

(Film continues from page 32.)

'Disneyland' Series Starts New Production

WALT DISNEY, whose current ABC-TV *Disneyland* series goes into repeats March 9, is in production and pre-production on his next series of 26 hour-long films for the 1955-56 season which starts on the network next September. In an exclusive interview with B•T, Mr. Disney revealed the upcoming schedule.

"Disneyland," the \$9 million amusement park under construction near Anaheim, Calif., is expected to be completed in July and its premiere will probably open the fall season of ABC-TV *Disneyland*. Two other programs, for Easter and Christmas, will emanate from this 160-acre amusement center.

There will be four "Tomorrowland" programs: (1) Flight Around the Moon; (2) Expedition to Mars; (3) Autopia, an imaginary country in which the inhabitants have learned to live with the automobile; (4) Atomic Era, which will show the atom put to constructive use.

In the "Adventureland" category there also will be four programs: (1) This section of the "Disneyland" park will be revealed in detail, culminating in the showing of "Water Birds," a theatrical featurette, in its entirety; (2) "Olympic Elk," theatrical feature in the "True-Life Adventure" series, will be shown in its entirety; (3) and (4) will be made out of new and old footage to comprise such categories as "Oddities of Nature."

Two specially-produced feature films will make up "Frontierland." Divided into two parts each, one will be based on experiences of John Colter, the first white man to explore Yellowstone and who later joined the Lewis & Clark expedition. The other will tell the story of Big Bill Williams, who marked the Santa Fe Trail.

As to the 11 programs under the heading of "Fantasyland," Mr. Disney elects to pass them off as "11 surprise packages."

Wrather Plans \$10 Million Hotel Next to 'Disneyland'

JACK WRATHER, president of Lone Ranger Inc., KFMB-AM-TV San Diego and sole owner of WJDW (TV) Boston, Saturday announced plans for a \$10 million 30-acre hotel to be constructed immediately adjacent to the entrance of "Disneyland," the \$9 million 160-acre amusement park under construction near Anaheim, Calif. Associated in the venture with Mr. Wrather, who also owns L'Horizon Hotel in Palm Springs and Twin Lakes Lodge in Las Vegas, is Mrs. Helen Alvarez, part owner and vice president of KFMB-AM-TV. The new hostelry, designed by Pereiro & Luckman to accommodate part of the expected eight million annual visitors to the park, will have 500 rooms, each of which will be equipped with color tv receivers. Both the hotel and park are expected to be completed by mid-summer.

Frederic Forms Own Tv Firm

MARC FREDERIC, for the past five years general manager of Teevee Co., Beverly Hills tv film distributor, has resigned to form his own tv packaging firm. He is in New York for a meeting with agency and tv station executives.



TALKING OVER plans for the upcoming tv film series *The Doman Runyon Theatre*, produced by Screen Gems Inc. for Anheuser-Busch (Budweiser beer), are (l to r) Ralph M. Cohn, Screen Gems vice president-general manager; Roland Krebs, vice president, D'Arcy Adv., Anheuser-Busch agency; Jack Macheca of D'Arcy, and Pat Lombord of General Artists Corp., which represented Screen Gems in negotiations with the brewery. The series is set to start April 15 in 50-plus markets.

20th Century-Fox Start For Tv Filming Indefinite

THE PROPOSED tv film subsidiary of 20th Century-Fox will not be set up on the firm's Western Ave. lot in Hollywood for "at least another two weeks" and "video cameras won't roll for a while," a spokesman reports. He said that the outfit must be organized and that the large movie stages must be split into smaller stages compatible with tv filming.

Since the release of 20th's pending tv plans [B•T, Jan. 17], the studio spokesman said requests for space have been numerous, as have been bids for the use of the 800-seat permanent theatre, by both live and film producers. But he said, "Our main idea is to make tv films ourselves on the Hollywood lot."

Cinepix Begins Distribution Of 700 Tv Film Features

ENTRY OF Cinepix Inc., New York, into the tv film distribution field with a catalog of more than 700 subjects was announced last week by Frank Smith, general sales manager. The catalog includes 125 cartoons, 52 westerns, 13 silent "masterpieces" and an unspecified number of feature films.

Cinepix has its headquarters at 243 W. 55th St., New York 10. Telephone is Circle 6-0889. Present plans are to establish four branch offices in cities throughout the U. S.

'Camera' Plans Special Ads

ALLEN FUNT, creator of the *Candid Camera* tv filmed shows, last week announced plans to produce special, on-the-spot commercials for stations carrying his 89 half-hour shows and his 100 quarter-hour programs. Requests for the commercials, which will be tailored to the specific requirement of particular markets, should be directed to Associated Artists Productions, New York, distributors of the *Candid Camera* shows.

'Mr. Anthony' Charges Six With Breach, Conspiracy

FAILURE to abide by an oral agreement to film tv programs and distribute radio transcriptions, starring John J. Anthony, has been charged in a Los Angeles Superior Court suit against agent John Maschio, Motion Pictures for Television, Artists Limited Productions, Reynard International Corp., Matty Fox and Edward Gray. Radio-tv personality, known as "Mr. Anthony," claims on Aug. 1 the defendants agreed to pay him \$21,400 for his appearance in 39 video films and \$75,000 for three-year rights to 260 transcriptions. The suit asks \$294,450 damages for breach of contract and conspiracy. It was filed Jan. 15 through Shacknove & Goldman, Los Angeles law firm.

FILM PRODUCTION

Studio Films Inc., N. Y., and Mercury-International Pictures Inc., Hollywood, have concluded deal whereby M-I will produce 104 half-hour tv films during 1955 with \$1.5 million overall budget. Contract calls for 39 *Musical Chairs* with Ross-Danzig producing; 26 *Margaret Whiting* with Robert Larsen producing, and 39 *Showtime Musical Varieties* with Sam Costello and Ben Frye producing.

Ziv Television Programs Inc., N. Y., will produce Spanish-language version of *I Led Three Lives* and is now setting up series for Latin American distribution. Program already sold to General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y., for WKAQ-TV San Juan, P. R.

Arthur B. Modell Television Productions Inc., N. Y., announces production of new half-hour tv quiz program, *Door to Door*, featuring Morey Amsterdam.

Desilu Productions Inc., Hollywood, signed by Goodson-Todman, N. Y., to film latter's tv packages. First to be filmed is *The Web* pilot