



Social Problem, Organized Crime, Love Story Among First-Run Movie Subjects

By HICK MITTMAN
A glaring social problem, a movie dealing with organized crime, a poignant love story, "Lost Continent," Times preview another week of the Roman of the week, starring Cesar Romero.

Social Problem

Who is to blame for juvenile delinquency?

Many sociologists put their finger on the parents. "On the Loose" (Circle, Tuesday) is the case of a teen-age girl, who, through parental neglect, becomes a brazen young lady.

The selfish, thoughtless parents are played by Lynn Bari and Melvyn Douglas. Their daughter is portrayed by Joan Evans.

"The Racket" also opens on Tuesday at the Indiana. It features Robert Mitchum and Robert Ryan.

Cornel Wilde and Merle Oberon are played by Lynn Bari and Melvyn Douglas. Their daughter is portrayed by Joan Evans.

Miss Evans, like any young person, wants love and affection.

Taylor and Deborah Kerr, con- Since her mom and dad are too involved in their own social affairs to fulfill this craving, she has to go elsewhere.

When her boy friend Robert Arthur gives her the brush off, Joan seeks vengeance by running around with the least reputable boys in the high school. She gains a bad reputation which leads to a bitter row at home. Believing herself not wanted by all, Joan attempts suicide. It is then that her mother and father see the light. Although almost too late, they try to straighten out the lives of their daughter and their own.

The pressbook bills "The Racket" (Indiana, Tuesday) as a film taken from a Broadway play with timely significance.

The film deals with gangsters and political corruption, which seem to go hand-in-hand.

Starring roles go to Robert Mitchum, a police captain that money won't buy (this picture isn't a comedy) and

screenwriters Katherine Albert and Dale Evans. Her first movie, usual role of a night club singer, at the age of 14, was a star.

Although the picture is taken

from a 1926 stage play by Bartlett Cormack, it has a special sequence inserted which ties it in with the crime investigating committee headed by Sen. Estes Kefauver.

Ryan and Mitchum make quite a reversal in this movie. Ryan, usually billed as the honest but rugged hero, is the villain. Mitchum switches from his role of a character who is none too choosey about his way of making a livelihood to the hero.

Lis Scott is the gal who "spills the beans" and enables Mitchum to trap Ryan.

Immortal Love

The love story between a great novelist and an equally great composer is told in a reprint, "A

Song to Remember" (Esquire, Fri-

iday).

The author is pants-wearing George Sand and the song writer is immortal Frederic Chopin. Portraying Mme. Sand is Merle Oberon. Chopin is enacted by Cornel Wilde. The other principal character — that of Prof. Joseph Elsner, Chopin's music master — is played by Paul Muni.

Chopin becomes enchanted with Mme. Sand when she is the only critic who gives a favorable review of his first concert in Paris.

Mme. Sand finds she must over-

come loves of three different kinds to gain his complete affections.

She must conquer his love for

Constantia (Nina Foch), his sweet heart; love for music and

love for his native Poland. These

other influences proved to be an

impossible barrier for her to Nero's palace; a complete section

of Rome as it appeared 2000 years ago; a bridge capable of supporting 5000 persons fleeing from burning Rome.

Filmed in technicolor, the movie has 18 of Chopin's most famous tunes blended through it. Wilde took 66 hours of piano lessons and practiced even longer to acquire the necessary technical proficiency.

Costuming was another gigantic task. In Italy, as in other foreign countries, many firms contract for the work and then parcel it out to housewives throughout Italy. This system was used in making "Quo Vadis."

Thirty-two thousand costumes were utilized in the film. It took more than 52,000 yards of cloth to make the array. There were more than 15,000 hand-sewn sandals and 13,000 pieces of jewelry.

Soldiers' armor consisted of 4000 brass, aluminum and tin helmets, 4000 breastplates, 2000 shields and 21,700 water bottles.

'Lost Continent'



An atomic powered rocket disappears over the Pacific out of radar range in "Lost Continent" (Lyric, Tues.). Scientists John Hoyt (left) and Hugh Beaumont (center) ask permission to seek the ship. Cesar Romero is ordered to fly the group in its search.

Romero warns his party to watch the Geiger counter for they are nearing the spot the rocket disappeared. Suddenly the plane spins out of control and crashes on an uncharted island. A young native girl tells of a "fire-bird" which plummeted into a nearby mountain.

The group starts its perilous climb toward the peak through thick overhanging clouds. First sign of what is ahead comes when Hoyt spots a gigantic lizard. The initial victim of the climb is Dr. Briggs (Whit Bissell) who loses his hold and falls to his death.

At the top, a prehistoric animals unfolds to the party. After a dangerous trek they find the rocket under attack by these huge beasts. The animals are diverted while the flight recording mechanism is extracted.

Willie Tatlow (Sid Melton) is gored by a triceratops leaving four in the party. They hurry their descent as a earth tremor begins. At the bottom they paddle to a safe distance to watch the uranium deposit on the island explode.