# 'First Run' Films of The Week in Review

**REGENT HAS THREE DIMENSIONAL FILM**

One of the most important screen events in years, a milestone that may prove as historic as the advent of sound and color to films, starts Thursday at the Regent Theatre, with the dramatic premiere here of Arch Obolerr's "Bwana Devi," the world's first Natural Vision 3-dimensional feature-length motion picture in color.

The revolutionary new color presentation, starring Robert Stack, Barbara Britton and Nigel Bruce, is the initial production ever made anywhere in 3-D, and is the exciting culmination of over two decades of intensive research in the field of three-dimensional cinemaphotography and projection by many of Hollywood's top technicians.

It was producer-writer-director Arch Oboler, famed as the "master of the Unusual," who arranged to make the first three-dimensional feature utilizing Natural Vision, and "Bwana Devil" is the result.

The unique picture, photographed by veteran cameraman Joseph Biroc, tells the true-life dramatic story of the building of the first railroad across British East Africa at the turn of the century, and the pair of man-eating lions whose ferocity disrupted the entire undertaking and caused consternation in the British Parliament.

**"DESERT LEGION" NEW HARLEM ADVENTURE FILM**

Crackling with action Universal-International's exciting Technicolor production, "Desert Legion," which opens Wednesday at the Harlem Theatre, blends the tale of a secret Algerian mountain community and the heroics of the French Foreign Legion into the type of entertaining film fare that will enthrall young and old alike.

Alan Ladd, a dashing figure in the uniform of the French Foreign Legion, adds even more stature to his star rating as he fights and loves his way through "Desert Legion" with one of the hardest-hitting performances of his movie career.

Richard Conte, playing his first costume role as a villainous leader of a band of desert raiders, scores a smashing success with his portrayal. No less effective than her co-stars is gorgeous Arlene Dahl, who combines the sexiest wardrobe of the year with a fine emotional portrayal of a fiery beauty of Algeria.

**"FAIR WIND TO JAVA" STILL AT NEW ALBERT**

There was one critical point in the career of the heavyweight championship boxing contender, Rocky Baer, when it was difficult for an observer to predict a screen acting career for the powerful six-foot-six giant.

This was when the biggest of the Baer brothers stood in the middle of the fight ring and waited for the great Joe Louis to recover and climb back over the ropes to continue the fight.

The controversial decision which followed Louis' recovery was responsible for Baer becoming an actor and entertainer. Today, he is seen in one of his greatest portrayals as the Chinese bodyguard to Republic's spectacular sea epic, "Fair Wind to Java," filmed in Trucolor and starring Fred MacMurray and Vera Ralston at the New Albert Theatre.

**BOB HOPE AND MICKEY ROONEY IN MET FILM**

A master stroke of casting results with Bob Hope's being teamed with Mickey Rooney in Paramount's "Off Limits," a zany comedy that has all the ingredients of humor blended into a riotous hour and thirty minutes of slambang fun.

This fast-paced package of Celluloid hilarity, is now playing at the Met Theatre and the audience showed their appreciation with continuous bursts of uproarious laughter.

Funnier pictures have likely been made but this reviewer can't remember when. Just imagine bubbling Bob and mugging Mickey as a pair of Military Policemen with an extra-curricular interest in prizefighting.

Add curvaceous Marilyn Maxwell and mix with Eddie Mayehoff, as a rule-book corporal who rapidly rises to the rank of captain, and you still only have a portion of the many happy ingredients of this laugh-loaded fun-fest.

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## SHOW BILL

BRIDGE—Thurs., Wed., Sterling Hayden in "THE GOLDEN HAWK," also, Charles Starrett in "LARAMIE MOUNTAIN." Thurs., Fri., Sidney Poitier in "CRY THE BELOVED COUNTRY," also, Dennis O'Keefe in "THE LEOPARD MAN."

CAREY—Wed., Thurs., Lana Turner in "THE BAD AND THE BEAUTIFUL," also, Maria Montez in "THE THIEF OF VENICE." Fri., Sat., Alan Ladd in "BRANDED," also, "HERE COME THE MARINES."

DIANE—Wed., Thurs., Cary Grant in "LEAVE HER TO HEAVEN," also, Tyrone Power in "BLACK SWAN." Fri., Sat., Charles Bickford in "THE MAGIC MATE COURIER," also, Gregory Peck in "THE GREAT WHITE HUNTER." Sat., Charles Starrett in "HOUSE CARAVAN," also, Bob Livingston in "WILD HORSE RUSTLER."

EDEN—Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sterling Hayden in "GOLDEN HAWK," also, Cleo Moore in "STRANGE FASCINATION."

HAMPDEN—Starts Wednesday, Alan Ladd in "DESERT LEGION."

LAFAYETTE—Wed., Thurs., John Payne in "SHORES OF TRIPOLI," also, Doris Day in "APRIL IN PARIS." Fri., Sat., Audie Murphy, in "CIMARRON KID," also, "NO HOLDS BARRED."

LENOX—Wed., Thurs., Lana Turner in "THE BAD AND THE BEAUTIFUL," also, Maria Montez in "THIEF OF VENICE." Fri., Sat., Alan Ladd in "BRANDED," also, "HERE COME THE MARINES."

LINCOLN—Wed., Thurs., Gene Autry in "WINNING OF THE WEST," also, Jenifer Jones in "RUBY GENTRY." Fri., Sat., Sidney Poitier in "CRY BELOVED COUNTRY," also, Charles Bickford in "APACHE WAR SMOKE."

METRO—Now playing, Bob Hope, Mickey Rooney in "OFF LIMITS."

NEW ALBERT—Now playing, Fred MacMurray, Vera Ralston in "FAIR WIND TO JAVA."

PARK—Tues., Wed., Olivia DeHavilland in "MY COUSIN RACHEL," also, Chips Rafferty in "MASACRE HILL." Thurs., Dane Clark in "GAMBLE AND THE FLYPAPER," also, "STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER." Fri., Sat., Errol Flynn in "AGAINST ALL FLAGS," also Lash LaRue in "THE VANISHING OUTPOST."

REGENT—Now playing, Shirley Booth in "COME BACK LITTLE SHEBA." Start Thursday, new 3-dimensional feature, "BWANA DEVIL."

ROOSEVELT—Wed., Thurs., Fri., Trevor Howard in "MISSION TO TANGIER," also, "HAS ANYBODY SEEN MY GAL."

ROYAL—Now playing, "THE BLUE GARDENIA," also "STOP YOU'RE KILLING ME." Starts Friday, Brod Crawford in "LAST OF THE COMANCHES," also, Charles Boyer in "THE HAPPY TIME."

HARLEM —STARTS— WEDNESDAY
IN ALL THE RECKLESS LEGENDS OF THE FOREIGN LEGION
THIS IS THE GREAT ADVENTURE!
When Paul Lartal led his reckless rogues against the battle-lusting hordes of Omar Khalif...when 1000 years of History hung in the balance...and a 1000 nights of Love awaited the victor!

## New Broadway Musical Set

NEW YORK — "Porgy and Bess" will have competition on the Broadway boards this fall, if the musical remains that long.

Now comes the announcement of another all - colored cast musical, "Samson and Lila Dee" to be produced by Oscar S. Lerman and Martin B. Cohen, which will be their first Main Stem venture.

While the cast and rehearsals will be held here, the proposed show will premiere in Philadelphia for a three-week showing before making its debut here.

The format for the show is being prepared jointly by James Mundy, who will do the score; Frederick Lights, the book, and John LaTouche, the lyrics.

## Reed To Emcee Blossom Festival

WASHINGTON

Bob Reed, WRC's "Timekeeper," will serve as master of ceremonies for the eighth annual Crab Apple Blossom Festival, Saturday, April 18, at 2:00 p.m.

Floats, bands and marching units will parade along Anacostia Drive, Fairlawn Park, in the twenty-fifth anniversary of the planting of the beautiful trees.

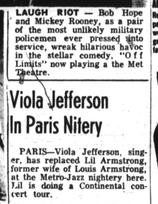
Reed will describe the float and other activities and will coordinate the voting as judges select the most attractive floats and award the prizes.

# ON LOCAL SCREENS THIS WEEK

**CHANGED** — Vera Ralston, lovely red-haired actress, appears for the first time on the screen with jet black hair for her starring role in Republic's sea epic "Fair Wind to Java" playing at the New Albert Theatre.

**REGENT HIT!** — Nigel Bruce and Robert Stack star in the first full-length feature three-dimensional film in color, at the Regent Thursday, for a limited engagement.

**BAD LAD** — Alan Ladd plays a rugged Foreign Legion Officer in "Desert Legion," co-starring Richard Conte and Arlene Dahl, which starts at the Harlem Theatre, Wednesday.



**LAUGH RIOT** — Bob Hope and Mickey Rooney, as a pair of the most unlikely military policemen ever pressed into service, wreak hilarious havoc in the stellar comedy, "Off Limits" now playing a the Met Theatre.

## Viola Jefferson In Paris Nitery

PARIS—Viola Jefferson, singer, has replaced Lil Armstrong, former wife of Louis Armstrong, at the Metro-Jazz nightery here. Lil is doing a Continental concert tour.

**'DANCE OF SEVEN VEILS' TO USE MANY EXTRAS**

Hundreds of extras will be seen in the climactic "Dance of the Seven Veils," a Rita Hayworth starrer for Columbia.

## 'Lil' Doggie' Spans Two Continents

NEW YORK—"Doggie in the Window," a Bob Merrill composition, published by Santly-Joy (ASCAP), and recorded by Patti Page for Mercury, has the whole nation Dimmitying, plus at least two foreign countries.

In America, it's tops from New York to New Orleans to Denver.

It is rated thusly:

The No. 1 sheet music; best selling single; most played in juke boxes; most played by disc jockeys; No. 1 in TV, and fifth in radio.

It leads England's top 20 records, and stands No. 1 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

It is the most popular item since Jo Stafford's Columbia recording of Jessie Mae Robinson's "I Went To Your Wedding."

**MACKENZIE TO SCRIPT 'RICHARD'**

HOLLYWOOD — Aeneas MacKenzie will write the story of "Richard the Lion Hearted" for Columbia Pictures.

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# Moments Musical

By ADAH K. JENKINS

Among the recent broadcasts of interest to Baltimoreans was the performance of Thomas H. Kerr, pianist and composer, with the National Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Kerr, a professor of music at Howard, university, played Tschaikowsky's Second Piano Concerto in G major.

The orchestra was directed by Howard Mitchell, who is remembered here as a former leader of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Mitchell also received some of his musical training at the Peabody Conservatory.

**Interest In Tschaikowsky**

Baltimore has an extra interest in Tschaikowsky, as the great Russian conducted a concert here while on a tour that included Washington, Philadelphia and New York.

This was in great contrast to Tschaikowsky's situation about 17 years before his appearances in this country. When his first large work, the B flat major Concerto was given its world premiere in Boston, the composer was a struggling young musician in Russia.

The noted German pianist, Hans von Bulow, played the concerto and cabled the writer of its great success. Tschaikowsky, down to his last dollar, could not even afford to cable in reply.

**Under Financial Strain**

He had given up a position as a government employee to devote his time to music. His early efforts were not too well received in Russia and some of his composing was done to "keep the wolf from the door." Lending aid to anyone who asked him for it was also responsible for his straitened finances.

Tschaikowsky's music reflects his unhappy and tragic life. There was the loss of his beloved mother, his father's insistence that he study law, and three unfortunate love affairs, including a wretched marriage.

The one redeeming event was an extraordinary friendship that was conducted entirely by letters with a wealthy Russian widow.

**His Greatest Inspiration**

The two agreed never to meet, perhaps because Tschaikowsky was not cut out to be a lover. However, the affair was one of the greatest inspirations in his life and he felt it inspired his finest compositions.

Musicians of today are inclined to discount some of Tschaikowsky's works as over sentimental and too emotional.

They claim he was influenced too much by the leading German composers of this day and not enough by his own native music.

Be that as it may, his symphonies, concertos and songs ("None But the Lonely Heart" is an example) are unfailingly popular with concert-goers and music lovers the world over.

**Artistic Achievement**

The performance of Mr. Kerr marked an artistic milestone in the advancing of music as well as of democracy.

Baltimore can well afford to be proud of Howard Mitchell and the personnel of the National Symphony and look forward to the day that they will perform on the stage of the Lyric theatre.

**To Perform Here**

There will be an opportunity for us to demonstrate our interest in the National Symphony when the orchestra will give four subscription concerts here next season: Nov. 17, 1953, Jan. 5th, Feb. 9th and 23rd, 1954.

Subscriptions are priced reasonably and advance reservations may be made through Mrs. Mary Hawkins, 912 N. Gilmor st. LOngwood 6389.

Since the tickets are not to be available until June, this presents an opportunity for schools and studios to use them as prizes and awards. The advance registration assures patrons of securing the better seats.

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# 3-D Cinemascope To Bring Crowds To Movies

BALTIMORE

The new 3-dimensional moving picture film is only one invention which is going to make films a better attraction for movie fans, Henry Hornstein, manager of the Regent theatre, said this week.

We are looking forward next October to installation of 20th Century Fox's new invention, the Cinemascope.

H. B. HORNSTEIN

It uses the regular projector, but the makers have squeezed a large picture on a 35 mm. film.

**Larger Than Normal Screen**

One end of the projector has a large lense which throws a picture on a new concave screen that is more than 2½ times larger than the normal screen.

The conventional screen is porous, (has holes in it), and sound comes through the holes. The 3-D screen is metallic.

The new cinemascope concave screen is a reflected screen.

The sound does not come through it, but over the top.

**Series of Amplifiers**

There are many sound amplifiers so that when a door is shut on the right of the stage, the amplifier on the right will emit the sound. When an actor speaks the sound comes from the spot where he is.

The same is true if a door is closed or an object falls on any part of the screen.

When an airplane flies overhead or a train goes across the screen, the sound will come from amplifiers on one side and as the plane flies proceed toward the other side so that the actual illusion of a train passing it affected not only by sight, but by sound.

**Called Greatest Innovation**

In short the sound as well as the picture moves in the new cinemascope.

Mr. Hornstein calls this the greatest improvement in sound effects since the movies became talking pictures.

None of these improvements might have come so rapidly if the movies had not been in competition with television.

The Regent is prepared to install this new movie invention, They have a first showing in the fall.

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# ENCORES ...and... ECHOES

By E. B. REA

The nation should be grateful for the action of the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) and the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) in rejecting an Easter weekend showing of a film depicting the Crucifixion.

Both networks considered the film not up to the standard and thought it might be "offensive" to "a large number of persons in the New York area."

While Encores has not been fortunate enough to witness the reproduction of the New Testament narrative, we can't say here that it should have been or should not have been shown.

However, if the two stations reached that decision, something undesirable must have been in the film. One network official said in part after a preview that "the villians in the film were characterized as Jewish stereotypes."

Maybe the film would have been "offensive," and maybe not. However, if it carried any semblance of a racial slur, whether Jewish or any other, the networks should be commended for their stand — a sort of "a stitch in time saving nine."

They should remember, too that when stored Americans are stereotyped in TV and other media, there are many thousands in and out of the New York area who feel the sting.

In that instance, both radio and TV, would be doing a great service to millions if they would be more alert to the "slips that pass" in scripts which offend colored audiences.

Despite the censorship that we are told is being instituted and maintained to avoid offending any race, there are far too many presentations escaping critical eyes.

However, we can't lose sight of the fact that there are many commendable programs on the air. It is as much our duty to call or write the networks and tell them so, as it is to inform them when we see an uncomplimentary role or hear a slurring dialogue.

*Try that to your typewriter or on your living room table party.* By all means, try Hi THE REVOLVING DOOR — Bobby Grant writes from Fort Lauderdale, Fla.: "I'm still having much success here at Club Morocco."

Johnny Hudgins was featured in the Club Alabam's show at West Palm Beach in a benefit for a local hospital drive with the color line going out of the window.

The Florida News said of Hudgins:

"Johnny Hudgins, whose moggin' is really something to see, came forth to captivate the hearts of all. Imitation might suffice in some instances, but only an artist could give true expression to the antics of a master pantomimist.

"Possessed of a facile technique and an agile, ever-inventive mind, Hudgins was great."

TO THEATRE-GOERS: Don't miss the new picture, "House of Wax," a three-dimensional film, or Natural Vision.

This new technique in film-making stands out over any previous attempts to make the theatre audience feel a part of the picture in both sight and sound — matching the vision and hearing power of the eye and ear.

If you see "Wax" you'll feel like an actor. You'll thrill to the bubbling cauldrons of wax seemingly dumped into your lap; yell when the girl on a broken trapeze falls at your feet; chill when the maniacal star hurls various bodies at the unsuspecting audience.

The 3-D eliminates the old squint and squirm so familiar to former movie-goers. Head for the nearest theatre with "3-D."

## 'Hit On Me' A Juke Hit

NEW YORK — Bandleader Buddy Johnson has come up with what the nation's disc jockeys regard as a "solid hit."

Featuring the vocalizing of his sister, Ella Johnson, the Mercury tune, "Don't Want No Man Hitting On Me," seems headed for the top of the juke-box parade.

Released two weeks ago, the waxing is getting top treatment from platter spinners.

In New York, disc jockeys Jack Walker and Tommy Smalls report that three out of every five letters of requests they get from listeners ask for the Johnson disc.

At the Savoy Ballroom where the band is currently appearing, spectators applaud loudly when the band strikes up the tune and its not uncommon for them to have to repeat the number at least five times nightly.

## Loumell Morgan Gives Improvising A Grand Boost

NEW YORK—Loumell Morgan, pianist, currently featured at Arthur's in Greenwich Village, had some kind words this week for the art of improvisation.

"There seems to be a tendency," Loumell points out, "for many of us to apologize for improving. We hear so much these days about 'getting back to the melody.'

"Surely, there is nothing wrong with the concept that preaches the maintenance of a definitive melodic line in music.

"But we musn't forge that true improvisation is one of the basic things that made jazz great, and we should cherish this art as it deserves to be."

## Benny Sampson Tops In Detroit

DETROIT (ANP)—One of Detroit's top tenor saxmen, Benny Sampson, with his band is receiving the raves of local music lovers with their original style of "Rock House" jazz.

Benny received his early musical training in New Orleans.

Attired in top hat and tails when he is working Benny is known as Lord Benjamin, the aristocrat of modern jazz.

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## Hampton Choir In The Mid-West

HAMPTON, Va.—The 40-voice Hampton Institute concert choir is in the midst of its mid-western tour, under the direction of Dr. Henry N. Switten.

On April 8, the choir, clad in blue and white robes, sang at Dickinson college, Carlisle, Pa., and at the Wesley Center AME Zion church, Pittsburgh, April 9.

Hiram college in Ohio heard the third concert on April 10. On April 12, the choir sang at the Masonic Temple in Detroit.

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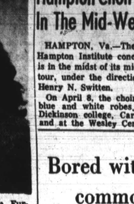

IN DUAL ROLE—Clara Furbert, dramatic actress of Westville, Conn., will play the role of Elizabeth Tudor and a Saxon noble-woman in Gordon Hall's religious drama, "Tapestry of the Rose," June 5, at St. Martin's Episcopal church, in Harlem.

Bored with the commonplace?
You'll be uncommonly pleased with this whiskey . . . it's truly out of the ordinary. The whiskies in Melrose Rare are at least 7 years old, blended with grain neutral spirits. Full 90 proof. There's nothing commonplace about Melrose Rare.

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PLUS OTHER GREAT ACTS
6-18—MEMORIAL HALL, Columbus, Ohio
6-19—INDIANA THEATRE, Indianapolis, Ind.
6-17—CIVIC OPERA HOUSE, Chicago, Ill.
6-19—KIEL AUD., OPERA HOUSE, St. Louis, Mo.
6-19—GINN. MUSIC HALL, Cincinnati, Ohio.
6-20—CLEVELAND ARENA, Cleveland, Ohio.
6-21—AUD., CHARLESTON, W. Va.
6-23—THE GARDEN, Pittsburgh, Pa.
6-23—PARADISE THEATRE, Buffalo, N.Y.
6-24—CARNEGIE HALL, New York City.
6-25—LOEW'S THEATRE, Rochester, N.Y.
6-26—THE FORUM, Montreal, Canada.
6-27—BOSTON GARDENS, Boston, Mass.
6-28—R. I. AUD., Providence, R. I.
6-29—SHENADEA WAR MEMORIAL AUD., Syracuse, N. Y.
6-30—CATHOLIC YOUTH CENTER, Scranton, Pa.
6-1—HERSHEY SPORTS ARENA, Hershey, Pa.
6-3—SPORTS ARENA, Toledo, Ohio.
6-3 aft.—IMA HALL, Flint, Mich.
6-3 eve.—OLYMPIA STADIUM, Detroit, Mich.
6-4—MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE, E. Lansing, Mich.
6-5—STAMBAUGH AUD., Youngstown, Ohio.
6-6—WARNER THEATRE, Erie, Pa.
6-7—THE ARENA, Philadelphia, Pa.
6-8—MUNICIPAL AUD., Norfolk, Va.
6-9—MOSQUE, Richmond, Va.
6-10—NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY, Washington, D. C.
6-11—THE COLISEUM, Baltimore, Md.
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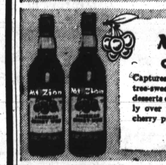
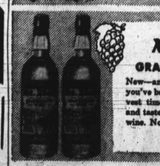


Mt. Zion CHERRY WINE
Captures fragrance and flavor of big, tree-sweetened cherries. Serve with desserts or at card parties. (Heavenly over ice cream!) Add some to cherry pies! Great—all ways!
Full Fifth 98c

Mt. Zion BLACKBERRY WINE
The luscious juice of the biggest berries on the bush! Sweet and heavy-bodied. Makes mouth-watering mixed drinks and adds a party-touch to desserts.
Full Fifth 98c



Mt. Zion GRAPEGERINE WINE
Now—and only Mt. Zion has it! If you've been in a grape arbor at harvest time, you know the bouquet and taste of this sweet, tangy white wine. No other wine like it!
Full Fifth 98c

"Pay a little more, Drink a little less, Treat yourself to the very best."
Mt. Zion
the wines that goeth down sweetly!
Come to the Mt. Zion booth at the AFRO'S FREE COOKING SCHOOL, Star Arena — April 22 and 23.
The Modern Bonded Wine & Liquor Co., Baltimore, Maryland