

Hollywood Galaxy Stages Big Ballyhoo In Portland

By BOB THOMAS
 PORTLAND, Ore., July 15 (AP)—Never underestimate the power of Hollywood.
 For instance, observe how Portland was captured completely by the movie forces, all for the sake of dear old publicity. The Rose City capitulated without a struggle.
 Walter Wanger filmed a picture called "Canyon Passage" in Oregon. So, to provide ample press lineage, Universal sent a glittering caravan to Portland for a premiere. Among those that glitter were Lou Costello, Joan Bennett, Peggy Ryan, Yvonne De Carlo, Hoagy Carmichael, Jess Barker and Elsa Maxwell.
 From the time the artists were greeted with a brass band and a pack of Indians until they signed the last autograph and departed, Portland was under control of the southern invaders. Even

Legion Starts State Meeting

PORTLAND, July 15 (AP)—Oregon American Legionnaires opened their department's 1946 three-day convention today as 700 delegates registered for the morning meeting.
 Business sessions this afternoon, a parade this evening and a mass initiation ceremony at the armory tonight are on the first day's program with State Commander Neil L. Morfitt, Astoria, presiding.
 Delegates started arriving yesterday, wearing multicolored service hats amid street crowds and staging impromptu drum and bugle demonstrations.
 Past National Commander Warren A. Heron, Stockton, Calif., and Major General Rapul W. Kendall, who will represent General Joseph Stilwell, were greeted yesterday by Morfitt.
 Earlier, the "B et 40" staged their 25th annual grande voiture promenade and elected Ira O. Pilcher, Salem, grand chef de gare of the Legion's frolic loving group. Other officers: M. E. Cooper, Klamath Falls, grand conductor; Walter J. Kirk, Salem, grand garde de la porte; L. T. Chellis, Corvallis, grand cheminot.
 The parade tonight will be led by Brig. Gen. Thomas E. Riley, adjutant general of Oregon on leave to the army.
 The program Tuesday will open with state commander's breakfast at 7:30 a. m. The joint memorial service with the women's auxiliary delegates will be at 9:00 a. m. and the afternoon will be devoted to business sessions. A banquet and dance are scheduled for Tuesday night.

Mayor Riley and Governor Snell pitched in on the ballyhoo. Personally I cannot report much on the glamorous activities; one sees enough of stars in Hollywood. However, I did observe that the Oregon countryside is greener than a St. Patrick's Day parade; that the Portland zoo contains some talented bears; and that the Columbia is a mighty big river.
 One premiere scene I did notice—the crowd in front of the theatre, several thousand strong, being induced to sing "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" to Elsa Maxwell.
 See—Hollywood can do anything.
 Oh yes, the picture. It would be unfortunate to come this far to see a punk movie. Happily, "Canyon Passage" turned out to be a very nifty western. In fact, it ranks favorably with "Stagecoach," also produced by Wanger.
 The fine Ernest Haycox story portrays frontier life in Oregon in the 1850's. What sets it apart from its many competitors is the sharpness of its characters and the punch of its action. The good cast is headed by Dana Andrews, who is excellent as always. So is Susan Hayward, although it is unconvincing that he could have passed her up until the final reel.

Shipbuilding Firm To Liquidate Assets
 PORTLAND, July 15 (AP)—Liquidation of Commercial Iron Works, the firm that built the first and finished the last World War II naval vessels in Portland, was reported today.
 President Winston Casey said properties of the 39-year-old firm, owned by Casey and two other associate stockholders, H. A. White and E. L. Casey, have been placed on sale. The firm now employs 600 workers in its shipyard, foundry and machine shop.
 The firm built 185 naval vessels of 15 types and converted 15 others from June, 1941, to May 26, 1946, when the escort carrier Rabaul was delivered. The peak wartime payroll was 10,000 workers.
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Butter Price Drops In Portland Stores

PORTLAND, July 15 (AP)—Butter was selling at a few Portland stores yesterday at 89 cents a pound as retailers sought to stimulate sales which have lagged since the increase to 79 and 80 cents with end of OPA.
 The price slash, although not general, started Saturday when a chain store firm and several independent grocers dropped prices to 68 cents and one north Portlander posted a 63-cent sign.
 The wholesale price remains at 72 cents a pound.

Army Allots Funds For Snake River

WASHINGTON, July 15 (AP)—The Snake river in Oregon, Washington and Idaho was allocated \$500,000 for improvements and \$9000 for maintenance on the army engineers' civil works program for which congress has appropriated a national total of \$308,845,250.
 Rivers and harbors work scheduled included: Columbia between Vancouver and Bonneville \$239,000; Columbia river-McNary dam \$2,600,000; Columbia at Bonneville, \$805,800; Co-

lumbia and tributaries above Cello falls to mouth of Snake \$30,000; Chetco river \$25,000; Depoe bay \$2000.

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