



Joan Crawford has the support of Spencer Tracy and a very promising new-comer, Alan Curtis, in M.-G.-M.'s "Mannequin."

(Continued from page 27.)

Through College," "Love Is on the Air," "Little Fraternity Pin," and so on.

### A Good Joke

**T**HE story? Just Dick Powell as a Broadway producer down on his luck going back to college to put on a show for the lads and lasses and meeting with opposition from a professorial board with old-fashioned ideas.

Still, there's something very lively and spontaneously youthful about "Varsity Show," which should make most people willing to overlook its emotional excesses, its occasional childishness, its noisiness, and its hackneyed atmosphere. The point is that, for the most part, it's not afraid to treat the whole business as a joke, and carry that joke through to the limit of comical absurdity in the climax when the police, the riot squad, and the National Guard, are called out to prevent the Varsity Show being staged in a Broadway Theatre. The cohorts of law and order stay on as the audience!

### The Lane Sisters

**A**DAMIRERS of Dick Powell should like him very well in a role which gives him the chance to combine his favourite characterisations of stage producer and college boy. And at the worst, he is just Dick Powell.

There is an excellent comedy performance by the late Ted Healy; attractive work by the sisters Priscilla and Rosemary Lane, whose future appearances can be looked for with some eagerness; and generally competent performances by a large cast of singers, dancers, and funny people.

If you enjoy this type of entertainment, you can go to "Varsity Show" without qualms. Even if you don't, you can treat it as burlesque, and you'll possibly still get a pretty good run for your money.

### Too Ingenious

**H**OLLYWOOD has a coast line that faces west, so that pictures of the sun rising out of the sea have to be

taken on the other side of the continent. Recently, a producer hit on the money-saving idea of faking a sunrise shot by shooting a sunset and running the film backward.

It came off beautifully. The sunrise effect was magnificent. But the waves were all going away from the shore.

## Flagg & Quirt Reborn In "Air Devils"

["Air Devils," Universal, directed by John Rawlings, with Larry Blake, Dick Purcell. First release: Christchurch, August 12.])



TAKE A CHANCE.

**T**HE cloak of our old friends, Flagg and Quirt, seems to have fallen on the shoulders of Larry Blake and Dick Purcell in "Air Devils." They're the black sheep of a flock of American soldiers-of-fortune who are supposed to keep the peace on an unidentified Pacific island which is over-run with brigands. For most of the picture, Messrs. Blake and Purcell are more concerned with breaking the law than keeping it, what with squabbling over one of the island's natural attractions in the person of Mamo Clark, starting free fights, and getting each other into hot water with their officers. But in the end they stand practically shoulder to shoulder when the brigands swoop down in force on a

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HENRY FONDA

with LEO CARRILLO • JOHN HALLIDAY

Directed by William Dieterle

Released thru United Artists

(Recommended by Censor for Adults.)

**STATE** Wellington, Friday  
Next, August 12.