

FILM CENSORSHIP BILL BEING URGED

INTERNATIONAL REFORM BUREAU HAS ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION.

By N. T. JONES, Staff Correspondent

Washington, D. C., Feb. 1.—The International Reform Bureau is urging congress to pass the Federal film censorship bill. Because of the shortness of the session it is unlikely that such a bill can be enacted into law before this congress adjourns. At the next congress, however, the International Reform Bureau will make a big drive to put through the legislation. Other agencies for the moral uplift are allied with the International Reform Bureau in the crusade to secure a Federal film law, the most prominent being the Methodist Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals. The head of the movement is Dr. Wilbur P. Crafts, superintendent of the International Reform Bureau. Dr. Crafts is a reformer, pure excellence. It is said he has conducted more than one hundred hearings on reform bills of various kinds before Congressional committees in the last 23 years.

The House Committee on Education has favorably reported the Federal film censorship bill. The necessity of regulation of motion pictures is apparent, according to the report. The film people themselves, or at least most of the best and largest producers, favor regulation. This has been acknowledged by a large majority of the film manufacturers by their voluntary submission of their films to unofficial boards for approval. That the public demands this regulation is demonstrated by the scrupulous regularity with which the producers exhibit such approval at the end of each picture.

The vicious picture brings the larger return to exhibitor and producer, because it gets the money of the regular customer and the sensation seeker also. This state of affairs constitutes a temptation hard to resist, and, in fact, the production of vicious pictures is constantly increasing just because they are more profitable. If the industry is to endure, if decent people are to stay in the business, this cancer must be cut out. A federal regulatory commission should prove a fearless surgeon, and we therefore favor such a commission.

This statement of conditions is made in the brief filed with the committee by the legal representatives of four of the ten manufacturers who produce 90 per cent of the motion pictures in the United States, and by the legal representatives of one of the largest distributors of motion pictures in this country.

This bill has the earnest support of the leading moral and religious organizations of the Nation. A similar bill was unanimously reported to the House in the last Congress.

With the acknowledgment of the need of regulation both by the motion picture interests and the public they serve, the question arises as to what shall be the regulation and who shall do the regulating. The National Board of Review at New York City is composed of representatives of various moral and civic organizations. The expenses of this board are paid by some of the leading motion picture interests, and it has no legal authority. At the request of the manufacturers this board passes upon the pictures. It is estimated that more than 95 per cent of all pictures produced in this country are passed upon by this unofficial board.

In addition to this voluntary board there are numerous official censors, both State and municipal. The establishment of such large numbers of these local boards, which are rapidly increasing, clearly demonstrates the inadequacy of the so-called National Board of Review, which by its very unofficial character can not exercise effective supervision over 95 per cent of all pictures, still there would remain 5 per cent which could be immoral and unfit to be shown. It is only fair to assume that those pictures which are most objectionable will not voluntarily be submitted for review. An unofficial board which has not the right to examine 100 per cent of the pictures is in reality not a board of regulation but a board of recommendation and approval. As a matter of fact, evidence before the committee discloses that a very considerable percentage of the pictures approved by the unofficial board are declared by the local boards unfit for exhibition.

A statement submitted to the Congressional Committee, signed by attorneys of the five largest and best known film producers, says, in part: "Unfortunately the public is not yet discriminating and goes to see both bad and good, which are usually to be found upon the weekly program of the same theater. Still more unfortunately, the vicious picture brings the larger return to exhibitor and producer, because it gets the money of the regular customer and the sensation seeker also. This state of affairs constitutes a temptation hard to resist and in fact, the production of vicious pictures is constantly increasing just because they are more profitable."

"THAT LITTLE GAME" — RAGGIN'



Does Amarillo Need A New High School Building?

What the High School Teachers Think About It

The present high school building is wholly inadequate to meet the needs of our high school, and the work will be greatly handicapped until a new building is provided.—W. A. McINTOSH.

At the very least it will require two years to vote and issue bonds and erect a new building; so the sooner the matter is settled the better it will be for the educational development of the city. There is no time to lose, for the only solution to the problem of housing the present and prospective enrollment is a new building.—G. J. NUNN.

The present high school building is entirely inadequate. A room is not available for typewriting, so it is necessary to attempt to teach typewriting at the same time and in the same room that we teach each of the other commercial subjects. We have not been able to enroll anything like all the pupils who wish to enroll in this department.—G. TAYLOR.

We need a new high school building because the present one is unable at the present moment to house, comfortably, the high school pupils of Amarillo. In the present building there is not lunch room, no library, no gymnasium, no study hall, no auditorium, wholly set aside for those purposes. The pupils of high school age in Amarillo are being seriously handicapped on account of lack of room and equipment.—FLORA McGEE.

In our present building it is not possible for each teacher to have her own class room. The material needed for the presentation of the lesson must be taken from place to place. Each room should be fitted for the subject to be taught. If first class work is maintained, we must have room and better equipment.—FRANCIS R. HYDE.

This building is a handicap to my work because my recitation room is too small, poorly lighted and has insufficient board room. My classes need more chances to get to the library for reference work. In dealing with the athletics I find a pressing need for a gymnasium.—H. G. WILSON.

The science work in the high school is handicapped because of the lack of room. At least five classes a day must be taught in the physics laboratory. It is impossible to comfortably seat a class in a laboratory. In addition to this it must serve for botany, zoology, physiology, physics and general science laboratories.—LONDON H. BAKER.

The present annual training room is too small to add necessary equipment for the successful operation of this department. Also a separate mechanical

drawing room and a varnishing room are badly needed.—OSCAR WISE.

The work of the Amarillo High School is limited by the lack of an auditorium, a gymnasium, and a lunch room. The science department is limited as follows:

1. There is only one class room for two teachers.
2. The room has no demonstration desk.
3. The laboratories are too small to accommodate the large class we now have, and are inconveniently located.—PEENECA McCLUNEY.

The present manual training room is building is inadequate for the following reasons: The auditorium is entirely too small, and arranged so that students' entertainments and programs are an impossibility; there is no provision for a gymnasium or physical training; there is a pressing need for a rest room for both teachers and students; there are no lockers nor places for them; the rooms in the basement are poorly lighted and ventilated; the laboratories are not fully equipped and there is no provision for a dining room in connection with the domestic science laboratory, consequently lunches cannot be served cafeteria style with the present arrangements.—MRS. W. M. MOORE.

The Amarillo High School needs a more conveniently arranged library, a larger auditorium, a gymnasium, a rest room, and lockers for the safekeeping of the pupils' coats, etc.—L. M. GILBERT.

Room No. 3, in which I teach, is so arranged that the pupils cannot see the board on account of the light; we cannot hear the bells because the room is behind the study hall. The chemical laboratory fumes frequently make the pupils sick.—MRS. E. B. EZZELL.

Our need for an auditorium is evident to anyone who has ever been in the Amarillo High School. We need an office on each floor besides the principal's office in which to consult pupils

about their work; a gymnasium would solve many of the moral and physical needs of the children of the high school. We need a teachers' rest room in the building besides the pupils' toilets.—MISS ZOE GLENN.

1. There should be toilets on each floor. Many indiscretions would thus be prevented.
2. The auditorium is entirely inadequate.
3. Lockers for the students would prevent theft.
4. The study hall is too small, and should not be above the auditorium. Meetings in each disturbs meetings in the other.
5. The location of the library in the

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study hall under the present system, at least, prevents its being used by any except the pupils who are fortunate enough to sit there.—C. C. WATKINS.

The present high school does not serve as a school for citizenship because we are crowded for room and equipment.—A. W. WILKINSON.

I have to go to other buildings to teach some of my classes. Lockers not sufficient for domestic art classes.—M. AVENY.

Our present building is inadequate for the following reasons: The building is too small; the auditorium will not accommodate the pupils; there is no place for the recreation of the pupils; and the library is not convenient for the pupils.—ALTA MORTON.

The present high school building has no provision for the social and physical development of the students.

The noise from the manual training room makes it very difficult at times to carry on recitations in the class rooms on the same floor.—MRS. C. P. ATWOOD.

Present building is wholly inadequate even to present needs.—LULU GOODRIE.

HARDING IS ENJOYING HIS FLORIDA OUTING

By Associated Press.

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 1.—President-elect Harding returned here from Coconino fishing grounds this afternoon with a sun-blasted face and a formidable catch of bluefish, amberjacks and

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sailfish to show for his outing among the Florida Keys.

In the two days the president-elect landed a score of fish, a far bigger string than any other member of his party. His largest was a six foot sailfish which gave him a battle of more than an hour before it was brought to the gaff.

The yacht, Shadow, on which the party made the trip, ran into Miami in time for Mr. Harding to play a game of golf. He was a guest this evening at a dinner given by former Governor Winfield T. Durbin of Indiana, and spent the night in a cottage offered the party by Carl G. Fisher, proprietor of several Miami Beach hotels and well known Indianapolis automobile man.

The return to St. Augustine will begin tomorrow.

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