

\$1000 Prize Awaits Play On Lincoln

Story Must Be Based on His Early Life in Indiana, Sponsors Decree.

By JAMES THRASHER

On Feb. 12 the Southwestern Indiana Civic Association is inviting the world's playwrights to enter a contest for \$1000. The award will go to the best play based on Abraham Lincoln's Indiana years and manuscripts must be submitted by Jan. 1, 1939.

Lincoln plays have been few, and good Lincoln plays may be summed up in the one that the Englishman, John Drinkwater, fashioned from the biography by another Englishman, Lord Charnwood. The American President has suffered the dramatic neglect of most of the great historical figures. Like Napoleon and Beethoven, he has been a favorite subject of biographers. But most attempts to dramatize his achievements have met with failure. Why this has been so opens a rather broad field of speculation which involves audiences as well as playwrights and actors. The fact remains that few writers since Shakespeare have been able to put the great deeds of history successfully upon the stage.

More Difficult Task

Mr. Drinkwater's play, you may recall, dealt with Lincoln's life in Illinois and his years in the White House. But the task confronting the entrant in this contest is more difficult. For the dramatist must leave his hero on the threshold of manhood. The Lincolns left Indiana after 14 years, in 1830, when Lincoln was 21.

There is, however, the opportunity to project the remarkable character of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and pick out the growth of Lincoln's rectitude, gentleness, temperance and good humor in a rough and most uninspiring environment. So many able writers should find the contest a tempting as well as challenging invitation.

The sponsoring Civic Association suggests that entrants might peruse Eggleston's "The Hoosier Schoolmaster" to advantage. Carl Sandburg's "Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years" also is a book that certainly should not be overlooked. For Mr. Sandburg has written of Lincoln's youth with enough sympathy, imagination and artistry to fire any playwright's ambition.

Many Biographies

From the voluminous literature on the subject, the sponsors have suggested the biographies of Beveridge, Ketchum, Herndon, Warren, Wheeler, Lockridge, Nicolay, Ludwig, Lord Charnwood, Whitney, Whipple, Tarbell, Hill and Sandburg as recommended research material.

Already some aspects of the play have been decided definitely. For one thing, it must be of two and a half hours' playing time and contain three or more acts. The characters and settings must be of southwestern Indiana in the time of Lincoln's residence there.

"Poetic license," the Civic Association has decided, will be permissible in order to heighten the play's interest along the lines of romance, drama, comedy or tragedy. As stated above, the contest is of international scope and, as the sponsors, Canadians are especially welcome. Already word has spread about this competition and many hundreds of letters have been received from nearly all the states, from Canada and a few from Mexico.

Copies of the rules may be obtained after Feb. 12 by writing to Ernest W. Owen, Secretary, Southwestern Indiana Civic Association, 242 E. 12th St., Indianapolis, Ind. And don't forget to inclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Piano Team Coming Here

Youthful Russian Pair to Play Sunday.

Martens Concerts, Inc., will present one of the most highly-praised of modern two-piano teams in their first Indianapolis appearance in English Sunday afternoon. They are Vitya Vronsky and Victor Babin, young Russian artists who made their American debut in New York on Feb. 14 of last year.

In private life, the pianists are Mr. and Mrs. Babin. Indianapolis already has seen in the case of Ethel Bartlett and Rae Robertson, that marriage and a career as two pianos can be combined successfully.

Like the Robertsons, these pianists were established as soloists before they met, married and began their dual concertizing. Both are Russian-born, Miss Vronsky being a native of Kiev, and Mr. Babin of Moscow. Each studies with Artur Schnabel in Berlin.

Besides being an interpreter, Mr. Babin is a composer, having a piano concerto, works for one and two pianos, and songs to his credit. On the Indianapolis program will be heard three of Mr. Babin's studies and his arrangement of the Polovtsian Dances from Borodin's "Prince Igor."

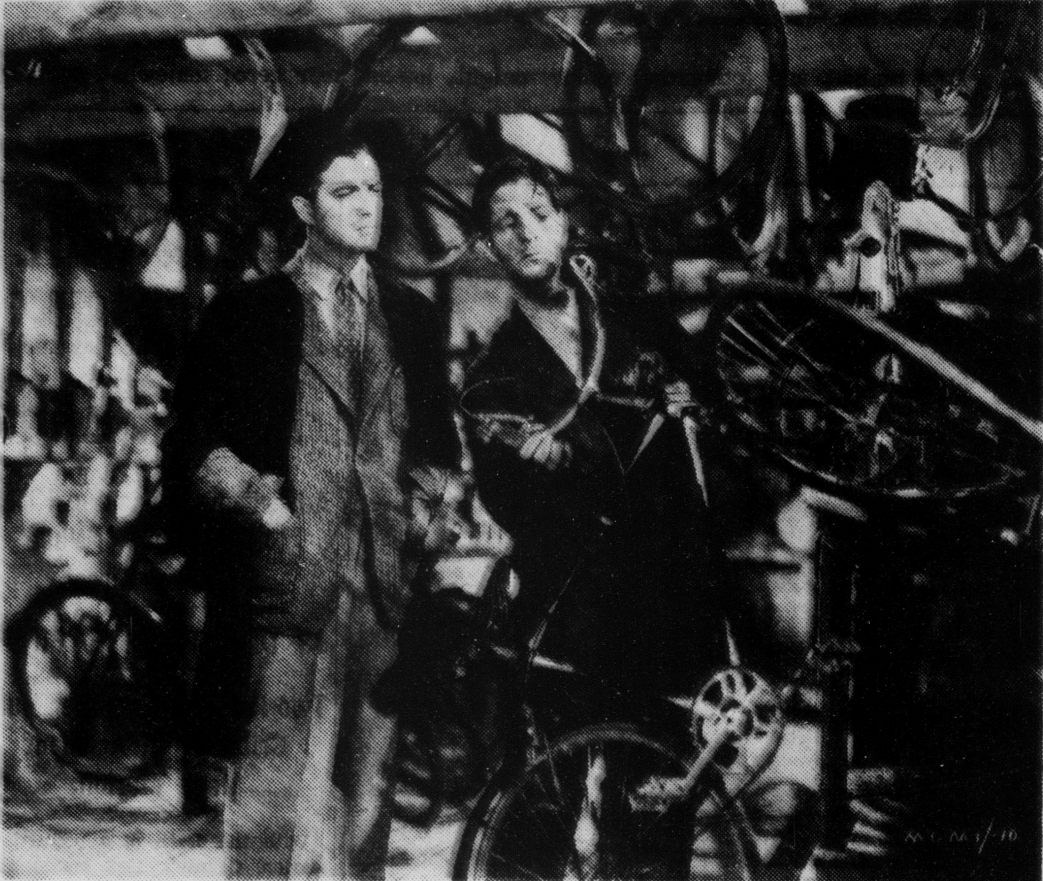
The New Yorker magazine has spoken of their playing as that of "two Romantics, almost vocal in style, for they make their pianos sing like matched voices."

And, earlier, the famous Josef Hofmann had said of them: "I consider them the most extraordinary two-piano team I have heard in Europe."

CHILD STAR GETS ROLE

Marilyn Knowlden, who has 33 major screen roles to her credit at the age of 10 today was cast as the daughter of Norma Shearer in "Marie Antoinette," a production in which Miss Shearer is starred with Tyrone Power. The child star is famed for her roles in "Anthony Adverse," "Les Miserables," "Little Women" and "David Copperfield."

STARS WHO WILL DESCEND ON LOEW'S DURING FEBRUARY



Here are three scenes from as many pictures booked for February showing at Loew's. At the left is Wallace Beery, who will be taking it on the chin in "Bad Man of Brimstone," beginning Friday. Above, Robert Taylor, in cap and gown, joins an unidentified mechanic in diagnosing the bicycle's ailment. The scene is from "A Yank at Oxford," the star's first English picture. Below are Joan Crawford, Alan Curtis, a newcomer, and Spencer Tracy, who will appear in "Mannequin" for the week beginning Feb. 11. This would seem to be the banner month of the year.

Studio Rivalry Causing Many Film Duplications

By PAUL HARRISON

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 31.—Studio rivalry in the scramble for stories is resulting in a lot of duplication and some hard feelings between the various lots.

Warners have completed a straight dramatic version of "Robin Hood," and Metro is planning an operatic version. Twentieth Century-Fox has announced plans and casting for a flicker based on the history of Hudson Bay Co., and Paramount says Cecil DeMille will do one of his spectacles on the same subject.

Preparations are under way at Paramount for an aviation epic, "Men With Wings." Twentieth-Fox has scheduled "Women With Wings." The same studio expects to film a youthful biography of Disraeli with Tyrone Power in the lead, although Warners starred George Arliss in "Disraeli" and won an Academy Award with it.

Likewise, Universal plans to put Deanna Durbin into a screen biography of Marie Antoinette as a young girl, although Norma Shearer already is working at Metro in a complete biography of the same character.

Take Your Choice

There are at least two striking parallels between "Jezebel," in which Bette Davis is working, and "Gone With the Wind," which David Selznick expects to make some day.

The periods are about the same, and Miss Davis plays the role of a girl who's very like Scarlett O'Hara in personality. A third film of the old South may be a remake, by D. W. Griffith, of "Birth of a Nation."

Recently Warners bought "Garden of the Moon," a night club story laid in Los Angeles Coconut Grove. Meanwhile Paramount has written a story titled "Cocacola Grove." And recently we've seen rival Metro and Warner pictures dealing with Alcatraz.

You pays your money and you takes your choice.

Plenty of Help

Small studios that make westerns usually have two directors and two cameramen on the job, so that all the players can be kept busy every minute.

Out at Metro, though, they're filming a musical horse-opera on a grand scale—"Girl of the Golden West." And so far, eight directors have participated, which is a record.

Robert Z. Leonard directs the story; Albertina Rasch directs the dances; Reinhold LeBorg directs the feisty activities; Dave Weber directs Jeanette MacDonald in her western debut; Joe Rodriguez directs the Mexican dialect; Chief Blackwater directs Nelson Eddy in a few lines of Pique which he has to speak; Father John O'Donnell directs H. B. Warner in his role of a Franciscan priest, and also serves as technical director on missions of that period; and Mark Smith directs all the cowboy action.

Chief Blackwater supplied the sounds for Eddy's Indian speech, but it fell to George Macdon of the research department to phonetize the lines so that the actors can learn them. He hopes he can learn them, anyway. All he is supposed to say.

VICKI BAUM NOW AMERICAN CITIZEN

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 31 (U. P.).—Vicki Baum, blond novelist and scenarist, has renounced her native Austria to become an American citizen. The writer, whose true name is Herwig Lett, received her final citizenship papers, joining the parade of foreign members of the film colony who have taken similar action. Most notable was Marlene Dietrich.

RADIO ENTERTAINER GETS MOVIE JOB

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 31 (U. P.).—Another radio star, Tommy Rigg, the double voice who talks with imaginary Betty Lou of Rudy Vallee's program, was at work in the movies today. He has been signed by Universal Studio for a role in "Goodbye Broadway" with Charles Winninger and Alice Brady.

I'LL TAKE ROMANCE
Grace Moore
Jackie Cooper
IN "BOY OF THE STREETS"
AND "MICKY MOUSE"

ENGLISH THEATRE
MON., FEB. 21 MATINEE
ADVANCE WARNING ORDER! EARLY!

MAIL ORDERS NOW
SEND IN YOUR ORDER BY MAIL NOW
AND AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT LATER

HELEN HAYES
GILBERT MILLER'S PRODUCTION
Victoria Regina

PRICES, INCLUDING TAX:
EYES: Dns. \$3.00; Bal., \$2.75; \$2.50; \$1.65; Gal. \$1.10.
WID. MAT. Dns. \$2.75; Bal., \$2.50; \$1.65; Gal. \$1.10.

(Please Send Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope with Check or Money Order)

Sound Film Perfection To Give 18,000 Musicians Jobs, Says Stokowski

New Movies Require Services of Expert at Controls To Assure Proper Reception, He States; Dramatizes Dukas Work.

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 31 (U. P.).—Leopold Antoni Stanislaw Bolelawski Stokowski, who has a record of musical achievement as long as his name, completed a trick orchestra job today and predicted that it would be the starter in opening an entirely new field for America's depression-ridden musicians.

The white-haired Mr. Stokowski, conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and movie actor who talks on the screen mostly with his hands, credited Walt Disney's shadow mouse with the developments which he believes eventually will result in 18,000 jobs for musical men.

"Every movie theater in America will have to have a first class musician at work, controlling the sound equipment," he said. "Otherwise forthcoming musical films won't sound right on the screen and the public will be dissatisfied."

Mr. Stokowski has produced the musical accompaniment for the newest Mickey Mouse picture, entitled "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," which when released next fall, will have two kinds of prints, one for use in ordinary movie houses, and the other for showing in those theaters equipped with machinery modern enough to reproduce perfectly the music of a full symphony orchestra.

It's an Experiment

"There are only a handful of the latter kind of theaters in the whole country," he said. "Our new picture admittedly is an experiment, but it is one film which will be readily satisfactory only in those houses properly equipped and staffed to handle it. The other print of the sound track, for use in the majority of cities, sounds like an imitation of the one which will be shown in really modern theaters."

He said that other studios also were beginning to produce sound pictures of high fidelity, which were ruined in the unrolling in a vast majority of theaters.

"That can't go on forever," he said. "A few theaters already have installed the proper equipment, and the public is beginning to flock to them. Other houses will be forced to follow suit."

Dramatizes Dukas Work

"The proper sound amplifiers are necessary, of course, but the man at the controls is more necessary still. Most theaters control the sound from the projection booth, where the operator can't hear it properly, and wouldn't know what to do about it, if he could."

"What there must be in every movie house is a musician sitting in the audience with the sound control dials before him. He must watch the picture before him and he must play upon his amplifiers as he would an organ. There are 18,000 movie theaters in America, and I am certain that before many years have passed, a musician will hold an indispensable job in every one."

The new mouse picture is a cartoon dramatization of "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" by the French composer, Dukas. Mr. Stokowski's orchestra recorded the music, and Mr. Disney will draw the pictures to fit it. His staff now is going full blast on thousands of more colored cartoons which will move in rhythm to Mr. Stokowski's recording.

"If it's a success," Mr. Disney said, "it should give us still another field upon which to work. There are hundreds of musical works which tell stories and what we hope to do is picture them so the eye can see what the ear hears."

Tonight's Presentation at Your Neighborhood Theaters

WEST SIDE	NORTH SIDE
SPEEDWAY Speedway City Double Feature Pat O'Brien "SUBMARINE" "STREET"	ZARING Central 14th Street Double Feature All This Week Ginger Rogers "STAGE DOOR"
HOWARD Howard & Wayne Double Feature Loretta Young "SECOND HONEYMOON" "BIG CITY"	CINEMA 10th & Indiana Double Feature Jean Parker "LIVE BEGINS WITH LOVE" Greta Garbo "CONQUEST"
STATE 202 W. 10th St. Double Feature "LIVE LOVE AND LEARN" "HOOPER'S KIDNEY"	UPTOWN 42nd and College Double Feature "ALL-AMERICAN SWEETHEART" Jeanette MacDonald "FIRE!"
BELMONT Belmont Theatre Double Feature "THE ADVENTURES OF BLONDE" Jeanette MacDonald "FIRE!"	ST. CLAIR St. Clair Theatre Double Feature "BETWEEN TWO WOMEN" Pat O'Brien "SUBMARINE D-1"
DAISY 510 W. Mich. St. Double Feature Frances Farmer "OVER THE HILL" "FEB. YIP"	TALBOT Talbot Theatre Double Feature "VOGUES OF 1938" "IT'S LOVE I'M AFTER"
SOUTH SIDE	R EX Rex Theatre Double Feature "WIFE, DOCTOR AND NURSE" Shirley Temple "HEIDI"
FOUNTAIN SQUARE Fountain Square Double Feature Fred Astaire "DAMSEL IN DISTRESS" "THREE GIRLS IN A CROON"	GARRICK Garrick Theatre Double Feature "LIFE OF THE COUNCIL FOR CRIME"
SANDERS Grand Stratford Theatre Double Feature "MICHAEL O'HALLORAN" Shirley Temple "HEIDI"	BIJOU 111 E. Washington Double Feature "JOIN THE NAVY" "MOVIE PARADES"
GROVE Grove Theatre Double Feature "LIVE LOVE AND LEARN" "MY KID"	PARKER Parker Theatre Double Feature "PRISONER OF ZENDA" Dick Powell "STAGE DOOR"
AVALLON Avalon Theatre Double Feature "SATURDAY NIGHTS" Sonja Henie "MY KID"	RIVOLI Rivoli Theatre Double Feature "NAVY BLUE AND GOLD" Ginger Rogers "STAGE DOOR"
ORIENTAL Oriental Theatre Double Feature "ALL HARA GOES TO TOWN" "TROUBLE AT NIGHT" Joel McCrea "DEAD END"	TACOMA Tacoma Theatre Double Feature "STELLA DALLAS" "LIFE OF THE COUNCIL FOR CRIME"
LINCOLN Lincoln Theatre Double Feature "SHE ASKED FOR IT" Joel McCrea "DEAD END"	TUXEDO Tuxedo Theatre Double Feature "THE AWFUL TRUTH" Jane Withers "FATHERS"
New Garfield New Garfield Theatre Double Feature "SECOND HONEYMOON" Jane Withers "FATHERS"	IRVING Irving Theatre Double Feature "THE AWFUL TRUTH" "FORTY NAUGHTY GIRLS"
NORTH SIDE	HAMILTON Hamilton Theatre Double Feature "THE AWFUL TRUTH" "CORONATION"
MECCA Mecca Theatre Double Feature "LIFE OF THE PARTY" "FLIGHT FROM GLOOM"	GOLDEN Golden Theatre Double Feature "STELLA DALLAS" "PERFECT SPOTLIGHT"
Stratford Stratford Theatre Double Feature "OUTLAWS OF THE ORIENT" Gisela O'Brien	EMERSON Emerson Theatre Double Feature "THE AWFUL TRUTH" "MARCH OF TIME"
DREAM Dream Theatre Double Feature "WINE, WOMEN AND HORSES" Dick Powell "VARIETY SHOW"	STRAND Strand Theatre Double Feature "WIFE, DOCTOR AND NURSE"
RITZ Ritz Theatre Double Feature "NAVY BLUE AND GOLD" "SWING IT, PROFESSOR"	Paramount Paramount Theatre Double Feature "WIFE, DOCTOR AND NURSE"
Hollywood Hollywood Theatre Double Feature "GET ALONG LITTLE DOGGY"	

WHAT, WHEN, WHERE

APOLLO	CIRCLE	INDIANA	LOEW'S	LYRIC	KEITH'S	OHIO	AMBISSADOR	ALAMO
"Hollywood Hotel" with Benny Goodman, Dick Powell, Rosemary Lane, W.C. Fields, 2:45, 5:40 and 9:30. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.	"I Met My Love Again" with Joan Bennett, Henry Edwards, at 12:01, 2:31, 5:01, 7:31 and 10:01. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.	"Happy Landings" with Sonja Henie, Don Ameche, Joan Bennett, at 11:30, 2:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.	"The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.	"The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.	"The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.	"The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.	"The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.	"The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49. "The Jury's Secret" with Fay Wray, at 11:21, 2:27, 5:43 and 9:49.

Autry Involved In Pay Wrangle

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 31 (U. P.).—A salary wrangle today involved Gene Autry, singing cowboy actor, and Republic Studio. Mr. Autry, on personal appearance tour, wired back to Hollywood that theater owners told him that his pictures were being used as a lever to force them to accept inferior films. He said that the tour convinced him that he is so popular he should have more money.

Producer Herbert Yates at Republic said Mr. Autry had two recent raises.

The producer said he would petition for a court injunction halting Mr. Autry's personal appearance tour, which caused all the trouble.

BENNETT FONDA
"I MET MY LOVE AGAIN"

LEE TRACY
"CRASHING HOLLYWOOD"

APOLLO
Benny Goodman & His Swing Band
LORELLA PARSONS
ROSEMARY LANE
ROSEMARY LANE
ROSEMARY LANE
ROSEMARY LANE

INDIANA
SONJA HENIE
DON AMECHE
happy landing
MARCH OF TIME
Fredric March
CECIL B. DE MILLES
THE SULLANEER