

Movie Industry Continues Trend Against Big Studio Operations To Independents

By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD — The trend in the movie industry continues away from big studio operations and toward more independent production. Exhibitors have been waiting about not having enough new pictures to keep their theaters booked, but now the studios have drastically cut production because run-of-the-mill pictures no longer pay off. Only the special attractions make money. It's up to the independents to fill in the gap, and they are thriving as never before. United Artists, which finances and releases films for independents, plans to put out

45 pictures this year, compared to an average of 30 for the majors. And now all of the major companies are releasing films for independents.

STUDENT NAMED

CHICAGO — John A. Belt, a student at the University of Oregon Medical School, is the new president of the Student American Medical Assn. He was elected here at the close of the organization's annual meeting here. Belt is a graduate of Hermiston High School and the University of Oregon.

How does an independent operate? Take the case of Robert Aldrich, who is now producing and directing "The Big Knife" with a cast that would give credit to any studio: Jack Palance, Ida Lupino, Shelley Winters, Wendell Corey, Rod Taylor, Jean Hagen, Ilka Chase and Everett Sloane. The project started five years ago. Aldrich is a successful movie production manager, he handles all the business details. Having worked on a number of John Garfield pictures, he was in New York when the late actor starred in Clifford Odets' play "The Big Knife." It was the story of a male

star's temptations in Hollywood. The play was a flop, but Aldrich saw film possibilities. Aldrich wanted to direct in films. "But though I was one of the most successful production managers in the business, I couldn't direct traffic," said the pudgy, affable Aldrich. It took him a few years to remedy that. He started directing with a couple of small films, then jumped to "Apache" and "Vera Cruz" for Burt Lancaster. After producing and directing a Mickey Spillane film, he decided it was time to sharpen up "The Big Knife."

For \$10,000 plus a percentage of the profits, he acquired the story rights from Odets and lined up the cast. The budget came to \$425,000 of which \$263,000 was for the cast. This is amazingly low, considering the size of the cast. A similar project on a major lot would probably run a million and a half dollars. Within three days of getting the

green light from the backers. Aldrich was in production. He shaved costs by using an ancient but adequate studio near downtown Los Angeles. He hopes to complete the film in 15 days, barring temperamental things that one thing you can't budget.

Wed., May 11, 1955—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 3

Top Soviet Officials Make Flight To Warsaw

MOSCOW — Premier Nikolai Bulganin led a Soviet delegation to Warsaw Tuesday for the birth of the Communist version of NATO. The Moscow Radio announced the delegation's arrival by plane in the Polish capital. Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov and Defense Minister Georgi Zhukov accompanied the premier for the Soviet bloc security conference, which opens Wednesday. The delegation also included a number of top officials from various Soviet republics.

Bible Academy Sets May Fete Saturday Night

By VIRGINIA PROCTOR
Canyonville Bible Academy's May queen, Patricia Stanton, and her maid of honor, Terry Hathaway, both of Canyonville, will hold court in a garden scene in the Canyonville High School gymnasium at 7:45 p.m. Saturday, May 7. The traditional procession will feature the junior and senior girls. Music will be provided by the CBA choir. Members of the court include Rachel Tiahrt, Billie Kay Rogers, David Bauer and David Lawson, seniors; Minetta Dodd, Martha Christian of Riddle, Jack Wise and Wesley Cole, juniors; Grace Wilson, Pat Gibson, Ralph Shugart and Dick Ellenwood, sophomores, and Pat Moody, Rosemary Swanson and David Hathaway of Canyonville, freshmen. Mrs. Paul Malm and Mrs. Robert Shaffer are in charge of the decorations. Mr. and Mrs. John Federson and Mrs. Shaffer are in charge of the musical program. Saturday, CBA seniors spent the day at the coast, playing in the dunes and exploring the Sea Lion Caves near Florence. The party ended with a skating party. Chaperones were the Bob Shaffers and the Einar Engens. The freshmen and sophomore boys of CBA paid their debt, incurred in a Sunday school contest, to the sophomore girls by taking them on a hike and picnic to South Umpqua Falls Saturday. Howard Brock, Mr. and Mrs. Carolene Brent and Homer Radford accompanied the young people.

Water Safety Teachers Asked To Call Red Cross

Red Cross water safety instructors who have recently moved into the Roseburg area have been requested to call the local RC office if they are able to assist in the forthcoming water safety program. Chairman Leon Mulkey said Monday more instructors could certainly be used this summer to help teach swimming. The Douglas County Chapter, ARC, is headquartered in the Roseburg Armory. The telephone number is OR 3-3255.

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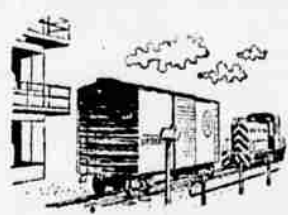
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S.P.'s new gravity switching yard at Houston sounds like science fiction. For on this mammoth maze of tracks the wizard hands of electricity, radar and electronics do a giant's share of the work, putting together freight trains day and night, under any conditions of visibility. Men are important in the act, too, but the system of automatic control—called automa-

tion—is the astonishing thing. It is part of the drama of modern railroading—of the progressive ways and means sought by Southern Pacific to bring you finer freight and passenger train service. The pictures below show you how radar and an electronic brain team up to improve this vital yard operation.



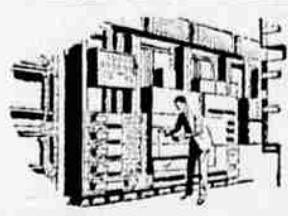
1 Cars from incoming freight trains are uncoupled and nudged one at a time over the crest of a small artificial hill, called the "hump."



2 Towerman "orders" each car to its scheduled track position in yard through an automatic switching system, which times and sets switches ahead of car.



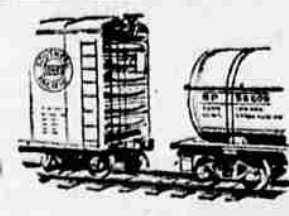
3 Starting its roll downhill, the car is clocked by radar and is automatically weighed. Speeds vary, depending on loads and other factors.



4 An electronic computer instantly notes the car's weight, speed, rollability, distance to roll, and other factors including even wind resistance, then, like a mechanical brain, gives the all-important answer to...



5 The "retarder," or electric brake, set in the track, which exerts necessary pressure to release the car at precisely the right speed...



6 So that it will roll to its near or remote destination in the switching yard and there couple smoothly and safely into a newly formed train.

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