



AKIM TAMIROFF: Pablo



INGRID BERGMAN: Maria



GARY COOPER: Robert Jordan

## HOLLYWOOD FIGHTS THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

### "For Whom The Bell Tolls"

THIS is not a review or a criticism of Paramount's film version of Ernest Hemingway's best-selling novel, "For Whom the Bell Tolls." Although the film is now in New Zealand, we have not seen it and, indeed, it is unlikely that it will be released until next year. But publicity material is now available and overseas papers have also devoted a great deal of space to the film, so we give here photographs of the leading players and several scenes, together with some details of the production and aspects of the controversy that has gathered around it.



KATINA PAXINO: Pilar



VLADIMIR SOKOLOFF: Anselmo

JUDGING by overseas reviews, the main point of debate in *For Whom the Bell Tolls* is whether the film is a sufficiently close copy of the book, or whether an attitude of "appeasement" toward the Franco regime in Spain and other considerations of politics and censorship have unduly coloured the production.

However, it seems to be pretty generally agreed that *For Whom the Bell Tolls* is very long (nearly three hours), very spectacular, and very expensive (Paramount paid Hemingway £30,000 for the screen rights and spent £750,000 on the Technicolour production). There is also unstinted praise for the acting, particularly the performances by Ingrid Bergman as Maria, the tormented waif of the civil war, and by Katina Paxinou as Pilar, the coarse,

compassionate guerrilla woman. *Time* says "whatever Hollywood's *Bell* tolls for, Ingrid Bergman rings it"; and with reference to Katina Paxinou, C. A. Lejeune writes in the *London Observer*: "This is her first film, and in it she steps, in one vast stride, to the top of her profession. This is acting on the grand scale, acting that fears neither god nor fan, acting so rare that you could count its screen professors on the fingers of one hand."

#### The Author's Own Choice

Paramount faced other difficulties besides political ones in making the picture, which took three years to finish. Probably the easiest task of all was securing the screen rights from Hemingway. Casting was a major problem. Hemingway himself stipulated that Gary Cooper should play Robert Jordan, the young American professor who is fighting for democracy in Spain, and that



ARTURO de CORDOVA: Augustin



JOSEF CALLEIA: El Sordo



VICTOR VARCONI: Primitivo