

At The Movies

by Mike Plake

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"If He Hollers, Let Him Go!" is a Forward Films production. It is one of probably a new wave of projects, perhaps associated with Headstart or something else in which the good guy is a Negro, and the Good Guy wins.

Raymond St. Jacques stars as James Lake, the Good Guy. Dana Wynter and Kevin McCarthy also star as the Good Woman and the Bad Guy, respectively. It gets hard to differentiate from here. It seems that everybody, his daughter and his neighbor in the pseudo-South represented in this film, the pseudo-cops especially, are hypocritical bigots who hate Black Men. So you could say they were all bad guys.

There is Kevin McCarthy, alias Mr. Whitlock, or instance. A nice enough man, all he wants is his rich wife dead, because he thinks she's unfaithful, about to divorce him, and he doesn't take kindly to the idea of having to depart the gravy train.

TO TOP it all off, there is that good old lecherous bartender, Frank Blair, father of a beautiful, pregnant belle around whom the plot takes one of its many unconvincing twists.

The situation: Lake has been framed, sentenced to life, and has lived the past five years in a

South State prison penthouse. He escapes, bent on finding the guy who killed Sally Blair and framed him for the crime.

But not only is Lake the hero. He also is an auto mechanic, a lover and collector of Beethoven and Bach, and an artist to boot. Lake is picked up as a hitchhiker by Mr. Whitlock. The plot thickens: Whitlock wants Lake to kill his wife. So he pulls out a pistol and convinces Lake to do the job. He offers him \$10,000 and a flight to Mexico as further enticement. But Lake is too good a guy.

HE GOES to Mrs. Whitlock, played by Dana Wynter, and tells her the plan of her husband. She doesn't believe him. He smothers her under a pillow.

If there is a moment worth recalling in this farce, it is after Lake leaves the "dead" Mrs. Whitlock. To make the scene look convincing, Mr. Whitlock ties and gags himself on the living room couch, and awaits the arrival of someone to discover the bad, bad deed.

He gets a quick shock when Mrs. Whitlock walks down the stairs to confront him. She had only fainted, and wasn't dead.

Interesting? That's only the beginning.

The movie proceeds laboriously with love scenes between Lake

and Lili, played by newcomer Barbara McNair, between McCarthy and Wynter, and between that dirty old Blair and a junior miss.

JUST TO KEEP the audiences interested, there are about a billion flashbacks to the days of Lake's prison life, when he gets kicked and stomped daily by the dead Sally's southern Sir Galahad.

Further into the film, again, apparently to keep the plot moving, are a little incest, and many insults.

In fact, there are so many insults that the film turns into one.

The only thing this flick does well is to take a trio of fine actors and actress—St. Jacques, McCarthy, and Wynter, and make them look sick. It is unconvincing, poorly made, poorly edited, with a lousy screen play.

It's a bad situation when the film industry has heretofore limited fine Negro actors to parts such as ex-slaves and servants and other two-bit roles. Now, it seems, the film makers are coming out of it, with such stars as Sidney Poitier and Jim Brown. That's a bad situation, all right.

But it's not helped at all by giving St. Jacques a lead role in a two-bit flick. It does justice to no one.

State Capital Roundup

By VERN SANFORD
Texas Press Association
AUSTIN — Another legislative session is just around the corner. Lawmakers are due back in town Jan. 14 for their 61st biennial meeting, and most observers predict it will be a lively session.

Senators and representatives soon will be bickering mightily over the following, and probably hundreds of other less spectacular matters:

- **Spending and taxation.** Nearly everybody is convinced there will be a big tax bill. But one of those who isn't is none other than Governor Preston Smith. He is hopeful that he won't have to be concerned with a tax program this year. However, there are demands for appropriations increases and school teachers want a \$200 million pay raise.

- **Recommendations of the Governor's Committee on Public School Education,** particularly those of district consolidation and tax burden equalization.

- **Liquor-by-the-drink legislation.** What again? This time, apparently, proponents will try the constitutional amendment (let-everybody-vote-on-it) route.

- **Minimum wage legislation.**

- **Constitutional revision.**

- **Increasing workmen's compensation** from \$35 to \$49 a week maximum and broadening coverage to public employees.

- **Air and water pollution control measures.**

- **Implementing the statewide water plan.**

- **Raising the public welfare spending ceiling.**

Incumbent governor has indicated he will attach personal priority tags to these major program areas; education (with emphasis on vocational and technical training), law enforcement, finance, pollution measures and water resources.

NEW BUDGET plan drawn—Legislative Budget Board has

recommended \$1.1 billion in general revenue spending for 1970-71—about \$77 million more than the bare bones minimum level estimated by Gov. John Connally.

LBB calculated its own modest version of appropriations needs would leave \$60.7 million in unearmarked revenue, but that takes into account no new major programs such as implementation of the governor's public school study or teacher pay boosts.

Board decided to order a stop to salary supplements for major college officials from private funds and to recommend the state pay whatever is needed to get top men. This would cost about \$308,500 a year.

UNDER LLB proposals the governor would get a pay raise, too, from \$40,000 to \$55,000 a year. That would keep him ahead of lesser appointed officials, some of whom actually have been paid more than the chief executive considering their incomes from private sources.

Budget proposal also includes \$8.2 million in state office building (to cut down on \$1.5 million annual rentals paid by the state to house agencies in Austin) and an \$850,000 state records storage center.

APPOINTMENTS—Hawthorne Phillips, formerly of Harlingen, has been named executive assistant attorney general. He succeeds A. J. Carubbi Jr. who joined a Houston law firm.

Atty. Gen. Crawford C. Martin also named Pat Cain of Austin to serve as his administrative assistant, replacing W. E. Wells who will take a Houston finance job.

Martin said Odessa District Judge George Kelton will join his staff as co-chairman of the opinions division.

Robert Owen, former Crockett County Attorney, will head the attorney general's insurance, banking and securities division.

Governor Connally appointed Paris attorney Henry Braswell judge of the Sixth Judicial District (Lamar and Fannin Counties).

Connally, moving fast to catch up on a backlog of appointments, also announced these selections:

- William B. Blakemore II of Midland to Public Safety Commission replacing J. C. Looney of Edinburg.

- James L. Luther of Burnet to the Texas Aeronautics Commission.

- George Dillman of Dallas, Ed Hunter of Houston, Gene Lehmann of Kerrville and Don Russell of San Marcos to the Texas Tourist Development Agency. Reappointed to the same agency was John McCarty of Dallas.

- Judge Peter M. Curry of San Antonio and Judge Raleigh Brown of Abilene, reappointed as presiding judges of the Fourth and Seventh Administrative Judicial Districts.

- Paul Fulks of Wolfe City, reappointed to the Texas Aeronautics Commission.

L. P. Sturgeon is the new ex-

ecutive secretary of the Texas State Teachers Association. This former New Boston school superintendent succeeds the late Charles H. Tennyson, longtime head of TSTA, who died last month.

Maj. Gen. Thomas S. Bishop, adjutant general of Texas, has been reappointed a principle member of the Army Reserve Forces Policy Committee.

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What's Happening At The MSC

I know that every "good" Aggie, after spending New Year's Eve making out his "Resolutions for 1969" (?), is anxious to carry them out. The MSC, anticipating that most of you will resolve to

become better citizens by participating in campus events, is prepared to accommodate you.

First of all, for those whose nights are filled with studies or "other" activities, the Political

Forum will begin a new noon series. State Senator Bill Moore will be the first speaker in the series beginning Wednesday at 12 p.m. in rooms 2-A and 2-B of the MSC. Senator Moore, who sponsored and passed Governor Connally's No. 1 legislative goal—creation of the Coordinating Board for State Colleges and Universities—will speak on "The Secret of Passing a Bill." Sandwiches and drinks will be available for those desiring to purchase them.

For those free 8 p.m. Wednesday, Great Issues will present Captain Edward Warner in the MSC Ballroom speaking on "Soviet Military Policy: Present Trends—Future Prospects." Captain Warner, an expert on Soviet military capacity, is an instructor at the Air Force Academy.

For the weekend starting 8 p.m. Friday the MSC Directorate Film Series will bring you "The Ipcress File"—an exciting spy movie starring Michael Caine. And as usual "The Basement" will be open.

Marine Recruiters To Visit Campus

A Marine Corps officer selection team from Austin will visit here this week to explain commissioning programs to students. Maj. C. G. Pool said Marine Corps personnel will establish a booth in the Memorial Student Center today and Wednesday.

Testing materials and information on the Corps' various officer programs will be available, Maj. Pool noted.

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"Do you remember whether or not I have an 8 o'clock class on Mondays?"

THE BATTALION

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