Capitol Enter Film Production With 'Space Vision' Dimensions

NEW YORK—Capitol Records' long-awaited entry into film production involves a striking new process, "Space Vision." While Capitol and Arch Oboler entered into an agreement last year which provided for the label to supply the financial backing necessary for the development of the process, announcement was withheld until the system could be demonstrated via a feature-length film, "The Bubble." This film, presented (17) at the CBS Studio Center in Studio City, with Alan Livingston, president of Capitol, and Oboler making the presentation.

Oboler, a writer/director, was responsible for the first 3D film in the early '50s, "Russian Devil." The venture will give Capitol a percentage of the profits derived from "The Bubble," which cost about $1 million and, in addition, the label will also share in the proceeds from the films of other companies which have developed "Space Vision" process to shoot motion-picture production companies.

Invented by Col. (Ret.) Robert V. Shulman, the new "LD Space-Vision" adds, with a special eye-piece, the depth of space, both near and far, with height and width. The process also "freezes" the motion picture from the screen and allows scenes to "float" over the heads of the audience.

The Oboler films are in the planning stage, with the first to be shot in the spring.

"Bubble" will open in Detroit on Feb. 1, New York on Feb. 8.

London Distrib Get Royal Treatment In London Town 20th Year Meeting

LONDON—More than 160 American exhibitors were welcomed to London as guests of London Records, part of the London Town group of companies, at a meeting held at the Savoy Hotel. Among the guests was Arch Oboler, president of Decca Records Ltd., 139 Piccadilly, making periodic trips to the Continent in pursuit of his over-all Decca duties.

Actually, there are 21 new releases, the 21st, a new Mantovani set, "Mantovani's Golden Hits." He has been promised a remuneration of more than $75 million worth of LP product over the past two decades, and has been awarded more than $4 million in certified gold records for sales of at least $3 million. In addition, it was noted that the maestro has been seen by 2½ million people "live" during his concert tours of the United States. Goldfarb also presented the new Tom Jones album, "Green Grass of Home," the single cut of the same name that has reached the million mark, as well as four other records, all of which were presented to the group.


With such a tough social act as the Parliament visit to follow, the label's promotion staff is looking for a "magnificent dinner" at the Dorchester, hosted by the label's line-up of distinguished guests which will be Ronie Aldrich, Stanley Black, "Gene" Black, Abner Vee-Jay, Edmundo Farnon, Ted Heath, Roger Laredo, Mantovani, Edmundo Ros, Eric D'Amato and Sir Edward Lewis.

In the January-February joint appointment of D. H. Toller-Bond, president of London, contributed much to the entertainment of his fellow Americans. After dinner speaker Arthur Dickson, president of London, spoke of his "frollick British humor and Max Bygraves concluded the entertainment, saying that the following in banquet formality was the periodic rotation (twice during the meal) of the men at the table. Earlier in the day, the British Prime Minister, Sir John, as distributors and their wives spent a chilly, but interesting day visiting both Decca's and Capitol's plants. Sir John hosted a typical English meal at the Elisabeth Tower. The meal was served in the Great Hall on the second floor of the building next to the Palace of Westminster.

Highlight Album Product

Various London executives presented the London line-up of LP's which will be available in business, at the Decca studios. Herb Goldfarb, sales manager, of the London line-up, appeared with the label, "Mantovani's Golden Hits." He was accompanied by his staff, who described the business potential of the record, which is expected to gross more than $1 million. In addition, the label's sales manager noted that the maestro has been seen by 2½ million people "live" during his concert tours of the United States. Goldfarb also presented the new Tom Jones album, "Green Grass of Home," the single cut of the same name that has reached the million mark, as well as four other records, all of which were presented to the group.


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