

HAYS WARS ON 'EXTRA LINES' AT HOLLYWOOD

Casting Bureau Inaugurated by Big Boss to Do Away With Evil.

By United Press HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 19.—Wielding his big stick in the most sweeping gesture since he became emperor of filmdom, Will Hays has wiped out the atmospheric extra lines.

The unending procession of film-struck notsams which daily harassed the casting directors have completely disappeared.

Instead has been created a central casting bureau, a cooperative nonprofit corporation, organized and maintained by the principal studios.

Still Extras The extras, though, have not been eliminated as movie scenery by the Haysian turn of events. They have merely changed their stamping grounds.

The studios have discarded their voluminous card-indexes, with the names of thousands of extras of every type—blondes and brunettes, old, slim women; old, fat men; Mexicans, Negroes, fair-haired children, freckle-faced boys, fallen women, and fast flappers. Instead is one "master index," maintained by the Central Casting Bureau.

The bureau is operated under the aegis of Will Hays, with his personal Hollywood representative, Fred Beeson, in charge.

Two-Fold Purpose Purpose of the organization was two-fold, according to Hays.

"The primary purpose was to secure a wider and better selection of extras for the studios and to furnish steady employment as far as possible to those who are really fitted for the work," he said.

"Secondly, it was purposed to eliminate abuses in casting which have been a thorn in the side of the army of extras that have grown up with the industry."

For years charges of favoritism have been hurled at various studios and casting directors by disgruntled extras.

The exact number of the "extra army" in Hollywood has never been accurately gauged. Conservative casting directors place it between 7,500 and 10,000. Others place the figure as high as 15,000, counting registration in all classes.

Slated to Head Railroad



Paul Shoup, above, vice president of the Southern Pacific Railway System, is slated to become president soon, it is reported. President William Sproule is reported about to resign.

EASTERN BANKS HOLD PAPER ON IOWA'S FARMS

Local Institutions Forced to Discount Mortgages to Keep Afloat.

By Times Special DES MOINES, Iowa, Feb. 19.—Eastern banking and insurance institutions hold the majority of first mortgages on Iowa farm lands. The same condition exists to a more or less degree in other corn belt States.

These mortgages found their way into eastern banks through local banks, which were forced to discount them in order to keep afloat. The eastern banking houses and insurance companies secured the mortgages at a figure which leaves them safe no matter what happens to Middle West agriculture.

If the farmer is rehabilitated, the mortgages will be paid off, plus a healthy rate of interest, which will make it a profitable transaction for the eastern interests. But, on the other hand, if foreclosure results, the financial and insurance interests of the East will take over the farms at a figure which will place them in a position to reap a profit.

Even if farm prices remain at their present levels, the first mortgage holders will always be able to get back their money and some profit. So, eastern financiers possessing first mortgages are not bothered over what may happen in the corn belt. The individuals doing the worrying are the farmers, who can't meet the interest charges, and the local bankers, whose vaults are stuffed with second mortgages and, in some cases, third mortgages. It is these second and third mortgages which have caused the ruin of corn belt banks. For this paper has been made worthless by the shrinkage in farm values.

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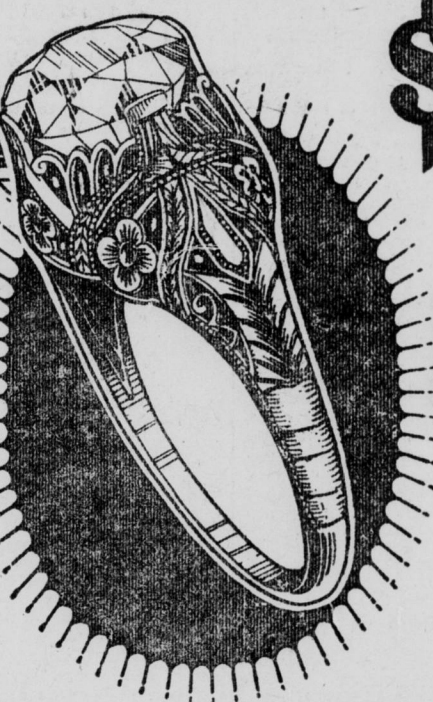
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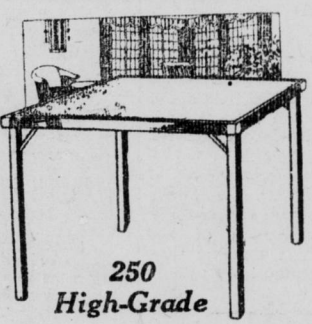
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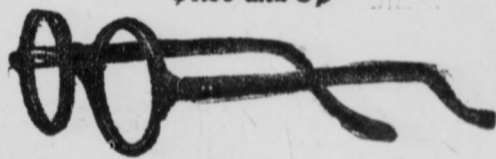
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