

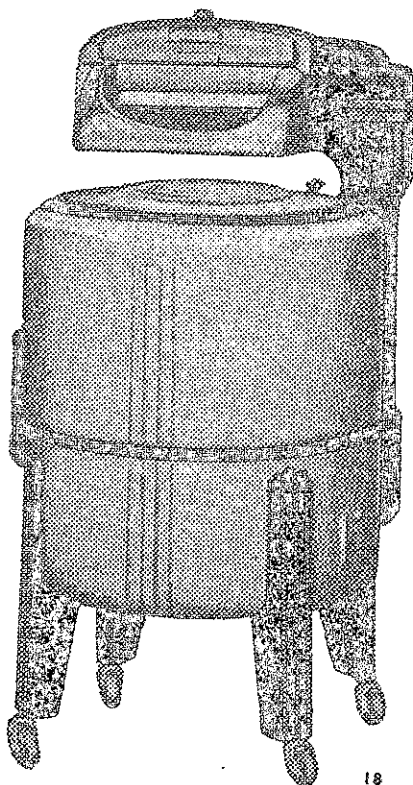


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American fashion. "Wings of the Morning" with Annabella, was scheduled as the premier production.

Poor Jane!

IN my mail last week I received the following letter from a Dunedin reader who signs herself "Jane":—

"Dear Gordon Mirams,—

I have always enjoyed your film reviews, but, Gordon, I'm disappointed. How could you? I went to see 'The Awful Truth' on your recommendation. It was awful. I thought I had a sense of humour, but I'm bewildered, I'm dithered—all around folks are ravingly enthusiastic, and I couldn't and can't see what there is to rave about. . . . Perhaps you can diagnose my disease. I don't suffer from indigestion or insomnia, I haven't been crossed in love, to all appearances I'm a normal, healthy person. . . . But I'm scared. I can't find anyone else to agree with me about 'The Awful Truth.' It couldn't possibly be me, could it?—Perfectly sincerely,—Jane."

Sorry, Jane, but I'm afraid it could. For your consolation, however, I can tell you that I have met one other person who thinks as you do about "The Awful Truth." As against this, we have the record-breaking seasons of the film wherever it has been shown, and the fact that the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences chose it as one of the "ten best" of the past 12 months—just as I did when I reviewed it. And the final, awful truth is that, in the additional Academy Awards which have just been announced, the award for the best achievement in directing went to Leo McCarey for—you've guessed it!—"The Awful Truth."

But cheer up, Jane! You still seem to have a sense of humour.

Stay Blonde!

DECLARING that there is an extreme shortage of natural blondes among Hollywood actresses, Universal studios have ordered Dorothea Kent, contract actress, and number one natural blonde of the film colony, not to change the colour of her hair.

"Changing the colour of my hair wasn't just an idle whim," Miss Kent explained. "But I honestly felt that if I was a brunette, I would have a better chance to play strictly dramatic roles on the screen."

Miss Kent's spectacular rise to success as a film comedienne, the studio asserted, was largely due to "her blonde hair and brittle personality."

"We Make The Movies"

TWO Warner Bros. stars, the head of the technical department and a musician have turned authors. They are Bette Davis, Paul Muni, Major Nathan Levinson and Max Steiner, all of whom have written chapters for a new book, "We Make the Movies." The book is to be used as a text book in universities and also will be sold in the book shops. Miss Davis's chapter is titled "The Actress Plays Her Part," while Muni's is called "The Actor Plays His Part." Levinson has written on recording and re-recording and Steiner, who recently scored "Tovarich," wrote on "Scoring the Film."