

HOLLYWOOD

1940 Was Leap Year, but Leaping
Was Mostly Toward Divorce Court

By PAUL HARRISON
Times Special Writer

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 31.—Maybe 1940 was a Leap Year, as the calendar says; but romantically, most of the leaping was done in the direction of the divorce courts. Never before, not even during its wildest jazz-age adolescence, has Hollywood jumped up such a sorry record.

There have been more divorces in some previous years, but never such an unfavorable balance of divorces people whose names should be familiar to fans who read a lot of movie news, the year brought 33 divorces, 25 marriages. But the ratio becomes 22-to-12 when the list is whittled down to notables known to almost everyone.

Two dissolutions were not surprising, although when Ginger Rogers went to court last March after a four-year separation from Lew Ayres, she managed a few tears as she testified: "He told me to get out, and there was nothing else to do." Constance Bennett omitted her divorce when she put aside her third mate, the Marquis de la Falaise de la Courday.

THERE WERE several break-ups, though, among pairings which the movie colony had begun to consider permanent. Dolores Del Rio and Cedric Gibbons had been together 10 years. After 18 years, Mrs. Roland Young testified her husband had "ceased to care." Director Frank Borzage and Rena Borzage separated on their 24th wedding anniversary. And the Hal Roaches had been married 25 years when she obtained a legal separation.

The shortest period of married happiness was that of Priscilla Lane and Orin Haglund. When she asked a divorce last April it was revealed they had married secretly Jan. 23, 1939, and had separated the next day.

Hedy Lamarr declared that during 15 months of marriage to Gene Markey he spent only four evenings alone with her at home. Gloria Dickson said Percy Westmore would telephone her every morning at 10.

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Lead Gaiety at Hotel



Here are "Frankie and Johnnie" and two members of their band who will entertain New Year's Eve patrons at the Hotel Washington. Frankie is Frank Strange (standing); Johnnie is John Gilliland (center); the others are Bill Morgan (left) and Paul McCurdy.

New Year's Eve Shows
Scheduled All Over Town

Although nobody ever confused Monument Circle with Times Square, there promises to be more bright lights and entertainment for New Year's Eve celebrations along our main stem and byways than in several years.

There will be floor shows in addition to dancing at the Columbia Club, Indianapolis Athletic Club and Athenaeum Turners, among other spots. The Hotel Washington's Sapphire Room will have the dance team of Earl and Josephine Leach in addition to Frankie and Johnnie's Orchestra.

Fred Steele will be holding forth with his orchestra at Tom Devine's Music Hall in the old Academy of Music Building. And downstairs Mr. Devine has further entertainment planned in the smaller and more intimate confines of the Gay Nineties Club.

Many Dances Billed
The Hotel Antlers will have two bands for its patrons and there will be music, dancing and accompanying festivities at such other downtown spots as the Murat, the Indiana Roof and the Crystal Ballroom.

There'll be plenty going on outside the mile square, too. A special dance is scheduled at Chic Myers' Chatterbox Club in Fountain Square. Corky's Orchestra will be at Sky Harbor; Den Zell has Pinky Porter and his band engaged; Chic Raimondo's orchestra will be at the Chicken Loop; the Starline Plantation will have a band and floor show for its guests, and there's also a New Year's party planned at the Bandwagon. William's Variety Serenaders and a floor show are booked at the Lakeshore Country Club.

For those who want to see the Old Year out in an energetic fashion, the Coliseum will have a late skating party continuing into the early part of 1941. And for the celebrants who wish 1941 to find them in a relaxed and temperate state, the downtown movies are all running midnight shows.

Vaudeville to Be Altered
The picture houses will run their regular bills (including the new films opening at Loew's and the Indiana today) with the exception of the Lyric, which will bring in a comedy called "Who Killed Aunt Maggie?" as a special film attraction. The current vaudeville acts will also be altered somewhat to fit the occasion and prevent boredom for those in the audience who may have seen the regular show already.

And it practically goes without saying that there will be midnight burlesque shows at the Fox and Mutual.

Four Shows in One
Some of the neighborhood theaters are planning midnight shows tonight in addition to the rather general policy of a holiday matinee tomorrow.

Certainly the biggest show this evening will be the one offered at the Fountain Square. Not content with a double or even a triple feature, Manager Earl Cunningham has booked four movies and a few assorted shorts, beginning at 7 p. m. and continuing well past 1 a. m.

And as one of the most heartening statements of the waning year, Mr. Cunningham appends the following note to his announcement: "Four features will positively NOT be our policy. This is just for New Year's Eve."

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LIBRARY GETS
MEMORIAL GIFT
OF 304 BOOKS

Collection From Yale Press
Is Given in Honor of
Frederic M. Ayres.

A collection of 304 books, valued at more than \$1100, has been given to the Indianapolis Public Library as a memorial to the late Frederic M. Ayres, Librarian L. L. Dickerson told the School Board last night.

The gift, selected from the publications of the Yale University Press, was made by donors who wished to remain anonymous, Mr. Dickerson said.

In other business before the Board, supply expenses totaling more than \$11,000 were approved. The Board granted four leaves of absence, approved five resignations and named six new school employees.

Set Up Fund For Needy
The Board also approved establishment of a \$1000 Anna E. Wyson Fund for assistance of needy pupils at Shortridge High School.

Accompanying the Frederic M. Ayres Memorial Collection were 350 copies of a specially designed bookplate which reads: "A gift in memory of Frederic M. Ayres of the class of 1892, Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University." Mr. Dickerson told the Board.

From a catalog of publications, the heads of the City library were permitted to make a selection of new volumes from the Yale Press. It was not the aim of the donors, Yale Treasurer George Parly Day wrote Mr. Dickerson, for the collection to be maintained intact in the Central Library, but distributed to the best advantage among the City branches.

Display Scheduled
At the suggestion of Mr. Day, however, that the collection be displayed intact for a while, it will be at the Central Library during the week of Jan. 13. Anyone desiring, may make reservations for any of the books exhibited at the Central Library, Mr. Dickerson said.

"Without exception," Mr. Dickerson said, "the books received are of unusual interest and importance. I think it is one of the best collections of 300 volumes that could be selected today."

Particularly noteworthy are two outstanding publications of histories of America of all times: "The Pageant of America" in 15 volumes and "The Chronicles of America" in 50 volumes. The entire collection is of an unusually useful and practical nature.

2 Members Honored
The fact that it was given in memory of Frederic M. Ayres makes it doubly welcome to this library.

The School Board paid tribute to two members, John P. White and Earl Buchanan, who were attending their last meeting as members after four-year terms.

They will be replaced by Theodore Locke and Roscoe Conkle, who were elected in 1938.

DeWitt S. Morgan, Schools Superintendent, recommended the opening of an additional session of the Emergency Industrial Training Schools as part of the National Defense Training Program at Manual Training, Tech, Crispus Attucks and Washington High Schools.

The Anna E. Wyson bequest was given to Shortridge High School by Mrs. Verma Wyson Bright from the proceeds of her mother's will in return for the School Board's promise of a waiver of the original will which bequeathed all her properties to the School Board after certain contingencies were met.

New Appointments
New appointments were Mrs. Edith B. Griffin, acting librarian; Hazel Jane Hall and Marjorie L. Jesse, grade teachers; Marjorie Anne Lawson, social worker; and Dorothy Perdue and Bonnie Goth, social service clerks.

Resignations accepted were those of Isabel Garrison and Marion Saylor Masaracha, librarians; Elizabeth Karsell, social service worker, and Elizabeth Harker and Leatrice Collins, social service clerks.

Leaves were granted to Phyllis L. Jones, school nurse; Louise Hocken, social service clerk; Wanda Johnson, grade teacher, and Judith Soltenberger, library assistant.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 31 (U. P.).—Showing of German-made motion pictures, however innocent the purpose, is a "means for fomenting hatred, criticism and enmity," the Superior Court held today in upholding the right of two theater owners to cancel a lease.

The theater proprietors, Dr. Peter Riccardi and Roger Rogers, canceled the lease which permitted Franz K. Perenz use of their theater. They charged he had been exhibiting German propaganda in films furnished at no cost by the German consulate.

Superior Judge Clement L. Shinn in denying Mr. Perenz \$19,000 damages and return of control of the theater, said the pictures shown by Mr. Perenz tended to cause strife and dissatisfaction among different groups and therefore were detrimental.

6000 TO PAY INTO
'BUNDLES' FUND
HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 31 (U. P.).—Reservations for the "Bundles for British" program tomorrow night indicate that more than 6000 persons will pay from \$1 to \$3 into a fund for the British War Relief Committee.

The charity program will be broadcast nationally over the NBC-Blue network. Among film and radio stars participating will be Ronald Colman, Spencer Tracy, Jack Benny, Mickey Rooney, Claudette Colbert, Brian Donlevy and Myrna Loy.

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Map Paralysis Fight



Plans for the state's participation in the national fight against infantile paralysis are mapped by Mrs. W. D. Keenan (left), newly appointed vice director of the Woman's Division of the Indiana Committee; Mrs. George W. Jaqua, newly named director of the division; and Don F. Silver, Indiana state chairman for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

50 Groups in County Plan
Dances to Honor President

With President Roosevelt's birthday, Jan. 30, just a month away, more than 50 county organizations have announced they will celebrate the event by sponsoring benefits, funds to go to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Meanwhile, Don F. Silver, state chairman of the Indiana committee, announced that Keith Morgan, national chairman of the "Fight Infantile Paralysis" campaign, will be a luncheon guest here next Tuesday and will deliver a radio address.

Governor-elect Henry F. Schrick, local and state fund leaders and dignitaries from Kentucky will be guests at the luncheon at the Indianapolis Athletic Club.

20 Dances Scheduled
Mr. Morgan will be accompanied here on his nation-wide air tour by George W. Johnston, chairman of the national radio committee, and Tom Wrigley, national publicity director.

More than 20 dances already have been scheduled by the Marion County chapter on the date of the President's birthday, Jan. 30.

Other affairs, to be held from Jan. 13 to Jan. 30, include card parties, basketball games and other athletic contests.

Fifty per cent of the funds collected will be allocated to the Riley Hospital, the James E. Roberts School for Crippled Children, School 26 for Colored Crippled Children and the City Hospital. The rest will be sent to the National Foundation.

Dances and Sponsors
The dances and their sponsors already scheduled are:

American Legion, Legion Auxiliary and the Knights of Columbus at the K. of C. auditorium.

B'Nai B'rith and the Jewish Federated Men's and Women's Clubs of Indianapolis at the Riley Room, Claypool Hotel. The Riley Room will be donated for the evening by the B'Nai B'rith.

The South Side Turners and the South Side Indianapolis Civic and Business Men's Clubs at the South Side Turners Hall.

The Central Labor Union, affiliated with the A. F. of L., at the Indiana Hotel.

The Joint Colored Organizations of Indianapolis, at the Walker Casino.

The Shriner of Indianapolis and city, county and state administrations, at the Murat Temple.

C. Y. O. at Hoosier Club
The Catholic Youth Organization of Indianapolis, at the Hoosier Athletic Club.

The Syrian Lebanese American Brotherhood at the Brotherhood Hall, 2245 Riverside Drive.

The Loyal Order of Moose and Women of the Moose at the Moose Hall, 135 N. Delaware St.

The 50-50 Club, Inc., at the 50-50 Club Hall, 211 N. Delaware St.

The Indianapolis Saengerbund, at the Saengerbund Hall, 49½ S. Delaware St.

The West Indianapolis Civic Clubs under the sponsorship of Tony Flack, at Municipal Gardens.

Deacatur Central, Warren Central, Speedway, Southport and New Bethel high schools.

Skating at Coliseum
A dance also will be held by junior members of the Bruce P. Robinson Post, American Legion, Saturday, Jan. 25, at 4141 College Ave., under the sponsorship of Mrs. Fred C. Haselberg.

Other affairs planned are ice skating at the Coliseum, wrestling matches at the National Guard Armory and a dance at the South Shore Country Club.

The Women's Division of the Marion County chapter has planned an event Wednesday, Jan. 29. Junior groups wishing to sponsor

Photography—
KODAK ISSUES
POSITIVE FILM

Fast, Direct Panchromatic
Emulsion to Be Boon for
Slide Projector.

Here's something that no doubt will be received with cheers by the owners of small slide projectors. Eastman has just brought out a new fast Kodak Direct Positive Panchromatic film. When you shoot it you get a positive picture instead of a negative.

You have to use Eastman's special soup for processing but you don't have to flash it in the light to reverse it. You just develop as usual. It comes in eight-exposure rolls for Kodak Bantam cameras and in 36-exposure magazines for 35 mm cameras. It is of 50 Weston speed in daylight, 40 Weston tungsten, and is a type C pan, with the same filter factors as for other Kodak type C pan films.

With this film you can make not only positive shots for projection, but you can make copies of charts, paintings, photographic prints.

'Winter Pictures' Contest
The Bell Telephone Camera Club will hold a "winter pictures" contest at the Jan. 14 meeting in the old Washington Exchange Building, 40th St. and Central Ave. Members may enter any number of prints (winter scenes, holiday shots, etc.) of any size, mounted or unmounted.

OUR service is an understanding arrangement that not only comforts but offers convenience and courtesy.

G. H. HERRMANN
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1505 S. East St. DR-4477

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