# "Song of China," Authentic Film Booked at Church

The "Song of China" which will be shown at the First Methodist church Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 8 p. m., is unique in that it is the first feature motion picture ever made in the Orient that has adjudged worthy of popular American consumption. Hitherto the extent of the showings of the Chinese importations have been the "Chinatowns" of the nation.

Douglas MacLean, one-time famed comedian of the screen, and now a producer for one of the leading motion picture companies, saw "Song of China" while traveling through the Orient several months ago. He was so intrigued with its dignity, charm and true beauty, that he immediately entered into negotiations with Lo Ming-yau, director-producer, for the world rights. Arrangements were finally concluded and the picture returned to Hollywood in MacLean's possession. There he screened "Song of China" for leading motion picture executives, all of whom unanimously concurred with MacLean in his judgement.

Told with great simplicity and restraint that is characteristic of the ancient nation, the story reflects the conflict between the old and new social customs and standards, and the breaking down of the traditional Chinese heritage with Western civilization. Drawn from the deep store-house of her wisdom, this is the finest expression of the art and philosophy of a nation little known. It remained for the motion picture as a medium to convey this understanding of the soul of a people, too long hidden away from Occidentals.

The public is invited to the local showing when a free will offering will be taken.


**LOMITA THEATRE**

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Fri., Sat., Sept. 3, 4
"CAFE METROPOLE" and "TRAPPED"
Charley Chase Comedy

Sun., Mon., Tue., Sept. 5, 6, 7
Continuous Labor Day
"PICK A STAR" and Pat O'Brien in "SLIM"

Wed., Thurs., Sept. 8, 9
Norma Shearer, Leslie Howard in
"ROMEO AND JULIET"
also "MEET THE MISSUS"
Free Glassware to the Ladies Both Nights


## Construction of New Theatre in Redondo Resumes

Actual construction work on the new theatre to be located at the corner of Torrance boulevard and South Catalina avenue in Redondo Beach was resumed this week following several weeks' delay since it was excavated. The delay was caused by a desire of the Pacific States Theatres, Inc., to clear a slight cloud on the property's title, it was explained by R. R. Freeman, representative of the theatre concern.

This happened because years ago Redondo Beach started condemnation proceedings against property owners in the block between Torrance boulevard and Pearl street to have an alley opened in the rear. When this appeared on the books of the title insurance company, word was brought to Redondo Beach to have the condemnation proceedings abandoned.

Freeman took the matter up with City Attorney Frank L. Perry and the suit was dropped. This action clears the title to the Pacific States Theaters, Inc. Freeman expects from now on that the work will be rushed.

# PAT O'BRIEN STARRED IN PRISON FILM

Those who like their movie-men rugged and strong—plenty of good if they're good and plenty of bad if they are so inclined—are due for a treat today, when the First National melodrama "San Quentin" opens at the Plaza theatre tonight.

On the good side the fans will see Pat O'Brien, which ought to be satisfactory enough. He's the Captain of the Yard in San Quentin. On the bad side they'll have Humphrey Bogart and Joseph Sawyer as a couple of tough prisoners, plus big Barton McLane as a crooked jail official.

But the picture isn't altogether masculine. For sweetness and light there's that lovely red-headed leading woman, Ann Sheridan, as a San Francisco night-club singer with whom Pat falls in love.

It's far from being a gloomy picture, preview observers declare, in spite of the fact that a lot of action is behind the walls of the ancient penitentiary on the shore of San Francisco Bay. There are no execution and no death-house scenes.

Others in the cast besides those mentioned include Veda Ann Borg, Joseph King, James Robbins and Gordon Oliver. Also on the same bill is "Pinky Tomlin in "Sing While You're Able."

## Bad Men Reunited In 'San Quentin'

Six years ago, Barton MacLane and Marc Lawrence, two screen villains, played together on the New York stage in "The Tree." Recently they worked together again—in the First National production, "San Quentin," which is opening tonight at the Torrance theatre. MacLane plays the part of a brutal prison official in the film, in which Pat O'Brien is starred.

## Strohs Enjoy Tour Of Pacific Northwest

Capt. John Stroh, his wife and son, Jay R., returned last week from a 3,100-mile motor tour to Seattle and Yakima where they visited friends and relatives. Enroute home they stopped for another visit in Waterford, California, with friends. The Strohs were delighted with the scenic attractions of the Evergreen Playground of the northwest.

### TO FIGHT DISEASE

The state of California, empowered by the 1937 legislature and equipped with $150,000 in state funds, is under way in its drive to eradicate venereal diseases.

## A Fond Farewell for This Marine

It was like a return to World War days in San Diego recently as 1300 marines embarked for duty in war-torn China. In the scene at the left, Miss Mildred Maxwell leans out and kisses her sweetheart goodby as his transport pulls away from the pier.

## Film Sparkles With Youth, Love, Laughter

Youth and romance are seldom far apart. Youth also is a period of trial and error, with experience moulded on mistakes, out of which may come happiness or downright misery, according to the toss of fate.

It is such a theme as this, in which romance and potential tragedy are skillfully blended with occasional comedy relief, that motivates the plot of "Girl Loves Boy," which opens at the Rex theatre in Hawthorne Sunday with Eric Linden and Cecilia Parker in the starring roles.

The picture tells a story of two young lovers who are kept apart because of a foolish escapade on the boy's part. He finds himself in the clutches of an adventuress and his efforts to escape her toils forms a dramatic and intensely human document. It all ends happily, of course, but in a surprising and most exciting manner.

## Rolling Hills Rural Postal Station Opens

Several hundred "first day cachets" were received at the new Rolling Hills station for dispatching yesterday when the station was opened by Postmaster Birda Paddock of Lomita. Collectors submitted the envelopes and when they are received back will add a choice item to their accumulation of "firsts."

The special envelopes bore the inscription "Fly your mail" with a picture of a bird over the slogan: "It's a Bird of an Idea." The covers also announced: "Live in Lomita and enjoy a Garden . . . with the Lowest Water Rate in California."

All supplies for the Rolling Hills Station were received in time to open it on schedule. Miss Winnifred Meadows Williams is clerk of the station.

### Fashion Tip

Sequin trim for daytime and evening is shown in fireworks colors in Paris collections.

## Townsend Club Activities

Everyone is invited to the Labor Day picnic, Sept. 6, at the city park to be given by the local Townsend club in honor of the homecoming (from Washington, D. C.) of E. E. McDonald, president of the 17th Congressional district Townsend organization.

Last Thursday evening more than 200 attended an interesting meeting of the local club in the Elementary school auditorium. Coffee and doughnuts were served afterwards. In addition to the local members present there were Mr. and Mrs. French, members of the congressional board; Mr. and Mrs. Wells of Lomita, each heading a delegation of members from their clubs; E. E. McDonald told of his trip to Washington and his visit with Congressman Charles J. Colden and presenting the representative with 1,500 letters from this district asking for his cooperation in forwarding the progress of the Townsend bill, known as the General Welfare Act, H. R. 4199.

The principal speaker was Herbert L. Sweet of the Speakers' board. His topic was "The Townsend Movement Changing Leadership." He was decisively against any such change, stating that "it is quite impossible to eliminate the name of Townsend and that it cannot be separated from the movement nor do we want to lose the man Townsend from the 'Plan', the idea which he created and is working so assiduously for."

### Rabbits Doom Section

ADELAIDE (U.P.)—The rabbit, originally imported from England, has doomed parts of South Australia for all time.

# Chinese Signs Direct Extras On "Location"

Strange road signs appeared along all highways leading from Los Angeles and Hollywood during the filming of "The Good Earth" which opens Sunday at the Torrance theatre. Painters fashioned several hundred of these at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios.

They were signs in Chinese, directing traffic to the 500-acre location near Chatsworth that was used in filming "The Good Earth" with Paul Muni and Luise Rainer. A special Labor Day matinee and continuous show from 2 p. m., is announced here.

Hundreds of Chinese were employed. Many of them were unable to read English, hence the regular road signs were supplemented by signs in Cantonese, Pekinese, and Mongolian ideographs for their guidance.

### Brought From China

All the hillsides were terraced out and planted, just as is done in China, where the farmers cut narrow shelves into the hills to walk on and thus plant produce even on the steepest of grades.

A stream or small river was dug through the center of the location, lined with stones after the Chinese fashion. Water wheels, brought from China, and operated by the water buffalo, supplied a complete irrigation system.

The wheels were bought from a North China farmer, together with all his implements and household goods, and shipped with thousands of other properties to the studio. Native plows, harrows, flails for grain, barrows, hoes, and other crude implements were authentic. All were used for years in China before being purchased by the screen expedition that last year visited the Orient.

## Music Program is Kiwanis Attraction

Members of the Kiwanis enjoyed a music program Monday night when Harry Alcorn, program chairman, presented his daughter, Mrs. Olive Ann Singer, talented singer, and her accompanist, Mrs. Juliette Johnson. The songs and music were greatly appreciated by the club. Ray Begue will be program chairman at the next club meeting, which will be Monday, Sept 13.

## Tires and Wheels Stripped Off Car

Two tires and wheels were removed from Joe Palazzola's car while it was parked Tuesday night on a vacant lot opposite the Columbia Steel plant, the owner, who lives in San Pedro, reported to police that night.

### Nudists Open Tea Shops

LONDON (U.P.)—Enthusiasts of nudism have provided the Home Office and the police with a vexing problem. In and around London nudists have opened tea shops and clubs.

### MUSEUM POPULAR

The Cabrillo Beach Marine Museum, on the city beach at the foot of the Los Angeles Harbor breakwater, is attracting many visitors. Exhibits include fine collections of shells and fossils, strange fisa ranging from tiny tropical varieties to huge deep sea monsters, birds, coastal mammals, reptiles, sea plants, corals and many other interesting phenomena.

## SING-SONG GIRL WEAVES SPELL

Tilly Losch and Paul Muni, shown above, are featured with Luise Rainer in the screen version of "The Good Earth" which opens Sunday at the Torrance theatre. There will be a continuous show from 2 p.m., on Labor Day, Monday.

## NO SISSY ACTORS IN 'SAN QUENTIN'

Pat O'Brien and Ann Sheridan in a romantic scene from "San Quentin," which opens tonight at the Plaza theatre in Hawthorne.

## AROUND HOLLYWOOD FILM LOTS

By ALEXANDER KAHN
U. P. Staff Correspondent

HOLLYWOOD (U.P.)—After the cameras stop turning on a motion picture, the job is by no means complete.

An involved process of printing, assembling and distribution becomes one of the most important parts of the production. The wrong snip of a cutter's shears may delete a choice scene. Poor printing may spoil a beautiful shot. Finally, the film must be released to hundreds of theatres on schedule.

Every foot of film must be developed, inspected, edited and previewed before hundreds of prints are made for shipment to theatres. This work requires about two months. To illustrate, consider the dancing feet of Eleanor Powell after she finished "Broadway Melody of 1938."

In photographing Miss Powell's dances, several cameras were used simultaneously. This was necessary to obtain various photographic angles while making one continuous sound record of the music and dance. Many angles are photographed for artistic effects and to relieve a long scene. Cameras were placed at strategic spots such as a long shot photograph of an entire scene, another to catch a closeup of Miss Powell's face, and another to record close-ups of her tapping feet.

If only one camera were used, it would have to be trundled about to catch each angle, but the photographed scenes never could be synchronized to the action, because the rhythm of the music would have been broken.

After the film has been assembled, it is previewed at various Southern California theaters and brought back to the studio for correcting any possible flaws in story, sound or photography that might have been discovered at its trial showing. Sometime two or three versions of a picture are previewed to test audience reaction to each.

## Escondido Ready for 'Grape Day' Next Thursday

Music in the air everywhere will be one of the delightful conditions in Escondido Thursday, Sept. 9, when the 30th annual celebration of Grape Day is being staged along with admission day. Four bands have been secured for the parade and all-day celebration and a fifth will play at night.

Two hundred entries have been made for the morning parade, which opens the celebration at 10 o'clock. Five acres have been added to the Grape Day park, affording additional space for all exhibits. Thirty thousand people are expected this year and free grapes will be provided for all of them.


**PLAZA THEATRE**

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Also PINKY TOMLIN and TOBY WING in "SING WHILE YOU'RE ABLE"
FRIDAY NIGHT PLAY MAGIC SCREEN

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Sept. 5, 6, 7
FREDDIE BARTHOLOMEW, SPENCER TRACY, LIONEL BARRYMORE and MELVYN DOUGLAS in
"CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS"
Also JACK OAKIE and ANN SOTHERN in "SUPER SLEUTH"
CONTINUOUS SHOW MONDAY—LABOR DAY

Starting Wednesday, September 8
The Academy Award Winners
PAUL MUNI and LUISE RAINER in "THE GOOD EARTH"
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$$$ WEDNESDAY NIGHT $$ COME EARLY $$$
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also JACK HALEY and ROCHELLE HUDSON in
"SHE HAD TO EAT"
FRIDAY . . . PLAY NITE

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Sept 5-6-7
"THE GOOD EARTH"
PAUL MUNI and LOUISE RAINER
Also BRIAN DONLEVY, ROCHELLE HUDSON in
"BORN RECKLESS"
Special 'LABOR DAY' Matinee
SEPT. 6—2 p. m.—CONTINUOUS

Wednesday, Sept. 8—One Nite Only
$$$—SURPRISE NIGHT—$$$
GENE RAYMOND and ANN SOTHERN in
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and RICARDO CORTEZ and KATHERINE DEMILLE in
"THE CALIFORNIAN"
$$$—COME EARLY—$$$



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and Wm. Gargan in
FURY AND THE WOMAN

Sun., Mon., Tue., Sept. 5-6-7
Eric Linden and Cecilia Parker in
"GIRL LOVES BOY"
and Jack Holt in
"ROARING TIMBER"
Continuous Show
Labor Day

Wed., Thurs., Sept. 8-9
Lyle Talbot in
"WHAT PRICE VENGEANCE"
and Ted Wells in
"PHANTOM COWBOY"

Register Wed. for "PAEDAE" Thursday Night!!



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