

HOLIDAY CONTEST ENDS

Winner of Fortnight's Free Holiday in Columbia Pictures' "Ideal Holiday" Competition Will Be Announced in Next Week's "Record"

THIS is the final week of Columbia Pictures' "Ideal Holiday" competition, entries for which closed last Tuesday. The number of essays received for the final week was a record, and had the competition remained open for another week, it is hard to say how many would have rolled in. By the time this appears, thousands of New Zealanders (including hundreds of those who entered for this competition) will actually be taking their holidays. Perhaps it's too much to expect that everybody will enjoy that ideal holiday about which so much has been said recently, but, at any rate, wherever you are, let's hope the weather remains fine. That, in New Zealand's fickle climate, seems to be the chief requisite for a good holiday.

IT is interesting to note that, although hundreds and hundreds of essays have been submitted during the course of the competition and nearly every holiday resort in New Zealand has been suggested as the ideal place for an ideal holiday, two or three have been especially popular.

Rotorua, Timaru (at one of which towns the final winner will stay), Stewart Island, Queenstown and North Auckland would appear to be most favoured. And what better places for a holiday could there be?

An amusing feature of the competition were the comments added by some competitors in covering letters.

"Herewith is my final, despairing effort," wrote one competitor. "Do you know, and mind you I speak with an entirely unbiased mind, I consider my own essays much superior to any of the others, and I can't understand why you don't think so, too."

And thus another entrant: "I enclose my third attempt—which I hope will prove the lucky one—in your Holiday Competition. It is practically the same as one which I submitted earlier in the competition, but I have re-read it after a few weeks, and have decided that it is still quite good—even equal to some of the prize winners. . . ."

Well, perhaps it is all a matter of opinion, but fortunately for the sanity of those conducting the competition, the judges' decision is final.

Winning Essay

IT was exceedingly difficult to select the winning essay from the very large number which arrived for the final week. Final semi-finalist, however, is Miss B. Balharry, of 56 Paynters Avenue, Fitzroy, New Plymouth, whose essay is not only succinct and well written, but extremely neatly set out.

Holiday Essay Competition

THE competition has been divided into 10 weekly stages, and from the semi-finalists, the final winner is being selected. His (or her) name will be announced in the "Record" of January 7.

Briefly, the winner will receive a fortnight's free holiday, with accommodation and travelling expenses, provided by Columbia Pictures.

First prize includes:—

(a) Return rail fare to Timaru and Caroline Bay if the winner resides in the South Island, or to Rotorua if the winner resides in the North Island.

(b) A smart travelling case presented by Nash's Leather Arcade, only address 133-135, Cuba Street, Wellington.

(c) One new season's model "Cutie" bathing suit presented by Lane, Walker, Rudkin Ltd., manufacturers of "Canterbury" woollen goods.

(d) A Slazenger "Match Point" racquet donated by Slazenger (Australia) Pty., Ltd., Sydney.

(e) An Ensign Camera donated by H. E. Perry Ltd., N.Z. Distributors for Selo-chrome Films.

(f) Fortnight's free accommodation at Armidale Guest House, Rotorua, or leading Timaru hotel.

Here is Miss Balharry's essay:

Belinda and I have identical views on how we would spend an ideal holiday. We would go exploring. No, not to the South Pole, for that would mean too much preparation and too much expense—and, besides, we have never wanted to go there. But

what we have always wanted to do is to explore some of those tantalising side-roads that are forever beckoning as you sweep past along the main road in a service car or bus.

They beckon for a hundred yards or so and then coyly disappear, sometimes round a bend, sometimes into a dip, and sometimes up over a rise. And there is shade along them from branching trees, and grass and blackberries grow tall on either side. And you think how perfect it looks, and you decide you will go there some day and find out what it is like farther on, but the service car ruthlessly carries you past and somehow you never seem to have time to come back another day.

So Belinda and I have made a pact. We are going to make time. We are going to go back and explore these roads, and what is more, we are going to do it on foot during our very next holiday. It will be perfect, we have decided. It will be ideal.

We are setting off through Taranaki. There are some roads there that wind and dip and then wind again, and we shall follow them. Mt. Egmont will appear suddenly as we round a bend, the gleam of the sea in the distance will dazzle us as we top a rise, and the gurgle and rush of water will sound in our ears as we cross a bridge over a narrow, rocky stream.

We will have our sleeping bags with us, and the minimum of camping gear, but we will not camp out every night. If we come to a town or a township in our ramblings we will spend the night in its hotel, but we will not be bound down to reach a certain destination every day. We may not even cross the boundaries of Taranaki for Mt. Egmont might cast her spell on us and bid us stay, but we shall continue our wanderings, nevertheless, and when at last we come home again and once more board a service car to sweep us along the highways to another year of toil, we will think of our rambling holiday, and then we will be able to toss our heads at the side-roads as they flash by. "No longer need you beckon," we will shout, "for you have been explored."

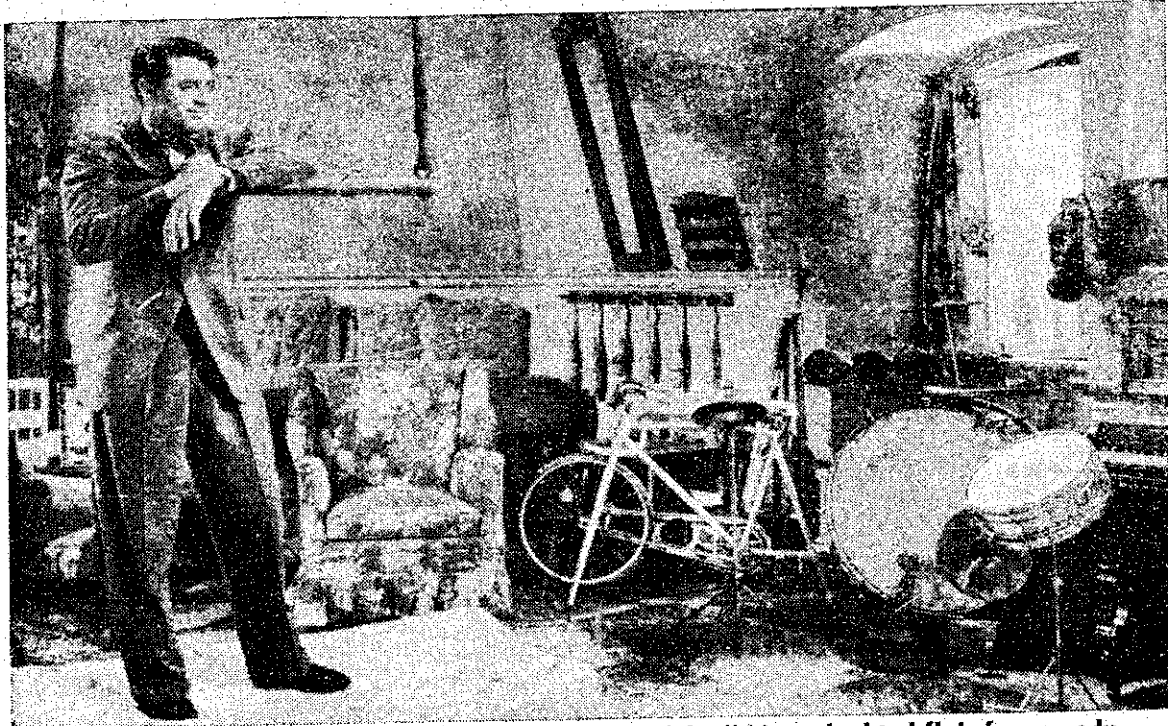
KATHARINE HEPBURN CARY GRANT



Showing at . . .

REGENT	HASTINGS	JANUARY 14
PLAZA	NAPIER	JANUARY 7
REGENT	GISBORNE	JANUARY 2
AUCKLAND AND WELLINGTON DATES TO FOLLOW.		
WATCH FOR THEM!		

(Approved for Universal Exhibition.)



CARY GRANT demonstrates once more in "Holiday" his undoubted flair for comedy. Here he is with some "props"—in a very bachelor-looking room.

GOING ON HOLIDAY!

If you are leaving your permanent address to go away on holiday, don't forget to tell your news-agent to post your "Record" to you every week.