CHARLTON HESTON TO PORTRAY MOSES
By THOMAS M. PRYORSpecial to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
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Resemblance to Law-Giver Prompts DeMille to Cast Him in 'Ten Commandments'

By THOMAS M. PRYOR
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HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Feb. 15—Charlton Heston will portray Moses in Cecil B. DeMille's film of "The Ten Commandments" for Paramount.

The director selected the actor, who worked for him as the circus boss in "The Greatest Show On Earth," for his acting ability and physical resemblance to artists' portraits and sketches of the Biblical leader.

Yul Brynner, to be seen as the Pharoah, is the only other casting so far for the picture, which Mr. DeMille plans to start filming in Egypt in October.

Superior Court Judge George Dockweiler in Los Angeles today informed the attorneys for Michael Jeffers that he would not decide the actor's $200,000 damage suit against the Screen Extras Guild.

The judge reread the instructions to the jury, which has been deliberating the case since last Monday. On Thursday, before the court recessed for the week-end, Mr. Jeffers' counsel asked that the jury be dismissed and that Judge Dockweiler rule on the trial, which took 118 days to conclude. The jury reported back today that it still was deadlocked.

Happy Birthday, Vera-Ellen

Vera-Ellen, who will celebrate her birthday tomorrow, received a present today from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in the form of a new contract. Dore Schary, studio head, also informed the dancer-actress that she would be starred in "The Cole Porter Cavalcade," now being written by Betty Comden and Adolph Green. Vera-Ellen previously was named for a lead role in "Athena," which gets under way in April with Jane Powell, Debbie Reynolds and Vic Damone.

Ernest Borgnine, best known for his impersonation of Fatso, the sadistic stockade guard in "From Here to Eternity," will team up again with Burt Lancaster in "Vera Cruz." George Macready will portray Emperor Maximillian in the adventure film to be made by Hecht-Lancaster Productions, with Gary Cooper as co-star.

"The Bandit," a screen play by Nina and Herman Schneider, has been acquired by Josef Shaftel, who recently incorporated the Schaftel Company to make pictures independently. The story, under the title of "Tierra," had been held under option by Sol Lesser. . . . Rudy Mate will direct "The Bandits" (no relation to the previously mentioned film) for Columbia.

Darryl Hickman, who has been working in movies for twenty of his twenty-three years, was signed by Universal to be the juvenile lead in "The Matchmakers."

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