studio operations and the product turned out, declaring all new pictures which he has seen are fully qualified to meet present or likely future box-office requirements.

Independent Producers on Coast To Discuss Settlement Tuesday

HOLLYWOOD, March 14.—The effects of the British ad valorem settlement on independent producers of the U.S. will be considered at a meeting here on Tuesday of the membership of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

Skouras Emphasizes Films' World Role

BOSTON, March 14.—"The boundless possibilities of visual education as represented by motion pictures," were expounded by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, at the forum on motion pictures at Founders' Day Institute, Boston University. Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, president of the University, conferred on Skouras the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. The same degree was received also by J. Arthur Rank, David Sarnoff, RCA president, received the degree of Doctor of Commercial Science.

"We of the American film industry," Skouras said, "do not deny access to films made in other countries."

Rank told the forum that he has made a bid to put his films into world markets, adding: "We are using British films as trade ambassadors for British goods—just as you have used American films to stimulate export sales of American goods."

Skouras emphasized: "The time has come for a fresh start in production, a larger production than ever before. The audience and the world are waiting for us."

Ken Murray's "Bill and Coo" A FULL LENGTH FEATURE in TRUCOLOR

REPUBLIC'S EASTER SURPRISE

Power in its stars!!

Zachary Scott - Hayward
Diana Lynn - Greenstreet
Lucille Bremer - Vickers

It's coming... from Eagle Lion!

A PRODUCING ARTISTS Production

Monday, March 15, 1948
TOA Sets Up 5-Point Lewis Bill Assault

Gamble, Coyne, Others At Congress Hearings

Charges that the Lewis Bill will deprive theatres of their fundamental right to negotiate with Ascap and will virtually strip exhibition of its political strength, have been prepared by Theatre Owners of America for inclusion in a five-pointed attack on the measure when it comes up for its Congressional hearing in Washington next week.

This was disclosed here yesterday by Ted Gamble, TOA president, who said the list was far short of those who will condemn the bill at the hearing includes; Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director; A. Julian Brylawski, head of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Washington (D.C.); Robert R. Livingston, Nebraska TOA; Ben Stroeter, North and South Carolina Theatre Owners. Gamble said that it is expected producer representatives will also be on hand to assail the bill which provides for producer payment of Ascap music.

Program Is Set for NCA Meet March 22

MINNEAPOLIS, March 15.—Program for the semi-annual convention of North Central Allied, to be held at the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, March 22-23, has been practically completed by Stanley Kane, executive director, with the addition of a clinic on television and 16mm. competition to the business agenda.

In a switch of plans, NCA has cancelled the subject scheduled for the evening of March 22 in the Nicollet bowing to the plans of Variety Club of the Northwest to use the banquet hall for the evening to honor chief barkerers. It will be a stag and NCA's invited guest speakers, Governor Youngdahl and Mayor Humphrey of Minneapolis, will be shifted to the same spot on the Variety program. (Continued on page 4)

TOA Sets Up 5-Point Lewis Bill Assault

Gamble, Coyne, Others At Congress Hearings

Charges that the Lewis Bill will deprive theatres of their fundamental right to negotiate with Ascap and will virtually strip exhibition of its political strength, have been prepared by Theatre Owners of America for inclusion in a five-pointed attack on the measure when it comes up for its Congressional hearing in Washington next week.

This was disclosed here yesterday by Ted Gamble, TOA president, who said the list was far short of those who will condemn the bill at the hearing includes; Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director; A. Julian Brylawski, head of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Washington (D.C.); Robert R. Livingston, Nebraska TOA; Ben Stroeter, North and South Carolina Theatre Owners. Gamble said that it is expected producer representatives will also be on hand to assail the bill which provides for producer payment of Ascap music.

Program Is Set for NCA Meet March 22

MINNEAPOLIS, March 15.—Program for the semi-annual convention of North Central Allied, to be held at the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, March 22-23, has been practically completed by Stanley Kane, executive director, with the addition of a clinic on television and 16mm. competition to the business agenda.

In a switch of plans, NCA has cancelled the subject scheduled for the evening of March 22 in the Nicollet bowing to the plans of Variety Club of the Northwest to use the banquet hall for the evening to honor chief barkerers. It will be a stag and NCA's invited guest speakers, Governor Youngdahl and Mayor Humphrey of Minneapolis, will be shifted to the same spot on the Variety program. (Continued on page 4)

Ascap Stage Tax Added to New Schedules

Combination Houses to Pay 2 Separate Rates

While operators of combination film and stage show houses prepared yesterday to insist that they be given an opportunity to negotiate new music licensing rates for their theatres with Ascap, the industry society disclosed that the 500 per cent increase in the rates it is asking of such theatres is in addition to the new 25 per cent increase in rates for film theatres which Ascap put into effect yesterday.

In other words, the combination houses are being asked to pay the new music tax rates for film houses, an increase of five cents per seat for virtually all of them, plus 50 cents to $1 at a rate nationally for stage performances.

Rise to $1.25 Per Seat

Ascap's new stage show taxes, a new and separate levy, are 50 cents per seat for houses up to 800 seats; 75 cents for those up to 1,599 seats, and $1 for those of 1,600 seats and over. Since virtually all stage presentation houses are in the latter category, their new Ascap tax would be $1.25 per seat annually, compared with the former rate of 20 cents per seat.

Ascap still had not notified the combination film and stage show houses of the proposed new rates yes.

(Continued on page 4)

50 - 50 for "Arch", No Admission Rise

Hollywood, March 15.—"Arch of Triumph", Entprise production being released by United Artists, will be sold on a 50-50 rental with guaranteed top playing time required. The distributor will not ask for an increase in admission prices.

In announcing "Arch" selling policy today, the Enterprise board said that although the $5,000,000 invested in the film gives the company "the right to expect the purchasers of tickets to pay more, the company saw that higher potential profits will accrue from following a policy of regular admission prices on the basis of today's market."
Three Companies Win an Appeal In Action by Empire- Universal

TORONTO, March 15—Three film companies have won an appeal in an action brought against them by Empire-Universal Pictures, Ltd. The companies have been awarded a judgment which includes, as a breach of a contract for distribution of certain J. Arthur Rank pictures in this country, the three being

Arthur Rank Organization and Eagle-Lion Films, New York, and General Cinema Finance Corp., London. The order of the court was as follows:

By the judgment, present proceedings in Ontario against the three, which were awarded costs, have been set aside. Chief Justice Robinson of the Ontario Court of Appeals ruled that an affidavit entered by an official of EmpireUniversal in the original suit was "fatally defective."

He could not find "any statement of fact that any contract or contracts were made, nor when or where any contract was made, nor who the contracting parties were."

Mexican Supreme Court Lifts Ban on Spanish Production

MEXICO-CITY, March 15—The Mexican Supreme Court has removed a domestic film censorship by ordering the ban on the Spanish picture "Bambu" be lifted. This was ordered by the Ministry of the Interior at the request of the Cuban government on the contention that the film disparages Cuba's national heroes and was appealed by Cinematu-graficas Unidos, the distributor.

To Appeal McLendon Decision

CHICAGO, March 15—Thomas McConnell, attorney for B. R. McLendon of Dallas in the trust suit against a group of New York firms, was set aside. Chief Justice Robinson of the Ontario Court of Appeals ruled that this suit was "fatally defective."

He could not find "any statement of fact that any contract or contracts were made, nor when or where any contract was made, nor who the contracting parties were."

Anti-Censorship Meeting

The planning committee of the Stop Censorship Movement announced here yesterday that a meeting on the censorship question will take place on Tuesday evening, March 23, in the Hotel Astor, here.

New Canadian Board Member

OTTAWA, March 15—Jean Charles Falardeau has been appointed a member of the National Film Board of Canada.

Skouras, Rank Weigh

CLOSER ODEON, G-B TIE

Plans to effect closer operation between the Odeon and Gaumont-British circuits were understood to have been discussed here yesterday at a luncheon meeting by J. Arthur Rank, British film and theatre leader, and Spyros Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, which holds an interest in G-B.

It was learned upon Rank's arrival here last week that he planned to take up closer working ties between the two companies, claiming they should stay in unity. He made it clear, however, that no merger of the two is contemplated.

St. Louis Tax Falls Short

St. Louis, March 15—First month's returns on the city's five per cent amusement tax netted $44,482 from motion picture theatres on gross receipts of $891,000. With stage and vaudeville, however, the total was only $51,530, well below the estimated return at the rate of $750,000 per

Expect Jackson Park

Ruling After Easter

CHICAGO, March 15—Decision on the Jackson Park Theatre contempt proceedings which ended March 5 is expected to be announced sometime this week. The time was set after Easter, when Federal Judge Michael J. Igoe will return from a vacation.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Tuesday, March 16, 1948
Parsons Plans Two Pictures Annually

RKO Radio producer Harriet Parsons said here yesterday that she envisioned a big step-up in Hollywood production as a result of the British film import tax settlement. In New York for a month’s vacation from the Coast, Miss Parsons said she hopes to produce in her own name for RKO Radio’s next two pictures a year under contract which runs to 1945. Her latest is “I Remember Mama,” co-produced with George Stevens.

Miss Parsons pointed out that about seven women film producers have emerged within the last three years, Miss Parsons said she believes women with industry experience will turn toward production in ever increasing numbers. Experience and background are the important prerequisites for doing a good film-making job and a producer’s sex does not enter at all, Miss Parsons maintains. “But there are still some studios where women cannot have a chance to produce,” she said.

Hollywood, Miss Parsons holds, should have the courage to bring social and political problems to the screen, and every so often should shy away from pandering to the standard film demands of the public. The public, she feels, should be asked to “go along,” with Hollywood when it has something new to offer.

De Rochemont Plans ‘Digest’ Pictures

The RD-DR Corp. has been incorporated in Albany by Louis de Rochemont to make documentary films, both features and shorts, based on material published in Reader’s Digest.

AFL Unions, Builders Devise Peace Plan

Washington, March 15.—Presidents of 19 American Federation of Labor building trades unions have approved a plan worked out with the nation’s contractors for settlement of a dispute in the construction industry without resort to strikes. The plan, already approved by the contractors, will be put in effect soon and may be the end of many headaches for persons contemplating theatre construction.

Pay Raises for 298 In Columbia Award

Wage increases ranging from $6 to $10 were granted some 298 Columbia home office employees in a decision handed down by the Arbitration Board of the Screen Employees Guild which was presented by the executives of the company. Increases are retroactive to last Sept. 27.

Grant Paramount Motion

Paramount’s motion for a stay of cross-examination of the conflict with the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild was granted here yesterday by New York Supreme Court Justice Morris Edler. The dispute arose out of some recent employee layoffs by the company.

Eagle-Lion Reshapes Southern Territory

Eagle-Lion’s Southern territory in the future will comprise the New Orleans, Atlanta, Charlotte and Memphis areas. William L. McDonald, distribution vice-president, announced yesterday.

The change is in line with the company’s policy of realigning sales assignments and reorganizing of districts to promote more efficient operation of its distribution department.

Heads E-I Omaha Branch

Edward Cohen, former salesman for Universal and 20th Century-Fox, has been named Eagle-Lion’s branch manager in Omaha.

Video Set-Making High

Washington, March 15.—Television receiver production continued to climb in February to a new peak as over-all set manufacturing remained at a high seasonal level and the output of FM-AM receivers advanced above the January figure, the Radio Manufacturers Association reported today. EMA members reported the manufacture of 35,889 television sets during February, bringing their total production since the war to 210,927.

Municipal Taxes on Theatres Growing

CHICAGO, March 15.—City admissions and amusement taxes are being widely adopted, says a report by the Municipal Finance Officers Association. Spectacular example of the trend cited was the adoption of admission taxes by 70 Ohio cities almost simultaneously after the state government abolished its admissions taxes. Annual admission tax collections are expected to reach $600,000 in Cleveland, $300,000 in Cincinnati, $155,000 in Columbus and $41,000 in Dayton. Most of the Ohio cities impose a tax of three per cent on theatre admissions.

Chicago imposed a three per cent tax on admissions late in 1934 and expects a yield of $2,250,000 this year. Bloomington, Ill., has levied a four per cent tax on gross receipts. St. Louis recently adopted a five per cent tax on admissions.

Newsreelers Agree On Forrestal Plan

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Representatives of newsreel companies and other information media today agreed on what course to take in response to Secretary of Defense Forrestal’s announcement of a voluntary suppression of military and other defense news, but refused to make public details of their plan until it is presented to a large cross-section of information officials later this month.

Walton C. Amey, Warner-Pathé vice-president, who represented the newsreels at today’s meeting, said that he thought the meeting of the full group would be held here March 29.

Rains Wash Out Film Grosses in Louisiana

NEW ORLEANS, March 15.—Wind, cold, and rain combined to lower box-office grosses throughout the territory. Winter made a surprise reappearance during the week, immediately following a record rainfall which submerged city streets to a depth of 10 inches and more and left outlying districts flooded for several days.

The White Hall Theatre, at White Hall, has been closed.

G. O. Langheinrich, 58

MILWAUKEE, March 15.—George O. Langheinrich, 58, treasurer of the independent Motion Picture Theater Owners’ Association, and owner of the Burleigh Theater, with his brother, Paul, died here at the weekend from a heart attack. Langheinrich, a member of the mayor’s advisory council, leaves a widow, Della, a son, Orville P., and the brother.

Services for LeVien

Christopher LeVien, 79, father of John D. LeVien, news editor of Warner Pathé News, was buried yesterday in Pinelawn Cemetery, Farmingdale, L. I. Also surviving are the widow, Rose, and another son, Arthur. He died suddenly Friday night following his return from Florida.

Eidelsberg’s Father, 75

Hyman Eidelsberg, 75, father of Frederica Eidelsberg of Vanguard Pictures, and Lee Eidelsberg of Paramount, died here Saturday, and was buried Sunday. Other survivors are Sarah, the widow, and two other daughters.

FOR SALE

in 18,765 theatres in the United States

Two out of three people in every movie audience are under thirty-five years of age.

Of the 21,600,000 readers of the 12 magazines represented by the Association of Screen Magazine Publishers, 80.6% are in the under 35 age group, which makes up two-thirds of the American movie-going public.

This is another of the many vital facts revealed by the results of a two-year survey, now being presented to industry leaders in New York and Hollywood.

If you have not yet seen this presentation, arrangements to do so can be made by contacting the Association of Screen Magazine Publishers, Inc., 37 West 57th Street, New York City.
Review

“Summer Holiday”
(Jerco-Goldwyn-Mayer)

LET it be said, first off, that this is one of those buoyant pictures which, if properly and forcefully sold to both exhibitors and theatre patrons, can very well emerge as one of the year’s outstanding grossers. One has but to sift carefully the film’s ingredients to conclude that the foregoing statement is a valid one.

To begin with, it is based on Eugene O’Neill’s “Ah, Wilderness!” which M-G-M converted into a highly lucrative motion picture back in 1935. It stars Mickey Rooney, giving him an Andy Hardy type of role that outshines, or at least equals, the best he has done in that series.

M-G-M and director Ernst Lubitsch, under the discriminating eye of Arthur Freed, it was directed in fine style by Rouben Mamoulian and supports is supported by a wealth of acting talent. Besides Rooney, it has Gloria de Haven, Walter Huston, Frank Morgan, Butch Jenkins, Marilyn Maxwell, Agnes Moorehead and many others.

“Summer Holiday” is a musical version of “Ah, Wilderness!” It is almost an operetta. But let that deter no exhibitor. It has bounce galore and the capacity to instill in an audience a warm glow of happiness and a joy-of-living feeling that spells complete customer satisfaction. This is one of those rare musicals that loses none of the flavor of a straight drama original in the process of adaptation. Certainly it deserves to be backed up by salesmanship and promotion of high order.

And, if anyone were to ask me to name the actors who loom largest on O’Neill’s account of the ebullient, almost precoce, turn-of-the-century adolescent, his puppy-love affair, his tongue-burning taste of worldliness? It’s an hilarious suggestion and to that end the picture has chosen to honk its horns on the off-beat and on the off-key.

Between the laughs embodied in the tale of 1906 family, academic and vacation life, there come bursts of song and occasional dialogue in rhyme which mellow the proceedings and charm the senses. The outstanding musical number is “The Stanley Steamer.” Lennie Brecher, and also Miss Jill Pierson’s “High School Saturday Night.”

This is a beautifully polished piece of merchandise that should enjoy a big commercial future. Irving Brecher and Jean Holloway did the adaptation, from the screenplay by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett.

Running time 72 minutes. General audience classification. For April release.

CHARLES L. FRANK

NCA Meets March 22
(Continued from page 1)

R. Ruben, W. H. Workman, Maitland Frosch, John Ancil Branton and Ben Blochskey, past chief barkers, will be presented with Variety rings. A. K. Anderson and William Elson previously were presented with rings.

Kane said that the initial speech of national Allied president William L. Ashworth at the NCA meeting will include a discussion of Paramount’s action in billing and posting, Marliqan (Minn.), in an alleged, price fixing scheme, to exhibit Will Grazzer and contact for Paramount product at high prices. (NCA president Ben Berger is expected to make the Paramount-Glaser fight one of the main issues in an attack on “coercive” film rentals.)

Sidney Samuelson, exhibitor head and president of Allied’s caravan service, will headline his attack on film rentals with a blast at the Minneapolis 20th-Fox branch in a dispute with an Allied Caravan subscriber over terms on “Captain from Castle.”

Have you heard about
The Mating of Millie?

A truly great family picture...

GLENN FORD EVELYN KEYES
A COLUMBIA PICTURE

Majors Ship Films
(Continued from page 1)

license fees; would terminate Ascap’s direct dealings with theatres.

The three other contentions which TOA president Edwin W. Blumenthal, Gamble said, are: (1) TOA would give virtual authority to a dozen or so companies (producing) whose interests are at war with certain major companies who almost succeed in making sure that special fee would be in line for theatres which choose to use such music in conjunction with occasional stage concerts, organ or piano intermissions, etc.,

Ascap Mun on Proposal

Indications are, Gamble said, that Ascap will speak neither for or against the bill at the hearing, a compromise, might be adopted.

MPPA Also in Opposition

It is known that Motion Picture Association of America also opposes the Lewis bill, and Edward P. Klopf, chairman of MPPA’s copyright committee, is expected to testify against it at the hearing. Allied States, which sponsored the bill, and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatres Owners will, of course, appear in support of the measure.

Reade, Jr., Miller Elected Heads of TOA of N. J.

Walter Reade, Jr., has been elected national president of the Motion Picture Owners of New Jersey, TOA’s newest member unit, which claims a membership of 179 New Jersey theatres.

Other officers are: Adam Adams, treasurer, and Harold Blumenthal, secretary. TOA headquarters here yesterday that Blumenthal will begin a tour of New Jersey to enlist new member theatres.

TOA Public Relations Meeting

Theatre Owners of America’s public relations committee will hold its first meeting in New York this week.

Ted Gamble, TOA president, disclosed here yesterday.

Golden to Film in U.K.


Pictures will be based on an original by Earl Baldwin, Robert S. Goldenson, who is now preparing “What Every Bride Should Know” for Selznick Releasing Organization, will produce “Charlemagne” following “Babes on Broadway” which is next on his Golden Production agenda.

Tuesday, March 16, 1948
House Votes to Drop Curbs on Theatre Bldg.

Measure Would End Power as of March 31

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The House voted today to let all Gov- ernment controls over theatre and other amusement construction die at the end of the month.

It took this action by dropping such power from a rent control bill passed today. The measure now goes to confer- ence with the Senate, whose rent bill continues the construction limitation power through April 30, 1949.

While it is still too early to predict what the conferences will do, chances are that they will go along with the House action letting the power die on March 31.

Says Sorrell Showed 'Red' Card in 1937

WASHINGTON, March 16.—A former West Coast leader who played a brief role in the 1937 studio jurisdictional strike, today told the House Labor sub-committee investigating the Hollywood labor trouble that he had seen a Communist Party membership card belonging to Herbert K. Sor- rell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions.

John R. Robinson, a marine engi- neer, said that in 1937 Sorrell had shown him the card, bearing the sig- nature “Herb Stewart,” and that Sorrell told him he was a member of the party and defended party princi- ples.

Robinson, in recounting a conver- sation with Sorrell explained that he

RKO to Release 12 Films by Labor Day

HOLLYWOOD, March 16.—RKO Radio will release 12 productions between now and Labor Day, it was announced here following sales and product meetings at the studio between Nick Grinde, Robert Moeh- rie and Dore Schary as well as in- dependent producers.


90 Millions

In Dividends

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Final figures released by the Commerce Depart- ment on Sen. Jo GST, 1947 divi- dend payments indicate that they ac- tually topped $90,000,000, rather than the earlier record $80,000,000 revealed by preliminary reports.

The Department said that its re- sults show that in addition to the dividend payments, and since Commerce holds that pub- licly-registered dividends are taxable income.

(Continued on page 5)

Universal Officers

Are All Reelected

J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal board chairman; Nate Blumberg, pres., and the other officers con- nected with the meeting of the board of directors held here yesterday.

Other officers are: vice-presidents John J. O’Connor, Charles Prutzman, William A. Schwartz, Herbert A. Schimel, Matthew Fox and Edward Muhl; secretary, Adolph Schimel; treasurer, Sam Mastromich; as- signee, Adam Shevrin; assistant treasurer, Anthony Petti; assistant secretary, Margaret M. Sullivan and Morris Davis; assistant treasurer Eugene F. Walsh, Harold Brewster, Miss Sulli- van and George Douglas. A. new assistant secretary, Percy G. G. was elected by the board.

Universal’s top officers are serving without contracts, pending adjustment of industry conditions. Their old contracts expired last January.

Stage Show Houses

Plan Ascap Appeal

Operators of combination film and stage show houses, including Para- mount, RKO, Warner, Loew, National Theatres and others, will make a concerted effort to negotiate with As- cap for a reduction of the latter’s new increased license collection rates for theatres having regular stage show policies, a spokesman for one of the circuits said here yesterday. He added, however, that Ascup will be approached by the companies only after Ascup’s new contracts are re- leased.

The contracts, calling for as much as 500 per cent increase in rates, are now being printed and are expected to be sent to the theatres within two weeks. They are intended to be retroactive to March 15.

Cinema Lodge Will

Honor Weitman

Robert M. Weitman, retiring president of New York’s Cinema Lodge of B’nai B’rith, will be feted at the lodge’s “Presidents’ Dinner” at New York’s Hotel Astor, on April 14. It was announced here yester- day by David Weinstock, honorary chairman, and Jack H. Levin, dinner chairman. The new president, yet to be selected, will be inducted at the dinner.

Also on the committee are Harry Levine and Robert K. Shapiro, Paramount Theatre; Marvin Kirsch, Radio Daily; Albert K. Seidel, Radio Sign; attorneys S. Arthur Gilson and Malvin T. David- son, and Milton Livingston, Universal.

N. Y. 1st-Run

Arcs Are Spotty

Business at Broadway first-runs this week is characterized by extre- mes: some are producing first-rate grosses, others are getting only meagre returns. Still outstanding among top-money films is “The Naked City” which, together with Tex Beneke’s orchestra on stage, is heading for a record-smashing $130,000 in its second week at the Capitol. First week of “City” brought $197,000.

At Radio City Music Hall, “I Remember Mama,” plus an Easter

N. Y. Circuits at

Video Parley Today

Representatives of Century Circuit, Walter Reade, Cinema, Rugoff and Becker, Warner, Loew’s, RKO, Paramount and other circuits are ex- pected today to participate in what is described as the first move to test the legal obstacles said to be block- ing the immediate advent of theatre television. They will discuss the problem with Alfred Emerson, presi- dent of Colonial Television, and Joseph Marker, video attorney, in the offices of attorney Joseph L. Green- berg here.

Meanwhile, the first group of Altec engineers has checked in with Colo- nial for a week’s training in large- screen television. The entire project calls for 40 Altec men from all over

Claim Canada

Net of British

Films Included

Decision May Hinge on ‘Dollar Area’ Meaning

Contention that the equivalent of British film earnings in Canada also may be remitted to the American industry from its British reve- nue under the tax settlement agree- ment is likely to be made by some distribution companies here, it was learned yesterday.

Basis of the contention is the section of the London agreement which provides that among the uses to which starting blocked in England may be put is the “payment of British prod- ucers for dollar earnings from distribution of British films in the dollar area.”

While the agreement itself does not, apparently, define the “dollar area,” distribution officials here contend that under established film distribution practice for foreign-made films, the “dollar area” is recognized as including Canada, Central and South Ameri- ca, as well as the United States. The distributors of foreign films in the Western Hemisphere, it was

Johnston on UK

Tax on NBC Sat.

The story of the settlement of the British export film import tax will be aired Saturday from 3:30 to 3:45 P.M. (EST), by Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Associate of Amer- ica president, on a nationwide hookup over NBC, emanating from Wash- ington.

Johnston is due in New York on Thursday at about 11 A.M. aboard the S.S. Queen Mary. A meeting of the MPAA board and industry execu-

Rank, Reels Discuss

Olympics Coverage

The controversy between the American newsreel and J. Arthur Rank over rights to cover the Olympic Games in England this summer was on the way to a solution yester- day as a result of a meeting here be- tween a newsreel committee and the British film leader. The meeting was called at the re-
HAL B. WALLIS, Paramount producer, will leave New York Friday for the Coast.

NATE BLUMBERG,Universal president, is due here tomorrow, instead of Saturday, from Europe on the SS America. Robert H. Rankin, director of Thompson Productions, London, is also among the passengers.

JEAN LIGHTMAN, daughter of M. A. Lightman, Sr., of Malco Theatres, Memphis, has been selected as the Greater Memphis "fairy godmother" for the 1948 Cotton Carnival.

MAURICE BERGMAN,Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, will attend the Variety Club convention at Miami Beach April 12-17.

E. T. GOMESIAL,Universal-International distribution executive, and C. J. FELDMAN, Western division sales manager, left here yesterday for Detroit.

GEORGE HILMAN, president of Filmrow Exhibitors and Television Corp., has returned to New York from the Coast.

Tom Bridge has become acting manager of Paramount's Memphis office after the leave of absence of L. W. McClintock.

DAVID D. HORNE,Monogram International assistant secretary-treasurer, has returned to New York from Puerto Rico.

HOWARD STRICKLAND,M-G-M studio publicity chief, left Hollywood yesterday by plane for home office conferences.

JACK CODY,Columbia executive vice-president, has returned to New York from Florida.

HERMAN GREENBERG,Aascap sales manager, is due back in town tomorrow from Boston.

DON SWARTZ,head of Independent Film Distributors, has returned to Minneapolis from New York.

HARRY FEINSTEIN,Warner film buyer in Pittsburgh, is a New York visitor.

H. M. RICHY,M-G-M exhibitor relations head, has returned here from the Coast.

Ascap Wants BMI Included in Suit

In an amended answer to the Government's anti-trust suit against it, Ascap has asked that Broadcast Music, Inc., be made a defendant on the action on the grounds that it sought to selfishly intervene in Ascap's negotiations with composers and authors to make the composers and authors of the world's copyrighted music available to the radio industry.

News Briefs . . .

George Gold named to lead N. J. Allied Anti-Tax Drive

NEWARK, March 17—George Gold has been named by Edward Lachman, president of New Jersey Allied, to head a committee to formulate a program which will back against a further imposition of three per cent theatre admission taxes by the city councils of Newark and Ocean City.

Gold's appointment was made following a Jersey Allied membership meeting today at the Newark Athletic Club. The new program plans to combat passage of state legislation which would permit the return of bingo to charity affairs.

National Film Board Cost Canada $1,012,646 in 1947

OTTAWA, March 16—Film distribution costs of the National Film Board of Canada last year totalled $1,012,646, or $816,786, more than four-tenths of this, was spent in Canada. The remainder spent in Belgium, and K. & E. has been excluded, including the maintenance of offices in London, Washington, Chicago, New York, and Minneapolis.

It booked 30 board pictures and scores of newsreels into 325 Canadian theatres, with an estimated monthly audience of 2,000,000 during the year.

20 More for Realart Are Announced at Meet Here

Realart franchise holders Don Swarts, Minneapolis; Lee Goldberg, New York; Joe Levin, New York; Simon Brandi, New York; Nelson Wax, Philadelphia, are in New York for a series of sales and advertising meetings. Twelve additional features and eight Westerns have been announced for 1948-49.

Delay DeLuXe Case Hearing

CHICAGO, March 16—Hearing on the brief filed by the DeLuXe Theatre in its anti-trust suit against Paramount and R. & K. has been continued until April 14. Plaintiff's brief opposing the defendants' motion to strike out certain paragraphs relating to the Jackson Park decree.

Griffith Managers Meet March 30-31

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 16.—Executives and managers of Griffith Theatres in Oklahoma and Texas will meet here March 30-31, C. F. Motley, Griffith home office spokesman, said here.

Col. to Pay 2½% Dividend

A two-and-a-half per cent common stock dividend payable May 14 to shareholders of record on April 30 was declared yesterday by the Columbus board.

25-Cent Universal Dividend

Board of directors of Universal yesterday declared a dividend of 25 cents per share on the common stock, payable April 30 to stockholders of record March 24.

AAA Appeal Board Modifies Elwood Amusement Award

 Arbitrator's award in the clearance dispute brought by Elwood Amusement, operating the Jamestown Theatre, Jamestown, R. I., has been modified by the Appeal Board of the Motion Picture Arbitration Tribunals.

Proceedings against the Paramount and Opera House theatres, at Newport, R. I., also failed today, it was granted by Paramount and RKO Radio to the Strand, Newport, over the Jamestown, but not later than 60 days after territorial release.

Gomez, Liebeschid Take Over For Screen in Mexico

Max Gomez and Nat Liebeschid national distributing for J. R. Corp. product in Mexico this week, having acquired the FSC franchise for large territories. Gomez, president; H. Alban-Mestanza, comptroller and secretary. Their first release is the anti-Communist "The Agitator," opening in Mexico City, and "The Panderer," in Frisco, Texas. A private screening has been requested by President Aleman.

Display Miniature Theatre In Stellol Glass Caravan

A miniature theatre auditorium is included in the mobile caravan of 12 model retail establishments which the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. has placed in a hotel at Carmel, Ind., this week. The models, following the showing here, will move to Philadelphia on the first leg of a tour of 54 cities and towns during the next three years.

Heineman Sets 16 E-L Films Against English

William J. Heineman, Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president, yesterday announced plans for shipping to England 16 films from E-L's 1947-48 re- lease schedule. About half of the films, totaling a week's screen, will be operated during the first half of the year. The four pictures shown will be kept to foreign films.

Wayne Heads Cleveland Salesmen

Cleveland, March 16.—Aaron Wayne, Paramount was elected president of the Salesmen's Club of Cleveland, succeeding Oscar Kantor. Elected with Wayne were: Frank Belles, RK0 Radio, first vice-president; Alex Schmel, Universal-International, second vice-president; Rudy Spiegel, Eagle-Lion, secretary; and Nat Barach, National Screen Service manager, treasurer.

NYU Cities 'Expectations'

Motion Picture Club of New York University has voted J. Arthur Rank's "Great Expectations" as the out- standing motion picture release of the year, according to the best adaptation of a novel, and the film having the best acting of any of its characters.

Newsreel Parade . . .

R EPEAL of the British odium tax is ahighlight in current newsmakers. Other items cover the mounting world crisis, people in the news and new sports. Complete contents follow:


PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 38—Eighty- first day's grosses, "The Romance," British repeal 75 per cent tax on U. S. films. People of the world: Dick Barton, Jane Franklin, General Meyers. Ex-Secretary of State for Russia, Moscow.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 29—Ex-Secretary of State for Russia, Moscow, signs new es- sential agreement in London. Republic earns $12,000,000 from Boston University. Dail's team train. Warner Pictures.


Para Heads in New Product Conference

Paramount executives and advertising-publicity personnel discussed forthcoming product at a meeting in the Hotel Astor here yesterday. Pictures discussed were "The Night Has a Thousand Eyes," "I Was a True Love," "Sealed verdict," "The Long Grey Line," "A Foreign Affair" and "Whispering Smith." Spectators were: Ray Taylor, Rudy Montegol, Paul Ackerman, Russell Holman, Stanley Shuford and members of the Pictorial Association of 55 who attended were: Ted O'Shea, Hugh Owen, Robert O'Brien, Robert Nettet, Fred Moshard, members of the for- eign publicity department and six representatives of Bucheman and Co., advertising agency serving Paramount.

NT Head Addresses Fox Midwest Meet

KANSAS CITY, March 16.—Charles P. Schimel, National Theatres, today conducted a meeting of Fox Midwest division executives and managers at the Astor Hotel here, preliminary to the sixth annual "Charles Skouras" drive of the National at the Hotel Eldon. Schimel, head of Fox Midwest, as- sisted. The Skouras party, which included all those who addressed the meeting, are due next in Milwaukee for a similar parlé there.
"I PREDICT THAT THESE THREE PICTURES WILL BE CANDIDATES FOR THE ‘TEN BEST’ OF 1948!"

Remember what we say here! And remember that it is still early in the year and there are many other M-G-M Big Ones to come! That’s why there’s a new industry slogan:

"M·G·M GREAT IN ’48"
Sorrell ‘Red’ Tie

(Continued from page 1)

was ousted from the National Maritime Union by the Communists because he had opposed them.

Testifying as the House hearings swung into their fifth week, Robinson also said he thought the party membership book receipt in evidence here was one he had seen in Sorrell’s possession.

Zorn Hits ‘Strike Violence’

Earlier today, producers’ attorney Burton Zorn had attempted to refute any given by Sorrell that the picketing of the studios had been entirely “peaceful.” Zorn cited affidavits from workers and executives who had been unable to cross the picket lines and charged that the 1945 strikes were conducted “with some of the worst violence in labor history and a complete contempt for the law.” He also promised to furnish affidavits disproving Sorrell’s charge that the producers had “bought” the police at the time of the strike.

IATSE attorney Matthew Levy read from the records of the House Un-American Activities Committee, as well as from other documents, to further establish Sorrell’s “Communist affiliations.”

Brewer Denies Biff ‘Link’

Roy Brewer, IATSE representative on the Coast, took the stand briefly to declare that he had never met Willie Biff and George Browne and that Sorrell’s charges that he was “following the same line” as they had been completely false. He said the committee that if he could find any evidence of Biff influence in Hollywood he would “either eliminate it or resign.”

DeMille Takes AFRA Suit to High Court

WASHINGTON, March 16—Cecil B. DeMille today asked the U. S. Supreme Court to reverse the lower court decision upholding the American Federation of Radio Artists (AFRA) right to strike. The “dollar area” as used in the agreement includes Canada, Central and South America, and the United States.

However, some distributors concede the point is arguable because “dollar area” does not appear to be specifically defined in the agreement.

Several suggestions for methods of allocating shares of British resistances among American companies and producers already are shaping up and undoubtedly several will be presented to the general industry meeting on the tax settlement which will follow the return here tomorrow of Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, and James Mulvey, representative of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, who together headed the American negotiators in London.

One proposal yesterday was that a commission, which could be comprised of either honorary or paid members, be set up to receive the claims for various industries, examine, verify and decide them.

Claims are likely to be numerous, it was pointed out, since the agreement covers the entire American industry and is not limited simply to distribution companies.

Deny Nationalization Of Mexican Industry

Mexico City, March 16—Government circles have disavowed reports that the Mexican industry will be nationalized and that Clasa Films Mundial, producing company here, has been placed under supervision of the National Properties Ministry, the bureau set up by President Miguel Aleman to check government expenditures. Government circles explain that supervision of Clasa Films by the Ministry is merely an official auditing.

Claim Canada

(Continued from page 1)

pointed out, the rentals from such films throughout the dollar area sent to New York for conversion and transmission of the foreign producers’ shares. The “dollar area” is made up of the “dollar area” as used in the agreement includes Canada, Central and South American, and the United States.

Several suggestions for methods of allocating shares of British resistances among American companies and producers already are shaping up and undoubtedly several will be presented to the general industry meeting on the tax settlement which will follow the return here tomorrow of Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, and James Mulvey, representative of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, who together headed the American negotiators in London.

One proposal yesterday was that a commission, which could be comprised of either honorary or paid members, be set up to receive the claims for various industries, examine, verify and decide them.

Claims are likely to be numerous, it was pointed out, since the agreement covers the entire American industry and is not limited simply to distribution companies.

Deny Nationalization Of Mexican Industry

Mexico City, March 16—Government circles have disavowed reports that the Mexican industry will be nationalized and that Clasa Films Mundial, producing company here, has been placed under supervision of the National Properties Ministry, the bureau set up by President Miguel Aleman to check government expenditures. Government circles explain that supervision of Clasa Films by the Ministry is merely an official auditing.

Claim Canada

(Continued from page 1)

pointed out, the rentals from such films throughout the dollar area sent to New York for conversion and transmission of the foreign producers’ shares. The “dollar area” is made up of the “dollar area” as used in the agreement includes Canada, Central and South American, and the United States.

Several suggestions for methods of allocating shares of British resistances among American companies and producers already are shaping up and undoubtedly several will be presented to the general industry meeting on the tax settlement which will follow the return here tomorrow of Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, and James Mulvey, representative of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, who together headed the American negotiators in London.

One proposal yesterday was that a commission, which could be comprised of either honorary or paid members, be set up to receive the claims for various industries, examine, verify and decide them.

Claims are likely to be numerous, it was pointed out, since the agreement covers the entire American industry and is not limited simply to distribution companies.

Deny Nationalization Of Mexican Industry

Mexico City, March 16—Government circles have disavowed reports that the Mexican industry will be nationalized and that Clasa Films Mundial, producing company here, has been placed under supervision of the National Properties Ministry, the bureau set up by President Miguel Aleman to check government expenditures. Government circles explain that supervision of Clasa Films by the Ministry is merely an official auditing.

Claim Canada

(Continued from page 1)
New York Grosses
(Continued from page 1)

stage presentation, got off to a good start with a big $130,000 seen for a first week on the basis of a gross of $40,000 in the first four days. Performing equally well in its first week is "Sitting Pretty" at the Roxy, where, together with Art Mooney's band on the stand-in orchestra, it is drawing $107,000, following the first five days' gross of $87,000. Long lines were evident yesterday at "To the Ends of the Earth" at the Rivoli, where it is a very mild one at the Rivoli, on a $22,000 gross.

Road to Rio's Strong
"Road to Rio," with a stage show featuring Joe E. Brown, is still going strong at the Paramount where a fourth week looks like $70,000. At the Warner, where "You Were My Wife" has been running for a "Robin Hood" is very gratifying in its first week, grossing $29,000. Another reissue, "The Fighting 69th," paired with Russ Morgan's orchestra on stage, is due to bring the Strand a rounding $5,000 in its first week. "Furia" is still good at the Rivoli with a $7,000 gross in an eighth week. At the Sutton, "The Pearl" continues to fare well; fourth week brought $8,100.

"Relentless" is very disappointing in its second week at the Criterion where only $2,100 was seen yesterday. "All My Sons" will have its world premiere at that house on March 27. At the Palace, "If You Had Only Heard," a production of "Robinson Hood" is very gratifying in its first week, an expected $13,000 gross. Also grossing in a mediocre vein is "The Making of Millie" at Loew's State where the first week is heading for $20,000. Mild, too, is "Black Bart," which is expected to bring in the Winter Garden only $18,000 in a second week. "Song of My Heart" failed to rally after the mild first week ($6,500) at the Park Avenue where a weak $5,500 was seen for a second picture; will hold for a third, however; $23,500 for 'Bishop's Wife'

Music Hall Books
State of Union

M-G-M's "State of the Union" has been booked as the next attraction at Radio City Music Hall, following the run of "I Remember Mama," which is expected to continue for the Hall for the next five or six weeks. O'Connor offers the season's variety show, a model insurance executive whose songs are being collapsed when he makes a mistake with a desktop and is then lured into the escape of carnival life by trouper Parker. This new work of two-handed men and bewhiskered women also develops complications for O'Connor when he becomes a mysterious knife-thrower's target. It develops that in back of all the skulluggage is a plot to get the carnival away from its hard-pressed owner. A little calculating by O'Connor reveals that the would-be carnival owner has had a shady past and thus the day is saved.

Even when Parker does nothing he is funny, but fortunately he has a lot to do. Miss Juan, as O'Connor's fiancee and secretary, who follows him into carnival life, is a pleasant and spirited little lass. The songs and mathematics have a standard plot groundwork in the screenplay of Oscar Brodney, based on the musical comedy written by Sam Perrin and George Baker. Robert Arthur produced and Jack Hively directed.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

SAG Asks Pay for Televised Pictures

Hollywood, March 16—Screen Actors Guild, in a notice to all producers, has served notice that it takes the position no producer has the legal right to sell or use for television any film made for theatre use without additional payments to actors in them.

The notice says in part that SPG "takes the position that films made for theatre exhibition cannot be used for television without compensation to actors to be agreed upon between us as part of the collective bargaining agreement."

Video Parley Today
(Continued from page 1)

the country to acquaint themselves with the manufacture of theatre video equipment, servicing and installation. Today's meeting will be addressed on legal aspects by Mark. An attempt will be made to resolve "whether theatre owners are willing to force the video issue." Broadcasters have declined to permit theatres to pick up telecasts. Exhibitors are said to be anxious to establish their video "rights" before the June political conventions in Philadelphia.

Dirksen Proposes a Government Studio

Washington, March 16—A suggestion was made today by Rep. Everett M. Dirksen, (R., III.), that the U. S. Government "develop a modern film studio" to produce informational subjects for the various Federal departments.

He "wondered whether it might not be wise" for the Government to set up its own studio, allowing the various departments to use the facilities as they wished and financing production by funds from each agency.

Music Hall Party

Gus Eysell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, was host at a cocktail party in the theatre's studio apartment yesterday for George Stevens and Harriet Parsons, whose "I Remember Mama" is current at the Music Hall.

90 Millions
(Continued from page 1)

only about three-fifths of all dividend payments, the total for the industry was boosted to $50,000,000.

The Department's preliminary figures showed $50,700,000 in publicized, reported payments. The final figure was $46,700,000. Department officials said that if payments during the final quarter of 1947 had matched those in the 1946 final quarter, the yearly total would have been even higher. Payments for the final quarter of 1947 amounted to $12,800,000, compared with $15,300,000 for the similar 1946 period.

Get Realert in St. Louis

Realart Pictures' franchise in St. Louis has been acquired by Herman Gerelick and George Phillips. Regular release schedule has been set up and they are now prepared to service the territory, according to Bud Rogers, Realert executive.

IRE Press Luncheon

The Institute of Radio Engineers will "kick off" its 1948 convention on "Radio-Electronic Frontiers" on March 22 with a press luncheon at the Hotel Roosevelt here. George W. Bailey, IRE executive secretary, will preside.

$600,000 Claimed for 18-Week N. Y. Run of 'Body and Soul'

"Body and Soul," United Artists, will wind up its run at the Globe Theatre here on Friday night. The Enterprise production will have played 19 weeks on Broadway, grossing more than $600,000, according to UA. It will end its engagement because of the theatre's commitment to show "Adventures of Casanova."

"Everyone Is Talking About
THE BIG CLOCK"

Review

"Are You With It?"
(Universal-International)
"ALL MY SONS" appeals to all kinds of people. We think this proves it is a great motion picture.

U-I has made a point of screening "ALL MY SONS" for all kinds of people in all walks of life. We feel that the picture has a powerful basic theme, which appeals to audiences of all types.

Not only have the show-wise trade paper reviewers acclaimed "ALL MY SONS" as an excellent picture, but it has been received with equal enthusiasm by such a varied group as:

SAMMY KAYE  LOU LITTLE
HARRY CONOVER  PHIL SILVERS
ARTHUR MURRAY  JOHN KIERAN
PERCY FAITH  GUY LOMBARDO
EDDIE BRANNICK  JOE DI MAGGIO

They all said: "'ALL MY SONS' is great!"
Everyone who sees "ALL MY SONS" agrees that it is a great motion picture.
SIMPP Lines Up Against Lewis Bill

Seeks Mills as Witness; Adds to Opposition

Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers has signified its intention of opposing the Lewis bill at hearings which are scheduled to start before the House committee on copyright in Washington next Monday, thus heavily tipping the industry stand against the pressure which would require exhibitors, instead of exhibitors, to clear performing rights to music used in films.

SIMPP sources, E. C. Mills, a director of United Artists and former general manager of Ascap, to represent it at the Washington hearings in opposition to the Lewis bill. Mills was unable to accept the assignment due to previous commitments and, if SIMPP cannot obtain other representation, it is believed that it will file a brief in opposition.

Briefs also will be filed by the Mo.

(Continued on page 6)

TOA Drive Against ‘Hidden’ Tax Laws

Warnings against city charter “loop-holes” and “hidden” laws which would permit imposition of admission tax without warning, are currently being sent by Theatre Owners of America to member theatre representatives throughout the country, Ted R. Gamble, TOA president, discloses.

TOA’s action was inspired by a surprise move by the city council of Eugene, Ore., which recently levied a three per cent admission tax originally proposed many years ago. TOA is now urging members to familiarize themselves with the full contents of city charters, and to report at once any clauses which could bring about “surprise” admission taxes. The organization intends to take immediate action against such clauses as they are reported, Gamble said.

15 Will Set ‘Youth Drive’ Here Monday

Some 15 theatremen from various sections of the country will meet at Theatre Owners of America headquarters here on Monday to formulate exhibition’s national campaign to combat juvenile delinquency along lines

(Continued on page 6)

‘IA’ Convenes On Aug. 16

More than 1,000 IATSE delegates from all over the country will convene in Chicago on Aug. 16 for the “IA”’s week-long bi-annual convention. “IA” international president Richard F. Walsh will preside.

Convention’s principal order of business will be the election of officers for the next two-year term. Walsh, who has served as international president since 1941, will be up for re-election again. Although it has been customary for more than one candidate to be available, there has been no official announcement of other presidential candidates so far. Nine “IA” vice-presidents or secretary-treasurer also will be elected.

Other convention business is expected to include the Hollywood ju

(Continued on page 7)

Labor Hearing in Recess to May 17

WASHINGTON, March 17.—After almost five weeks of hearings here on the Hollywood jurisdictional tangle, the Kearns House Labor sub-committee went into temporary recess today. The committee will open shop again on May 17, according to present plans. At that time, it will hear from Jack B. Thomas, chairman of the California Senate Committee on Un-American Activities; Hearst columnist West-brook Pegler, and anyone else who

(Continued on page 7)

President’s Message Seen Dooming Hope Of Ticket Tax Cut

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The fight launched here yesterday by Colonel Television to discuss legal obstacles blocking the industry’s program to a joint session of Senate and House today calling for the rebuilding of the nation’s international status with respect to world world peace posed by Soviet Russia’s recent course of action in Europe.

Despite the President’s message, it is understood that Congressional leaders will go ahead with their plans to raise the Senate version of an income tax reduction bill.

Video Pick-Up Right Sought for Theatres

At a meeting of circuit executives called here yesterday by Colonel Television to discuss legal obstacles blocking the industry, plans were made to prepare a legal action against telecasters to remove from theatre owners the threat of litigation for running television shows.

A recent effort by Colonel to demonstra-te its large-screen projector at an RKO theatre here was called off

(Continued on page 7)

Critics of Tax Settlement Rise in House of Commons

LONDON, March 17.—House of Commons critics of the British of colonial tax settlement plan to assail the Anglo-American film agreement with the order revoking the tax is introduced in Parliament, probably on April 6.

The critical bloc’s first formal opposition move will be made tomorrow when it will ask Com-mission chairman of theneser Bradford Cripps reveals the settlement details with the bleak economic survey he had prepared for the Commons.

However, the British press generally has accepted the settlement favorably. Typical of approval comments was the following editorial observation made by the London Times: “Maximum output is not to be achieved in conditions of maximum austerity. Films, like smoking, are in the practical world of today necessi-ty amenities without which workers don’t give their best.”

Brendan Bracken’s Financial Times, however, returned to its attack on motion pictures generally and, in connection with the settlement, made wide comments on “innocent econom-ist Socialists of the Board of Trade” (Harold Wilson).

Exhibitor opinion was voiced in a tribute to the settlement in a paid London Herald advertisement. Among sponsors of the ad were Cinematograph Exhibitors Association leaders and other representatives of exhibi-tion in Britain.

CEA released to newspapers the report made by its secretary, W. R.

(Continued on page 6)

SRO Indicated For Johnston, Mulvey Today

All Concerned (and Who Isn’t?) Have Questions

An overflow crowd from all branches of the industry will be on hand today to hear Eric Johnston’s detailed report on the British film tax settlement agreement of last week, and to let loose a barrage of questions which agreement provisions have raised and many of which, industry executives predict, negotiations of the agreement will be unable to answer.

Covering, as the British agreement does, the entire industry, and not simply members of the Motion Picture Association, today’s meeting is not limited to MPAA board members. So interested will be the interest in it and so many the questions which remain unanswered concerning it, that there appeared no possibility yesterday of accommodating the crowd which will be on hand to

(Continued on page 6)

Tax Settlement Seen Aid in Latin America

MEXICO CITY, March 17.—Abolition of the British 75 per cent ad valoreum tax on U. S. films is regarded by American producers as the big step toward a larger market for their distributors here as creating a most favorable outlook for them not only in Mexico but in all of Latin America.

The distributors had feared that the prohibitive British tax on pictures from the U. S. was bound sooner or later to encourage some Latin American countries to follow the lead of Argentina and heavily increase imposts on U. S. and other imported films.

Mexico made a move in that direction last late last week when it decided to raise the levy on film imports to $8.26 per kilogram. The U. S. Embassy here succeeded in inducing the Mexican government to limit the increase to $4.53 per kilogram.

500 Licenses Issued For Film Shipments

WASHINGTON, March 17.—More than 500 licenses have been issued to film companies for shipments to Europe through next June 30, according to Commerce Department motion pic-ture consultant Nathan D. Golden.

Golden said there are no plans in the works to broaden the areas for which

(Continued on page 6)
Personal Mention

Insider's Outlook

JOSPEH M. SCHENCK, 20th Century-Fox production executive, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

F. E. HUTCHINSON, Paramount sales chief in Great Britain, and MIKE HAVAS, RKO Radio foreign sales executive, are among passengers due here today from Europe on the SS America.

JULES K. CHAPMAN, Film Classics assistant general sales manager, is in Buffalo from New York, pinch-hitting for branch manager JOE MILLER, who is ill with pneumonia.

ELIZABETH WERDICK of Century Pictures, Los Angeles, and GEORGE BOWMAN of Western Electric's New York office, will be married April 18 at Queens Village, L. I.

LOU FORMATO, M-G-M manager in Philadelphia, and HARRY ROSENBLATT, New Haven manager, have returned to their respective offices from New York.

WOLFE COHEN, Warner International vice-president of distribution for the Far East and Latin America, has arrived in Manila.

JACK AUSLET, of the Auslet Co., New Orleans, has acquired a franchise for a new quiz program for theatres.

HARRY K. McWILLIAMS, Columbia exploitation manager, has left New York for Rochester, Buffalo and Detroit.

P. J. WOOD, secretary of the Ohio Independent Theatre Owners, has been operated manager for a new quiz program for theatres.

ROBERT W. COYNE, Theatre Owners of America executive director, will be in Washington today and will return to New York tomorrow.

TEDDIE ALDAMA O'Reilly, Foreign Screen Corp. director in Ecuador, has been named Minister of the Interior of that country.

DON WALKER, Warner field exploiter in Kansas City, and MRS. WALKER have become parents of a son, their fifth child.

PAUL MACNAB, director of advertising-publicity of Selznick Releasing Organization, arrived in New York from Hollywood last night.

WILLIAM ZIMMERMAN, RKO Radio sales executive, will leave New York this week for Dallas.

JULES LAPSUS, Warner's Eastern sales manager, has returned to New York from Pittsburgh and Cleveland.

ARNO KERSE, RKO Radio general manager in Los Angeles, has arrived in New York for home office talks.

UNDETERMINED so far is the method of dividing up the $17,000,000 in annual take-home money which Warner will allow the American industry under the tax settlement. Opinion at the moment leans toward the impression that the fair method it had adopted in 1941 will be continued.

As an example, Universal would take its cut of the money did 14 per cent of the total American distribution gross in England in that year.

Breakup of remittable funds accumulated through the earnings of British films in this country and possession of some, perhaps in Canada and Latin-America as well, are being discussed as a different sort of problem. Whatever remittances under this provision is expected to be added to the $17,000,000 in a common pool.

But one of the many questions burdening the atmosphere in New York is whether or not a yardstick based on the share of the British market held by each American distributor necessarily need be—or ought to be, for that matter—used in determining remittable amounts from remittable earnings of British films in the areas designated.

As the principal seller of English films in the United States market, or for that matter, Universal-International puts in the greatest effort and for it gets its 30 per cent distribution charge. However, it stands to reason U-I will earn more from their British pictures than a company which is not releasing anything or, perhaps, only one or two.

Question: Should U-I be in proportion to its results? Or be content with its share of the common dollar pool based on its 14 per cent of the English market when competitive distributors enjoy a higher percentage but do not know how much or on behalf of British films here?

This is offered as typical of the many and assorted questions for which answers must be found. In fact, now that the terms of the basic agreement have been fairly well digested, the problem is one of defining what is in, what is out, and what is meant, or can be done. Developing the machinery of operation on a basis equitable to all will be a troublesome and extended task.

You're apt to hear some yells before it is all done.

"The Naked City" is piling up some fancy firsts at the Capitol. They are amazing, too. The first week at $14,000 was an all-time high. Closest approach in the 28 years of this Broadway first-run hit was "The Hucksters," at $114,000. Last night, the theatre hit an indicated $120,000, or a bigger gross in a second week than the house has ever had in an open week. Business is bad with the right show, is it?

These are facts, but here is a peek into futures:

If the picture remains 10 weeks, as anticipated, Universal will walk off with about $400,000 from its hit, and figures an additional $600,000 throughout the New York exchange district. Negative cost is $1,100,000, of which a million, therefore, might pile up in this one only.

It is the largest revenue-producing exchange territory in the country, of course, and there are 30 others to go.

The possibility is not as remote, nor is it as over-enthusiastic as it sounds. There been an attraction which has rolled up from $500,000 to $800,000 and better in film rentals in the New York territory. Universal, itself, had one in "The Killers" at $500,000. Columbia's end on "The Jolson Story" is understood to have been $800,000. Twentieth Century-Fox did about $900,000 with "The Razor's Edge," and again with "The Razor's Edge."

A competitive distributor yesterday went so far as to volunteer:

"Positively, they'll reach $900,000. A million? Well, almost positively."

 noticed the newspaper billing on "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House." It's:

An RKO Radio Production Released by the Selznick Releasing Organization

Oscar A. Doob, back at his Loew desk bearing visible evidence of exposure to that warm Southern sun, has another exposure planned.

"I got that way changing marque lights."
AIM HIGH WITH
THE ADVENTURES OF
"Robin Hood!"

LONG OPENING LINES! LOBBY HOLDOUTS! THAT'S THE SENSATIONAL STORY FROM THE FIRST OPENINGS (NEW YORK, BRIDGEPORT, YOUNGSTOWN, UTICA). IT'S AS SOLID NOW AS WHEN IT WAS FIRST RELEASED BY WARNER BROS.!

THE SPLENDOR OF IT ALL IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

STARRING

ERROL OLIVIA

FLYNN DEHAVILLAND

with BASIL RATHBONE CLAUDE RAINS and ALAN HALE EUGENE PALLETTE

directed by MICHAEL CORTIZ and WILLIAM KEIGHLEY

Original Screen Play by NORMAN REILLY RAINE and SETON I. MILLER • Based Upon Ancient Robin Hood Legends • Music by ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD
HERE'S ONE FOR

When a picture in its second week breaks first week records, then, brother, you've got a picture!

That is what "NAKED CITY" did in its second week at the Capitol Theater on Broadway
THE BOOKS!

“NAKED CITY”
is the
BIG PICTURE
with the
BIG STAYING POWER

Mark Hellinger's
“NAKED CITY”

STARRING
BARRY FITZGERALD

and featuring
HOWARD DUFF • DOROTHY HART • DON TAYLOR
Directed by JULES DASSIN • Produced by MARK HELLINGER
Associate Producer, JULES BUCK
Screenplay by ALBERT MALTZ and MALVIN WALD • From a Story by MALVIN WALD
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

Ride high with
U-I
Films Most Decent Of Arts: Ramsaye

“The motion picture is the most decent of the arts because it is responsible to the extremely public and professed standards of the greatest audience,” Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald*, told members of the Contemporary Club of Philadelphia at a function there Monday night.

“Nearly everyone wants to appear respectable in company and among his fellows, so the more public the art the more conventional its standards. The reverse effect is denoted in the unsocial and secret vice of reading in which nice people are engaged in writing, printing and consuming books that would get you arrested if you read them out loud before an audience. The pictures are better behaved than the people.”

The occasion was a debate on the issue “Do Public Entertainments Invade Morals?” Guy Hidock, lecturer formerly with National Broadcasting and UNRRA abroad, represented the case against the arts.

**Abandon Edison Plant**

The former Edison Studios plant in the Bronx will be placed on the market. For several years Soundies Films produced short subjects for the Milla Panoram Machines, plus Government and military pictures. Now that Mills Industries, Inc., have discontinued Panoramas, Soundies has no reason for existence. Television interests are reportedly interested in acquiring the building.

**Para. Buys 32,000 Shares of Common**

Paramount maintained the increased tempo of its stock-purchasing program last month, having acquired 32,000 additional shares of common on the open market, to bring its holdings to 475,233 shares. During January the company purchased 32,000 shares, and in December it bought 7,000 shares.

The stock-buying program was adopted by the company in November, 1943, to aid in the purchase of some theatre properties from partners.

**Youth Drive**

(Continued from page 1)

suggested by U. S. Attorney-General Tom Clark, it was reported here yesterday by TOA president Ted R. Gamble. Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres and campaign chairman, will preside.

Among matters which the group will discuss will be the nature of a trailer which theatres will exhibit in connection with the campaign, and which has been tentatively termed the “Youth Week” drive.

In addition to Skouras and Gamble, the meeting will be attended by M. J. Mollin and Harry Browning, Boston; Earle Hudson, Detroit; Walter Morris, Knoxville; Edward Levin, Chicago; Charles Winchell, Minneapolis; Richard Kennedy, Birmingham; Frank Starz, Dallas; Richard Beichele, Kansas City; Tom Friday, Scranton; George Krauses, Springfield, Ill.; S. H. Fabian, New York, and TOA executive director Robert W. Coyne. Skouras arrived here from the Coast last night.

**SIMPP**

(Continued from page 1)

Ion Picture Association of America in opposition and probably by individual companies, MPAA will have its say at the hearings. Theatre Owners of America also will have witnesses in opposition to the Lewis bill at the hearings. Ascap will be represented, although it has favored such an arrangement as the bill provides, it is now apparent that the measure will not support the measure now.

Allied, PCCITO Back Measure

Industry proponents of the measure appear to be limited to Allied States, which sponsored it, and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners. Proposers of the measure will be heard on Monday and the opposition will follow.

Exhibitor opponents of the Lewis bill contend that under it producers themselves would be required to set up their own copyright clearance bureaus and that instead of paying the Ascap fees, exhibitors would be charged for the new bureau also.

Performing rights for foreign music would have to be cleared separately, it is pointed out, involving a further costly expense item to be passed on to exhibitors.

See Ascap Freed of 10-Year Pact

It is also contended that in dealing with producers under the Lewis bill, Ascap would be freed of its current 10-year rate agreement with exhibitors and could immediately adopt a new formula for remittances on another basis than the per-seat formula used heretofore. A different formula, such as one based on film footage, it is argued, could boost the cost of music tremendously and exhibitors would be billed for it on a cost-plus basis.

**Parliament Critics**

(Continued from page 1)

Fuller, on his return from his American trip last year and which discloses that the plan which he proposed then to Motion Pictures Association of America president Eric A. Johnston was similar basically to the agreement now adopted. It was also pointed out that prior to Fuller’s departure for the U. S., Hugh Dalton, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, had hinted that the British loan was immediately unfrozen the way would be opened to a tax settlement.

Although fully prepared to put an unprecedented releasing schedule into operation, American offices here are awaiting decisions which are expected to be made at the MPAA board meeting in New York, slated for tomorrow.

**500 Licenses**

(Continued from page 1)

licenses must be obtained. He stated that his office has no backlog of licenses pending, that “we are moving them right along, there have been no complications, and the industry is not being hurt in any way, shape or form” because of the license requirement.

**NBC Promotes Ladner**

Henry Ladner, assistant general counsel of National Broadcasting, has been promoted to the position of assistant to John H. MacDonald, administrative vice-president, by Frank E. Mullen, executive vice-president.
Reviews

"Meet Me At Dawn"
(20th Century-Fox)
A GAY and often mistichic little satire about the loves and adventures of a professional duchess is the substance of this British production. Set in Paris, the film has an endless array of tongue-in-cheek incidents that will prove a rich satisfaction to more discriminating filmgoers. The one name familiar to patrons here is William Eythe, who heads the cast as the dashing gentleman with a proficiency with wigs and pistols.

Excelsior Film Production, produced by Marcel Hellman and released by 20th Century-Fox, the screenplay presents by a gentleman who offers his compelling services to anyone who will buy them for the purpose or for incapacitating their adversary. While in the process of "removing" a politician, Eythe meets up with an attractive young lady who is branded "Madame X" by a crusading publisher. An added bit of farcical complication develops with the help of Madame Winter. The film is spun on the young lady converts the duchess to a more placid calling.

Pretty Rapsodie, a crisp and engaging young woman in the principal feminine role, while Margaret Rutherford is memorable as a gusy grandma. Thornton Freeland directed from a screenplay by Lesley Storm and James Seymour.

Running time, 89 minutes. General audience classification. Set for April release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

“The October Man”
(Rank-Eagle Lion)
WHEREVER the turn of the century, the film has an endless array of tongue-in-cheek incidents that will prove a rich satisfaction to more discriminating filmgoers. The one name familiar to patrons here is William Eythe, who heads the cast as the dashing gentleman with a proficiency with wigs and pistols.

Eric Ambler has created a story projected forcefully and sincerely, comprised of a chain of interludes rich in emotional values. The tale of a man torn by a guilt complex poses a psychological problem arrestingly worked out, a satisfying solution. It is to the credit of author and director that a subject so full of pitfalls has succeeded in reaching the screen with so much credit.

John Mills is a man tortured with the belief that he was responsible for the death of a child in a bus crash. He feels if he hadn’t taken the youngster on the trip with him she would not have died. Faced with the danger of suicide, he falls in love with a girl who dedicates herself to expelling from his mind the fear that torments him. When he is suspected of having murdered a woman in a flash of mental aberration, he is driven desperate to prove his innocence. How he clears himself and conquers the fear pushing him to destruction makes for some exciting and gripping moments.

Mills and Joan Greenwood perform earnestly as the lovers, facing a fine cast. Ambler produced the film with a high sense of realism, while Roy Baker directed effectively. The London Symphony Orchestra contributes a commendable musical background.


“Docks of New Orleans”
(Monogram)
CHARLIE CHAN turns his sleuthing eye on the docks of New Orleans where an underworld group attempts to halt shipments of secret chemicals in order to burn their formula. Roland Winters once again plays the part of the Chinese detective who, in the course of his adventures, comes close to meeting his illustrious ancestors many times. Comedy is offered in this standard mystery drama through the efforts of Victor Sen Young as Chan’s son, and Mantan Moreland, the butler.

The W. Scott Darling screenplay allows sufficient corpses to pile up to please devotees of this type of mystery. Along the way to the solution of the crimes Chan override his investigations with a liberal number of homey maxims. It develops that the murders were committed through poisonous gas placed in radio tubes which open when high notes are reached by a singer. Armchair sleuths will find a number of planted clues before Chan unmask s the true killer as well as an assortment of lesser criminals. The direction of Derwin Abrahams stresses action. James S. Burckett produced.


Video Pick-Up Rights
(Continued from page 1)
by the threat of an injunction by National Broadcasting.
It was pointed out yesterday by Colonial spokesmen that theatre owners had more than a token interest in the outcome of the proposed litigation. No future date for a meeting was set to get the reactions of theatre owners.

Threateners attending yesterday were: Arthur Mayer, Rico Theatre; Philip Harling, Fabian Theatre; A. Gebhardt, Allied Theatres of New Jersey; Walter Brecher, Leo Brecher Theatres; J. J. Goldberg, Raymond Theatres; Kenneth Ryan and E. E. Ford, Newreel Theatres; Harry Goldberg, Warner Theatres; Charles Grubman, the Grubman Theatres; Irving Greenfield, Loew’s; Manual Prich, Randolf: Leonard Satt, Century, and Frank S. Irby, National Theatres.

Also attending were Alfred Emer-

Every exhibitor can’t play "The Mating of Millie"...” –but every exhibitor will love it when he sees it!

GLENN FORD
EVELYN KEYES
in a truly great family picture...

"The Mating of Millie"
A COLUMBIA PICTURE
He gives the scene its heartbeat...

THIS meeting of mother and child is no make-believe—not to the movie-goers! To them, it is as real as life itself, thanks to the director of the picture. Through his perceptive handling of action, dialogue, and camera, he has given the scene its human touch, its heartbeat... made the audience feel its warmth, its mood—and live the moment, one with the personalities on the screen.

And this achievement is the mark of his mastery of the dramatic; the gauge of his creative contribution to the motion picture art.

But if such artistry is to have full expression, the director must have the assistance of film that gives him ample freedom to achieve the effects he desires. This freedom he finds in the family of Eastman motion picture films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD
20th-Fox Net
In 1947 Was
$14,000,000
Equivalent to $4.81 Per
Common Stock Share

Twentieth Century-Fox last year
made a consolidated net profit of
$14,000,000, it was estimated here
yesterday by Spyros P. Skouras,
company president. Figure encom-
passes the distribution company as
well as its voting-controlled subsidi-
aries, including National Theatres and
Roxy Theatre, Inc. Profit for the
previous year was $22,619,535.

After deducting dividends on prior
preferred and convertible preferred
stocks, last year's profit is equivalent
to approximately $4.81 per share on
2,976,036 shares of common out-
standing last Dec. 27. Common stock
out-
standing on Dec. 28, 1946, totaled
2,756,462 shares and per share earnings
for 1946, after deducting preferred
dividends, were equal to $7.90 per
share.

Last year's gross income amounted
(Continued on page 5)

Col. Stockholders
Weigh Cohn Pact

Columbia stockholders will meet
here on April 9 to elect seven direc-
tors and to vote on a new employment
contract for Harry Cohn, president,
covering five years from March 27,
1947.

The meeting will also vote on a pro-
posed option agreement whereby Co-
lumia would grant Cohn options to
purchase 75,000 shares of the com-
pany's common stock at its initial
price of $16 per share. The stock is
now selling at around $11 a share on
the New York Stock Exchange.

The following present directors of
the company have been nominated for
(Continued on page 5)

Pact With Petrillo
Held Aid to Video

Important advances were foreseen
for television as a result of a three-
year agreement reached here yester-
day by the four major radio networks
and James C. Petrillo's American
Federation of Musicians, permitting
the use of "live" music on television
programs.

Status of Hollywood-made features
(Continued on page 4)

Back from UK Tax Settlement

 Britain Can More Than
Support Tax Agreement

Name 'Dinty' Moore
WB District Head
F. D. (Dinty) Moore, branch man-
ger for Warner Brothers in Pitts-
burgh, has been promoted to Eastern
district manager by Ben Kalmenson,
vice-president in charge of distribu-
tion. Moore, who will have head-
quarters in Boston, has been with the
company for 10 years, starting as a
salesman in Pittsburgh.

Paul Kremenacher, salesman in
Pittsburgh, has been promoted to re-
place Moore as Pittsburgh manager.

Sam Letkowitz will confine his en-
tire activities to supervising sales in
the New York Metropolitan district.

The changes take effect on Monday,
March 29.

In the Warner theatre division Pat E.
Notaro, manager of the Bromley
Theatre, Philadelphia, has been ap-
pointed city theatre manager in Ha-
vana, under Herbert Copelan, zone
manager. He will leave here on
March 25.

London, March 18.—The survey of
Britain's economy which Chancellor
of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps
made public prior to the recent elec-
tion, included a tax settlement made
allow-
ance for an even greater British dol-
lar expenditure for films than will
occur under the Anglo-American tax
agreement.

This announcement was received by
the House of Commons today from
Glenvil Hall, financial secretary of
the British Treasury, in reply to ques-
tions in Commons on what forms of
dollar expenditure will remain curtailed
on the basis of the economic survey as a result of the film tax settle-
ment.

Told that it may be difficult to per-
sonalise people with his answer, Hall
reiterated that Britain is not only not
spending extra dollars for film rentals
but is spending less than half of what
was allowed in the survey. (MOTION
PICTURE DAILY reported yesterday
that House of Commons critics of the
tax settlement were scheduled to be-

See Formula For UK Fund
Allocations

Johnston, Mulvey Suggest
Individual Film's Net

Division of the remittable earn-
ings of American films in Britain
is likely to be on a monthly basis
and in accordance with earnings of
individual pictures. In that market,
Eric Johnston, president of the Mo-
tion Picture Association of America,
and James Mulvey, representative of
the Society of Independent Motion
Picture Producers, negotiators of the
British tax settlement, agreed at a
press conference here yesterday fol-
lowing their arrival from England.

Earlier, Johnston and Mulvey
reported on the settlement at a large
meeting of industry ex-
ecutives at the Harvard Club.

In conjunction with that meet-
ing, voting directors of the Mol-
tion Picture Export Association
formally approved the settle-
ment and voted the removal of
the embargo on shipment of
(Continued on page 5)

Blumberg Calls Tax
Agreement Fine Job

Eric Johnston and James Mulvey
did a splendid job in the British
tax settlement and are to be con-
gratulated, Nate J. Blumberg, Universal
president, exclaimed here yesterday as
he arrived with Joseph Seidelman,
Universal vice-president, from Lon-
don aboard the SS America.

Blumberg declared the solution con-
stituted "one of the finest jobs done
for the industry" and that "all scars
are healed now." He reported that the
(Continued on page 6)

Hughes' RKO Stock
Deal at Standstill

Hollywood, March 18.—Howard
Hughes' negotiations for
purchase of a controlling in-
terest in RKO from Floyd Od-
um's Atlas Corp. have made
no recent progress and pros-
pects of a deal being con-
cluded in the near future are
remote, informed sources
here said today.
Wallis Planning to Make Three Abroad

Producer Hal Wallis, who releases through Paramount, plans to make a picture in England this autumn, and one in Italy later, he has disclosed here. Meanwhile, he said, he expects to discuss with Anatol Litvak, who arrives in New York next week, the possibility of making a film in France. Wallis and his partner, Joseph Hazen, are currently negotiating with Paramount officials for the release of future products.

Wallis' next, "The Accused," is now in production, with shooting due to begin in August. The final cutting may last until October, making it the first of two films due in 1949. Wallis and his production manager, Terrance McCowan, will be in England for the shooting of "The Mirror." The director, David Lean, is currently in the U.S. for preliminary casting in London. He will be joined by Wallis in England in early May, with shooting scheduled to begin in June.

Economies ‘Healthy’ For Coast: Lasky

RKO Radio producer Jesse Lasky, who has made 1,016 pictures since the studio was formed, believes Hollywood’s latest excursion into cutting production costs is a temporary one. He and his own company, M-G-M, have in no way impinged upon the quality of production, and has served thus far to remove much of the waste that has continued to plague Hollywood, which is a result of the systematic method in the past. He made this observation at a luncheon conference yesterday at the Sherry Netherland Hotel, here.

"Miracle of the Bells," Lasky’s latest, would have cost about $2,000,000, less than the $2,500,000 of six months ago, the producer said. He feels, however, that the production costs are still too high, and attributes this largely to the industry’s efforts to cut their expenses and “to union conditions.” Lasky said he will follow "Triptych" with a comedy by Frank Tipton, "The Thing," although meanwhile he may produce John Galsworthy’s “The Applause,” a play in England.

Lasky commended the trade press for its role in industry affairs. "The trade press," he said, "can be depended upon to come through with complete criticism of the industry when criticism is needed, and encouragement when encouragement is needed."

Loan Drive Meeting Opened by Treasury

Washington, March 18.—The Treasury’s conference on ways to push the coming security loan drive opened here today.

First industry tycoon who showed up for the meeting was Robert W. Skouras, executive director of the M-G-M studio. The Motion Picture Owners of America, who was on hand for the work session in the day’s celebration of the opening of the screening банк. Others are expected at the conference tomorrow. Among those attending are Ted Clark, David O. Selznick, E. V. Richards, Robert Mohrle and Eric Johnston.

A Treasury conference was a session of Treasury officials that some film plans can be included in the over-all program. In opening the meeting, Secretary Snyder told the film industry, which he said “had given generously of its time and talent to savings bond programs.”

Gamble in Washington for $25,000

Washington, March 18.—Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, is here for a conference with the executive committee of the board of directors of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Foundation in the White House today. Gamble is a key figure in the drama of the next four years, as the executive committee or board of directors are Frank Walker, Spyros Skouras and Harry Mann. The meeting is expected to continue tomorrow.

"Waltz" First for Para, at Music Hall Since ‘To Each

Paramount’s Technicolor production, "The Emperor Waltz," which stars Bing Crosby and Joan Fontaine, has been booked for Radio City Music Hall here, becoming the company’s first picture to play that house since the four-week engagement of "The Great Ziegfeld," which opened on May 23, 1946.

Two other pictures have been booked for the Hall ahead of Radio City, Wilder-Charles Brackett production. The first is M-G-M’s "State of the Union," Frank Capra’s, and the second, "M-G-M-3D Technicolor musical."

The former will succeed "I Remember Mama," current tenant of the Hall.

"Blandings" at Astor March 25

"Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House," RKO Radio comedy being released by Selznick Releasing Organization, will have its world premiere at the Astor here on March 25.

Dismissal Denied Universal Heads in Stock Options Suit

Federal Judge Simon H. Rifkind yesterday denied in U. S. District Court here motions by Universal and eight of its directors for dismissal of minority stockholder Bertha T. Ahme’s suit charging the directors with the improper stock option deals made prior to 1945.

New First-run Theatre Opens in D.C., Another in April

Washington, March 18.—Opening with the showing of "I, Mlle. Vaillant," the DuPont Theatre today became a new first-run theatre here. Today’s performance was for the benefit of the District of Columbia’s "Crippled Children’s Drive." F. W. Mann Corp. owns the theatre and Clark Foreman is general manager.

Meanwhile, opening of another first-run is slated for early next month.

150 UA Workers Get $6.75 Raise

Flat increases of $6.75 were granted to some 150 United Artists employees in an arbitration award, it was announced here by the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild.

News Briefs

Films in Public Life Up at Review Meet

The 39th annual conference of the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures took place yesterday in the Hotel Heolvin here, with "The Motion Picture in Public Affairs" as the theme.

First speaker was Martin Quigley, Jr., associate editor of Mortons Pictures Daily and Motion Picture Herald, who discussed the British tax settlement, the industry anti-trust battle, the U.S. Supreme Court, and Hollywood. The title of his talk was "The Industry’s Year." Hollywood was the subject of an address by Jesse L. Lasky, co-producer of "The Miracle of the Bells." Jeck Dunne, president of the Society for the Prevention of Crime, spoke on "Do the Movies Influence Behavior?" Compiling the list of speakers was Joseph Lilly, specially appointed to George Skouras, president of Skouras Theatres Corp. Richard Griffin, executive director of the board, presided.

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., 1276 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone: Telephone 7-2100. Address: "Quigley, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Robert H. Dunne, Editor; Thomas J. Lombardo, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Feite, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yuma-Vista Building, William B. Weiss, Superintendent; E. E. Smith, Advertising Representative. Washington, A. Oren, National First Class. Washington, D. C. London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London London 9, W. I. House Manager, Barry Barlow, Editor; Barry Barlow, Editor. Address: "Quigley, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Reel Theaters, published every fourth Thursday, since July 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.
New York—The longest-run record in the entire history of 20th Century-Fox!

and...

In Chicago—Boston—Cincinnati—Cleveland—Philadelphia—San Francisco and Los Angeles

Boxoffice Barometer reports that of the 40 top pictures in current release it is the industry's No. 1 attraction—topping the next top hit by 64%!

and... Already Rebooked for Repeat First-Runs Los Angeles and Pittsburgh!

359 Key-City Dates Easter Week!
Legion Classifies 21 Additional Pictures

National Legion of Decency has classified 21 additional pictures, 10 of which are listed in Class A-I, seven in A-II and four in Class B.

In A-I are: "Blondie's Reward" and "West of Sonora" (Columbia); "Four Faces West," formerly "They Passed This Way" (United Artists); "I Remember Mama" (RKO Radio); "Madonna of the Desert" and "Oklahoma Trail" (Republic); "The Tioga Kid" (Eagle-Lion); "Trail of the Mounties" and "Where the North Begins" (Screen Guild, and "The Search" (M-G-M).

In A-II are: "The Big Clock" (Paramount); "Homecoming" (M-G-M); "Mating of Millie" (Columbia); "October Man" (Eagle-Lion); "Springtime" (Four Continents); "Road to the Big House" (Screen Guild) and "Spate Liege" (German-Wien Film). Classified in the B category are: "Cashab" (Universal-International); "Freunde" (German-Wien Film); "Henry IV" (Italian-Super Film), and "I Became a Criminal" (Warner).

‘Outlaw’ Set for 15 Houses in Chicago

CHICAGO, March 18.—"The Outlaw," released by United Artists, will play day and date in 15 outlying theatres here starting April 9. This is the first booking of the film to non-metropolitan theatres here since it opened at the Oriental more than a year ago, although it subsequently played the Rialto downtown several months ago. The film reportedly has been sold on top percentage terms and as a single feature in all situations.

Pact With Petrillo

(Continued from page 1)

is not altered by the pact; they are still covered by AFM's contract with producers. Under this agreement, which is due to expire Labor Day, the use of music on film sound tracks is prohibited in television. However, the agreement reached here yesterday makes possible the production of films with musical sound tracks by the television networks themselves, or by independent operators, not covered by the AFM understanding with the major studios. Yesterday's announcement said "a complete settlement" had been reached on all issues in negotiation between the AFM and the networks since last December. Petrillo's ban on "live" music for video went into effect in February, 1945.

Contracts now in effect between AFM locals in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, and the network stations in those cities, are renewed for three years. There will be no changes in salary schedules or in the number of musicians employed.

In the field of television both parties agreed to cooperate fully. Musical programs broadcast on AM networks may also be broadcast on television simultaneously, and musicians employed under the AM contracts will be available for television assignments.

Eastern Pa. Allied Charges Violations

PHILADELPHIA, March 18.—"There appears to be no question or doubt that several major film companies are, indeed, violating the provisions of the (former) court's decision" in the industry antitrust suit, Eastern Pennsylvania Allied general manager Sidney Samuelson charges in a report to the unit's board of governors.

Samuelson was instructed by the organization "to bring these violations to the attention of the proper authorities," the instructions applying particularly "to coercive sales methods which are in direct violation not only of the court's decision but also of published instructions apparently given sales executives in New York to their field staffs," an organization bulletin states.

Approving unanimously all actions of the national board of Allied, taken at its annual meeting in Washington last month, Eastern Pennsylvania Allied resolved: (1) To give full support to national Allied's anti-Ascap campaign; (2) To disapprove the Motion Picture Foundation, and (3) To vigorously promote in Eastern Pennsylvania the national program.

Odeon in Canada Damaged by Flood

TORONTO, March 18.—Odeon Theatres of Canada suffered an estimated $12,000 loss when a flash flood at nearby Brampton, Ont., swept into the Odeon, submerging the main floor under five feet of water. Opening of the theatre, originally scheduled for Monday, has been indefinitely postponed.

K-MTA Board Backs ‘Delinquency’ Plan

KANSAS City, March 18.—Strong endorsement of the Theatre Owners of America's public relations plan and for combating juvenile delinquency was voted today by the board of directors of Kansas-Missouri-Theatre Association following a report by R. R. Biechele, a TOA director, on the recent meeting in Los Angeles.

Biechele, Sen. Lawler of Fox Midwest and M. D. Cohen of the Paramount Theatre here, will attend the TOA committee meeting in New York on Monday to set up the program.

Sam Abend of Exhibitors' Film Delivery Service attended today's meeting for a discussion of film delivery charges and proposed cooperation to reduce costs to theatremen.

Forbstein Services

LOS ANGELES, March 18.—Rabbi Edgar Magnin officiated at funeral services here today for Leo Forbstein, Warner musical director, who died on Thursday. Pallbearers were S. M. Bischoff, David Butler, Harry Rapf, Arthur Stebbins, Ray Heindorf and Herman Knoe. Honorary pallbearers were Jack L. Warner, Eddie Mannix, Sam Briskin, Darryl Zanuck, William Goldie, Ben Kalan, Harry Steiner, Edward Blackburn, Pan Berman, Alfred Stan, Vic Aller, Casey Chung and Howard Brown.

Moe Wax's Mother Dies

PHILADELPHIA, March 18.—Funeral services will be held here today for Mrs. Hannah Wax, 70, mother of Moe Wax, Pennsylvania circuit owner and publisher of the Film Bulletin. Mrs. Wax died in Atlantic City on Wednesday.

Did you hear what they're saying about Millie?*

"...great boxoffice potential...has every earmark for successful runs."

*FILM DAILY
‘U’ Warrants to Scully and Fox

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Three Universal officials—William A. Scully, Matthew Fox and Joseph H. Seidelman—were given warrants to purchase 3,000 shares of Universal common each on December 16, according to a Securities and Exchange report on trading by company officers and directors, covering the period between December 11 and January 10; the warrants were disclosed here today.

Fox reported holdings of 28,000 at the end of the period; Scully had holdings of 11,550, and Seidelman had 12,000. Fox and Seidelman received their warrants as compensation, while Scully’s represented a distribution.

Universal also told the SEC that 131 executives, directors, producers and players drew $7,298,899 during the year.

Parliament

(Continued from page 1)

John H. Harris, president, Harris Amusement Companies, Pittsburgh, Pa., says:

“ALTEC ENABLES US TO GET FULLEST VALUE OUT OF WHAT IS ON THE SOUND TRACK”

**What makes the motion picture theatre business different from many other industries is, I suppose, that the value we give is measured purely in the emotional satisfaction the customers feel. This makes it necessary for us to deliver every ounce of the value, in drama and emotion, that has been put on the film in the first place. This is more necessary today than ever was: we have to meet the intensified competition of entertainment offered outside the theatre. The Altec engineer is a real friend of show business because he enables us to get the fullest value out of what is on the sound track. Furthermore, it is his sole job, just as it is the sole job of the entire Altec organization. That means something to us.**

Altec Service, known for its service “over and above the contract” is a vital ingredient of your theatre’s ability to meet successfully the competition of other forms of entertainment. An Altec Service contract is the soundest long term investment an exhibitor can make today.

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Col. Stockholders

(Continued from page 1)

re-election to the board: Harry Cohn; Jack Cohn, executive vice-president; A. Schneider, vice-president and treasurer; 1. A. Spingold, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity; A. Montague, distribution vice-president, and Leo M. Blancke and Donald S. Stralem.

The directors own common shares as follows: Harry Cohn, 139,127 shares; Jack Cohn, 48,969; Schneider, 12,679; Spingold, 16,439; Montague, 8,652; Stralem, 968. Blancke owns none personally, but has a contingent interest in a trust which owns 100 shares of cumulative preferred.

According to the stockholders’ meeting notice, the five officer-directors received during the last fiscal year enumeration, paid or accrued, as follows: Harry Cohn, $197,600; Jack Cohn, $132,600; Schneider, $30,600; Spingold, $82,300; Montague, $130,000. Montague’s compensation exceeded by $90,000 the amount of his compensation for the previous fiscal year. Compensation of the others includes expense allowances of $15,600 to Harry Cohn, $15,600 to Jack Cohn, $10,400 to Schneider, and $5,200 to Spingold.

The board has unanimously recommended to the stockholders that they approve the proposed employment contract for Harry Cohn. His last employment contract was for the two-year period commencing July 1, 1943. Since July 1, 1943, Cohn has not had a written employment contract, but has been receiving the same compensation as provided in his last pact. The proposed new contract provides that during the period of Cohn’s employment the company will not confer or upon any other employee superior or equal authority over its studio and production. The board also approved the stock-purchase option for Cohn.

Durbin, Goetz Top ‘U’ Salary List

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Deanna Durbin was top Universal salary-carrier for the year ending last November 1, according to a report filed by the company with the Securities and Exchange Commission today. She drew $323,478.

Next in line were William Goetz, with $234,000, and Robert Montgomery, with $256,000.

The report also disclosed the following officers’ bonuses or shares in profits for the year: Nate Blumberg, $11,785; J. Cheever Cowlid, $71,785; Matthew Fox, $35,606; Charles D. Prutzman, $35,606.

Universal declared that 14 per cent of its common stock, or 124,375 shares, were held by General Cinema Finance Corp. of London, one of J. Arthur Rank’s top holding companies.

McIntosh’s House Burns

NEW ORLEANS, March 18.—The Regina Theatre, at Mize, Miss., owned by L. R. McIntosh, was destroyed by fire.

Europeans Are Now Film Shopping: Havas

Send Europe quality pictures and they will do terrific business, Michael Havas, RKO Radio general sales manager in Continental Europe and the Near East asserted here yesterday, on his arrival on the S.S. America, Havas is here for home office conferences. He reported that people in Europe have begun to shop for films, adding, “They take only good ones.” He contrasted this condition with years ago when “anything went.” The British tax solution was seen by Havas as “having a good psychological effect upon other countries, by proving that American pictures are needed.”

20th-Fox Net

(Continued from page 1)

to $174,400,000, compared to $184,375,125 in the previous year. Consolidated net profit before taxes and minority interests were deducted totaled $18,500,000 last year, against $9,928,308 in 1946. Taxes last year amounted to $9,100,000, compared with $14,650,000 in the previous year.
Johnston Sees U.S.-U.K. Films on Rise

Belief that the Anglo-American "ad valorem" tax settlement will be a stimulant to competition and an aid to the development and growth of the U.S. and British film industries was voiced by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, upon his return from London yesterday morning aboard the SS Queen Mary.

In discussing some of the provisions of the agreement that ended the tax controversy Johnston disclosed that the division of monies allowed to be taken out of Great Britain by the American industry will be based on earnings of each individual picture in that country. He said that independent producers, even if not members of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will enjoy the same rights as other companies to share the benefits and make pictures in Great Britain.

Need Sterling for Production

James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions who represented the SIMPP at the London tax conferences, enlarged on this point, asserting that under the agreement any individual independent producer can make a picture in Great Britain provided he has sterling funds available there or obtains approval from the "control commission" set up under the terms of the settlement.

According to Johnston, the agreement emphatically bars any discrimination against U.S. companies or in the matter of paying time for American pictures.

Expects 'Some' Criticism

The MPAA head said he was prepared for some criticism of the agreement on this side.

Besides Mulvey, returning with Johnston were Joyce O'Hara, his executive assistant, and Allen Dulles, MPAA adviser on foreign affairs. Also among passengers on the Queen Mary was F. E. Hutchinson, Paramount's managing director of sales for Great Britain.

See Formula

American films to England, effective another day, the repeal of Britain's 75 per cent ad valorem film import tax.

Repeal of the British tax is expected on April 6. The American industry's embargo on film shipments to Britain was imposed immediately following the imposition of the tax by Britain last August.

Johnston and Mulvey declined to estimate the total amount of revenue which the American industry might realize from all permitted sources during the first year of the agreement, which begins June 14, pointing out that it is impossible to estimate earnings of pictures which may be made by Americans in Britain with their blocked sterling, or amounts of dividends which might accrue to them from sterling invested in Britain in other approved ways.

See Over $40,000,000 Earned

Also, they declined to estimate what the American earnings of British pictures in the United States, its possessions and the Philippines might be under the agreement, although they conceded "an increase" over the estimated $4,000,000 believed to have been earned by British pictures here last year is to be expected. The agreement permits the American industry to take $7,000,000 out of Britain annually during the agreement period, plus the equivalent of British film earnings here.

By generalizations it was indicated that the combined figure might be less than $24,000,000. However, sums earned outside of England by pictures made there with blocked sterling would also accrue to the producers of such pictures and dividends from any permitted investments in England also are remittable to the investors.

Johnston and Mulvey clarified several points on which industry officials here have been in disagreement since the settlement was announced. For example, it was stated that the earnings of British films in Canada and Latin America are not included in the sums to be put into the American dollar pool.

However, a member of the American industry who used his blocked sterling to buy a British picture or an interest in one, would be entitled to receive the Latin American earnings of such a film in addition to its earnings in the United States, its possessions and the Philippines, it was explained.

It was also made clear that American companies which produce pictures in Britain with their blocked funds are entitled individually and exclusively to the earnings, if any, of pictures outside of Britain. Earnings of such films in Britain will come under the provisions of the agreement.

Johnston and Mulvey said that no special financial privileges accrue to the distributors here of British films. All such earnings, regardless of the distribution organization, are credited to the industry's dollar pool and will be disbursed accordingly. Thus, companies such as Universal, Eagle-Lion, 20th Century-Fox and United Artists, which distribute the bulk of British product in this market, will realize no advantage from that fact when the dollar earnings of the British pictures are allocated.

While the basic $17,000,000 from Britain will be divided here monthly, Johnston and Mulvey indicated that the dollars earned by British films here probably will be allocated quarterly throughout the agreement period. In both instances, however, the division of dollars is expected to be on the basis of current earnings in Britain of individual pictures. This arrangement would safeguard independent producers and smaller companies.

The control committee to be established in London to pass upon permitted uses of blocked American film earnings there probably will be comprised of an MPAA and an SIMPP representative, both resident in London, and by representatives of the British government and industry. In cases of tied votes, the British Board of Trade's decision will be final, Johnston said.

The MPAA chief indicated, however, that he regards the permitted uses for blocked sterling as liberal, almost limitless. He indicated he believes much of it will go into production in Britain and that a large amount will be used for other direct industry purposes throughout the sterling area, including the purchase of theatres where such purchases are not prohibited.

Some 'Hard to Please'

Asked about general reactions to the settlement and some criticisms which have been heard that the free dollar amount is trivial, Johnston remarked: "Some people are hard to please."

He reiterated statements he made before leaving England that the settlement "is not a victory for either side." Johnston explained that the American industry wanted the film tax eliminated. It achieved that but to do so it relinquished dollars, thereby permitting Britain to realize its aim, which was to prevent a burdensome dollar drain for American films. In addition to saving dollars, Britain also is certain to get increased American film production and increased playing time for its pictures in this market, both of which will redound to the benefit of the British film industry.

Johnston left for Washington last night and Mulvey for the Coast, where he will report to the SIMPP on Tuesday.

Blumberg Hails Pact

(Continued from page 1)

settlement was received in England "as a major public event."

While England closed the nature of the problems discussed in London with J. Arthur Rank, he did state that negotiations worked out very satisfactorily. "It is understood he talked new product deals with Rank, Blumberg asserted that the immediate plans of Universal in England depend on the text of the settlement, which, he declared, he had not seen yet.

Wray Blumberg, Blumberg said he saw the Laurence Olivier production, "Hamlet," which he declared one of the great pictures of all time.

**ADVENTURE STORMS ACROSS THE SCREEN...ABLAZE WITH COLOR!**

J. ARTHUR RANK presents

**THE SMUGGLERS**
Color by TECHNICOLOR

KANSAS CITY... 20% above average seasonal business!

LOS ANGELES... Sensational engagement brought trade headlines!

SAN FRANCISCO... Week's biggest mind buster of the season! Power of new Technicolor!

COLOR! Mike Blumberg, Basil Sidley; produced by RKO and SCRAMBLER; directed by BERNARD KNOBLOCH.

"SMUGGLERS" STORMS THE NATION'S BOX OFFICE FOR TOP GROSSES!
Film Quality Guaranteed, 
Johnston Says

Despite Economies, He Adds on NBC Hook-up

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Eric Johnston told a nationwide radio audience, in an interview as a result of his visit to Hollywood, that the film industry there is operating at a level which permits it to maintain quality. “We are in a war-shattered world economies Hollywood is faced with the urgent responsibility of cutting its operating costs without sacrificing quality,” he said. “It's not going to sacrifice quality,” the president of the Motion Picture Association of America said in a broadcast over the NBC network. “In fact, the end result will be quite the contrary,” he declared.

In discussing the recently concluded British film import tax agreement, Johnston said:

“Hollywood has been busy these long months of deadlock and impasse. Even in the most hopeless hours of disagreement our producers knew that the quality of their product must be maintained. Not only in spite of a curtailed market but more so because of it.

“There's an old saying in Hollywood that there's no problem in the motion picture industry that a good picture can't cure. Hollywood, during this time, has dusted off this axiom, framed it in a prominent place and is living by it.

“Good pictures, like good products of all kinds, can sometimes mean better pictures when necessity mothers invention.

“It is my opinion that as we move

(Newspaper clipping)

New Move to End Curb on Building

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Senate conferees on a bill to extend rent controls indicated they would probably accept a House provision ending the Government's controls over theatre construction March 31. The bill, which passed the Senate, would extend these through April 30, 1949, but conferees said they are prepared to give up this provision in return for concessions elsewhere.

There is a bare possibility, however, that the conferees will still be deadlocked on other controversial rent bill provisions on March 31, the date on which the present law expires. In that case, the present law, including the theatre construction limitation, might get a simple 30-day extension.

Lewis Measure Called Burden For Producers

Bill Would Boost Cost of Production, Says MPAA

WASHINGTON, March 21.—That the Lewis Bill seeking to relieve exhibitors through direct licensing tax “will completely saddle the motion picture producer and distributor with the expense of acquiring performing rights in music” is charged by the Motion Picture Association of America in a memorandum setting forth the MPAA's reason for opposing the measure.

“This would place the producer or distributor at the mercy of Ascap,” argues the memorandum.

“If performing rights must be acquired by producers and/or distributors, those rights will become much more costly. This cost will have to be passed along to the exhibitor and, in the final analysis, to the ultimate consumer, namely, the public.

The memorandum will be submitted by Edwin P. Kilroe, chairman (Continued on page 8)

France, Italy Cite Warner Relief Aid

WASHINGTON, March 21. — As Washington officials continued work on the Marshall Plan for government help to Western Europe, the nation's capital signaled the completion of the program of spontaneous non-governmental help sent by the people of the United States to the people of France and Italy—the Friendship Food Train.

The gratitude of French and Italian recipients of more than 45,000,000 pounds of food for the Friendship Train (Continued on page 8)

Laudy Laurence to Leave SRO Apr. 15

Laudy L. Laurence, Selznick Releasing Organization vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, has requested an indefinite leave of absence, beginning April 15. Laurence is recuperating from a spinal operation at New York Hospital, and has been ordered by his doctors to take a long (Continued on page 8)
Set "Youth Drive" Plans Here Today

Ted R. Gamble, Theatre Owners of America president and chairman of TOA's public relations committee, plans to recruit public relations experts among the 15 theatre heads here today to set up a professional theatre advertising unit to combat juvenile delinquency along the lines advanced by U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark. The public relations unit will hold its first meeting later in New York.

The campaign against juvenile delinquency, tentatively termed the "Youth Week" drive, is being underwritten by Robert M. Wayne, TOA president; Mr. I. Mullen and Harry Browning, Boston; Earl Hunde, Detroit; Walter Morris, Kansas City; Edward Levin, Chicago; Charles Winfield, Minneapolis; Richard Kennedy, Birmingham; Frank Beelke, Kansas City; Tom Friday, Scranton; George Kerasotes, Springfield, Ill., and the so-called public relations committee's plan of operations. Coyle said: "Exhibitors are satisfied with the advertising campaign against juvenile delinquency and its product. The fundamental public relations committee for the studios is affected by the theatre business. We intend to launch a public relations project that will tend to dispel some of their Hollywood gloom."

Map Industry Aid In Treasury Drive

WASHINGTON, March 21—Tentative plans for establishing motion picture industry support for the Treasury's "Security Loan Drive" were drawn up here at a three-day meeting which ended yesterday. The drive will open on April 15.

The drive will include wide distribution of a specially复习版 of Warner's "Power Behind the Nation," asking the Motion Picture Industry to designate a producer for a two-minute trailer on the drive, and getting exhibitors to cooperate in posting posters and other display material in theatre lobbies.

Theatre Owners of America executive director Robert Wayne is on hand for all three days of the talks, while TOA president Ted Gamble arrived on Friday.

Charloote Film Depot

Charlottesville, March 21—Shipping and storage depot of the Motion Picture Service will open here tomorrow. John Vickers is president of the firm.

Raye and also Schine houses in New York and Ohio, has been named manager of Warners' Madison, at Albany, N. Y.

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M general sales manager, and Edwin W. Aarons, his assistant, are due back in New York from Frisco.

John P. Byrne, Eastern M-G-M sales manager, is due back in New York from New Haven and Boston.

Joseph Harris, Realart board chairman, and Mrs. Harris have returned to New York from a vacation at Boca Raton, Fla.

Mark I. Finkelstein, Cinema Circuit executive, and Mrs. Finkelstein, whose 60th birthday was yesterday, have become parents of a daughter.

Ben Backman, manager of the Commodore Theatre, Ottawa, Conn., recently underwent an operation at Westbridge Hospital.

Meyer Fine, head of Associated Circuit, Cleveland, and Mrs. Fine, have returned to that city from a Florida vacation.

Frank Capra, producer, and Don MacElwaine, M-G-M studio publicist, will leave Hollywood Friday for Washington.

WALTER MACEWIN, co-producer of "Two Arabian Knights" and inspired by the film, will go to England at the end of April.

ALBERT DEELE, president of Albert Deele Productions, returned to New York over the weekend from Detroit.

Seek Permit Control System For Adult Films in Ottawa

OTTAWA, March 21.—Details of a move to place adult entertainment under a permit-control system whereby pictures approved for adult audiences would be released only after a permit has been issued, were announced by O. J. Silverthorne, Toronto manager of the Ontario Censor Board.

Silverthorne asserted that since Jan. 1, 1946, exhibitors had broken regulations which require the designation of adult films and have been broadcasting advertising for films so graded. Under the permit plan, adult pictures would be handled by agents designated by film companies, which violate government rules.

Hutner Joins 20th-Century Fox Publicity Staff Under Bell

Meyer Hutner, former newspaperman, has joined the publicity staff of 20th-Century-Fox, here, Charles L. Schine, president of the distributing-publicity, announces. Hutner, who had been a staff member of the New York News for the past 12 years, has been named New York Post, will be a newspaper contact, working under Ulric Bell, publicity manager.

Granada Theatres' $47 Profit Was $312,900, Marking a Rise

LONDON, March 21.—A profit of $78,225 ($121,900) for the year ending last September has been announced by Sidney Bernstein's Granada Theatres Ltd. This marks a rise of $68,191 ($321,764) for the 1946 fiscal year. This year's dividend on the ordinary (common) stock remained 10 per cent.

Gamble Attends Fund Meeting

WASHINGTON, March 21—Theatre Owners of America president Ted Gamble on Friday attended a committee and board of directors meeting of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Foundation, President Truman is honorary president of the Foundation. Gamble is chairman of the campaign fund drive, which starts next week.

PITC Fils $5,500 Counter Claim

A counter-claim for $7,500 was filed in New York District Court by Producers Releasing Corp., against Producers Releasing Corp., and Daub, along with a denial of charges contained in the latter's $250,000 breach-of-contract action alleging failure to deliver 10 pictures for distribution in Cuba.

New Stephen Foster Poster Series

Crystal Pictures, New York, has acquired from Admiral Pictures, all future distribution rights to a new series of 12 two-reel dramatic musical shorts, based on "The Life and Songs of Stephen Foster."

Name Bagnall Fund Chairman

Hollywood, March 21.—George Bagnall has been named chairman of the Bagnall Fund, which is enlisting donors to the Motion Picture Relief Fund.

Newsreel Parade

ADDRESSES by President Truman mark newsviettel highlights in week-long parade of events to mark the upcoming release of the Red crisis, St. Patrick's day parade, sports, fashions, etc. Complete details follow.

MOVIE TONE NEWS, No. 23—President Truman asks for American strength to stop Reds. UN to investigate South Korea civil war. Help for the poor, was given. Mr. Truman reviews St. Patrick's day parade in New York; rejects aid from Welsh-Catholic Speelman attacks Stalinism. UN assembly to discuss Cuba. Warner Pathes News, No. 62—"Mama's" hot come back. President Truman reviews St. Patrick's day parade. Sixteen nations further reconciliation, Vienna Film Festival; Cleveland basketball. Great Americans: James Madison.

Daily Video Reel to Bow on Coast Today

What is described as another milestone in television history is promised for achievement today when a new daily newsworld service for television stations is inaugurated. The series, named News Productions, in association with International News Service and News Photos. Initial daily slate of the new service, INS and here over the weekend, will take place in Los Angeles on the Don Lee Broadcasting System in cooperation with WOXR. It will subsequently appear on other television stations throughout the country.

The daily reel will consist of eight minutes of news subjects filmed throughout the United States and their transmission to television audiences on Mondays through Fridays.

In addition to the daily reel, Televiser-INS-INS will continue its present weekly newsviettel digest which was inaugurated in January and which is now being presented over television stations in New York, Chicago, Detroit and Milwaukee.

Golden Slipper Club To Honor Lasky

PHILADELPHIA, March 21.—The Golden Slipper Square Club will stage a testimonial dinner on Tuesday, March 30, at the Parkway Hotel, in honor of Jesse L. Lasky, pioneer producer, who will come here to celebrate his 35th year in the industry. The annual Hollywood personality will attend.

Jack Shilder, president of the club, will be the host, which dinner will be followed by a reception for Lasky.
Review

"The Search" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

The simple story of a young boy's struggle to find his mother somewhere in the war-torn ruins of Europe has been turned into a great and moving drama. Presented with taste and authenticity, it touches the core of mass emotions. It is a love story, and an adventure, as well. Commercial aspects are furthered by the spontaneous acclaim that is already greeting the film in magazine and newspaper features, as well as on the radio.

Some interesting facts surrounding the making of the film, for which M-G-M sent a special unit to the American zone of occupied Germany. Produced in the documentary technique that currently is very much in vogue, it has only four production days. In its largest central role of the homeless war-orphan struggling for readjustment and emotional stability in a seemingly hostile world, nine-year-old Ivan Jandl cuts a heroic figure. He certainly is a "find." Others are Montgomery Clift, the hunted little boy and laborer who set his steps once more toward laughter and security; Alina MacMahon, an an UNRRA worker; Metropolitan Opera star Jarmila Novovna, who portrays the boy's mother; and Victor Kemper, original screenplay, by Richard Schweizer in collaboration with David Wechsler, is a proficiently-ordered job that builds up honestly and dramatically to its final climax. Along the way are unfolded some unforgettable children in blanket, the terrors of memories war atrocities. The film marks serious entertainment in touching form.

Produced for M-G-M by Lazar Wechsler, its sensitive direction was handled by Fred Zinnemann, with photography by Emil Bernand. Commissions are in order in every department.

Running time, 105 minutes.


Enterprise Needs Photogenic Lobster

State of Maine's Sea and Shore Fisheries Commissioner has instructed 40 of his wardens to comb the Maine coast to find "fish wildlife" in "photogenic lobster," which will "play" a feature role in Enterprise Productions' "Vice" slated to go into production on the Coast March 25, Enterprise press agents report here at the weekend.

Gov. Horace Hildreth, Enterprise said, will personally select the winning lobster for the "candidates" submitted by the wardens, and will fly it to the studio.

Cole Did Not Refuse To Answer Probers

Los Angeles, March 21. — Film writer Lester Cole, suspected by M-G-M, did not refuse to answer questions before the House Un-American Activities Committee in the opinion of U. S. District Judge Leon R. Yankwich. Cole and nine other Hollywood figures are on trial here in Washington on charges of contempt of the committee which charges they refused to testify when summoned. Committee took into Federal Court here a demand for immediate reinstatement by M-G-M. Yankwich is expected to make a decision in the case this week.

J. J. Donahue to Move Office to Chicago

Chicago, March 21.—J. J. Donahue, Paramount Central division manager, will move his office from New York to the company's branch here in about three or four weeks. He will be permanently located here.

Additional Reports Listed by the SEC

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Stock-trading reports on transactions by film company officers and directors, disclosed by the Securities and Exchange Commission, in addition to those listed here at the weekend, follow:

Columbia Pictures last Thursday Rubin gave away 100 shares of common, leaving a net of 3,840. Loew's, Inc., bought 90 shares of Loew's Boston Theatres' 2.5 percent, $100 convertible debentures, with a final holding of 122,983 shares.

Holdings of Para. Executives

Paramount: Leonard Goldenson acquired 200 shares of common by transfer, and gave away 500, leaving a net holding of 600. Jointly with his wife, he acquired 2,168 shares of Loew's common for 198 shares of Paramount, leaving 1,000. Stanton Griffiss, with 9,000 common shares reported at the beginning of the period, distributed 500 shares of the T. G. Latouche trust, leaving 4,500. Griffiss is also listed for 5,000 shares of Loew's trust, 6,000 in the F. K. Griffiss trust, 2,250 in the W. E. Griffiss trust. Austin C. Keough is reported to have given away 1,000 shares of Paramount, leaving common, 1,500. Maurice Newton is listed for the gift of 25 shares, leaving 25. The M. A. Newton trust is listed for 18,380 shares.

RKO: Ned E. DePietro gave away 300 shares of common with 20,700 reported at the beginning of the period.

Republic: Walter L. Titus, Jr., acquired by gift 250 shares of common, bringing his personal holdings to 690 shares. He has 2,000 reported in other holdings. During November he bought 100 shares. He also has 12,200 shares of $1 cumulative preferred under the name of Ansonrai Realty Co.

10 Common Shares to Skouras

Twentieth Century-Fox: Spyros P. Skouras acquired by distribution 10 shares of common, bringing his holdings to 1,700 shares. He also acquired 23 shares of $1 cumulative preferred. These are the only preferred shares listed for him.

Warner: Albert Warner gave away 1,600 shares of common, leaving 430,400. His trust reported 21,000 shares. Harry M. Warner gave away 1,750 shares common, with 293,250 remaining. The Harry Warner Trust reported holdings of 16,000. Jack L. Warner had 12,200 shares of common, leaving 423,000 at the end of the period. His trust reported holdings of 21,000.

—Meanwhile, Republic Pictures also reported its top wage earners. They were: Frank Borzage, with $271,399; Jack Warner, with $175,140, and John Carroll, with $149,000.

Harry J. Shumaw, 53

CHICAGO, March 21. Harry J. Shumaw, 53, former branch manager for Loew's in Milwaukee, was crushed to death in San Francisco Wednesday, in an accident at a movie house. The accident occurred when a model house front, being prepared for a housing show, collapsed under him. His brother Jack Shumaw, is branch manager for Warners here. Deceased is survived by the widow, Lillian and a son, Sheldon.

4 Percentage Suits Filed in Illinois

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 21.—Steve Bennis has been named defendant in four percentage suits filed here in U. S. District Court by Universal, Warner Brothers, RKO and Republic.

Complaints filed by those listed in various Federal courts throughout the country, each alleging a conspiracy by the defendants, and demanding returns of the receipts derived from exhibitions of plaintiff's percentage pictures.

Theatre defendants are Lincoln and Grand in Lincoln, Ill., and the Freeport in Freeport, Ill.


Court Upholds House Group's Query Right

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Ruling in a case involving the contempt convictions of officers of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, the U. S. Court of Appeals held at the weekend in a two-day hearing, the House Committee on Un-American Activities is constitutional and may legally inquire whether a witness is a Communist.

Ten Hollywood writers and directors, convicted of contempt of Congress for refusing to answer questions of the House committee, have challenged the House committee's right to pursue line of questioning and are planning to take their case to the U. S. Supreme Court, if necessary.

carrier Fees Are NCA Target Today

MINNEAPOLIS, March 21.—A theatre-scale film television demonstration and "skyrocketing" charges by carriers for air and rail costs have been added to discussions of "coercive" film-selling and Ascap, to highlight the semi-anual convention of the National Commission held at the Nicollet Hotel here tomorrow and Tuesday.

The television demonstration, which will be held at the Beck Studios at the Lyceum Theatre tomorrow night, will be the firmest carrier stand for "projection for exhibitors in this area and was added to the convention agenda because of the "uncertain role video will play in the future of motion picture production and exhibition," according to Stanley Kane, NCA executive director.

Kane will tell the meeting of 150 exhibitors that the rising cost of film projection "means days of highway robbery" and will indicate the matter will be placed before the proper carrier carriers similar to the recent decision of Ben Berger, Kane and various committees, as well as discussions of trade practices and threatening competition from 16mm. films and drives.

Enterprise Needs Photogenic Lobster

State of Maine's Sea and Shore Fisheries Commissioner has instructed 40 of his wardens to comb the Maine coast to find "fish wildlife" in "photogenic lobster," which will "play" a feature role in Enterprise Productions' "Vice," slated to go into production on the Coast March 25, Enterprise press agents report here at the weekend.

Gov. Horace Hildreth, Enterprise said, will personally select the winning lobster from the "candidates" submitted by the wardens, and will fly it to the studio.

Cole Did Not Refuse To Answer Probers

Los Angeles, March 21. — Film writer Lester Cole, suspected by M-G-M, did not refuse to answer questions before the House Un-American Activities Committee, in the opinion of U. S. District Judge Leon R. Yankwich. Cole and nine other Hollywood figures are on trial here in Washington on charges of contempt of the committee which charges they refused to testify when summoned. Committee took into Federal Court here a demand for immediate reinstatement by M-G-M. Yankwich is expected to make a decision in the case this week.

J. J. Donahue to Move Office to Chicago

Chicago, March 21.—J. J. Donahue, Paramount Central division manager, will move his office from New York to the company's branch here in about three or four weeks. He will be permanently located here.
JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE

JOHN FORD and MERIAN C. COOPER
present
JOHN WAYNE
HENRY FONDA
SHIRLEY TEMPLE
PEDRO ARMENDARIZ

FORT APACHE

Directed by JOHN FORD
Screen Play by FRANK S. NUGENT
AN ARGOSY PICTURES PRODUCTION
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES

A ROUSING EPIC OF GRIT AND GALL
GLORY IN THE DAYS WHEN THE WEST WAS WON!

Majestic in sweep . . . breath-taking in action! . . . Lusty, reckless, laughing cavalrymen against the red man's proudest, fiercest tribe... as loyal women love—and wait!
Eagle Lion
PROVES ITS
Entertainment Leadership
for 1948
The Greatest Lover-Fighter of All in Swashbuckling Spectacle!

"ADVENTURES OF CASANOVA"
Starring ARTURO DE CORDOVA • LUCILLE BREMER
TURHAN BEY • NOREEN NASH
and cast of thousands.

All-Star Drama of a Man Whose Lust for Power Destroyed Him!
ZACHARY SCOTT • LOUIS HAYWARD
DIANA LYNN • SYDNEY GREENSTREET
LUCILLE BREMER • MARTHA VICKERS

"RUTHLESS"
Produced by ARTHUR S. LYNDS

Filmed on an Unparalleled Scale of Outdoor Action!
JOAN LESLIE • JAMES CRAIG • JACK OAKIE

"NORTHWEST STAMPEDE"
IN CINECOLOR!
Suggested by Saturday Evening Post article, "Wild Horse Round-Up"

The Screen's Favorite Zanies—In Their Best—and Funniest!
BUD ABBOTT • LOU COSTELLO

"THE NOOSE HANGS HIGH"
with Joseph Calleia • Leon Errol • Cathy Downs

Suspenseful Story of a Man Who Lives Another Man's Life!
PAUL HENREID • JOAN BENNETT

"THE SCAR"
(formerly "Hollow Triumph")

Screen's Most Alluring Star Teamed in a Tender Dramatic Romance!
HEDY LAMARR • ROBERT CUMMINGS

"LET'S LIVE A LITTLE"
(Tentative Title)

4 Important Walter Wanger Productions

A Story of High Dramatic Power!
"THE BLANK WALL"
starrring JOAN BENNETT

Fabulous Story of a Red-Headed Pirate Beauty!
"ANNE OF THE INDIES"
starrring SUSAN HAYWARD

Buck-Rich Saga of a Roaring Bootlegger!
"TULSA"
starrring SUSAN HAYWARD
Lewis Bill

(Continued from page 1)
of the MPAA's copyright committee, which prepared it, at the opening of hearings on the bill tomorrow morn-
ing before the House judiciary sub-
committee on patents, which Rep. Earl R. Lewis, who introduced the measure, is chair-
man.

The MPAA contends that the cost of pictures will be increased by the bill rather than decreased, and that per-
formance fees will be increased by the societies controlling them," pointing out that "ultimately these fees, besides being un-
reasonably passed on to the public.

"Motion picture exhibitors, because of their position in the social and eco-
nomic structure," the memorandum adds, "are in a position to obtain the per-
forming rights from Aseap or other own-
ers of America and the Society of In-
dependent Motion Picture Producers. The forces in favor of the bill headed by Allied States. Others sup-
porting the measure include the Pa-
cific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners.

Rep. Lewis Discloses He
Is Not Committed to Bill

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Rep.
Lewis, chairman of a House judi-
ciciary sub-committee which opens hear-
ings here tomorrow on a bill to re-
quire producers to secure performing
rights for film music from Aseap, said
today that he is not committed to the bill, even though he introduced it.

"It was introduced at the request of one theatre organization," Lewis said, "in order to give them a chance to present their facts on this issue. I am not committed to supporting the measure."

Allied States is the sponsor of the bill.

Hearing Today, Friday

The sub-committee hopes to run
the hearings through tomorrow, then
probably to go over until Friday, due to other meetings on the intervening days.

Witnesses for Allied States Associa-
tion include General counsel Abner E. Myers, will open the hearings. Other Allied witnesses are: Sidney Samuelson, Tremery Reynolds, Joseph P. Uvick and Martin Smith.

Five witnesses are listed for the
Aseap Owners of America in opposi-
tion to the bill: Ted Gamble, Bob Coyne, Herman Levy, A. Julian Blylawski and Ben Strozker. However, it is
likely that Coyne will not testify unle-
ses Gamble cannot be present.

Adolph Schmelz, Edwin K. Kibroe
and Abe Montague are listed to testify
for the Motion Picture Association. No witnesses have yet been named for Aseap.

27 Films in Work
As 7 More Start

HOLLYWOOD, March 21.—The pro-
duction index remains at about an
even keel with 27 in work, against 28 for the previous week. Work started on seven films while
eight were sent to cutting rooms.

Shooting started on "Canzon City,"
"The Great Gatsby" and "The Tatlock Million," Paramount, "Till the End of Time" (Waltz), "The
Creeper" (Reliance), 20th-Century-

Music rights were discussed on the
Blues; Columbia; "Born to
Man," Republic; "The Street with No Name," 20th-Century-Fox; "The
Judge's Wife," Universal-Interna-
tional; "Smart Girls Don't Talk" (formerly Duane Doesn't Talk), Warner.

Johnston Broadcast

(Continued from page 1)
along under the terms of the (British) agreement you will see an increasing number of superior pictures. I have
said that there would be new oppor-
tunities for the exhibition of British
films in America. This will mean stif-
fer competition for us."

Johnston said that Hollywood is
under no illusions as to what the Brit-
ish film agreement means. He said:
"It may once again be able to ship out
as many pictures as before, but it must accommodate itself to getting fewer dollars back than it did in the past." He explained to his listeners that "the agreement contains provi-
sions whereby we hope eventually to
recoup a substantial portion of the unremittable share of our earnings in
Great Britain without any drain on the dollar position of the British."

Laudy Laurence

(Continued from page 1)
rest, Milton Kramer, SRO board
chairman, discloses.

Organization plans for SRO's dis-
tribution and sales in Great Britain
and on the Continent were completed
last week. Laurence's support, prior to his return to this country, it was said,
Neil Agnew, SRO president, stated that
Great Britain had been appointed
manager of distribution for the British
and also for Canada.

But the new arrangement will in-
clude the Balmore in Paris, while
Nene La Frite will continue as
manager of SRO distributor in France.

Report Progress in
Canadian Film Talks

OTTAWA, March 21.—Discus-
sions with Hollywood inter-
ests, including Motion Picture
Association of America presi-
dent Eric Johnston, for film production in Canada to re-
lieve the shortage of dollars
were progressing "quite satis-
factorily," a Canadian govern-
ment official declared here
yesterday. He declined to give any details, but it was pointed out that no Canadian
company will be subsidized to
compete with Hollywood.

Warner Cited

(Continued from page 1)
food was expressed here yesterday in
a series of ceremonies and special
events including honors from both
European governments for Harry M.
Warner, Warner Brothers president
and national chairman of the Friend-
ship Food Train Committee.

Italian Ambassador Alberto Tar-
chiani, at a ceremony in the Embassy, with the Order of Solidarity, highest grade of the
first and only decoration created by
the new Italian Republic, Ambassador Henri Bonnet of France greeted
Warner, already a member of the French Legion of Honor.

Cabinet members and represen-
tatives of the U. S. Diplomatic Corps
were guests with Warner at a dinner
tendered by Drew Pearson, newspaper
and radio commentator, who first ad-
vanced the idea of a Friendship Train.

Canada Again Curbs
Equipment Imports

OTTAWA, March 21.—A com-
plete embargo will be resumed soon
by the Canadian government on imports of projection and sound equipment under the emergency foreign exchange
act. The ban had been suspended for
a month to permit theatre companies
acquire necessary equipment for
houses under construction.

Linda Darnell Says

"Charming entertainment!"
NOTICE

This issue of MOTION PICTURE DAILY has been produced in part by emergency means on account of a work stoppage in a dispute between the typographical union and the employing printer.

The work stoppage was responsible for the appearance of page-one of MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, when two columns were left open for the results of the Academy Awards.

CENSOR BILLS DIE IN KENTUCKY

WASHINGTON, March 22 - The Kentucky state legislature has adjourned without any actions harmful to the industry according to MPA legislative agent Jack Bryson. A bill to legalize dog racing was killed, and three censorship bills were buried in committee, Bryson said. An attempt to repeal the state admission tax, however, failed.

Ten state legislatures are still in session.

SUNDAY SHOW BILL ADVANCED

JACKSON, Miss., March 22 - The House-approved bill to legalize Sunday shows in Mississippi has been passed by the Senate after an amendment was added restricting Sunday show hours from one to six P.M. The bill will now go back to the House for consideration of the amendment.

WALKER NAMED DRIVE CHAIRMAN

Frank C. Walker, former Postmaster General, who was recently awarded the Laetare Medal by the University of Notre Dame as the outstanding American Catholic Layman of 1947, has again accepted the office of Treasurer of the Cardinal's Committee of the Lathy for the New York Catholic Charities 29th annual appeal, for which a goal of $2,500,000 has been set. Geo. Schaefer will serve as assistant treasurer.

LEWIS BILL ATTACKED AND DEFENDED AT D.C. HEARINGS

Washington, March 22 -- A House judiciary sub-committee today in an all-day session got conflicting views from different segments of the industry on whether it should recommend passage of the Lewis bill, designed to force producers to acquire from Ascap public performing rights for film music.

From five Allied States Association witnesses, the sub-committee heard that the recent Ascap-TOA agreement offered no assurance against further rate increases, and that the Lewis Bill was necessary to break permanently the power of the "music trust".

From TOA and the Motion Picture Association, the group heard the bill was discriminatory legislation, would result in higher Ascap rates, and ultimately would mean higher admission prices for the theatre-going public.

In-between the arguments on the bill itself, the Allied witnesses took liberal swipes at TOA, and vice versa.

Abram Myers, Allied general counsel, pointed out to the committee that a price rise of even 25 per cent is "no trifling matter" for many small theatres with box-office receipts failing, and quoted the MOTION PICTURE DAILY story on Ascap's plans to seek a 500 per cent boost from theatres with regular stage show policies to prove that the end was not yet in sight.

Backing up Myers were: Sidney Samuelson, Trueman T. Rembusch, Joseph Uvich, and Martin Smith.

TOA president, Ted R. Gamble, said the basic objection to the Lewis Bill was that it deprived theatre owners of the right to negotiate with Ascap.
Review

"TARZAN AND THE MERMAIDS"

RKO Radio

Better and more elaborate than any of the previous films in this series, "Tarzan and the Mermaids" was produced at the Studios Churubusco in Mexico City and is enhanced by beautiful background and a handsome native cast in supporting roles.

Under the production guidance of Sol Lesser and directed by Robert Florey, Johnny Weissmuller and Brenda Joyce again return as Tarzan and Jane, the characters created by Edgar Rice Burroughs. In addition, the picture introduces Linda Christian as a native girl, while John Laurenz adds lighter moments with several Calypso songs.

The story concerns a native girl who attempts to escape from a river island so that she will not have to marry a pearl smuggler who has set himself up as a god. Tarzan goes to her aid and after several adventures frees her and exposes the motives of the smuggler.

The picture derives its title from the beautiful girls of the island paradise and the many aquatic scenes, many of which have been expertly photographed underwater. The original story and screenplay were written by Carroll Young. Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. For release in March.

764 THEATRES IN BOSTON AREA

There are 764 theatres, with a seating capacity of 640,128 in the Boston exchange area, according to the Boston theatre directory which the Motion Picture Association is releasing today.

The 30th in a series of 31, the directory reveals that 419 theatres in the area are circuit-operated. Capacity of these houses is 439,226. Boston has the greatest number of theatres in the area, with 58 houses currently in operation seating 77,853. Providence ranks second in the territory with 16 theatres and 24,914 seats.

10 NEW THEATRES FOR MEXICO CITY

MEXICO CITY, March 22 - Theatre operators are among the few business men in Mexico who view the future with optimism, as demonstrated by considerable theatre building in progress. Ten theatres are nearing completion here and all are scheduled to be in service by about Aug. 15. These will give this city exactly 100 theatres.

BLAKNEY ON MEMPHIS CENSOR BOARD

MEMPHIS, March 22 - Avery Blakney, local attorney, has been appointed to the three-member Memphis board of censors. He succeeds Hodges Honnoll, also an attorney, who resigned. Other members of the board are Lloyd T. Binford, chairman, and Mrs. Sid A. Law.

ONTARIO LABELS FOUR "ADULT"

TORONTO, March 22 - The Ontario Board of Censors has graded four pictures as adult. The films are: "The Patient Vampishes," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "I Became a Criminal" and "Gangster."
Argentina Launches
1st Film Festival

By NATALIO BRUSKI
MARDEL PLATA, Argentina, March 21.—Gov. Domingo Mercante inaugurated here at the weekend Argentina's first film festival. Thousands were on hand for the event.

All of the nation's producers have exhibits pointing up Argentine film industry progress. During the week five Argentine features will be shown. A special short has been produced for the occasion by Arturo Mom explaining how motion pictures are made.

A festival highlight will be the staging of a seashore show featuring thousands of actors, singers and musicians.

MAX WOLFF, Loew's purchasing head, is on a tour of M-G-M exchanges from New York.

JACK ELWELL, general manager of Dixie Drive-In Theatres, has returned to Atlanta from New York.

WALTER MORRIS, owner of the Pike and Lee theatres, Knoxville, is vacationing in California.

FRANK YOUNG has been named publicity manager of WPIX, New York Daily News television station.

R. E. WARN, newly-appointed Westrex engineering chief, is in town from Australia.

JACK SCHWIEDELLON, former manager of the Cass Theatre, Omaha, is now managing the Benson, of Omaha, owned by the Epstein Circuit.

ALLEN BRADLEY, of the New Ritz Theatre, Louisville, and Mrs. Bradley have returned to that city from a Florida vacation.

PAULINE GRIFFITH, secretary to the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, is recuperating at her home in Charlotte following a recent operation.

MORRIS MECHANIC, owner of the New Theatre, Baltimore, is visiting in Miami Beach, Fla.

JACK WHITTLE, owner of the Avenue Theatre, Baltimore, has returned to that city from a vacation in the Bahamas.

J. REAL NETH, head of Neth Theatres, Columbus, is recovering from illness.

JAMES WALKER has been named assistant manager at the Durfee Theatre at Hartford.

D. LEONARD HALPER, head of the Warner construction and maintenance department in the Ohio zone, and Mrs. HALPER recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

WILLIAM BLANK is the new manager of Switow Amusement theatres in Seymour, Ind., replacing GEORGE JAEGER, who returned to Switow's Elks Theatre, New Albany, Ind.

LAWSON R. DANIELS, manager of the Royal Theatre, Worcester, Mass., and Mrs. DANIELS, recently became parents of a son.

ROBERT GINGERICH, owner of the Sunset Theatre, San Francisco, has purchased the Cortland from HERBERT HARRIS.

WILLIAM MADDOCK has been appointed assistant manager of the Empire Theatre in Fall River, Mass.

THOMAS HALLIGAN is the new manager of the Williamsburg Theatre, Williamsburg, Va., succeeding FAY P. LECOMPTE.

SALO J. SELIGMAN of Paramount, here, will be married next month to MURIEL BENSHEIK on Heights, L. I.

LEONARD SHEA, Eagle-Lion branch manager, has been named delegate from Memphis Tent No. 20 to the national Variety Club convention in Miami next month.

No one picture can play in every theatre in America... but THE MATING OF MILLIE, starring GLENN FORD and EVELYN KEYES, is the kind of truly great family picture every exhibitor will love... and so will theatregoers.

THE BIG CLOCK
...PICTURE OF THE HOUR
Climaxing the greatest acc

The

ACADEMY AWARD

PICTURE

The Academy Award
For The
BEST PICTURE!
The Academy Award For The Best Performance By An Actress in a Supporting Role CELESTE HOLM
Congratulations
to
RONALD COLMAN
from UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL for his ACADEMY AWARD honoring his sterling performance in "A DOUBLE LIFE".

Congratulations, also, to Dr. Miklos Rozsa, for giving "A Double Life" the year's best musical score for a dramatic picture.

These awards are significant tributes, not only to Mr. Colman and Dr. Rozsa, but also to the excellent production "A Double Life".
Congratulations to the
J. ARTHUR RANK ORGANIZATION
from UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL
for the ACADEMY AWARDS won by

"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
and

"BLACK NARCISSUS"

"GREAT EXPECTATIONS" was honored for the best art direction, best set decoration and best cinematography among black and white motion pictures.

"BLACK NARCISSUS" was honored for the best art direction, best set decoration and best cinematography among motion pictures produced in color.
TRAILERS ARE YOUR BEST BUY in ADVERTISING

*The Box Office Value of Trailers is PROVED by Women's Home Companion 1947 Survey of Motion Picture Preferences... which showed that TRAILERS DRAW 31% OF YOUR PATRONS!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY
TOA Drafts "Youth" Plans

Theatre Owners of America's "Youth Month" committee, meeting here yesterday under chairmanship of Charles P. Skouras, set up a three-point program to combat juvenile delinquency with the assistance of U.S. theatres:

1. Committee will produce a film designed to spur community anti-delinquency activities;
2. Recommends to TOA membership a "Youth Month" campaign to run from Sept. 27 to Oct. 31;
3. Set up a 17-man committee headed by Thornton Sargent of Los Angeles to lay plans for children's shows, trailers, youth forums, and other activities.

Work On Public Relations

Plans for the new industry public relations program are expected to be worked out when Nate Blumberg, chairman of the Motion Picture Association of America's new public relations committee, gets back to New York from the Coast around the middle of April. Work on the program was deferred as a result of the Universal-International president's European trip, from which he returned recently.

U.K. Production Stressed

LONDON, March 23 --- Addressing the British Film Production Council today, British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson emphasized the necessity for maximum output of British pictures, undiminished by the Anglo-American tax agreement. The Council agreed to coordinate with the industry's own Joint Production Advisory Committee on questions of studio efficiency.

Notice

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S normal appearance is being affected by a work stoppage in a dispute between the typographical union and the employing printer.

U.S. PROBE OF INDUSTRY IS AGAIN SOUGHT BY NCA HEAD

MINNEAPOLIS, March 23 -- Ben Berger, North Central Allied president, is asking NCA board approval to place a one-page advertisement in a Washington daily newspaper calling on President Truman and Congress to investigate the industry. Industry leaders have failed to improve conditions, he said, despite the fact that he had cancelled a similar plan for ads last year.

In a report to the NCA convention, Berger said that Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, had flatly rejected Berger's request to remove Ben Blotcky as Minneapolis branch manager.

At the same time, William Ainsworth, newly-elected president of Allied States, declared that Allied would conduct an "open door policy" under which all branches of the industry would be welcome to discuss mutual problems. Ainsworth also said he plans no radical alteration in Allied policy.

Predicting theatre divorce, H. A. Cole of Texas Allied pictured the industry as a "rotten structure" which will take five to 10 years to rebuild.

Eric Johnston Lauds Mulvey's Aid

HOLLYWOOD, March 23. - The services of James A. Mulvey were praised as "indispensable in the friendly settlement of the British film tax problem" in a telegram from Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, to Samuel Goldwyn which the producer read at a testimonial dinner given for Mulvey here tonight by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, represented the SIMPP at the London tax talks.
**Knutson Will 'Consider' Tax-Cut**

WASHINGTON, March 23 — House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Knutson today promised Theatre Owners of America counsel Herman Levy that his committee would give "very serious consideration" to a reduction in the admission tax in a bill to be reported out next month.

Despite this assurance, however, observers here believe that there is very little chance of an admission tax cut getting through the Senate.

**BEACON AWARD TO RODNER**

Harold Rodner, Warner vice-president, will receive the annual Beacon Award of the Motion Picture Associates at an MPA dinner on May 21 at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here.

MPA members voted down a proposed by-laws amendment which would have permitted women members.

**Flood of Building Coming**

WASHINGTON, March 23 -- With House-Senate conferees on a new rent control bill agreed on the ending on March 31 of the Government's power to curb construction, a flood of some $50,000,000 in new theatre construction is expected to be started, according to figures from the Housing Expediter.

During the past nine months the expediter's office has approved only 366 theatre projects, including remodeling, costing $15,152,292, while 981 projects, at an estimated $49,845,813, were rejected.

**ORGANIZE OHIO THEATRE SERVICE CORP.**

CLEVELAND, March 23—Tony Stern and Lou Ratener have resigned from Warners to establish a buying, booking and theatre management service in this area to be known as Ohio Theatre Service Corp. The theatre management department will be under Ratener.

**MUNI AND ROTHMAN FORM COMPANY**

Actor Paul Muni and writer-producer-director Joseph Rothman have launched a company for independent production of films and plays, spokesmen announced here yesterday. Film on the life of Alfred Nobel is slated to be their first.

**FACT!**

Eighty-three key cities and their trading areas are responsible for the overwhelming percentage of the motion picture industry's total domestic revenue.

**FACT!**

The magazines represented by the ASSOCIATION OF SCREEN MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS have two-thirds of their national readership of 21,600,000 concentrated in these 83 key areas. No other national magazine can match this concentration.

---

**Broadway Grosses Still Spotty**

Broadway first-run grosses remain spotty this week, with some houses enjoying excellent business.

"I Remember Mama" (plus Easter stage show), Radio City Music Hall, second week, $142,000; "The Naked City" (plus Tex Beneke's band), Capitol, second week, $121,000; "Sitting Pretty" (plus Art Mooney's band), Roxy, second week, $99,000; "Road to Rio" (plus Louis Prima's band), Paramount, fifth week, $63,000; "Bishop's Wife," Astor, 15th and final week, $22,000; "Gentleman's Agreement," Mayfair, 19th week, $25,000. Academy Award for "Agreement" is expected to bring $40,000 for 20th week, just starting. "Miracle of the Bells" is poor at Rivoli: $40,000 for first week.

**FACT!**

Facts taken from the results of a two-year survey, now being presented to motion picture industry leaders in New York and Hollywood. If you have not yet seen this presentation, arrangements to do so may be made by contacting the ASSOCIATION OF SCREEN MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS, INC., 37 WEST 57th STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

DELL PUBLICATIONS - FANCETT PUBLICATIONS - HILLMAN PUBLICATIONS - HUNTER SCRFFN UNIT - IDEAL PUBLICATIONS - MACFADDEN PUBLICATIONS.
HOW’S THE “STATE OF THE UNION”? IT’S GREAT!

READ ALL ABOUT IT!
In coming weeks you will be hearing so much about Frank Capra’s “STATE OF THE UNION,” one of the greatest motion pictures of all time, that M-G-M wishes to acquaint the industry with the plans for its distribution.

SIMULTANEOUS BOOKINGS!
Hundreds of theatres will play this tremendous attraction at the same time across the nation, one of the greatest mass bookings in America’s top theatres that has ever been undertaken in the history of our business.

IT’S THE TALK OF THE INDUSTRY!
Previewed to cheering audiences in a series of theatre showings, it gloriously fulfills every promise of its fame as a stage play. Fame for its Pulitzer Prize award! Fame for its two solid years on Broadway and its roadshows!

TIMELEIEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
It’s red hot up-to-the-minute entertainment! It’s as sizzling as today’s headlines! Regular movie patrons will flock to see it, but it will also attract millions of extra ticket-buyers!

GIANT CAMPAIGN!
“State of the Union” will be backed by one of the biggest promotions of modern times—in newspapers, magazines and radio—all carefully dove-tailed to break with its simultaneous release!

GREAT CAST!
No expense of cast or production was spared to bring this sensational stage play to the screen. The conflict of two beautiful women for a man, set in the national arena of current events is a powerful, pulsating motion picture that takes its place with the all-time great.
PHILADELPHIA, March 23.--The Locust Theatre here has been requested by the archdiocese of Philadelphia to cancel "Lucrezia Borgia" because it has been banned by the National Legion of Decency. The theatre's ads carried this notation yesterday: "At the request of Cardinal Dougherty this picture will be withdrawn after Thursday, March 25." The film had been scheduled to run to about April 12.

LIBERTY’S OBJECTIONS OVERRULED

CHICAGO, March 23 -- Objections to interrogatories filed by Seymour Simon, plaintiff's attorney in the Liberty Theatre case were overruled by Judge Barnes in U. S. District court here. Defendants were given 60 days to answer interrogatories. Next hearings are scheduled for September 27.

OMER PAQUIN, 63, DEAD IN CANADA

OTTAWA, March 23.--Omer Paquin, 63, who was in the theatre business more than 25 years, including management of the Francats Theatre here, died in a hospital from burns. He is survived by his widow, and a son and daughter.

LINCOLN STEDMAN, 41, PRODUCER

HOLLYWOOD, March 23 - Lincoln Stedman, 41, producer, died here yesterday from a heart ailment. His widow, Carol, survives.

Nat Karson Among Seven Named
To CBS Video Posts Here

Nat Karson, who has served on the production staff of Radio City Music Hall here and as director of several RKO films, has been appointed consultant producer for Columbia Broadcasting's television activities. Six others named to directing posts by Worthington C. Miner, CBS television director, are: Ed Mabley and Ace Ochs, directors, and Robert Merril, Kenneth Redford, Kingman T. Moore and Hugh Muir Rogers, associate directors.

Endorse UN Child Aid Plan

Hollywood, March 23--Board of directors of the Screen Actors Guild has endorsed participation by its members in the American Overseas Aid—United Nations Appeal for Children.

Housing Expediter Approves Eight Permits, Rejects 13

WASHINGTON, March 23—Two theatre construction projects, at a cost of $150,000 each, have been approved by the Office of the U. S. Housing Expediter. The permits were to George Stimm, Antioch, Cal., and Minnehaha Theatre Corp., Minneapolis.

MONOGRAM MEETING MARCH 27-28

Steve Brody, president of Monogram Pictures, will preside at the Monogram franchise holders' annual spring meeting to be held at the Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, March 27-28.

SMPE SPRING MEET MAY 17-21

HOLLYWOOD, March 23 -- Nine technical sessions have been scheduled for the 63rd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, May 17-21, at the Santa Monica Hotel Ambassador.

SLIGHT DIP IN PRODUCTION INDEX

HOLLYWOOD, March 23--The production index dipped to 23 against 27 in the previous week. Filming began on five films while nine were sent to cutting rooms.

LEGION CLASSIFIES FOUR FILMS

RKO Radio's "Tarzan and the Mermaids", and 20th Century-Fox's "Scudda--Hoo, "Scudda--Hay" have been classified A-1 by the National Legion of Decency. Rated A-11 were: M-G-M's "The Bride Goes Wild," and United Artists' "So This is New York."

It’s coming...
From Eagle Lion!
A Producing Artists Production

RUTHLESS!

Box-office
POWER
in its stars!!

Zachary Scott, Hayard, Lynn Greenstreet, Lucille Bremer, Vickers

POWER in the ruthless impact of drama!

Philadelphia, March 23 -- Omer Paquin, 63, who was in the theatre business more than 25 years, including management of the Francats Theatre here, died in a hospital from burns. He is survived by his widow, and a son and daughter.
Reviews

"State of the Union"

(Liberty--M-G-M)

FRANK CAPRA'S production of the Howard Lindsay - Russel Crouse hit play is a monumental cinematic work. A brazen, courageous indictment of U.S. machine politics, it is the ultimate in 1948 timeliness: it deals frankly with an idealist's bid for the U.S. Presidential nomination and his disillusioning joust with the professional politicians; it pulls no punches in naming names and parties, and turns an embarrasing floodlight on the corruptive influence of smoke-filled room politics. At the same time, it is a slick, sophisticated comedy, rich in brisk and pungent repartee dialogue. Come March, 1949, producer-director Capra, already a four-time Academy Award winner, should find himself the recipient of an armful of "Oscars,"

Spencer Tracy, as the presidential aspirant; Katharine Hepburn, as his inspiring, nobly-motivated wife; Van Johnson, as Tracy's campaign publicist; Angela Lansbury, newspaper owner, political operator and "other woman;" Adolph Menjou, conniving campaign manager, all contribute sterling performances which tend to eclipse nearly everything they have done before. The cast is rounded out beautifully with A-I supporting players.

Under Capra's inspired direction the taut screenplay of associate producer Anthony Veiller and Myles Connolly was transformed into a film of electric pace, making the more than two hours running time seem considerably less than that. Photography and all other departments shine with achievement. Running time, 111 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Big City"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

PACKAGED up here in an expansive production dedicated to religious amity, the American system of democracy and the brotherhood of man are an extraordinary number and variety of musical interludes performed expertly and in turn by Danny Thomas, Lotte Lehman, Betty Garrett, Margaret O'Brien, the Page Cavanaugh Trio, a boy's choir, and often by everybody in the cast. These include Hebrew chants, Catholic Masses, folk songs, plus hotcha of the hottest kind. They occur in the run of the story, rather than as production numbers, adding length and entertainment highlights to a narrative that would be less credible without them. Robert Preston, George Murphy, Butch Jenkins, Edward Arnold, Karin Booth and Connie Gilchrist are others in the large cast with emphasis so evenly distributed that all of them rate as principals. It is an odd and strangely compounded picture, purposeful in its theme, a little uncertain in its final disposition of it, but altogether a large package of entertainment with something in it for every kind of ticket buyer.

It was produced by Joe Pasternak and directed by Norman Taurog, from a screenplay by Whitfield Cook and Anne Morrison Chapin, based on a story by Miklos Laszlo adapted by Nanette Kutner, with additional dialogue by Abe Kandel. Miss O'Brien, at her best, plays the key role - that of a foundling.


William R. Weaver

Tyrone Power

Says

KEN MURRAY'S

BILL AND COO

A FULL LENGTH FEATURE in TRUCOLOR

"A delightful treat!"

REPUBLIC'S EASTER SURPRISE
Everybody's Talking about Millie!

“Ford and Miss Keyes make a sock team. Should click with all types of theatregoers, particularly the younger set.”—VARIETY

“Great boxoffice potential. Every earmark for successful runs.”—FILM DAILY

“Mark this one for brisk business all down the line.”—M. P. HERALD • “A natural for women. Should do well.”—SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW • “A neat film package.”—M. P. HERALD • “Aimed for profit.”—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER • “Busts out all over with rare good humor. Just a case of keeping the route between the box office and the bank well guarded.”—DAILY VARIETY

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

GLENN FORD • EVELYN KEYES

The Mating of Millie

with RON RANDELL • WILLARD PARKER

Screenplay by Louella MacFarlane and St. Clair Mc Kelway
Directed by HENRY LEVIN • A CASEY ROBINSON PRODUCTION

make your date with Millie now!

A TRULY GREAT FAMILY PICTURE!
LEWIS BILL GETS

SIMPP APPROVES U.K. PACT

HOLLYWOOD, March 24 - Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers last night approved the agreement between the Motion Picture Association of America and the British government for termination of the U.K.'s 75 per cent ad valorem levy on films. Approval followed a report by James Mulvey who represented SIMPP at the London conferences.

Launch TOA "Youth" Promotion

Theatre Owners of America's "Youth Month" program, under chairmanship of Charles F. Shouras, yesterday produced eight sub-committees which were assigned to formulate eight facets of promotion for the drive. Sub-committees, which will make initial reports here today, and their chairman are:

Two-reel drive film, Edwin Levin; publicity, Ernest Emerling; trade press, Robert Weitman; trailers and newsreels, Thornton Sargent; advertising, Harry Browning; radio, Charles Winchell; special theatre activities, R.M. Kennedy; exploitation, Robert Selig.

NCA Plugs Buying Groups

MINNEAPOLIS, March 24 -- Continuing criticism of Paramount's local selling policies, Ben Berger, North Central Allied head, and other speakers urged independent exhibitors at the NCA convention here to join buying combines. The combines were described as the only way of keeping film prices down. The convention also adopted a resolution introduced by the NCA head, condemning Paramount's action in billing and posting in towns where its product is not sold.

Berger was reelected president and Stanley Kane executive director at the closing convention session yesterday.

DEATH SENTENCE

House Judiciary View Means End for Proposed Bill

WASHINGTON, March 24 -- The House Judiciary subcommittee, which held hearings on the Lewis bill here Monday, voted today to report the Allied States - sponsored anti-Ascap measure adversely to the full committee. The action is tantamount to a death sentence for the measure, which would have made producers, instead of Ascap, responsible for licensing music performance rights in films.

Allied, in consequence, is left without an anti-Ascap program of its own, other than lending support to pending litigation involving the Society, such as the so-called Berger case in Minneapolis and the ITOA case in New York. Allied attacked the rate compromise achieved with Ascap by Theatre Owners of America during the Lewis bill hearings, thus apparently disclaiming any part in obtaining the compromise music licensing rates applicable to exhibitors for the next 10 years.

Rank to Film 30 in 1948

WASHINGTON, March 24 -- British film producer J. Arthur Rank said today his organization would have about 30 feature pictures to distribute here during 1948.

He refused to estimate how much British films would net in America this year.

Rank made the statement at a joint press conference with Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston at UIPA headquarters here. Just before the conference Rank and Secretary of the Treasury Snyder had had a brief "social" visit with President Truman at the White House. Immediately after the conference Rank left for California.
Personal Mention

PAUL N. LAZARUS, JR., United Artists advertising—publicity director, has returned to New York from Hollywood ... J. Robert Rubin, vice-president of M-G-M, is vacationing at Tucson ... Harry McWilliams, exploitation director of Columbia, has returned to New York from a field trip ... Herbert T. Kalmus, Technicolor president, is due in New York from Hollywood.

H. WILLIAM AUTEN, formerly United Artists European sales executive, has become executive assistant to S. L. Seidelman, head of Eagle-Lion foreign operations ... E-L exploitation manager Arthur Jeffrey will leave New York today for Dallas ... Paul Sheriff and Vincent Korda, art directors, respectively of the Rank Organization and London Films, arrive here today from London ... Jules Lapidus, Warner's Eastern sales manager, will return to New York today from Toronto and Buffalo.

CHARLES PRUTZMAN, U-I vice-president, will return here today by plane from Europe and will leave at once for the Coast ... Paul Mac Namara SRO advertising-publicity chief, will leave here for Hollywood today.

Discuss ASCAP Show Tax Today

Spokesmen for Warner Theatres, Loew's, RKO, Paramount, the Roxy and Radio City Music Hall will meet with representatives of ASCAP this afternoon to discuss the new music tax rates for stage show houses in New York. ASCAP is asking $1.25 a seat per year, as against the old charge of 20 cents. The theatre men will demand that the matter be negotiated, having refused on the advice of counsel to sign the new contracts.

The main local combination houses involved are the Music Hall, Capitol, Roxy, Paramount and Strand.

Notice

MOTION PICTURE DAILY’s normal appearance is being affected by a work stoppage in a dispute between the typographical union and the employing printer.
THE LEADING FIGURE IN THE INDUSTRY LEADS THE INDUSTRY IN ACADEMY AWARDS!

The Academy Award for The Best Direction by ELIA KAZAN for "Gentleman's Agreement"

The Academy Award for The Best Performance by An Actress in a Supporting Role CELESTE HOLM in "Gentleman's Agreement"

The Academy Award for The Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role EDMUND GWENN in "Miracle on 34th Street"

The Academy Award for The Best Picture PRODUCTION of GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT

The Academy Award for The Best Scoring of a Musical Picture ALFRED NEWMAN for "Mother Wore Tights"

The Academy Award for The Best Original Motion Picture Story VALENTINE DAVIES for "Miracle on 34th Street"

The Academy Award for The Best Written Screen play GEORGE SEATON for "Miracle on 34th Street"

20th CENTURY-FOX Salutes THESE HONORED ACHIEVEMENTS!
Reviews

"Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House"

(Selznick Releasing Organization)

Based on the best-selling book by Eric Hodgins, Dore Schary's version of "Mr. Blandings" is a first-rate attraction steeped in quiet and hilarious comedy with an ingratiating overlay of pleasant romance involving Cary Grant and Myrna Loy, as the Blandings, and Melvyn Douglas, their best friend.

The story, of course, deals with the yen to acquire a country house: It's acquired all right, then torn down, for an entirely new one -- and an entirely new set of problems as well.

The adventures and misadventures on the way will be appreciated by anyone who ever has been embroiled in country property and understandable to those who never have. The fact is "Mr. Blandings" is almost an editorial attack on architects, contractors and builders whose costs never fall under, and always go over, estimates. But when they finish, The Blandings have a joy of a house and a joy in their hearts that make the turmoil and the handicap worth their trouble.

Performances by the three principals are excellent and support in a like tempo. H.C. Potter's direction is very good, drawing scintillation from the bright script by Norman Panama and Melvin Frank who also produced for Schary. Running time, a nice and convenient 94 minutes. General audience classification. Release in July. RED KANN

"The Inside Story"

(Republic)

Here is fare for family audiences. The film is unpretentious but has warmth, simple humor and a briskness that engages the interest successfully. The picture offers a human interest story making an appeal to a variety of emotions and ages.

From a yarn by Ernest Lehman and Geza Herczeg, Mary Loos and Richard Sale have drawn a screenplay that attempts a message of faith and hope, a worthy motive even though not fully realized in the script. It is the story of how a thousand dollars passing from hand to hand alters the lives of a number of persons in a small town. Marsha Hunt, William Lundigan, Gail Patrick, Charles Winninger, Gene Lockhart head a good cast directed by Allan Dwan. Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, March 14.

"The Arizona Ranger"

(RKO Radio)

Jack Holt and Tim Holt, father and son respectively in real life, assume the same role in a standard Western that rates well in its category. In the original screenplay provided by Norman Houston, both dad and son are out to eliminate lawlessness, the conflict arising out of differences in methods. Nan Leslie provides the lady in peril. Herman Schom produced; John Rawlins directed. Running time, 63 minutes. General audience classification. Released in Block 3.
To the hundreds of showmen who have joined Republic’s great “BILL AND COO” Easter Parade of Bookings, we proudly announce a Special Academy Award for Outstanding Achievement to Ken Murray’s full length wonder picture, “Bill and Coo” — topping a nation-wide fanfare of praise.

There’s never been anything like it!

“BILL and COO”
AN ACADEMY AWARD WINNER
HD A2177 778 EXTRA DL PD-HOLLYWOOD CALIF MARCH 20 1948 159P

MR. J. ARTHUR RANK
PALM BEACH, FLA.

DEAR ARTHUR: DELIGHTED TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE
CLEAN SWEEP OF AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY, ART DIRECTION
AND SET DECORATION JUST GRANTED YOUR PICTURES "BLACK
NARCISUS' AND "GREAT EXPECTATIONS." IN "BLACK NARCISUS"
AS IN ALL YOUR OTHER PICTURES WITH COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
OUR RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN MOST HAPPY AND WE LOOK
FORWARD EAGERLY TO AN ACTIVE PROGRAM TOGETHER OF WHICH
"BLACK NARCISUS" IS ONLY A START

WITH AFFECTUATE REGARDS
HERBERT (HERBERT T. KALMUS, PRESIDENT AND GENERAL
MANAGER, TECHNICOLOR MOTION PICTURE CORP)

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE
ERP AID FOR FILMS IN NEW BILL

WASHINGTON, March 25 — The House version of the European Recovery Program would allow the ERP administrator to guarantee film companies and other information media that they will be able to convert into dollar income from any approved investment made in Marshall Plan nations, it was learned today. Total guarantee for the first year would be held to $15,000,000.

The House will get to a final vote on the measure next week.

Truman Praises UK Pact

WASHINGTON, March 25 — A detailed personal report on the British film tax settlement was given President Truman today by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America. While no official White House comment was forthcoming, it was understood that the President expressed hearty approval of the accord and applauded Johnston's work in negotiating it. The Picture Head also went into other aspects of the industry's foreign situation, especially the problems in France and Italy.

Seek "Highest" Quota :Wilson

LONDON, March 25 — Harold Wilson, Board of Trade president, today told Commons that he plans to set the new exhibitors' quota at the highest practicable figure. He assured Commons he had made no commitments affecting the quota in the agreement made with Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, to end the ad interim duty.

Discuss Public Relations

Members of the industry public relations committee, of which Maurice Bergman is chairman, met here yesterday to discuss industry public relations problems. Among those attending was Kenneth Clark, Motion Picture Association of America public relations head, who came in from Washington.

END CURBS ON NEW HOUSES

WASHINGTON, March 25 — Government curbs on theatre construction will end at midnight March 31. Both House and Senate today approved and sent to the White House a rent control bill which terminates restrictions on construction as of that date. President Truman is expected to sign the measure promptly. The Senate originally voted to extend the limitation order through April 30, 1949, but gave in to the House, which had refused to continue the order.

Paramount Suit vs.Brandt

New York County Supreme Court Justice Null yesterday sustained five and ruled against 47 of the 52 objections raised by attorneys for Harry Brandt, et al, to charges in percentage suit brought by Paramount. Paramount's attorneys said the decision does not affect the complaint in any substantial or important way. Plaintiffs will file an amended complaint within 20 days.

Gamble Hits Child Prices

Children's admission prices are too high generally, and that is one reason why child attendance has dropped off considerably in the last few months, Ted R. Gamble, Theatre Owners of America president, declared here yesterday.

Ask to Restore Budget Cut

WASHINGTON, March 25 — Secretary of State Marshall and other State Department officials have asked the Senate appropriations committee to restore the $6,378,000 cut by the House from the Department's overseas information program. The House voted $28,000,000 for the program, of which, about $4,878,749 was earmarked for the motion picture program.
Personal Mention

JOSEPH R. VOGEL, Loew's vice-president, is vacationing in Florida... Steve Broidy, Allied Artists-Monogram president, left here yesterday for Milwaukee for a franchise-holders' meeting tomorrow... Richard Gordon has joined Hoffberg Productions, New York, as assistant sales manager... Edward Golden, of Golden Productions, is here from Hollywood.

JOE WOLF, Columbia sales manager in Boston for 11 years, has joined Embassy Pictures here as general sales manager... Lillian Nadel Gerard has joined Pathe Cinema here as executive assistant to Jacques Chabrier, Pathe Cinema representative in the U. S. ... Charles J. Stern, Loew's assistant treasurer, has returned to New York from Palm Beach... H. W. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations chief, has returned here from Minneapolis.

WILLIAM J. HEINEMAN, Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president, is due back in New York Monday from Boston... Alvin W. Gross, M-G-M office manager in Denver, has been transferred to Milwaukee in that capacity, succeeding the late Walter Bennin... W. J. Cammer, Screen Guild branch manager in Dallas, will be married Sunday to Myrtle Kay Barlow of San Antonio.

SIR PHILLIP CARTER, director of Associated British Picture Corp., and Lady Carter; George Archibald, J. Arthur Rank managing director in Great Britain; Alfred Hitchcock; Margaret O'Brien, Hume Cronyn and Jean Simmons will sail for England tomorrow on the SS Queen Elizabeth.

FARA SWITCHES WIENS TO DENVER

CINCINNATI, March 25--Walter Wiens, Paramount branch manager here, has been transferred to Denver as branch manager, succeeding the late Chester Bell. James J. Grady succeeds Wiens.

Notice

MOTION PICTURE DAILY's normal appearance is being affected by a work stoppage in a dispute between the typographical union and the employing printer.

TOA Killed Lewis Bill

WASHINGTON, March 25.--Opposition of Theatre Owners of America to the Lewis bill was enough to decide five of the six members of the House judiciary subcommittee to seal its death sentence by voting it out adversely, a member of the subcommittee said today. Rep. Lewis of Ohio, who introduced the measure for Allied States, was the only man who voted in its favor.

The subcommittee member said that the bill, which would require producers to clear music performing rights in their films, instead of Ascap, was intended to aid exhibitors. "Since exhibitors could not agree it would benefit them," he observed, "the bill obviously does not serve its intended purpose." He added that the opposition of producers, the Motion Picture Association and SIMPP to the bill had no influence at all on the vote.

TOA Slates Public Opinion Poll

Theatre Owners of America will conduct a poll of public opinion and will use the results as a guide for its forthcoming public relations activity. Ted R. Camble, TOA president and public relations chairman, reported here yesterday. Public's views on the industry, many productions, will be gathered.

A seven-man public relations subcommittee has been set up by TOA to draft a program of immediate action preliminary to the appointment of the main committee which will devote itself to a long-range program. Under the chairmanship of Earl Hudson, Detroit, who will take up temporary headquarters here on Monday, the subcommittee includes: Robert Weitman, Charles Winchell, Edward Levin, Dave Jones, Senn Lawlor and Harry Browning.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL--Rockefeller Center

IRENE DUNNE IN GEORGE STEVENS' Prod. of

"I REMEMBER MAMA"

BOD GORDON

BEL GODES

HOLLY ROSEN

Produced by HARRIET PARSONS

Music Hall's Great Easter Stage Show

SITTING PRETTY

A 20th Century-Fox Picture

FUSH ON STAGE--ART MOONEY & BETTY BRUCE

With THE ANDREWS SISTERS

BING CROSBY

BOB HOPE

DOROTHY LAMOUR

ROAD TO RIO

PATRICIA PRIMA

OH! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY

THE MIRACLE OF THE BELLS

RIVOLI 7th Ave. & 50th St.

FRANK SINATRA

FRED McguIRy

VALE

FRANK SINATRA

STAGE & TELEVISION

ROXY
Motion Picture Daily

Friday, March 26, 1948

Admission Tax Cut For Italian Houses

Rome, March 21. (By Air Mail).—Admission taxes have been lowered in Italy on a new bill which establishes rates which were urged by Italian exhibitors a year ago. New tax rates are based on admissions of 33 lire or less, 55 cent on admissions from 33 to 100 lire, and 50 cent on those of more than 100 lire.

The old scale was 15 per cent on admissions of 20 lire or less; 35 per cent on admissions from 21 to 60 lire, and 50 per cent on those of more than 60 lire.

Review

"Devil's Cargo"

(JOHN CALVERT, as a new Falcon, a debonair detective, gets involved in a series of murders. Two victims die by bullets, another is killed in a bomb explosion, and the fourth is stabbed. The Falcon, with Roscoe Karns as a police lieutenant, track down the murderer. John Calvert's slight-of-hand tricks are an interesting addition to the film, which is an average one for its type.

"A man confesses to a gangster, but the Falcon suspects that he is innocent. Rochelle Hudson plays the wife of the man who confessed. She is mixed up in the killings, with the ring-leader. The Falcon asks the police in capturing the criminal. As the finale arrives in the final scene the Falcon forces the killer to confess. Philip N. Krane produced and John F. Link directed.

Running time, 81 minutes. General audience classification.

Increase in Key City Grosses

The pronounced comeback demonstrated by key-city theatre grosses as the new year got under way was sustained last month, according to reports on some 166 situations from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents. February's grosses ran only slightly behind January's.

February's figure was $15,010, compared with the $15,837 mean average for January. The average for last month, however, trailed that of February of last year, for which a weekly average of $16,689 was recorded.

Final week of last month, with an average of $16,372, was about on a par with the same week of last year, when $15,869 was averaged. The last week of February 1948 was the top one for the month.


Composite key-city box-office reports for 1948 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1947, follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Ending</th>
<th>No. of Theatres Gross</th>
<th>Average Per Theatre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 2-3</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>$3,606,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 9-10</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>$2,610,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 16-17</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>$4,733,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 23-24</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>$4,150,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 30-31</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>$2,241,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 6-12</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>$2,851,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 13-14</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>$2,851,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 20-21</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>$2,916,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 27-28</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>$2,734,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ask 300% Rent Raise For Canadian Theatres

Ottawa, March 25.—Occupancy rental increases of as much as 300 per cent are being demanded of some exhibitors in Canada by theatre building landlords, rental arrivals on commercial structures having been lifted by the government. Exhibitors complain that the Canadian government was asked for are out of all proportion to operational profits.

Because of widespread complaints from the industry, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board has started to set up the necessary legal machinery to investigate and prosecute landlords who have made such demands not only on exhibitors but on other commercial operators as well.

U. K. Films to Aid Canada Limitedly

OTTAWA, March 25.—While it is agreed here that every possible encouragement will be given to increase the showing of British-made films in Canada in order to bolster the British film men here do not believe that this will help the currency problem, nor change the screen menu much in Canada.

They point out that only a small increase in British film imports into Canada is anticipated. Bulk of the films are always brought in from the U.S. Last year, 470 films came from the U.S. and only 26 came from Britain.

Any substantial reduction of Hollywood films could not be replaced by British imports, film men also emphasize.

Distinguished Gets One

The British film, "Quiet Week-End," has been acquired for distribution in this country by Distinguished Films, which is planning an American release on Broadway this spring. It will be the first British import for distinguished.

Germany Given 288 Films Since V-E Day

Berlin, March 21 (Via Air Mail).—A total of 288 foreign pictures were imported into Germany between the end of the war and the end of 1948. Immediately following the capitulation, 62 features were brought in, of which 25 were Russian, nine American, eight French, and five British. In 1946, the number rose to 122, French productions leading with 49, followed by Russia, with 31. America held third place with 26 pictures. Britain imported only 16. In 1947, 104 pictures were imported.

Five films were produced in Germany during 1946 and 19 in 1947. A minimum of about 180 are required to fill the needs of German screens.

Personal Mention

CAROL BRANDY, M.G-M Eastern editorial chief, is in England from New York.

JOSEPH HARRIS, RKO board chairman, has checked his holidays at Boca Raton, Fla.

MICHAEL JACOBY, manager of the Mayfair Theatre, Bridgeport, has resumed his duties following illness.

EMIL GROTH, RKO Radio division manager in Cincinnati, is recuperating from a major operation in Christ Hospital in that city.

IRVING L. EISENSTAT has been appointed office manager of Century Theatre's home office here. He was previously with Warner as field accountant supervisor.

R. HILTON, Altec district manager in Chicago, is a New York visitor.

ROBERT E. HELMS has been appointed booker for Screen Guild Productions in Texas.

MICHAEL McAndrew, formerly assistant manager at the Suffolk Theatre, Holgate, Mass., has been promoted to manager of the Strand in Springfield, Mass.

ARP TOOLE, M-G-M salesman in Chicago for 17 years, has joined the RKO office in Chicago.

Investment Limits Planned by Canada

OTTAWA, March 25.—The Canadian government plans to discourage further investments in a broad range of "less essential industries," including amusement, are contained in a statement by Minister of Trade Howe which again emphasizes the need to conserve dollars.

The statement, service, commercial and industrial enterprises in which new investment and construction is curtailed would provide many pleasant amenities and improvements in the Canadian standard of living," Howe told Parliament, adding that they all involve expenditures of United States dollars, and since our supply of dollars is limited it must be rationed."
"Product-Plus!"

From Boxoffice Barometer to the Business Reports of Variety to "What The Picture Did For Me," there's a sensational boxoffice story being told!

Big towns, small towns, subsequent run houses, neighborhood theatres all add to the glowing reports of one company's product ... and the showmanship behind it!

... That's why the whole industry is calling it

"Product-Plus!"

from

20th CENTURY-Fox

Call Northside

The Best of 20th's Real Life Triumphs — and the Biggest at the Boxoffice

Scudda-Hoo! Scudda-Ha! Scudda-Him!

Ask The Men Who Played It In 329 Theatre Premieres! Those "Smoky" Grosses Are Here Again
Sitting Pretty

"Big!" "Smash!" "Standout!"
Reports Variety for "The Funniest Picture Ever Made!"*

*Audience vote at every preview!

You Were Meant For Me

It's All The Sweet Things Rolled Up in One Ticket-Selling Musical!

Captain From Castile

TECHNICOLOR

2nd Straight Month Motion Picture Herald Boxoffice Champion!
**Reviews**

"Hazard"

(Frameward)

This farce comedy employs every means in the interests of laughter. The film really cuts loose after a few opening scenes that strike a serious note, bellying the fun that lies ahead.

Giving unstintingly of themselves in the farcical situations are Paulette Goddard and MacDonald Carey. Miss Goddard has turned to gambling to try to forget a lover killed in the war. When she sticks a gambling operator with a bad check, they gamble to decide if she goes to jail or marries him. Miss Goddard loses and runs away. The gambler hires Carey to trace her. Her efforts to elude him make up the bulk of the story and end in love.

The picture was ably produced by Mel Epstein and directed in rapid-fire order by George Marshall from a script by Arthur Sheekman and Roy Chanslor derived from a novel by the latter. Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 28.

"The Enchanted Valley"

(Eagle-Lion)

A PEACEFUL mountain valley, where a lame youngster and his grandfather reside, suddenly becomes the scene of a gangland hideout, in "The Enchanted Valley." Photographed in Cinecolor, the film offers some pleasant natural scenes along with some effective bits in which birds and animals live in harmony. The story itself has halting moments and develops along obvious lines.

Alan Curtis heads the cast as the gangster who breaks into the valley to fortify his underworld alies, Anne Gwynne and Joseph Devlin. As the boy, Donn Gift performs with refreshing simplicity, Charley Grapewin is adequate as the grandfather, Robert Emmett Tansey directed, from an original by Frances Kavanaugh. Jack Schwarz produced.

Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Set for April release.

Mandel Herbstman.

"Overland Trails"

(Monogram)

A ROUTINE western compounded from the ingredients which have been the life-blood of the "horse opera," "Overland Trails" leaves little wanting in this sphere. Partisans of the Western will be satisfied as Johnny Mack Brown battles culprits and brings justice to the victimized. Raymond Hatton is his saddle pal, Bill Kennedy and Steve Donnell the "heavies." Also in the cast are Virginia Belmont and Holly Bane. Barney Sarecky produced; Lambert Hill- yer directed. Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Now in release.

**Dewey Signs Theatre Bills**

ALBANY, March 25 - Gov. Dewey yesterday signed into law two bills, one extending to towns authority to permit admittance of children aged eight to 16 to film houses where a licensed matron is in attendance, the other making it a misdemeanor to bar a blind person accompanied by a "seeing eye" dog from theatres and other places of amusement.

**KRAENZE APPOINTS THREE HERE**

Promotion of John McKenna to branch manager here and appointment of Harry Decker to handle New York independent circuits have been announced by Distribution vice-president B. G. Krane of Film Classics. Sidney Weiner has been named office manager.

**RUGAR SELLS THEATRES, RETIRES**

SALT LAKE CITY, March 25---John A. Rugar, who started in the film business in 1909 as cashier and accountant for one of the first film booking companies in Utah, has retired. Active in regional and national exhibitor affairs for years, he sold his Park City, Utah, theatres to Russ Dauterman of Greenriver, Wyo., and plans to reside in Los Angeles.

**PREPARE: BROWNOUT ORDER**

WASHINGTON, March 25 - In a move to save coal, the Federal Power Commission is preparing an order for a nation-wide brownout, according to reports here.

**SHELTON WITH GRAETZ**

William Shelton has resigned as general sales manager of Siritzky International and has rejoined the A. F. E. Corp.
TO REOPEN FRENCH FILM PACT

HOUSE BILL ASKS TICKET TAX CUT OF 50 PER CENT

WASHINGTON, March 28 - Another bill to cut the admission tax back to the pre-war 10 per cent rate has been introduced by Rep. Gearhart of California, a member of the influential House Ways and Means Committee.

Johnston Rejects PCCITO

WASHINGTON, March 28 - Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston has flatly rejected a protest by the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners against the "appearance of motion picture stars in political propaganda films, including newsreels." Film stars are not a class apart and must be as free as others to express their views, Johnston said in a letter to PCCITO executive secretary R.H. Poole.

Seek Ticket Tax for Cities

Chicago, March 28 - A report by a special committee of the U.S. Conference of Mayors said today that federal admission taxes should be abandoned at once in order to make this source of revenue available to cities.

The report also said that state governments "literally preempted the most productive forms of taxation. These governments then blandly stand by and let the cities struggle along with what is left."

Ontario Solons Back Levy

TORONTO, March 28 - First reading of the Ontario government's bill for a 20 per cent provincial amusement tax to replace the national 20 per cent tax when the latter is repealed has been upheld in the provincial legislature.

The State Department will consent to the reopening of the Blum-Byrnes French film agreement as soon as it is assured that the French government is taking steps to correct certain discriminations against American film companies, according to an industry executive just returned from Europe. The French are seeking to increase to seven or eight weeks per quarter the present provision requiring their theatres to play French product four weeks in every 13.

Assurances that the French have acted to remove discrimination in raw stock allocations as well as to ease or remove a ruling prohibiting showing of American films dubbed more than two years ago and another barring more than 15 prints of a single American picture from being shown simultaneously, are expected within 10 days, the industry executive said. The Motion Picture Association of America has expressed willingness to renegotiate the accord if these discriminations are removed.

STAGE SHOW THEATRES REJECT ASCAP BOOST

Ascap at the weekend had under advisement a proposal to abolish the special scales for stage show houses in its new theatre music tax schedule. The proposal was presented by spokesmen for operators of combination houses at a meeting here with Ascap representatives last week. It will be submitted to the society's board for official action, with further meetings between the disputants awaiting the directors' decision. Meanwhile, the theatre operators have refused to sign new Ascap contracts calling for 500 per cent increases in rates.


**Personal Mention**

JAMES MULVEY, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, is due here today from the Coast. . . . Si Seadler, MGM advertising manager, is due back here from the Coast today. . . Fred Sandy, Equity Film Exchanges Washington manager, has arrived in New York.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, MGM vice-president and general sales manager, has returned to New York from the Coast. . . . Norman Panama and Melvin Frank, who produced and wrote the screenplay of "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House," are here from Hollywood . . . Joel Levy, Loew's out-of-town booker, will leave here Wednesday for Toronto . . . Adolph Thesnead and Donald Heywood, produced and composer, respectively, of "Caribbean Carnival," have left here for the Coast . . . Russ Swanson, Universal-International booker in Salt Lake City, has resigned.

Spencer Tracy is here from Hollywood. James Mason is back from Bermuda. Glenn Ford is in New York from Hollywood for radio appearances.

NEIL AGNEW, SRO president, is on a business trip to the Midwest; Milton S. Kusell, SRO vice-president, is on a trip to the South and Far West, and Sidney Deneau, assistant general sales manager, is covering the East.

SYLVAN OESTREICHER and Alfred Crown of Samuel Goldwyn Productions arrive here from the Coast today. Ben Kalmenson left the Coast for New York by train over the weekend.

**Floodev Rivers End Blackout**

TORONTO, March 28 — With rivers flooded throughout Ontario, total blackouts in Toronto and other Provincial cities have been ended after a month in which theatre performances were affected. Exterior and display illumination will continue to be banned indefinitely.

**Asks For Trust Suit Delay**

WILMINGTON, March 28 — Cinema Amusements, operator of the Broadway, Denver, Colo., plaintiff in an anti-trust suit against Loew's, RKO Radio and 20th-Fox, has asked for a postponement of trial in Federal Court here, pending a decision by the U. S. Supreme Court in the Government's anti-trust suit.

**Waive Video Broadcast Rule**

WASHINGTON, March 28 — Federal Communications Commission has again waived, until June 30, its rule requiring television stations to be on the air a minimum of 28 hours a week. During the next three months the FCC will study a proposal from the Television Broadcasters Association for a scale of hours graduated in proportion to the time the station is in existence.

**England Plans Natl Theatre**

LONDON, March 28 -- Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has disclosed that the Labor Government plans to introduce a bill to subsidize a national legitimate theatre. The project, which would have government backing of up to $4,000,000, is among those mentioned by Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, as a possible recipient of U. S. film earnings in the British market.

**Exempts 35 mm. Machines**

OTTAWA, March 28—That 35mm. projectors are free of the import embargo on projectors was disclosed by a Canadian government amplification of the order restoring the ban.

**W.B. Names Heindorf**

HOLLYWOOD, March 28 — Ray Heindorf succeeds the late Leo Forbstein as the musical director of Warner's studio.

**Require Syrian Branches**

WASHINGTON, March 28 — Syria's government has notified all foreign distributors that they must open an office in that country by June 1 if they want to continue distributing picture there, the U. S. Commerce Department reports.

**Sees $600-Million Television Sales**

Syracuse, March 28.—Television within the next five years will develop into a $600,000,000 receiver sales business at retail value and will serve more than 40,000,000 people, Arthur A. Brandt, general sales manager of General Electric's electronics department, estimated in an opening talk at a three-day television seminar here at Electronics Park.
Indies Dollar Position Unchanged

WASHINGTON, March 28 - Officials of the Dutch East Indies government declare that it is not likely that U. S. film distributors will be able to convert any of their earnings into dollars for the rest of this year, according to a Commerce Department report prepared by motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden.

The report says that most U. S. producers are continuing to send films to the Indies, despite the exchange outlook.

Legion Classifies 10 Films


REOPEN UPSTATE THEATRE

ALBANY, N.Y., March 28 - New Casino Theatre, Waterford, which was closed by State police as unsafe, has been reopened following fire-proofing and repairs by manager Morris Koffsky of Albany. He was fined $25. The house was closed March 14.

MPAA Promotional Group Plans Campaigns for 35 New Films

Motion Picture Association of America's advertising-publicity committee formulated at the weekend plans for a campaign of wide-spread promotion for some 35 pictures forthcoming from studios of all companies. Maurice Bergman, committee chairman, announced through MPAA. Slogan of the campaign, which is designed to offset unfavorable publicity which has fallen to the industry of recent months, will be "Great Days Are Ahead for the Movie-Goers of America!" The committee has laid plans for production of a trailer designed to "sell" the industry and its product, and has indicated it will cooperate with Theatre Owners of America's public relations program and similar programs in other areas of the industry.

"Arch" Opens Here April 17

United Artists will open Enterprise's "Arch of Triumph" at the Globe here April 17.

Charles Stern Dead

Funeral services will be held at Riverside Memorial Chapel here today for Charles Stern, 79, assistant treasurer of Loew's, Inc., who died at his New York home of a heart attack on Friday morning. He was one of the organizers of the old Metro Pictures Corp. Interment will follow at Ferncliff Cemetery, Hartsdale, N. Y.

Notice

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S normal appearance is being affected by a work stoppage in a dispute between the typographical union and the employing printer.
"Thanks, Ken, for letting me see 'Bill and Coo!' It won't be beaten. It won't be tied. It's the greatest."

"The grandest entertainment I've seen in ages. So different I could hardly believe my eyes."

"Charlie thinks 'Bill and Coo' is great. Mortimer says it's wonderful. And I speak for both of them."

"You've never seen anything like it!"

"Most unusual picture ever filmed!"

"An entertainment thrill you'll never forget."

KEN MURRAY'S BILL and COO A FULL LENGTH FEATURE in TRUCOLOR!
500 LEADING EXHIBITORS

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

ARE JOINING THE GREAT

BILL AND COO

EASTER PARADE!

featuring

BURTON'S LOVE BIRDS
and Curley Twiford's
JIMMY THE CROW

Directed by DEAN RIESNER
Screen Play by Royal Foster and Dean Riesner
Based on an Idea from Ken Murray's Blackouts
Produced by KEN MURRAY
Review
"The Pirate"
(M-G-M)

A PICTORIAL knockout, this extravaganza based on the play of the same name by S.N. Behrman is a lengthy and rambling musical with its high spot in the polished, graceful performance by Gene Kelly -- plus his adept footwork which raises the end result from the maw of downright mediocrity.

Producer Arthur Freed and director Vincente Minnelli obviously sought to bring off something different in the musical field. They have succeeded in varying terms in this fanciful tale of a young girl who builds her dreams around a fabulous pirate only to fall for a traveling troubadour. Miss Garland is the girl and Kelly the boy. Walter Slezak, the genuine heavy, gets his just deserts as the pirate turned respectable.

Production values are superb, but entertainment values never approach the same level. However,"The Pirate" is so big, so lavish and so mixed up that it includes something of interest to different audience levels, in particular children who are quite apt to view it as a field day. Cole Porter wrote the music, Albert Hackett and Frances Goodrich the script. Running time, 102 minutes. General audience classification. Release date: May.

RED KANN.

Appeal Brief Hits Goldman

WASHINGTON, March 28 -- Major distributors told the U. S. Supreme Court in a brief that Goldman Theatres in its anti-trust suit seeks to take pictures away from Warner houses in Philadelphia.

This is not a case of a reservoir of unplayed films, the appellants declared, in seeking a review of a lower court's ruling in favor of Goldman.

UN Service Offered to Producers

HOLLYWOOD, March 28 -- Consultation services of the United Nations Film and Visual Information Division have been placed at the disposal of producers of entertainment features by Jean Benoit-Levy, director of the UN division. Use of the "storage of ideas" are available at no cost and without obligation or supervision from the UN group, he said.

Short Subjects

"CRISIS IN ITALY"
(March of Time -- 20th-Fox)

With next month's Italian elections making headlines daily, March of Time has effected a first-rate screen "scoop" in this timely examination of Italy's heterogeneous political make-up and threatening Communist coup. Realistic, informative and highly exploitable, subject should win large audiences. Running time, 19 minutes.

"FUNNY BUSINESS"
(This is America -- RKO Radio)

For better or worse the comics in the past half century have become the folk reading of the country. Examined in the film is the part they play in our lives and the industries that have sprung up as a result of them. Also explored are both sides of the sociological controversy that surrounds the comics. Running time, 18 minutes.

Chicago Ruling Expected Tuesday

CHICAGO, March 28 -- Decision in the Jackson Park Theatre case contempt hearings which ended March 5 will be announced Tuesday by Judge Michael Igoe who has returned from a vacation, according to reports.

Moline Gets 4 PC Tax

CHICAGO, March 28 -- Adoption of a four per cent ticket tax in order to meet deficits has been announced by the Moline city council. Tax becomes effective next week.

Snow Cuts Salt Lake Grosses

SALT LAKE CITY, March 28 -- Heavy snowstorms during the past two weeks have resulted in sharp cuts in grosses in some cities of the Salt Lake City exchange area.

AMPA Election Set for April 1

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will elect officers at Headquarters Restaurant here on April 1.

Mexico Hits U.K. Ban

MEXICO CITY, March 28 -- Retaliation against nations that ban Mexican films is expected to be recommended by the recently-organized National Cinematographic Commission. The group, which includes government, trade and labor representatives, seeks specifically to counter Britain's curb on this country's product.
U.S. TAX COLLECTIONS LOWER IN FEBRUARY

WASHINGTON, March 29 - General admission tax collections in February, reflecting January boxoffice business, were sharply below February, 1947, totaling $25,410,738 compared with $28,823,689 last year.

This is the second successive month that collections were far below 1947. January general admission collections totaled $28,688,455, compared with $31,766,201 in January, 1947.

B.O. SCALES AT NEW HIGH

WASHINGTON, March 29 - At the end of the year, the index of combined adult and children's admission prices stood at 166.9, compared with 163.5 in June (the last previous month for which figures were available) and 165.4 in March, the previous high, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The 1935-39 average is 100.0.

Adult admissions also hit a new high. After a long rise to 165.7 in March, 1947, they dropped to 164.1 in June, stayed at 164.1 through September, and rose to 167.7 at the end of December. Admission costs for children went up from 158.5 in June to 161.0 in December.

Rank Says "Play Brititish"

HOLLYWOOD, March 29 -- Quickest way for America to realize a cash return from England under the British government-Motion Picture Association of America accord to end the British ad valorem tax is by increasing exhibition of British films in this country, J. Arthur Rank said here today. He added he does not expect American companies to step up production in England to any great degree since that means would take longer to bolster income. Studio space for American use is plentiful in England, he said.

LEWIS BILL in SECOND START

WASHINGTON, March 29 -- The Allied States-sponsored Lewis Bill, which would have producers negotiate with Ascap for music licensing fees, has a new lease on life, although observers give it little chance for passage.

Rep. Lewis, chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee which voted last week to kill the proposal, has persuaded Rep. Lane, who opposed the bill, to move that it be reconsidered. Such a move makes reconsideration automatic, and Lewis plans to have further discussion on the measure at a subcommittee meeting this week, probably Wednesday.

REPUBLIC JOINS MPA

All Motion Picture Association directors were reelected and Republic was admitted to membership in the MPA yesterday at its annual meeting. The meeting, conducted largely by proxy, had Francis Harmon as chairman in the absence of Eric Johnston, president of the MFAA, while Sidney Schreiber served as secretary. The board will meet on April 12.

Johnston to Frisco

WASHINGTON, March 29--Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston is in San Francisco, having flown there to be with his mother who is critically ill.

Minor Changes in ITO Pact

WASHINGTON, March 29--State Department officials reported here that only "minor drafting changes" had been made in the guarantee of film freedom in the International Trade Organization charter drawn at Havana, as compared with the Geneva version. The basic provision outlawing all quantitative restrictions on films except screen quotas is unchanged, they stated.
Br'd'way. Grosses Zoom

Easter and blustery weekend weather joined forces to lift Broadway first-run grosses out of the doldrums and into the "good" to "excellent" range as five newcomers started their runs.

"I Remember Mama" (plus traditional Easter show on stage). Radio City Music Hall, third week, $115,000; "Sitting Pretty" (plus Art Mooney's band), Roxy, third week, $115,000; "The Naked City" (plus Tex Beneke's band), Capitol, fourth week, $125,000 expected; "Road to Rio" (plus Louis Prima's band), Paramount, sixth and last week, $60,000 ("Saigon" plus Buddy Rich's band, the Mills Brothers and Dean Murphy will start tomorrow); "Gentleman's Agreement". Mayfair, 20th week, $30,000; "Adventures of Casanova," Globe, second week, $16,000; "Miracle of the Bells," Rivoli, second week, good at around $50,000.

Openings: "All My Sons," Loew's Criterion, expected to crowd the house's record of $60,000; "April Showers" (plus Claude Thornhill's band), Strand, $57,000; "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House," Astor, $44,000; "The Search," Victoria, $32,000; "Bill and Coo," Gotham, $11,000.

Small and Eagle-Lion Part

HOLLYWOOD, March 29—Dissatisfaction over advertising and publicity credits on "T-Men" has led to the severance of relations between Edward Small, the film's producer, and Eagle-Lion, its distributor. The E-L name will be eliminated from the film except as distributor. The same applies to Small's "Raw Deal." The producer also has cancelled plans to finance and make "Twelve Against the Underworld" for E-L, which will go ahead with production of the picture on its own.
L. S. Schlesinger Dies

PHILADELPHIA, March 29 -- Funeral services for Leonard S. Schlesinger, 42, president of Warners Brothers Serv-

ice Corp., will be held here Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. from the Oliver H. Bair

Parlor, with burial in St. Louis. Schlesinger died in Jefferson Hospital

here yesterday after a long illness. He is survived by the widow.

Suggest Forrestal-MPAA Confab

WASHINGTON, March 29 -- Representative of newsreels and other informa-
tion media today suggested Secretary of Defense Forrestal call on the Mo-
tion Picture Association of America and other information organizations to
appoint members of a Security Advisory Council to advise and discuss with

him on types of information that should be withheld for national secu-

rity reasons.

The meeting refused to take some of

the more stringent steps asked by Forrestal, and let loose several blasts

at "peacetime censorship."

Houses Threaten Shutdown

MOLINE, ILL., March 29 -- Film houses

here have threatened to close in two

weeks unless the local four per cent

amusement tax on theatres, described as
discriminatory, is rescinded.

Rank Dublin House Reopens

DUBLIN, March 29 - J. Arthur Rank's

Metropole Theatre reopened here Satu-
day with the Irish premiere of "The

Best Years of Our Lives." The trade and

government officials participated.

SIMPP to MEET HERE

Members of the Society of Indepen-
dent Motion Picture Producers will be

convened in New York this week for a

review of aspects of the recent agree-
ment to reopen the British film market

as they affect independents. James Mul-

vey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Pro-
ductions, disclosed here yesterday.

Muley, who represented SIMPP at the

London conferences between the British

government and the Motion Picture Asso-
ciation of America, also said he expects

the British-U.S. industry board, which

will administer the provisions of the

pact, to be set up soon.

Kan.-Mo. Allied Meet May 12

KANSAS CITY, March 29 -- First annual

spring convention of Allied Independent
Theatre Owners of Kansas and Missouri,

Inc., has been set for the Muehlebach
Hotel, here, May 12-13. Among matters

to be taken up are the adoption of by-

laws and constitution, election of

board members, and the formation of pro-

cedure and policies.

Raise for Rep. Employes

Wage increases ranging from $5 to

$10 have been granted some 80 Republic

home office employees in an arbitration

award, the Screen Office and Profes-

sional Employes Guild has announced.

The increases are retroactive to Sept.

27, 1947.

A.T.&T. Files Video Rates

WASHINGTON, March 29 -- Proposed rates

for intercity television transmission

were filed with the Federal Commu-

nications Commission today by A. T. & T.

Rates for regular broadcasters: $35

monthly per airline mile for eighth-

hour day, with $2 monthly per mile for

each additional hour. Rates for occa-

sional users: $1 monthly a mile for

first hour, 25 cents each extra 15

minutes.

Settle Albany AAA Dispute

ALBANY, N.Y., March 28 -- American

Arbitration Association action brought

by Eagle Theatre here against Para-

mount on double clearance granted the

Delaware and Colonial, was settled to-

day by stipulation before Arbitrator

C. E. Brennan. Eagle, Royal and Para-

mount theatres will henceforth get

Paramount product 28 days after second

run. Eagle had been seven days behind

third-run Delaware and Colonial.
Stanley Theater in the biggest busin

* Ask Harry Kalmie about "NAKED CITY", best dressed box-office attraction in many a moon.

Opened Wednesday—Holy Week.
CITY at Warner's Philadelphia turns in ess in forty weeks!

There's no limit to what you'll do with this great box-office attraction! Get ready now to push it and hold it!
Reviews

"To The Victor"
(Warner)

INTENSIVE and informative exploitation figures to pay off for this peculiarly constituted story of post-war France which owes a good deal of its interest to the fact that much of it was filmed in that country, with Omaha Beach and Paris streets, landmarks and institutions as background. So compulsive is the appeal of this expertly photographed setting that it overshadows at times that of the somberly melodramatic story of black market and collaborationist activities which engages the talents of Dennis Morgan, Viveca Lindfors, Victor Francen, Bruce Bennet and other able players. It's a decidedly unpretty story, but forceful.


William R. Weaver

"Man From Texas"
(Eagle-Lion)

THE ADVENTURES of a highwayman have been made into an interesting variant of a standard Western, though at times the film follows stereotyped lines. As merchandise, it should get the usual Western devotees plus customers who like a measure of plot complexity.

James Craig is a Western-type Robin Hood whose evil exploits for moral ends get him into all sorts of narrow escapes, until the law eventually catches up with him. Lynn Bari is the wife and Una Merkel the widow-in-distress. Joseph Fields produced from a screenplay by himself and Jerome Chodorov. Leigh Jason directed. Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. Release in March.

Mandel Herbstman

"Money Madness"
(Film Classics)

A TAUT, convincing picture has been turned out on a minimum budget by veteran producer Sigmund Neufeld. Story is unusual in its convolutions, and the treatment, utilizing actual streets and a minimum of sets, is almost documentary.

Story has Hugh Beaumont as the attractive young man who comes to town, marries Frances Rafferty, kills her aunt, then tells Miss Rafferty the truth that he is a bank robber with $200,000 of "hot money". As his wife, she is implicated. Miss Rafferty reluctantly aids him in further murder but he overplays his shrewdness and police kill him. Film opens with sentencing of the girl to 10 years in prison; rest of the story is flashback. Running time, 73 minutes. Adult classification. Release date, April 15.

Short Subject

"20 YEARS OF ACADEMY AWARDS"
(RKO Radio)

Motion picture "greats" from 1927 through 1947 are brought back to the screen in this two-reel subject, produced by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for release by RKO Radio. The subject makes a particularly interesting and timely one as glimpses of the "Oscar" winners, stars and pictures pass in historical review. Proceeds of the short will go to the Academy. Running time, 18 minutes.

Production Up To 29

HOLLYWOOD, March 29—Production tally rose to 26 against last week's 23.


WARREN HYMER FUNERAL ON COAST

HOLLYWOOD, March 29—Funeral services for Warren Hymer, actor, 42, were held here this morning. Hymer, who died of a stomach ailment, had been in pictures for 20 years.
$2,436,000 Anti-Trust Suit Filed vs. Majors


Adelman claims a restraint of trade product conspiracy resulted in his loss of $312,000 on the Delman operation and $500,000 on the sale of his half interest in the Alabama River, Oaks and Alameda theatres in Houston to Interstate.

MGM Has 5 in England

M-G-M has shipped its five-picture limit to England, as agreed with other companies for the period to June 14, Samuel Eckman, chairman and managing director of M-G-M, Ltd., London, announced. The block, which is now in bond, will be put in release late in April.

Eckman disclosed that the company expects to start production in England in its own studio soon. Eckman said no upsurge of American production in England is expected before late September because British circuits are booked well in advance.

Public Relations Held Vital

Development of an "all-out" industry public relations program to "impress upon the world at large the value of the screen" was urged here yesterday by M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres, Memphis. Such a program is vital, Lightman believes, because "the industry is most derelict about the problems confronting it." Lightman leaves New York for Cincinnati today enroute to Memphis.

55 MILLIONS for NEW THEATRES

WASHINGTON, March 30 - A backlog of about $55,000,000 worth of theatre construction is expected to get underway beginning tomorrow when curbs are scheduled to end. President Truman's approval of the Rent Control Extension Bill, the final step to end construction curbs, is due late today.

Last week the Housing Expediter approved 16 theatre projects, including remodelling, costing $944,875, and denied nine which would have cost $768,034. From July 1, 1947 to date it approved 382 theatres costing $16,097,867 and turned down 990 projects valued at $50,613,947. As of last Friday, there were 59 applications pending, involving $4,995,669.

3 Millions for Overseas Program

WASHINGTON, March 30—The House Appropriations Committee today voted to give the State Department's overseas information program only $3,000,000 of the $5,120,000 additional funds sought to expand its activities under the Smith-Mundt act from now to June 30.

Five 20th-Fox Releases in May

Twentieth Century-Fox will release five pictures during May, Andrew Smith, Jr., general sales manager, announced here yesterday. They are: "Fury at Furnace Creek," "The Iron Curtain," "Arthur Takes Over," "The Counterfeiters" and "Anna Karenina." At the same time, the company disclosed the first film it will make in England under the recent tax accord will be "Gay Pursuit," with Samuel G. Engel as producer.

WU Video Rates to the FCC

WASHINGTON, March 30—Western Union today proposed to the Federal Communications Commission that it be allowed to charge $4,700 a month for use of its television and radio relay facilities between any two cities for an eight-hour day beginning at four P.M.
No Adverse Legislation from 3

WASHINGTON, March 30 -- California, Arizona and Utah legislatures have adjourned without enacting any adverse industry legislation, according to Motion Picture Association of America legislative representative Jack Bryson. Seven state legislatures are still in session.

GPE Profit $1,242,027 in 1947

Consolidated net profit of General Precision Equipment Corp. in 1947 was $1,242,027, compared with $1,742,694 the previous year. Last year's consolidated net sales of $27,748,137 were the largest in the company's history.

Jack Robbins on Ascap Board

Jack Robbins has been named to the Ascap board, replacing John J. O'Connor, who declined to run for reelection. Re-named as directors are Gene Buck, Max Dreifuss, Donald Gray, Ray Henderson, Jack Tasker Howard, George W. Meyer, and Jack Mills.

Record Music Hall SRO

For the second consecutive day, the Music Hall yesterday "completed the square" by 10:45 A.M. when ticket buyers three to four abreast lined up on 50th Street East to Rockefeller Plaza, North on the Plaza to 51st Street and West on the latter street to Sixth Avenue.

Personal Mention

RICHARD F. WALSH, IATSE president, has returned to New York from Washington. . . Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the TOA, will be in Chattanooga this week. . . Fred Sandy, manager of Equity Pictures' Washington office, is in New York. . . E.L. McSwoy, U-I short subject sales manager, is in Chicago from New York.

Budd Rogers, Realart distribution head, and Joseph Harris, board chairman, are holding Midwestern salesmeetings. . . Ingrid Bergman will arrive in New York from Hollywood on Sunday. . . Leo Seligman, Favorite Films treasurer, will leave here Friday for Miami Beach. Lynn Farnol, Samuel Goldwyn's advertising-publicity director, is due in New York today from Hollywood.

Army Newsreel Control in D.C.

WASHINGTON, March 30 -- The Army has taken away from its overseas command's control over accrediting newsreel men and other correspondents and centralized control here, under a new directive on U.S. correspondents abroad.

ITOA to Host Wallander

Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander and License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding will be guests of the Independent Theatre Owners Association at a luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Astor here tomorrow.

Music Hall Gross $155,000

Motion Picture Daily yesterday reported an estimated gross of $115,000 for Radio City Music Hall ("I Remember Mama" and Easter stage show) for the week ending tonight. The week's figure should have been $155,000.

Ends Mississippi 'Blue Law'

JACKSON, Miss., March 30 -- Operation of motion picture theatres on Sundays between one P.M. and six P.M. is permitted under a law signed by Gover. Wright. It is the first "Blue Law" to be lifted in this state since 1822.

John Curry, 47, Salesman

LOS ANGELES, March 30 - John Joseph Curry, 47, Paramount salesman here, died this morning of a heart attack.

M-G-M presents "THE PIRATE" (TECHNICOLOR) starring JUDY GARLAND, GENE KELLY, and WALTER SLEZAK. Directed by Reginald Owen and produced by ARTHUR FREED. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.

M-G-M presents "BIG CITY" starring MARGARET O'BRIEN, ROBERT PRESTON, DANNY ThomAS, GEORGE MURPHY, KARIN BOOTH, EDWARD ARNOLD, BUTCH JENKINS, and Betty GARRETT. Screen Play by BETTY GARRETT and LOTTE LEHMANN and Produced by ROBERT ALTON and GENE KELLY. Directed by VINCEN DINECELLI. Produced by ARTHUR FREED. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.

M-G-M presents "EASTER PARADE" (TECHNICOLOR) starring JUDY GARLAND, FRED ASTAIRE, PETER LAWFORD, ANN MILLER, and produced by JOE PASTERNAK. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.

M-G-M presents "JULIA MISBEHAVES" starring GREER GARSON, WALTER PIDGEON, and ELIZABETH TAYLOR. Directed by JACK CONWAY and Produced by EVERETT RISKIN. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.

M-G-M presents "HOME COMING" starring CLARK GABLE, LANA TURNER, ANN BAXTER, JOHN HODIAK, and produced by A MERVYN LEROY PRODUCTION. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.

M-G-M presents "A DATE WITH JUDY" (TECHNICOLOR) starring WALLACE BEERY, JANE POWELL, ELIZABETH TAYLOR, CARMEN MIRANDA, XAVIER CUGAT, and produced by ROBERT STACK. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.

Plan Studio in Seattle

SEATTLE, March 30 -- Plans for construction of a $100,000 building and motion picture studio, first of its kind north of Hollywood and west of Chicago, have been announced by Jack Shallow, Jr., and Paul Chapas, Jr., both of Western Screen, here, producers of commercial, educational, documentary and training films.

Video Theatre at Exposition

ATLANTIC CITY, March 30-In conjunction with the International Industrial Exposition which opens here June 26, a television theatre, with an 18-foot screen believed to be the largest in the East, will operate on Steel Pier.

Network Video Meet Here

More than 200 executives of 100 CBS stations have begun to arrive in New York for the first nationwide network television clinic, to be held tomorrow in the Waldorf-Astoria, and called by Columbia Broadcasting.

3rd Link for CBS Video

The Baltimore Sun television station yesterday became the third link in Columbia Broadcasting System's video network. The other two stations are in New York and Philadelphia.

MONOGRAM

Proudly Presents the

ACADEMY

AWARD

WINNER

For the

Best 2-Reel Subject

of the Year!

CLIMBING The

MATTERHORN

Film in ANSCO COLOR

Produced and Directed by IRVING ALLEN

POWER in its stars!!

in its story!!

in the ruthless impact of drama!!

Box-office

POWER in its stars!!

IT'S COMING...

FROM EAGLE LION!

ZACHARY SCOTT · HAYWARD
DIANA LYNN · GREENSTREET
SYDNEY BREMER · VICKERS

POWER in its stars!!
When we say that the light from a "National" High Intensity Carbon Arc is an ideal balance of all the colors of the rainbow, there's no guesswork involved.

We split that snow-white light up into its individual bands of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet in the monochrometer shown above. Then we measure the intensity of each band by means of electrical impulses.

What do we find?

We find that the light from a "National" High Intensity Carbon Arc is the closest to sunlight of any man-made light. Its color balance is nearly perfect. It insures that your color film will glow with the rich vivid detail that thoroughly satisfies your patrons.

Moreover, a "National" High Intensity Carbon Arc is the most powerful point source of light in existence. It projects pictures that can be seen clearly from every seat in the house. Box-office insurance? Yes, sir!
You'll forget there ever was a woman like Gilda...
when you meet The Lady from Shanghai!