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Submitted by:

FOREIGN MAIL

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FILM CENSORSHIP IN SHANGHAI

Police reports of the Shanghai Municipal Council indicate that the following censorship of films for the International Settlement and the French Concession occurred during the months September to November, inclusive:

September:

157 films comprising 31 feature productions, 118 short introductory films and 8 newsreels were censored. Of the feature films, 27 were passed without question, 3 were approved after certain objectionable parts had been deleted, while the decision over the remaining one was pending at the end of the month. Of the short films 111 were passed without question, 6 were approved for private exhibition to members of the medical profession only, and decision in regard to the remaining one was pending. Of the newsreels, 6 were passed without question, and 2 were approved with deletions.

October:

97 films comprising 31 feature productions, 59 short introductory films, and 7 newsreels were censored. Of the feature films 29 were passed without question, 1 was approved with deletions and the remaining 1 was banned from public exhibition locally. Of the short films, 57 were passed without question, 1 was approved with deletions and the remaining 1 rejected. 6 newsreels were passed without question and 1 with deletions.

The Joint Board of Film Censorship of the International Settlement and French Concession on October 31st banned a feature film and its trailer entitled "Little Tough Guy".

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November:

119 films comprising 38 feature productions, 57 short introductory films, and 24 newsreels, were censored. 35 of the feature films were passed without question, and 3 were approved with deletions. Of the shorts, 56 were passed without question, and the remaining 1 was approved after certain objectionable parts had been deleted. All of the newsreels except 5 were passed without question.

Two clippings from the North China Daily News, a British daily in Shanghai, relative to Film Censorship, are attached as of interest - one being very critical of censorship methods.

Change in Licensing Conditions:

Effective January 1, 1939, Cinematograph License Condition No. 8, in the International Settlement, Shanghai, will be amended to read as follows:

"No film, slide or matter in any other form which has not been certified within the preceding six months by the Board of Film Censors for public exhibition, shall be shown without the written permission of the Council."

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