

Steps In Movie-Making

1st Installment

No. 1—THE STORY
Mechanical aids in the production of entertainment have not changed since Shakespeare wrote, many years ago, "the play's the thing." Following the Bard of Avon's pronouncement, Hollywood has learned that a motion picture, regardless of the fame and popularity of its leading players, is only as good as the story which moves it.

Not so many years ago, when producers were still blinded by the novelty of the fact that pictures actually moved, they paid scant attention to story. Any creaky old skeleton would do, and any literate person who could join a few simple phrases of action together, was considered competent to write for pictures.

But the old order has changed. Now the world's greatest writers are in Hollywood, men and women who are the literary giants of the day, authors of best seller novels and smash-hit plays. No price is too high to pay for a story that will interest an audience of 100,000,000 people, which now demands real entertainment rather than novelty.

Story Essentials.
There are certain essentials which must be observed in selection of story material. First, plot and characterization must fit a certain star or group of players; second, the story must have novelty, originality and showmanship qualities, with a central theme that appeals to a majority audience; third, the story must be topical and timely, unless historical in character.

Occasionally a play or book creates such a furore that it is bought without consideration for cast names. Producers, too, sometimes capitalize on this in a publicity way by inviting the public to suggest an ideal cast. "Gone With the Wind" is a recent example.

Generally, however, the producer buys a story suitable to players under contract to him. This preference has developed greatly the field of "originals" especially tailored to fit established stars.

Tough for Amateurs.
Amateurs are up against a stone wall when they mail in stories, all such being returned unopened. This is done to avoid possible plagiarism suits. Recognized novelists, playwrights and screen writers get quick action, although most of them deal through established and reputable agents, rather than handling their material personally.

This series will detail the steps involved in production of a feature as typical of its march through a studio, until it emerges as a finished film ready to be shown to the public.

First Step.
First, the production executive buys the story. Then he assigns it to an associate producer and he in turn either calls in a writer or two already under contract to the studio, people whom he feels are particularly fitted to handle that subject. If such are not available, he hires them from among the large group of free-lance

writers in Hollywood. The writers, after several conferences with the "boss," develop the story into a continuous action outline of about forty pages. This is known as a "treatment."

Dialogue Next.
When approved, this treatment is enlarged with dialogue insertions into a dialogue treatment. This later is developed into a shooting script designating camera positions, fade-outs, fade ins and dissolves to denote time lapses, and various technical suggestions as to mood, tempo, characterization and sound effects. In a play, these things are called "stage directions."

A properly written script is the literary facsimile of a finished motion picture. To write a successful script the author must know camera craft, the limitation of production and some thing of the technique of directors, film editors and players.

(The next article will deal with the problem of pre-production.)

\$72,000,000 Loaned With Credit Group

Columbia, S. C. Sept. 9.—Over 100,000 farmers in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida are members of farmers' cooperative marketing and purchasing associations with an annual volume of business of over \$72,000,000, according to figures released today by the Columbia Bank for Cooperatives from the recently completed nation-wide survey of farmers' marketing and purchasing associations, conducted by the Farm Credit Administration.

Florida leads all four states in the number of these cooperatives and in volume of business but is smallest in membership. The 130 associations in that state have a membership of approximately 7,677 and their annual volume of business is over \$43,000,000.

North Carolina comes second in number of cooperatives and membership but third in volume of business while Georgia, third in number of cooperatives and in membership, is second in volume of business. South Carolina is fourth in number of cooperatives, number of members and in volume of business.

The survey revealed that North Carolina has 115 cooperatives with a membership of 42,555 and their annual volume of business approximates \$9,100,000. Georgia has 60 cooperatives with a membership of 39,869 and their annual volume of business is approximately \$13,426,000. South Carolina has 13,335 and their annual volume of business is approximately \$6,474,000.

In the United States, according to figures from the survey, there are 10,752 cooperatives and in 1936 their volume of business aggregated approximately \$3,000,000,000.

Saul: Moral Failure



God wanted Israel to be a theocracy with himself as king. But the people demanded a king like the nations about them. So God commanded Samuel to anoint Saul as their king.

ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Scripture—1 Samuel 10:17-25; 15:10-23; 28:3-25; 31:1-10.



The people were delighted with Saul as their first king. He stood head and shoulders above them and they shouted, "God save the king." Saul started out very humbly but soon became vain.



After defeating the Amalekites under Agag, Saul disobeyed God in sparing Agag and the best of the spoil, pretending to use the animals as sacrifices to God.



God allowed Israel's old enemies, the Philistines to triumph over them. Saul's sons were killed in battle and he committed suicide. (GOLDEN TEXT—1 Samuel 15:22.)

Saul—Moral Failure

"BRASS TACKS" ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

The Golden Text



1 Samuel 15:22—"To obey is better than sacrifice."

By DR. ALVIN E. BELL.

(The International Uniform Lesson on the above topic for September 11 is 1 Samuel 10:17-25; 15:10-23; 28:3-25; 31:3-6, the Golden Text being 1 Samuel 15:22. "To obey is better than sacrifice.")

SAUL, first king of Israel, is the most tragic character of the Old Testament. He stated well; he had the guidance of Samuel, the loyalty of David and Jonathan, the opportunity of a great national service; but he made shipwreck of it all on the rock of his own willfulness. All could have been different had he, with that other Saul of the New Testament, only been willing to say continually, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

"Make Us a King."

The crushing grief of Samuel's life was the nation's rejection of God's ideal for them in the theocracy for their own plan of a monarchy. This people, whose Ruler was to have been Jehovah, grieved Samuel with the demand, "Make us a King to judge us like all the nations." God intended, them to be "a peculiar people"; they rebelled and insisted on being "like all the nations." Therefore God said to Samuel, "They have rejected me that I should not reign over them."

"God Save the King."

Thus it came about that God acceded to their demand and directed Samuel to select and anoint Saul to be Israel's first king. "And when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward." And Samuel said to all the people, "See ye him whom Jehovah hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted and said, "Long Live the King." And this man of the people's choice had kingly qualities other than that of a good physique. Chief among these was his humility. He demurred to Samuel on the grounds of the smallness of his tribe and the obscurity of his family; he hid among the baggage when they sought for him to crown him; he refused to punish those who objected to the choice of him as king; when they taunted him with his unfitness "he was as though he had been deaf."

Had Saul thus continued to follow the leading of God's Spirit in obedience to God's word through Samuel he would not have made shipwreck of his throne and of his soul as he did. Within 20 years from his accession we come upon an entirely different man in King Saul. Years of success have turned his head and hardened his heart. He has become willful, arrogant and disobedient, even usurping the priestly functions of Samuel in his vanity. Ordered to utterly exterminate the wicked Amalekites and their cruel king, Agag, with all of their possessions, Saul turned the crusade into a course of gain and vain glory. He spared Agag to adorn his triumphal return and the best of the sheep and oxen for his

own profit. "I have performed the commandment of the Lord... the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen to sacrifice unto Jehovah thy God."

To which sickening alibi Samuel replied, "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice and to hearken than the fat of rams."

In other words, empty, loveless worship, from rebellious and willful hearts can never qualify as religion in the sight of God. Saul's doom is sealed by his own rebellion. He has forsaken God and as a result God forsakes him. He may resort to the devil and the works of darkness with the witch of Endor and thereby only add to his sin, but judgment fell speedily in his death on the battlefield of Gilboa.

Today's Church Message

—By—
REV. J. EVERETTE NEESE
Pastor
First Congregational-Christian Church

THE PRESENCE OF THE SPIRIT

Psalm 139:1-10. O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising; thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassed my path, and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand before me. Such hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand before me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it. Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of

the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.



TRUE RELIGION

True religion arouses the sympathies. It is always marked by an increase of interest in other people's welfare. Love of man grows with love of God. Men who truly pray, "Our Father" cannot be indifferent to their neighbors. "If a man says that he loves God and hateth his brother," he is deceived. He cannot do both. A man's religion may well be tested by the keenness and inclusiveness of his sympathies. The man who is filled with the Spirit of Jesus feels himself kin and neighbor to all the people there are. The whole world is his world. Religion breaks down barriers between rank and people and is the only thing that can make the world a unity and bring it peace.

A New York municipal clerk banked \$192,000 in seven years. Wonderful thing, thrift.

Rural Churches

MIDDLEBURG M. E. CHARGE, Rev. Dwight A. Petty, pastor. Services at Tabernacle church Sunday at 11 o'clock, and at Drewry at 7:45 o'clock Sunday evening.

Sunday school at Tabernacle at 10 o'clock, with Boyd Brewer superintendent; at Drewry at 10, Felix Rain superintendent; at Middleburg at 11 with Allen Holloway superintendent; at Cokesbury at 10, with V. M. Breedlove, superintendent; and at Shocco with Julian M. Alston superintendent.

LOTS NEAR CITY ARE CONVEYED IN DEEDS

Lots near the city were conveyed in deeds filed with the Vance Registry yesterday.

Bank of Commerce and Trusts, of Richmond, Va., sold lots on the Oxford Road and in Westover Hills to Alex S. Watkins for \$10 and considerations.

R. C. Faulkner and wife sold Thos B. Parham and wife a lot on the Dabney Road for \$10 and considerations.

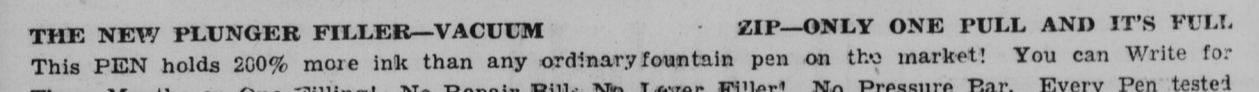
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1 1937 Ford Tudor, new tires, motor in good condition. A bargain	\$485	1 1931 Ford Tudor	\$135
1 1936 Ford Tudor, good tires and paint	\$365	1 1929 Ford Sedan, new tires	\$100
1 1935 Ford Tudor, paint good	\$295	1 1934 Dodge Pickup	\$195
1 1935 Ford Panel, new tires and new paint job	\$300	1 1934 Chevrolet Truck	\$225

Clements Motor Company