



Danielle Darrieux is Hollywood's newest million-dollar glamour girl. At the age of 21 this Parisian actress has the world at her feet—including an offer of £10,000 for a few brief appearances before the microphone. But she won't be heard on the air.



New Zealand picturegoers will soon get their first glimpse of Danielle Darrieux in the New Universal film, "The Rage of Paris." She became a sensation with a tragic role in the French film, "Mayerling," but Hollywood is said to have remodelled her, emphasising the glamour and making her a comedienne.

She Refused

NOT many people—even the biggest stars of stage, screen or radio—would care to turn down £10,000 just for making a few appearances before the microphone.

Danielle Darrieux, the French star of the New Universal film, "The Rage of Paris," did it recently when offered that sum by an American radio station for a four-weeks' contract.

The offer was made to her just before she left America to return to France after finishing work on "The Rage of Paris," her five-year contract with Universal stipulating that she shall make pictures in America and France alternately throughout the period of the contract.

Explaining why she had turned down £10,000, Danielle Darrieux said: "It's not a matter of 'rejecting' a radio offer. The fact is that the time question alone prevents me from considering it."

"Yet, apart from that, it is not wise that I should be heard over the air before my first American-made film has actually reached the screen. I believe my voice, and anything I had to say over the air, would have far more significance and be much more appreciated after audiences had made their first personal contact with me on the screen. At least they would then have a little first-hand knowledge and sight of the person to whom they would be listening. However, that is quite out of the question, as my contract demands that I leave America immediately at the conclusion of every production in this country, and that similarly I return to America from France immediately my French

£10,000

film is completed. In fact, for the next five years my life will be a constant tripping backward and forward between Paris and Hollywood. That allows no time whatever to interest myself in broadcasting work. Whatever, if any, leisure hours I am able to snatch will be devoted to rest and exercise."

Danielle Darrieux will not return to Hollywood till December; but already she has the satisfaction of knowing that her first Universal film, "The Rage of Paris," is a success. This must be equally heartening to the studio, which gambled a mil-

lion dollars on it. Other American studios are now seeking to borrow the star, yet when Universal signed her up to a five-year contract a year ago—on the strength of a screen test from Paris, but without having seen her in person—the studio was criticised for taking possibly the longest bet in screen history. Danielle did not then speak more than a few words of English. To-day she speaks English fluently, though with a delightful Parisian accent.

Slim, bronze-haired, with a variety of expressions which is one of her greatest charms, Danielle Darrieux has won a remarkable reputation on the Continent, with starring roles in 24 films—comedies, musicals and romances. But it wasn't till she appeared with Charles Boyer in the prize-winning French film, "Mayerling," that Hollywood took notice of her. Danielle was on holiday with her husband (Henri Decoin, a Parisian journalist whom she married four years ago at the age of 17) when her chance in "Mayerling" came. Charles Boyer wired M. Decoin asking whether he thought that Danielle had progressed far enough to attempt the role of (Continued on page 63.)