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Down Front

By BILL LINDLEY

You Were Never Lovelier

With theater managers constantly repeating that the public is staying away from war films, and with the government considering their restriction, Hollywood calmly announces that it has 240 before the cameras or scheduled for production.

Before the deluge of the 240 begins to rain down, take one long last look at some really excellent light entertainment—Columbia's "You Were Never Lovelier," starring Rita Hayworth and Fred Astaire, with Adolph Menjou conspicuous in the supporting cast.

Light Plot

There is little to the plot. Astaire, a popular American dancer, is hired to court Rita, daughter of a wealthy South American night club owner. Her father (Menjou) figures that it is time she married. He plans to have her fall in love with Astaire, then to disillusion her about men, and have the man he chooses as her husband catch her on the rebound.

Complications begin to disrupt his plans when the dancer falls in love with Rita (plausible?) and Rita begins to feel the same about him, but of course there is always her father to break up the affair. . . .

Clever Dialogue

The light plot offers some clever dialogue and provides a background for dances and songs, played by Xavier Cugat. Astaire is in his usual polished form, and Miss Hayworth shows marked improvement over her first dancing film, "You'll Never Get Rich." She has lost most of her initial roughness in style, and has acquired a great deal of the smoothness and agility of Astaire. They are best in the "Shorty Joe" number.

Xavier Cugat does well in his first screen appearance, playing four Kern tunes (including "Dearly Beloved") and background music for the dance scenes and displaying his ability as a cartoonist.

Rating: This is the kind of light entertainment we want instead of war films. Sunday night's audience (at the Heilig) chuckled, roared, and guffawed its approval; so will you.

Charging Russians Spell German Doom

By NICK RIASANOVSKY

According to Mein Kampf, Germany has two mortal enemies—France and Russia. In 1941 France was crushed. In 1941 Hitler turned against Russia. He had always wanted to get Lebensraum for Germany in the East, and this desire was in complete accord with the centuries-old German policy of eastward expansion.

Nazis struck with all their might and on the entire frontier. Their aim was to crush the Russian army just as they have crushed the French, and then to obtain for themselves whatever amount of Russian land and resources they wanted.

'Quick' Victory

The victory was to be won in 1941, before winter. The speeches of the Nazi leaders from Hitler down indicate that. So does the complete unpreparedness of Ger-

Bruin Greetings

OREGON EMERALD
University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Now that we have ended our regular football season and have been given the honor of representing the Pacific Coast Conference in the Rose Bowl, I am sending you this short note to express my admiration and deep respect for the excellent sportsmanship and the wonderful school spirit that was displayed during our stay at Eugene. I fully realize that the football squad played a magnificent game, but I still am convinced that the enthusiasm in the stands played no small part in your victory.

I particularly appreciated the reception that I was accorded at the Friday evening Rally and was sincerely impressed by the student attitude at the gathering. I was glad to see that our relations are on such a friendly plane, and I want you to know that here in Westwood, the University of Oregon is regarded by many of us as our "second school" (and it closely follows the favoritism we do show to U.C.L.A.).

For the sake of upholding Western football I want to assure you that we WILL do all in our power to give a good account of ourselves on January first.

Sincerely,

BILL FARRER

President, Associated Students
University of California,
Los Angeles

Mildred Wilson Spies . . .

Lt. Gerald Johnson

The speeded tempo of war is challenging the old "work 50 years for fame" formula—it certainly hasn't taken Lt. Gerald Johnson, army fighter pilot, that long.

Stocky, dark-haired, handsome "Ged," as he is known to most of his friends, was just a normal boy attending Eugene schools a short time ago. With his twin brother Harold, now an air corps cadet, he helped lead yells at Eugene high school his senior year there. University proceeded in the usual manner of classes, dances, and bull sessions.

Quotable Quotes . . .

"Personalities that are so tangled they cannot get along with themselves or anyone else are very likely to wind up as politicians and reformers. They don't have to be neurotic to get in such positions, but it certainly helps." Herman Goldhammer, professor of sociology at Stanford university, bases his statement on a survey of thousands of individuals and 3,000 social clubs, fraternal orders, trade unions, political clubs, women's clubs, business men's associations and similar groups, and of the personality of their members and officers. — (ACP)

A centralized organization of civilian defense activities has been completed at Yeshiva college, New York.

The first university in the western hemisphere was founded in Santo Domingo in 1538.

Today, less than two years after leaving University for air corps training, First Lieutenant Johnson can claim many weeks of combat flying through Alaskan skies resulting in honor dividends in the form of two medals.

Two Medals

Only last Saturday he was awarded an air medal for exceptional heroism in the American raid against Japanese installations at Kiska—and yesterday's papers carried the announcer that he has also been awarded an Oak Leaf cluster by his Alaskan commander, Maj. Gen. Simon B. Buckner.

Lieutenant Johnson's citation—received through American Press from Anchorage—said, "He voluntarily attacked enemy areas and anti-aircraft installations over heavily fortified Kiska in complete disregard of his own safety. Despite enemy fighters and heavy anti-aircraft fire, he drove his attack home and enabled a flight of heavy bombers to complete their raids."

Followers at Home

Son of Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Johnson of Eugene, "Ged" has several special rooters on the home front. Ralph Johnson, University sophomore, and a younger brother and sister in Eugene schools are ardent followers of his air career.

While visiting the campus last November, Lieut. Johnson addressed a journalism class concerning his experiences. Summing up his attitude on the matter of flying he commented sympathetically, "Combat duty is the biggest thrill in the world. We feel sorry for the fellows who have to stay at home and can't get into this fight."

Talking to him, however, one did not have the stereotyped picture of an "intrepid birdman" but rather that of a good-natured, healthy young American—interested in his duty and bent on doing a good job of it. How well he succeeded is borne out by the recent awards.

His victories are not confined
(Please turn to Page Seven)

War of Nerves . . .

THE University man who hasn't "got the jitters" is the exception and not the rule as we wend our way into winter term. The reason is no mere fear of military service; it is rather the war of nerves that is besieging the college male.

If enlistment hadn't been closed, it might have turned to a question whether reserves would be called out first or whether men would rush en masse to sign up for service now. It is almost like an appointment with the dentist. You know you are going, but it's a disarming uncertainty when one appointment after another is moved ahead one, two three weeks, or a few months.

* * *

THE situation is further complicated by the scores of rumors which predict everything from immediate service to three months grace. Not the least source of worry are official government communiques which are inevitably so ambiguous that they only raise frustration to new heights as students strive to interpret what course might be taken. Many of these releases are later denied, and this has happened so often that when the real order comes it will probably sweep students temporarily off their feet.

Dr. Carl F. Kossack, campus representative for the armed forces, in his thankless and unending task of tracing down rumors, no sooner corners one series of false and unofficial "scare" stories, than along comes a new series of official releases from Washington that start the teapot boiling all over again.

* * *

CONTRARY to the latest Washington release (which hinted that reserves would be called out the first of this year), enlisted students probably will remain in school through winter term at least.

Latest information released by Dr. Kossack states that the army enlisted reserve will likely be called out at the end of this term, with the exception of pre-meds, technical, and senior ROTC students. The army air corps will call men as they are needed, and marine and naval reservists will be called at some "future date." As Columnist Roy Nelson has suggested this is a new and welcome form of information because it states that reserves will NOT be called out today.

We Can Take It . . .

"SORRY, the class is closed!"

Many a California student turned away with heavy heart from trying to get class okays yesterday as these schedule-wrecking words drifted from almost every building on the University campus.

The excuse for late registrations in almost all cases was the same—late trains. A large number of out-of-state students were delayed from five to 15 hours in arriving in Eugene.

And yet, no person can be blamed. Military trains, trains loaded with war materials and a snow slide caused the trains to be behind schedule.

* * *

THE University, with its rule of a dollar a day fine for late registrants, came up with an extremely fair solution and agreed to allow students delayed unavoidably to petition for the return of their money.

There is no way in which the closed class situation may be remedied, but after all it merely means we are giving up just one more of our non-essentials for the general war effort.

The students affected by the circumstances understand how the University is helping them and also how unavoidable the situation is, and with a spirit becoming more typical of Oregon men and women as each day passes, are grinning, a bit ruefully, perhaps, but still grinning, and just signing up for another course.—G. D. W.