

Niven, Hayward, 'Gigi' Win Oscars For '58 Performances

By JAMES BACON
AP Motion Picture Writer
HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Susan Hayward, who once despaired of ever winning an Oscar, got one on her fifth try Monday night. So did David Niven, after 25 years of pleasing movie audiences.

The Brooklyn-born redhead and the debonair Scotsman won the top Academy awards for acting before an audience filled with most of the big names in the entertainment industry. They shared honors with the movie "Gigi," which won in every one of the nine categories for which it was nominated—including best picture.

Burl Ives and the British actress Wendy Hiller won Oscars for best supporting performances.

More than 100 big names—from Ingrid Bergman to Eddie Fisher—gave a nationwide television audience an electronic peek at Hollywood's biggest night of the year. The acceptance speeches were so short that the NBC-TV show ended some 20 minutes before its two-hour schedule.

Miss Hayward — enacting the role of murderess Barbara Graham in "I Want To Live!" — got the nod on a performance so realistic that it provided fodder for a Bob Hope joke earlier in the evening.

"The movies this year are go-

ing in for so much realism," Hope said, "I was surprised to see Miss Hayward here tonight."

She dies in the gas chamber during the picture.

While the picture was being made, she told a reporter that "after four disappointments I'm no longer in the business for Oscars. Just say that I do it now for the money and the joy of doing a good part."

She admitted that Monday night's results have changed her views considerably.

"I thought I had a good chance but I was pleasantly surprised," she said. "And above all thrilled and honored."

She added that it was the "most nervous day I have ever spent in my life."

Niven won the top actor award for playing a pathetic woman-molester in "Separate Tables." It was one of the few times in his career that he did not play what the trade calls "a David Niven type."

Niven said: "Dammit, I must say I wanted to win and I'm happy I did."

He said he couldn't relax either and had to take a swim in an ice-cold pool in order to calm down enough for the big show.

"Gigi" got Oscars for best pic-

ture, best screen play based on material from another medium, best directing for Vincente Minnelli, best art direction, best color photography, best song (the title number), film editing, costume design and best scoring of a musical picture. The music for "Gigi" was written by the "My Fair Lady" team of Frederick Loewe and Alan J. Lerner.

Lerner also got the award for the best screenplay for "Gigi."

Burl Ives, the 300-pound folk singer, took a night off from his show at Las Vegas' Flamingo Hotel to pick up his Oscar. He played a sort of Western Big Daddy in "The Big Country."

He was not nominated for his Big Daddy role in "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof."

Miss Hiller was not in town to receive her award. Earlier she told a reporter by long distance phone from London that she

couldn't understand how she ever got nominated. She played the lovelorn hotel manager of "Separate Tables."

"All you could see of me in the picture," she said, "was the back of my head. Unless they give some award for acting with one's back to the camera, I don't stand a chance."

One of the most popular awards was a special one given to Maurice Chevalier, who was called to the stand after completing a musical number with a bevy of Hollywood beauties.

Rosalind Russell presented the award to Chevalier.

The Irving G. Thalberg award for outstanding production over the years was given to Jack L. Warner, making one of his first public appearances since his near-fatal auto accident of last summer.

The fast pace of the proceedings, with the consequent time left over, caught everyone off guard. Emcee Jerry Lewis panicked and tried some stalling tactics which appeared inept.

Nobody seemed to know whose fault it was, Academy President

George Stevens merely remarked: "The show went so smoothly that we had time left over."

He didn't explain why performers and winners were told to hurry up their parts during the performance.

Commented Bob Hope: "They timed this thing with a sun dial!"

The telecast finally went off the air with 15 minutes to spare and the extra time was handed back to the local NBC stations.

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Senate Labor Committee Indicates Tax Increases

SALEM (AP)—The Senate Labor and Industries Committee indicated Monday it would propose only a slight increase in unemployment compensation taxes for employers.

The committee, which plans to take final action today, appeared to favor a bill by Sen. Carl Francis (R-Dayton) that would tax the first \$3,800 of a worker's wage or salary only until the unemployment trust fund gets built up to six per cent of the total payrolls in the state. This figure, under current economic conditions, would be about 63 million dollars.

When the fund reaches that point, then only the first \$3,600 would be taxed.

The present law taxes only the first \$3,600. The Unemployment Compensation Commission's advisory council recommended that the first \$4,200 be taxed.

The tax rate would be 2.7 per cent of payrolls until the fund reaches the 51 million dollar mark. Then there would be a sliding scale of rates ranging from 1.3 to 2.7 per cent. Employers who maintain stable employment would benefit by the lower rates.

The rate now is 2.7 per cent. Before a year ago, it varied from 3 of 1 per cent to 2.7 per cent, but all employers were forced to pay 2.7 per cent when the fund fell below the 31 million dollar "floor." This occurred April 1, 1958.

The committee feels that the fund eventually will be built up by keeping the 2.7 rate in effect. The fund, now totaling 17 million

dollars, totaled 85 million 10 years ago.

The committee delayed action on bills to tighten up on qualifications for jobless benefits. These bills also will stop the drain on the fund.

It approved a bill to permit the governor to borrow federal funds when the fund shrinks to a dangerously low level. Ex-Gov. Robert D. Holmes tried to borrow 14 million dollars of federal money a year ago, but was blocked by an attorney general's opinion that he could not do so under existing law.

The committee tabled the proposed payroll decline system, under which employers with stable employment would get credits against future taxes. The same result, however, is accomplished by adopting the merit rating scale of 1.3 to 2.7 per cent.

The committee voted to disqualify women who become pregnant and who leave work, from the date she leaves work until six weeks after her baby is born. Under present law, a woman can quit work prior to her expected confinement and draw benefits up to six weeks before the baby is born.

DA Drops Kidnaping

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP)—Child stealing charges have been dismissed against two men who claim they were offered \$5,000 by the ex-wife of a steel executive to abduct the couple's three children and take them to Florida.

Richard Moulton, San Jose, Calif., private detective, and Charles Lewis, Warm Springs, Calif., railroad conductor, were captured at a police roadblock March 30 with two sons of Richard Raese. A third youngster jumped into a swimming pool and avoided being taken from the home that Raese had rented at this desert resort.

The district attorney Monday asked that the charges be dismissed because Raese has left the state with the children. Presumably he returned to Morgantown, W.Va., where he is executive vice president of Greer Steel Co. Without the father in court the state has no case, the district attorney said.

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Shrewd Buyer Gets Gas Range

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP)—Trade was brisk Monday at the First Congregational church rummage sale in a building belonging to the Silver Dollar restaurant.

In all the bustle an idle six-burner gas range which belonged to the restaurant was sold, no one knows to whom.

Church and restaurant officials couldn't immediately find the buyer. He paid two dollars.

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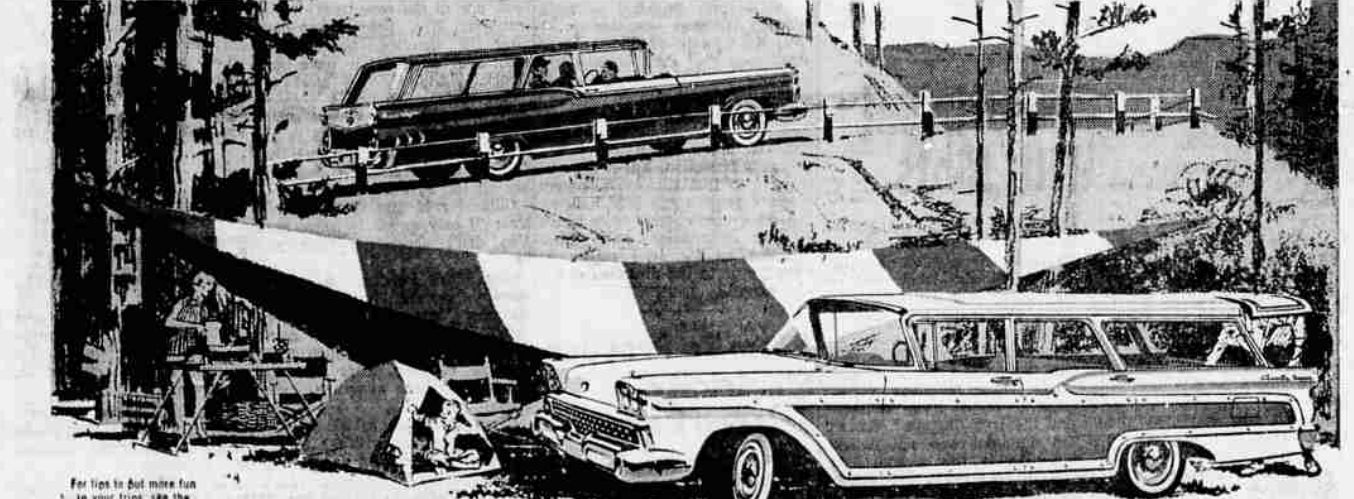
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