

# 'Show Boat' Slated To Show Big Box Office Pull

By GENE HANDSAKER  
AP Newsfeatures

HOLLYWOOD—The third movie version of "Show Boat," the first since 1936, is unlikely to be topped for many another year.

This lavish spectacle in color proves that Ava Gardner can register pretty convincing emotion—and sing a bit, too, in a throaty, medium-sized voice. Also, if anyone

had forgotten, that songs like "Make Believe," "Why Do I Love You?" "Can't Help Lovin' That Man," "My Bill," and "Ol' Man River" are among the catchiest in the American musical language.

Joe E. Brown plays Captain Andy Hawks, skipper of the troupe transport that made life gay along the Mississippi. Kathryn Grayson plays his daughter Magnolia, who wants to join the show. Her stern

# A Good Skate Can Speed Up Defense Work



AP Newsfeatures

Eddie R. Foster skates about eight miles a day at Tinker Air Force Base near Oklahoma City. Messages he delivers speed supplies to other air bases across the world.

# Playing Child Roles Handled By 26-Year-Old

By GENE HANDSAKER  
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HOLLYWOOD—June Allyson is playing a 12-year-old girl these days, and darned if she doesn't look it. Almost. Movie wardrobe wizards can't wholly de-curve her 26-year-old figure.

Her little-girl skirt and coat end at the knees. Her legs are bare, above white bobby socks and patent-leather slippers. The blonde hair hanging below her shoulders is tied with blue ribbons, and a big straw hat ties under the chin. Braces on her teeth complete the illusion.

They were made by a dentist from a plaster mold of June's teeth but of course aren't real. She showed me how easily they slip off.

"I feel so silly," Mrs. Dick Powell confessed, "being the mother of two children—and running around like this."

In "Too Young to Kiss," she starts out as a 20-year-old concert pianist. (No pianist, June fakes her playing to a professional's sound track.) She can't get an audition with Famous Impresario Van Johnson because grown-up piano artists are no novelty.

Then she reads that he's auditioning youngsters. She makes herself up as a kid, retrieving her old teeth braces from a trinket box, and wins the audition. Now she's Van's star attraction, Jealous Boy Friend Gig Young, a newspaper-reporter cad, banner-lines the deception just before her big concert. Van replaces Gig in her affections.

June, as the youngster, walks a sort of choppy, slightly pigeon-toed step. She said: "I started using a little-girl voice, but it sounded too young. So I use my natural voice as the 12-year-old and a lower voice when I'm supposed to be 20." Even her natural voice, she thinks, is "older-sounding, sort of a whisky tenor."

She has had the husky quality all her life, she disclosed. "When I was three, some people thought I was a boy in girl's clothes. Strangely enough my son (born last Christmas Eve) has it, too."

In reconverting Miss Allyson to childhood, the wardrobe department had to deal with a 34½-inch chest, 21-inch waist, and 33-inch hips. She weighs 97 pounds and is 5 feet 1¾ inches tall.

She admitted that not all of the flowing little-girl hair is hers but wailed: "I wish you hadn't asked that. You'd have gone away with the illusion that it's all mine."

# Book Store On Wheels



The Circuit Rider, a seven-ton book store and church supply house on wheels operated by the Methodist Publishing House, Nashville, Tenn., will pay its initial visit to Lake Junaluska Friday. The first of a cross-country fleet, if the experiment proves successful, the Circuit Rider visits church conferences, training schools and local churches. It is operated by Lloyd Snyder, the publishing firm's director of church library service.

# Screen Tests Cost Up To \$1,500 Per Star In Color

By GENE HANDSAKER  
AP Newsfeatures

HOLLYWOOD—Betty Grable sat on a tall, revolving stool, smiled, and turned her head this way and that. Linda Darnell, not yet 14, did a chorus-girl skit—and was sent home to Texas to grow up.

These are the screen tests that go on daily in the movie factories—the birth of stardom—or the graveyard of dreams—for many an unknown.

They average three to five minutes in length... six or seven maybe if the test includes singing. They cost anywhere from \$500 in black and white to perhaps \$1,500 in color.

Why so much? Well, take 20th Century-Fox's test department, one of the best-equipped. It's a miniature movie studio in itself, on the second floor of a sound stage. Has a small stage of its own—about twice as big as your living room—with an artificial fireplace, a camera, microphone boom, and arc lights. The next room is a small still-picture department separate from the studio's main portrait gallery.

Stills are used increasingly to show producers and directors what the stars will look like in proposed costumes. They're cheaper than movie tests of wardrobe. But Jeanne Crain's new short hairdo got no fewer than 10 separate modifications and tryouts on movie film the other day. Such an important change from long tresses (she's playing a chic model in "The Marriage Broker") had to be as nearly perfect as possible.

Side rooms off the test stage are loaded with props—chairs, tables, lamps, even a drink-vending machine the day I looked in. Charged against each test are the technicians' salaries. There are four elec-

tricians, two grips, three cameramen, four sound-men, the still photographer, and his electrician.

Pretty June Connor has been an assistant in the Fox test department 11 years. New candidates for stardom seldom appear nervous, she said, because they've been rehearsed in their performances for weeks or months. But she recalls that Richard Basehart was tense, sitting in a corner much of the time and not talking to anybody.

Candidates are discovered in local stage shows and little theaters and, now, quite frequently in television. Agents bring in many others.

The test department has its own little standing gags. If the scene winds up with two performers kissing, the director may not say "Cut!" He just leaves them in the clench until one of them looks up and asks, "How long does this go on?"

"Gimme a Dill, Dill!"

Dill C. Pickle, 24, Rolling Fork, Miss., has been given a dilly of a job as a pickle salesman by a southern pickler. Pickle's pickle territory includes Mississippi, Louisiana and several other southern states. Pickle first gained attention in newspapers, national magazines and on the air as picklers' "Man of the Year" in 1948. He achieved the title of all time "Man of Distinction" during National Pickle Week. Until recently, however, Pickle worked in his father's grocery store in Rolling Fork where he developed numerous friendly laughs and sales from customers who enjoyed greeting him by saying "Gimme a dill, Dill!"

**Lesson for Wives**  
Long ago Euripides said, "A man's best possession is a sympathetic wife." This still is true. With a wife who believes in him, a man can reach great heights. His friends will think he is witty, wise, and kind because she tells them so. He will be a successful person even though he piles up no store of worldly goods. A woman gains by giving freely of her faith to her husband. Her fate is so closely tied with his that when he succeeds, she benefits too.

**To Market**  
A "shelling" mill, peanut crop for market, debris is cleaned out, are well brushed with bristles; and here the crop is machine shell, carefully sorted and cleaned, sound nuts—shriveled—are bagged to size, and sent to nut butter manufacturers, facturers and other peanuts. All other "crushed" for the oil.

**Cost of Common Cold**  
When all factors involved are considered, it is estimated that the cost of the common cold to America, people is well over a billion dollars a year.

**Largest Island**  
By far the largest island in continental United States, New York, with an area of 1,401 square miles of 1,723 square miles.

## WANTED

1—CASHIER—Girl to train for check-out lane in Super Market. Regular job.

2—BAG BOY—At least 16 yrs. old to carry out groceries on weekend.

See Bill Ray

### Ray's Super Market

# STRAND

## Notice

Beginning Monday, July 2nd

### MATINEES

Each Mon. - Wed. - Fri. 2:30 P.M.

• PROGRAM •

• TONIGHT AND FRIDAY •

Teresa WRIGHT  
Joseph COTTEN

Macdonald CAREY  
Alfred HITCHCOCK'S

## Shadow of a Doubt

Last Chap. "Winslow of Navy"—Also First Chap. of "Devil Horse" Showing on Friday

• SATURDAY ONLY •

### BIG FAMILY PROGRAM

No. 1  
GEORGE O'BRIEN  
BULLET CODE  
WITH VIRGINIA VALE

No. 2  
WILD BILL ELLIOTT  
—In—  
"Hands Across The Rockies"

—ALSO—

No. 3—Last Chapter "Winslow of Navy"  
No. 4—First Chapter New Serial  
"DEVIL HORSE"  
No. 5—Color Cartoon

• LATE SHOW SATURDAY •

SMASH ATTACK ON UNDERWORLD RATS!

WITH JOHN KING - WILLIAM LUNDIGAN  
CONSTANCE MOORE - LARRY BLAKE

SUNDAY - MONDAY - TUESDAY  
(Matinee Monday, 2:30)

M-G-M proudly presents the HOWLING HIT of '51!!!

## "Father's Little Dividend"

SPORTS REEL — LATE NEWS

# Deadline For Filing State Privilege License Applications June 30

The deadline for filing applications for State Privilege Licenses is June 30. Fred I. Walston, deputy collector, reminded taxpayers today. Effective July 1, a penalty will accrue of 5 per cent per month for each delinquent month. Applications should be mailed to the N. C. Department of Revenue in Raleigh.

# Old Timetable

In the archives of the Boston & Maine railroad there is an 1850 timetable which lists the operation of a Sunday train. This special announcement solemnly warned Sunday riders: "Persons purchasing tickets will be required to sign a pledge that they will use the tickets for no other purpose than attending church."

# Morale

Morale has been casually described as "a lot of little things." Whether we can precisely define the quality or not, we all know what it means. It is a term most often applied to armies, perhaps, or to groups of people faced with grave problems of feeling and action. But, it has an individual meaning, too. And its synonym is spirit.

mother, Agnes Moorehead, just won't hear of it or of Kathryn's kissing Howard Keel. Keel portrays Gaylord Ravenal, river gambler and baritone performer for a time in Captain Andy's show.

Ava is Julie Laverne, the half-Negro star of the bill, who sings "My Bill" and "Can't Help Lovin' That Man". When the Colton Blossom ties up at an unspecified town, the sheriff comes aboard and sends her and her husband (Robert Sterling) on their way. Miscegenation, he declares, is against the law in this state. Julie's trail is mostly downhill and tragic from then on—drink, barrooms, and other men. Miss Gardner, in some arresting elbow-ups, makes her unhappiness seem real.

Joe E. Brown plays Cap'n Andy with gusto. A nightclub reunion with daughter Kathryn, long after she has left the show—and Gambler Keel, who has become her husband—may jerk a few sentimental tears.

Two of the movie's brightest assets are Marge and Gower Champion, a handsome young married couple who impart some of the joy they must feel in dancing. The Negro baritone who sings "Ol' Man River" in a rich voice is William Warfield, a concert singer from Rochester, N. Y. His recording of the song, sent by his agent to the studio, got Warfield his first movie role.

The film is based on the Kern-Hammerstein musical play, adapted from Edna Ferber's novel. The presentation, whose sternwheeler, floated on a back-lot lake, is said to be the biggest prop ever built for a movie, is good entertainment.

FOR SALE—1949 Packard, Golden Anniversary Model, Radio, Heater, Overdrive, and A-1 Shape. Less than 14,000 actual miles. \$1750. Can be seen at rear of Book Store. Jn 28 Jy 2

FOR SALE—1950 Ford Panel Truck like new. Less than 4000 actual miles. \$1395. Can be seen at rear of Book Store. Jn 28 Jy 2

FOR SALE—Hot Point electric range with Thrift Cooker. Only \$50. Call 597-R. J 28

# Female Turtles

Female sea turtles lay their eggs at night in holes they scoop out in sunwarmed sand a short distance inland from high tides. They may deposit 200 or more eggs of golf-ball size with leathery shells. With the laying, their responsibility ends. Man is but one of many predators that hunt out the eggs for food, or feast on the newly hatched young.

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## PARK THEATRE PROGRAM

THURSDAY and FRIDAY

### "VIRGINIA CITY"

Starring  
ERROL FLYNN and HUMPHREY BOGART

SATURDAY

### DOUBLE FEATURE

Zane Grey's  
"CODE OF THE WEST"  
also  
"MACHINEGUN MAMA"

Starring  
WALLACE FORD and ARMIDA

• LATE SHOW •

### "MY TRUE STORY"

Starring  
HELEN WALKER and WILLIARD PARKER

SUNDAY and MONDAY

### "I Can Get It For You Wholesale"

Starring  
SUSAN HAYWARD and DAN DAILY

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Hundreds and  
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