

# 'King Of Kings' Remains Tops In Movie Industry

By GENE HANDSAKER  
AP Newsfeatures

HOLLYWOOD — It's unlikely that Cecil B. DeMille, the master of spectacle, will ever surpass his "King of Kings". The 24-year-old silent film on the teachings, miracles, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus is timeless and powerful.

Some 800,000,000 viewers, counting repeaters, are estimated to have seen it. Hollywood churches recently sponsored its free showing on Easter week mornings at the big Paramount theatre. Young and old flocked in. Many wept. Parents reading the printed dialogue to youngsters made a subdued chant, especially on familiar quotations like "Lazarus, come forth" . . . "Get thee behind Me, Satan" . . . "My peace I give unto you."

Much of the acting is dated, with its breast-heaving, eye-rolling, throat-clutching, and exaggerated leers. Yet H. B. Warner's portrayal of the serene Christ is ageless. He and Joseph Schildkraut, who played Judas, are probably the best-remembered names in the cast. Just parenthetically, Warner is presently playing a ragged bum in a picture about degradation on skid row.

As he walked from the set to his dressing room, where he lunched alone. Each day's shooting started with prayer. Smoking was forbidden on the set. Principals agreed in writing to avoid parties and night clubs during production. Prints have traveled in missionary canoes up the Ganges and Congo rivers. More prints of the film exist now than when it was first issued. In the United States it's shown around 2,000 times yearly.

DeMille himself acknowledges "The King of Kings" as his greatest film. Will Rogers told him he'd never top it because it's the world's greatest story.

Alexander Woolcott guessed, when the film opened in New York City in 1927, that "the multitude will still be flocking to see it" 20 years later. The prophecy would as well be extended now for another 20 years—and perhaps many more.

### LADY BURGLAR, MAYBE

MALDEN, Mass. (UP)—A burglar who broke into Arnold Sandler's home ignored money and jewelry and took only two girdles and six bras.

### JUDGE RELENTS

NEWTON, Mass. (UP)—Fined \$15 for a traffic violation, Ng Hing Tueng told Judge William A. Murray he had only \$14 with him. The judge reduced the fine to \$12, leaving Tueng \$2 "in case he ran out of gas" en route home.

# AURIOL BLASTS ISOLATIONISM IN CONGRESS SPEECH



JUST A SHORT TIME before Congress was to act on the "troops for Europe" issue, French President Vincent Auriol denounces isolationism and neutrality as "absurdities and historical nonsense," as he addresses a joint session of Congress in Washington. Just behind him are Vice President Alben Barkley (left) and House Speaker Sam Rayburn. An ovation greeted President Auriol's arrival. (International Soundphoto)

The state flower of both Washington and West Virginia is the rhododendron.

### AWOL Pig Surrenders At Slaughter House

TOLEDO, O. (UP)—William Hilken's pig didn't do much to advance the theory that a pig, despite common belief to the contrary, is pretty smart.

The pig wandered from Hilken's farm. The next day employees of an establishment glanced out of a window and saw the pig walking up the path to the office. Hilken's got his pig back. The place the porker had picked to surrender was a packing company's slaughter house.

### Boston Common To Get Bomb-Shelter Garage

BOSTON (UP)—The world's largest combination bomb shelter and underground garage is being built here.

The mammoth subterranean passage will be dug under historic Boston Common. It will house up to 270,000 persons in event of an atomic attack and provide parking space for 4,000 automobiles under normal conditions.

President Truman has praised the project and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has advanced a \$9,000,000 loan for the work. Construction will be supervised by the Motor Park Corporation, a private firm.

It is estimated that the dual purpose shelter-garage will be completed within 18 months. The government has indicated that it will lift all restrictions on steel and other controlled materials to facilitate construction.

### TOO MUCH AT ONCE

HURDSFIELD, N. D. — Mrs. Robert Weisz of Hurdsville, N. D., had a lot of gift shopping to do all at once. Her husband, father-in-law, brother and sister-in-law all were born March 30.

### Textile Chiefs



Charles G. Hertwig (top) of the Bibb Manufacturing Company at Macon, Ga., is the new president of the American Cotton Manufacturers Institute. He was elected at the annual convention of cotton manufacturers in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. H. K. Hallett (bottom) of the Kendall mills at Charlotte, was elected second vice president of the institute. (AP Photos).

### Mothers Find School Improves "Brats"

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (UP)—A University of Illinois survey reveals that children's behavior improves upon entering first grade.

That is contrary to the former belief that children are "out of focus" or "brattish" at the age of six.

The survey results were obtained by questioning 212 mothers. The mothers reported their children's behavior traits such as responsibility, helpfulness, good humor and independence improved.

To squash another old belief, the survey showed that the children look forward to beginning first grade with a high degree of "favorable anticipation."

### Soldiers Discover Way To Beat Bus Strike

BUELLTON, Calif. (UP)—A group of GIs alerted for Korea duty from nearby Camp Cooke found a simple solution when the Greyhound lines were tied up by a bus strike.

Unable to get rides into Los Angeles, nearly 200 miles away, on Saturday they appropriated a boulevard stop sign from a side street and set it up on the U. S. highway 101 freeway.

By the time a highway patrolman arrived to investigate, not a soldier was in sight. They all had rides.



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