HESTON KEPT BUSY IN 4 SCREEN ROLES
By THOMAS M. PRYORSpecial to The New York Times.
New York Times (1857-Current file); Aug 23, 1954; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851 - pg. 21

HESTON KEPT BUSY IN 4 SCREEN ROLES

Completing 2 for Paramount, He Is Set for Films With de Mille and Universal

By THOMAS M. PRYOR
Special to The New York Times.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Aug. 22—Universal-International has engaged Charlton Heston to star in "The Private War of Major Benson."

The story, written for the screen by Robert Mosher and Joseph Connelly, will present Mr. Heston as a martinet who is assigned as an instructor to a boys' military school as a reprimand for his harsh criticism of current-day soldiers under his command.

The studio is hopeful of beginning the film toward the end of November, but that will depend on Mr. Heston's availability. He is scheduled to leave Hollywood Oct. 12 for Egypt to start work as the young Moses in Cecil B. de Mille's "The Ten Commandments" for Paramount.

After the location sequences are completed there will be a span of several weeks before photography is resumed in Hollywood. Universal hopes Mr. Heston will have sufficient time off then to do its production. At present the actor is doubling in two pictures at Paramount, going from "Blue Horizon," which is in the final stages of filming, to "Lucy Gallant," which went before the camera last week.

Hathaway to Leave Fox

Henry Hathaway will terminate his employment with Twentieth Century-Fox, where he has worked for more than a decade, after he completes directing "The Racers." Mr. Hathaway reportedly is considering joining Paramount, for which he worked some years ago. But there is a possibility that he will become associated with Charles K. Feldman, the agent and occasional independent film producer, who has been planning to produce John Steinbeck's "The Wayward Bus" since 1952. Mr. Hathaway joined Fox in 1940 to make "Brigham Young," and since then has directed several of its top pictures.

Victor McLaglen will join the cast of "Lady Godiva of Coventry," which Universal plans to start shooting in about ten days. He will portray a faithful retainer of Jeff Chandler, who is co-starring in the picture with Maureen O'Hara. . . . Kathryn Grant, a 21-year-old student at the University of California at Los Angeles, has been signed to a term contract by Columbia and will undergo dramatic training at the studio before being cast in a picture. She is said to be an accredited Hollywood correspondent, as well, for twenty newspapers in Texas, including The Citizen, published in Houston. . . . Evelyn Varden will be seen as the ice-cream parlor proprietress and Peter Graves as Ben, the murdered husband of Shelley Winters in "Night of the Hunter." Charles Laughton is directing the melodrama for Paul Gregory Productions.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.