

## Action Drama Of Desert War Next at Keith's

Melville Cooper Seen With Henry Fonda In "Immortal Sergeant"

The Germans, of course, didn't realize it at the time, but when they wounded and captured Melville Cooper, an officer in the Seaford Highlanders in World War I, they were deciding his profession for him.

They made an actor out of him. Now portraying a British desert fighter in 20th Century-Fox's picture of John Brophy's "Immortal Sergeant," opening tomorrow at Keith's, Cooper recalls his debt of gratitude to the Kaiser's men.

"In prison camp there was nothing to do except think about how hungry we were. To get our minds off our woes, some other chaps and I would put on improvised shows, mostly revues.

"We were captives for almost a year, and, of course, had plenty of time in which to do nothing. As events proved, however, that time could hardly be called wasted. For, on getting his freedom at the close of the war, Cooper made a vocation of acting—his prison avocation.

Cooper was seen in "Life Begins at 4:30" at the Paramount last week as the ne'er-do-well friend of Monty Woolley. In "Immortal Sergeant," he appears with Henry Fonda, Maureen O'Hara, Thomas Mitchell, Allyn Joslyn and Reginald Gardiner.

Set in North Africa, the film depicts events typical of the action which has led to the rout of Rome. It is reportedly the first picture of desert warfare, and in its stark realism shows many of the hardships men of the United Nations are facing.

Lamar wrote the script from the Brophy novel and produced the picture. Direction is by John Stahl.

## Gala Musical Due at Eckel

"Yankee Doodle Dandy" Features Joan Leslie

At 15 Joan Leslie, once better known to her home town, Detroit, as Joan Brodel, the youngest of three daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Brodel of Highland Park, Mich., was a leading lady.

At 16 she was listed among the roster of Warner Brothers stars, the most promising of their discoveries of the past year.

By appearing opposite Gary Cooper in "Sergeant York," Miss Leslie won her right to be considered important in the world of make-believe.

Since that achievement Miss Leslie has spent a year as the "Sun Goddess" of Southern California, selected for that honor from a large list of contestants, has completed a role as Olivia de Havilland's younger sister in "The Male Animal," and now plays the leading feminine role opposite Jimmy Cagney in the life story of George M. Cohan, "Yankee Doodle Dandy," which opens a holdover run at the Eckel tomorrow. She plays the part of stage-struck girl named Mary, whom George M. Cohan marries. She is also the inspiration for the song, "Mary's a Grand Old Name."

The entire Brodel family is in Hollywood, aiding and abetting Joan's career. They have worked together as a family since this youngest of the three daughters was 2½ years old. They have recently bought the house in which they have lived since reaching Hollywood, a house that is located in the San Fernando Valley, not far from the Warner studio, where both Joan and her sister, Mary Brodel, are under contract. The house is being remodeled to suit the three girls, Mary, Betty and Joan, as a permanent California home.

Joan, who has earned her right to be known as one of the most promising of the new discoveries of the past year, intends to "carry on" from there.

## New Mystery Thriller For Jacques Tourneur

One of Hollywood's newest producer-director combinations is continued with RKO Radio's announcement that Jacques Tourneur will direct Producer Val Lewton's next picture, "The Seventh Victim."

"Now filming the weird mystery, 'The Leopard Man,' the Lewton-Tourneur combination already has to its credit the current box office phenomena, 'Cat People,' the not-yet released 'I Walked With a Zombie,' all characterized by a subtle, psychological treatment of horror themes. No castings have been announced thus far for 'The Seventh Victim,' which is scheduled for spring production.

## "Mrs. Mussolini"

Grace Hayle, who portrayed Mrs. Mussolini in Charles Chaplin's "The Great Dictator," has been cast by Paramount in "Let's Face It," current musical starring Bob Hope and Betty Hutton.

MAUREEN O'HARA stars with Henry Fonda in "Immortal Sergeant," based on the novel by James Brophy, which opens tomorrow at Keith's.

## Metro Acquires Rights to Saga Of "Susie Q"

Robert Z. Leonard And O. O. Dull Plan Air Epic

By LOUELLA O. PARSONS  
Hollywood, March 10.—The famed and fabled "Susie Q," the fighting-airship of them all, is coming to the movies in all her glory. After research of nearly four months, Ralph Wheelwright has written a story that has the approval of Uncle Sam, which means the movie will start rolling soon at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio. The "Susie Q," as every school child knows, is the heroine of the 19th Bombardment Group, the only fighting force ever decorated as a unit—not once, but four times.

To the crew who manned "Susie," and to those of the companion planes that flew with her, she is a heroine as real and beloved as a gallant woman. She was named after the wife of the pilot, Lieut. Col. Felix Hardison, and the Hardisons' real life romance, their baby and their home life, will furnish an integral part of the story. Every step of the "Susie Q's" life, including her building, will be highlighted in the movie, which Robert Z. Leonard and O. O. Dull will coproduce.

Thought I had heard wrong when Sol Wurtzel told me that he is going to star in Laurel and Hardy's "By Jupiter," I had never thought 20th would spend that kind of money to buy a smash Broadway hit for Laurel and Hardy, who usually write their own movie stories, or should I say, gags? But it turns out that 20th is really just re-inheriting "The Warrior's Husband," which belonged to them all along—and here's how: When Rogers and Hart were preparing to write the musical, "By Jupiter," they asked permission to use the plot of "The Warrior's Husband," which starred K. Hepburn on the stage, and which 20th Century-Fox bought. Permission was granted, with the reservation that after the run of "By Jupiter," the rights would revert to the studio. Compre?

Brenda Joyce's first picture, since the birth of her baby, will be made on the Republic lot, and not at her alma mater, 20th Century-Fox. Republic has borrowed Mrs. Owen Ward (Brenda to you) for the top female role in "Thumbs Up," a musical revolving about a defense plant in England. Elsa Lancaster, who is such a good actress she doesn't need to be identified as Charlie Laughton's wife, also has a good role in the same movie. Speaking of Brenda, she's all broken up over the death of her pet pooch, who was hit by a hit-and-run driver. The little dog ran out in the street when Brenda was out walking with the baby.

You can look to see some very big Greer-Garson pictures in 1945. "Drivin' Woman," Elizabeth Pickens Chevalier's best selling novel, which was bought for Greer months ago, is to be produced on a lavish scale. Mrs. Chevalier, the former Elizabeth Pickens, worked as production assistant to Winfield Sheehan at the old Fox Company some years ago. She worked on her book for 14 years before it was finally accepted by a publisher. In many ways, it is as good a book as "Gone With the Wind," and while the character Greer will play is entirely different from anything she has heretofore attempted, she will make it interesting, that is sure.

## Early Release

In order to exploit the topical nature of the picture by taking advantage of public interest in North Africa, Paramount is setting up an early release date on "Five Graves to Cairo," which Producer Charles Brackett just completed. Billy Wilder, who with Brackett constituted a top writing team for many years, directed.

## Flaming Drama!

Tense with the male...  
...allure that made the...  
...the talk of...  
...the love they kind...  
...Woman of the Y...  
...is really blazing...  
...now!

## Hepburn-Tracy Mystery Drama Loew's-Bound

"Keeper of the Flame" Last Film for Duration For George Cukor

"Keeper of the Flame," romantic mystery drama, starring Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy, which opens tomorrow at Loew's, was the last picture directed by George Cukor before he enlisted in the Army as a private.

Marking the close for the duration of the director's 12-year Hollywood record, the film also reunited Cukor with Katharine Hepburn, whose first picture ("A Bill of Divorcement") he directed. It was the first occasion in which he had worked with Tracy.

Concerning his directorial swansong, Cukor commented: "The screen is a powerful factor for the expression of those ideas in which we believe and today are fighting for. 'Keeper of the Flame' is not only a suspenseful mystery story, but through the role of a foreign correspondent, played by Tracy, it gave us opportunity to speak the truths of democracy and Americanism."

George Cukor was born in New York City, where his father, Victor Cukor, was an assistant district attorney. He attended public schools and was graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School.

The event of World War I prevented him from plunging immediately into the effort to fulfill his ambition to be a stage director. He enlisted and served with the Student Army Training Corps.

Following the Armistice, he became assistant stage manager for a Chicago company, then signed with Edgar Selwyn in the same capacity, and later went with the Shubert brothers.

In 1926 he became associated with Gilbert Miller and Charles Frohman, directing such stage stars as Elsie Ferguson, Marjorie Rambeau, Jeanne Eagles and Ethel Barrymore.

He made no effort to do motion picture work until the introduction of sound. Then he became a dialogue director, later winning to a full directorship.

Among his screen successes are counted "The Philadelphia Story,"

KATHARINE HEPBURN, who starred with Spencer Tracy in "Woman of the Year," is reunited with her former team-mate in "Keeper of the Flame," due tomorrow at Loew's.

"A Woman's Face," "Romeo and Juliet," "David Copperfield," "Dinner at Eight" and a score of others.

## New Aldrich Comedy For Jimmy Lydon

Rejected when he offered his services both as a naval aviator and as an Army truck private, owing to an injury suffered during his childhood, 19-year-old Jimmy Lydon will continue to portray Henry Aldrich on the screen, and Paramount now is preparing "Henry Aldrich Takes Over" as his next picture.

In it, Henry as boy mayor of the town of Centerville, will give it an amusing and lively administration, Lydon, who has three soldier brothers in the thick of the fighting, recently completed "Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid," with a cast including Dianna Lynn, Charlie Smith, Vera Vague, John Lital, Olive Blakeney, Barbara Pepper and Vaughan Glaser.

## Girl Scouts To Note 31st Anniversary

Many Parties and Rallies to Be Held in County March 12

More than 50 anniversary parties and rallies are to be held by Girl Scout troops in Syracuse and throughout the county in celebration of March 12, the 31st anniversary of the founding of Girl Scouting in the United States, it was announced today by Mrs. Harris Hiscock, Girl Scout Commissioner.

Nationwide plans for the celebration include the opening of a campaign to enlist more adult volunteer leaders, in which the Onondaga Council of Girl Scouts is making plans to take part.

"It is appropriate to combine a campaign for troop leaders with a celebration of the day, 31 years ago, when Juliette Low organized the first Girl Scout troop," Mrs. Hiscock said. "After 31 years, we know what Girl Scouting means to, and does for, the girls. We believe we can do a real wartime job for our country by opening Girl Scout training to even more girls than are now enrolled. To do this we need the services and support of many more adults."

Pointing out that present adult membership of 640 is pressed to carry on the activities of nearly 3,000 girls, Mrs. Hiscock said there were many more girls who would like to be Girl Scouts if they could. She said many more leaders would be needed to enlarge the Girl Scout organization locally to include all the girls who want to join.

The following members of the Girl Scout Council will serve on the committee for this leadership campaign: Mrs. Glendon R. Lewis, Mrs. Ruth Schroeder, Mrs. William Martin, and Mrs. J. E. Yarwood.

All-Star Benefit  
All profits from the U. S. distribution of the all-star "Forever and a Day" will be given to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and the Los Angeles Community Chest, it was announced yesterday.

## Islander on St. Lawrence Inducted by Coast Guard



INDUCTED into the Coast Guard on his birthday yesterday, Lawrence Brienbach, right, is being shown a small arms chart by Seaman N. S. Valentine.

Lawrence Brienbach, who lives on Maple Island in the Thousand Island group off Alexandria Bay, got a birthday present yesterday he didn't expect.

He was inducted into the United States Coast Guard and will report for training and service in seven days.

A student at Olivet Technical College, Olivet, Mich., Brienbach's number came up for induction and he came back East to report.

He had planned on seeking service in the Coast Guard and yesterday was his 19th birthday.

Yesterday he reported at the induction center and suddenly discovered he had been selected for the branch of service he desired—all without even making the request.

"Boy was I surprised and am I happy," he told Seaman N. S. Valentine of the Coast Guard at the center. "This is the best birthday I've had."

The youthful inductee lives with his father on Maple Island, one of the smaller islands in the group and to reach home he has to trek across seven miles of ice to reach the islet. In the summer the going is more pleasant for he does the seven miles on the blue St. Lawrence River is a fast run-about.

Miller Musical  
Eighteen musical numbers will be featured in "What's Buzzin' Cousin?" Ann Miller's next musical at Columbia. The film will be produced by Jack Fier and directed by Al Green. Nick Castle is supervising the dances.

Hayworth's Next  
Sonya Levien, has been assigned to do the script for the forthcoming Technicolor musical, "The Cover Girl." Shooting is scheduled to get under way May 1, with Rita Hayworth in the starring role and 15 of the country's best known "cover" girls in the cast, Arthur Schwartz will produce.

Role for Errol  
Leon Errol draws a top comedy spot in "Higher and Higher," screen version of the Rodgers and Hart musical comedy, which Producer-Director Tim Whelan sends before the cameras shortly at RKO Radio. Errol joins a cast which includes Michele Morgan, Marcy McGuire and Frank Sinatra.

Bergman Signs  
Director Sam Wood this week recorded Ingrid Bergman singing a French Creole song for her role of Clio in "Saratoga Trunk," which Wood is directing for Producer Hal Wallis at Warner Brothers. Gary Cooper is playing the lead opposite Miss Bergman.

## THE NEIGHBORHOOD THEATERS' HIT Parade

ACME 209  
Butternut St.  
"PRISONER OF JAPAN"  
With Alan Baxter, Gertrude Michael  
"LAUGH YOUR BLUES AWAY"  
With Bert Gordon, Margaret Lindsay,  
John Beal  
Thurs.: "The Navy Comes Through"  
Plus "Miss Polly"

ALCAZAR Oakwood Ave.  
at Baynor  
George Sanders, Herbert Marshall in  
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Cofeature  
Kay Harris, Marjorie Chapman in  
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Short: "The Stork's Mistake"

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Today and Thursday  
Orson Welles' Production of Booth  
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With Joseph Cotton, Dolores Costello  
"SWEATER GIRL"  
With Eddie Bracken  
Latest News and Cartoon

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Today at 6:30 P. M.  
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The first complete motion picture ever  
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Take a pleasant walk to the Cameo and  
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With Bud Duncan, Edgar Kennedy  
—Also—  
Charles Winninger, Nancy Kelly in  
"REBELS ENSEMBLE"  
Sun.: "You Were Never Lovelier" and  
"Tarzan's New York Adventure"

ELMWOOD 128  
South Ave.  
Errol Flynn, Ronald Reagan in  
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—Also—  
Leo Carrillo, Andy Devine in  
"TIMBER"

GLOBE 710  
Kirkepatrick St.  
"BOMBS OVER BURMA"  
With Anna May Wong, Noel Madison,  
Leslie Denison  
—Plus—  
"THE OLD HOMESTEAD"  
With Weaver Brothers and Elvira  
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John Wayne, Harry Carey  
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"THAT OTHER WOMAN"  
James Ellison, Virginia Gilmore  
Plus "Alec" Short Subject

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Last Day  
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Micki Rooney, Judy Garland,  
Virginia Walker in  
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—Also—  
"STRANGE CASE OF DR. X"  
Coming Sunday: "Waka Island" Also  
Every Sunday Night, Admission 40c.

TURN HALL 610  
N. Salina St.  
"THE FALCON'S NEST"  
George Sanders, Tom Conway  
—Also—  
"WILLIE WALKER"  
Ole Hansen, Edna Boner

LAST DAY—"HITLER'S CHILDREN"  
and "LADY BODDYARD"

YANKEE DOODLE DANDY  
FIRST TIME AT  
THEATRE PRICES

James Cagney  
with JOAN LESLIE • WALTER HUSTON • EDWARD BRODIE • ROSS HART

"FALL IN" with William Tracy, Joe Sawyer

Open 10:45 A. M.  
STARTS TOMORROW 30c Till 5

TODAY—LAST TIMES!  
Ann Sothern, Melvyn Douglas  
"Three Hearts for Julia"  
—Plus—  
"Reveille With Beverly"

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