

# New Western Film Points Way For Better Fare on Television

## Boy Slays 2 Honor Students, Clouds Graduation Plans

By EVE STARR  
**HOLLYWOOD — STARR REPORT:** It's taken the movie people to come up with an "adult Western" which should give the television people pause for thought. Filmed with a tongue in one cheek and a gun in another, it's called "Sheepman" (a title as dull as the picture is funny and exciting) and stars Glenn Ford as that very familiar character, the stranger in town.

It also stars Shirley Ma-  
**EVE STARR**  
 Laine, who fortunately bears no resemblance whatever to any Western heroine ever before seen on the screen.  
 Ford is cast as an unabashed superhero, a soft-spoken, reasonable-minded man who only wants to go about his business peacefully but whose great crime is bringing a herd of sheep into cattle country.

It is one man against an entire town, but it is played for laughs and the laughs are long and rich. As a lone example, he deliberately picks a fight with the town bully in order to establish the fact right off the bat that there is no point in anyone else's picking a fight with HIM.  
 He picks the fight by strolling into a restaurant, sitting the bully's coffee with the lighted end of a cigar, flicking the wet ashes

into the bully's face and finally sticking the cigar into the man's mashed potatoes. The fight that ensues is a classic spoof on the Western two-man brawl.  
 Now, I found this to be a thoroughly entertaining picture, and it occurred to me that there must be room for a similar venture on TV. The small screen next season will have something like 21 Westerns crawling across its little glass face, and so far as I can make out not a single one of them is being made with laughs in mind. You get the general impression from these cut and dried epics that the entire West was utterly lacking in humor. Which is too bad—and anyway, I don't believe it.

TV producers, it seems to me, should take a look at "Sheepman" and see what a good Western laugh looks like. They might even come up with a new idea, and that would be phenomenal. The medium right now could stand a phenomenon or two.  
 We haven't had one around since Elvis Presley joined the Army.  
**AFTER MANY LONG** years of wrangling over legal entanglements, "Tarzan" is about to burst forth as a full-fledged TV show. The familiar jungle hero, who has appeared in no fewer than 22 pictures, every one of which has been a moneymaker, will be refurbished somewhat for TV. The "Me Tarzan, you Jane" dialogue will be dropped. For that matter, Jane herself will be dropped eventually.

The new owners of the property, a financial syndicate, have ambitious plans for the jungle man and are convinced they can turn it into the most exciting adventure show on the air. You can look for the official announcement in another three or four weeks, but to all intents and purposes the deal is set and "Tarzan" is on his way.

**JACKIE COOPER** IS now in New York selling his "Skippy" series, and he just might have the big hit of next season under his arm. The pilot film is a warm, heart-tugging little show done without pretense, and establishes Cooper right here and now as a superb director of children. The performance he has drawn out of 7-year-old Stanley Livingston has to be seen to be believed. Stanley IS Skippy, just as Jackie himself was 25 years ago, and with any kind of luck at all this youngster can be the star of 1958-59.

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### African to Speak At Portland Church

**PORTLAND (AP)—**The Episcopal archbishop of Capetown, South Africa, will speak at Portland's Trinity Episcopal Church June 10. He is the Most Rev. Joosse de Bank, who has gained wide attention for his opposition to the South African government's racial policies.  
 He will be introduced by Gov. Robert D. Holmes.

(Picture on Wirephoto Page.)  
**ALBION, Neb. (AP)—**A teen-age triangle slaying that left two Albion high school honor students dead and a third seriously wounded clouded plans for graduation Friday in this stunned northeast Nebraska town of 2,132. Jerry Sherwood, 18, one of the victims, was to have delivered one of four commencement talks prepared by honor students, then receive his diploma and a University of Nebraska regents scholarship from his father, Lynn Sherwood, retiring president of the Albion School Board.

**Portable Phone Made**  
**MOSCOW (AP)—**Soviet engineer Leonid Kuprianovic is credited with inventing a portable 18-ounce radio-telephone. The labor newspaper Trud said it is capable of reaching any Soviet telephone number and of receiving even Sputnik signals. But you can't buy the gadget. It's not in production.

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Sup. of Schools Gail Sims said commencement exercises will be held as scheduled but the traditional student speeches, including Jerry Sherwood's speech: "We might have a chance" will be distributed in printed form instead of being delivered.

Jerry and Diane Zaruba, 17, a junior honor student, were fatally shot Wednesday evening as they were getting ready to go on a church picnic. Authorities said Kermit Keeshan, 17, a junior,

fired the fatal shots, then shot himself in the head. He is expected to recover. Dep. Boone County Atty. Ray Medlin Sr., said Keeshan will be charged with first-degree murder. Medical records showed Keeshan fell from a horse, apparently without injury in 1953. In 1956 he was seriously injured in an automobile accident. He suffered a convulsion in 1955, thought to have resulted from the fall, but examination failed to reveal anything serious. An Omaha physician said, however, the youth has been under psychological care and study during different periods since 1955, and that a brain wave test in 1955 showed physiological brain changes.

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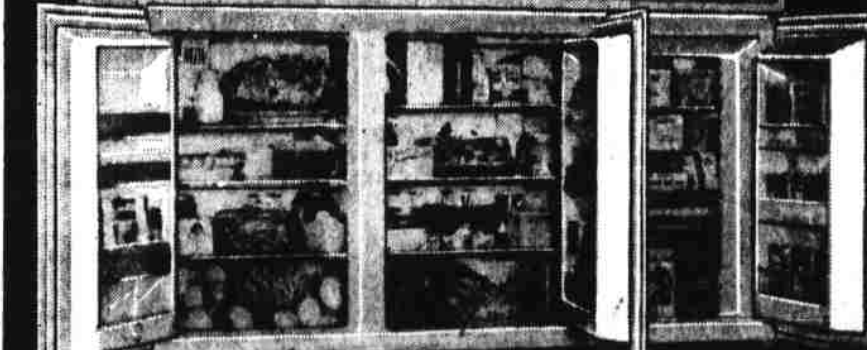
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