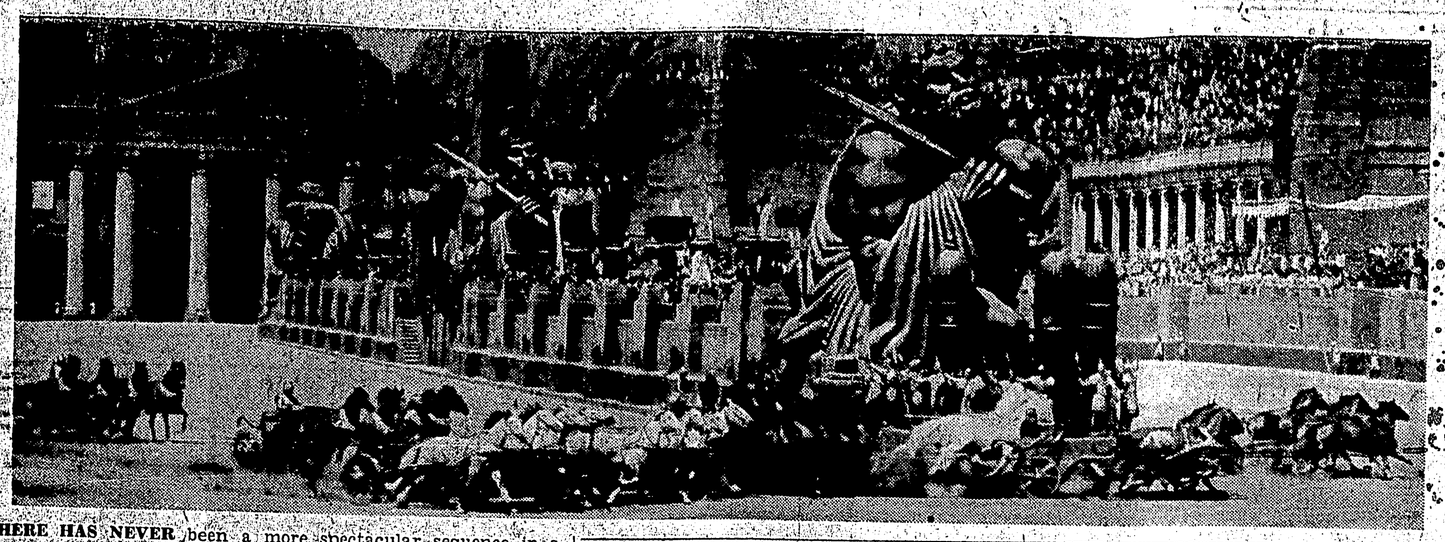

**THERE HAS NEVER** been a more spectacular sequence in a motion picture than the thrilling chariot race in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's epic production of "Ben-Hur." Charlton Heston, as Ben-Hur, and Stephen Boyd, as Messala, are the rivals who lead the competition in the race, filmed on a set covering more than 18 acres and 1,500 foot straightaways alongside a central Spina dominated by four huge statues. Filmed with a cast of many thousands, under the direction of William Wyler, "Ben-Hur" also stars Jack Hawkins, Haya Harareet, High Griffith, Martha Scott, Cathy O'Donnell and Sam Jaffe. The picture was made in Italy and other foreign locales in color and MGB Camera 65, latest development in photographic processes.

CITY COUNCIL ROUNDUP

# City returns deposit to subdivision firm

Ridge Holdings Limited, company which earlier in the year promoted the construction of the Midland Sub-division between Eleventh Avenue East and Frederick Street has been paid the balance of its deposit.

At last night's City Council meeting, the finance committee reported that City Administrator R. W. Long had been authorized to refund $894.80 to Ridge Holdings Ltd., the amount being the balance of its deposit.

The firm originally deposited $1,600 with the city as a gesture of good faith and among items deducted from it was the cost of fixing up the Eleventh Avenue East and Emmanuel Street section which were dug up by equipment earlier this winter.

✣ ✣ ✣

In other business council accepted an application from George S. Fowlie to buy lots 6, 7, 8 and 9, Block 35, Section 1, for $4,400. The sale will be subject to an easement which will be required for the new sewer which will be installed through the property.

✣ ✣ ✣

The budget was also amended by allocating to the finance committee of $1,050.69; to the Fire Department of $2,936.78; and the administration of justice of $5,806 from unappropriated revenues for 1959.

✣ ✣ ✣

A board of works recommendation that the Associated Engineering Services account of $1,753 covering design services for November and $2,478 for inspection in November be paid, was approved by council.

✣ ✣ ✣

Council also approved a traffic committee action whereby the First Presbyterian Church has been given permission to establish "No unauthorized parking" signs in the parking area in front of the church.

✣ ✣ ✣

Also authorized was the payment of the RCMP account of $46,268.29 covering the period from June 1 to November 30.

✣ ✣ ✣

A letter from the circuit assembly of the Jehovah's Witnesses thanking Council for its cooperation in the matter of signs and a banner, was ordered filed.

✣ ✣ ✣

Bylaw 1424, to amend the Zoning Bylaw 1322 to allow rezoning of property of Bob Parker Limited at Second Avenue West and McBride Street from commercial to light industry was given its final reading and passage. A public hearing will be held before final consideration is given.

✣ ✣ ✣

Request from Alderman Gordon E. Carlson for leave of absence to attend the 31st annual convention of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen in Cleveland, Ohio, December 28 to February 29, was granted by council.

✣ ✣ ✣

Dr. Wilfred Sinclair, director of the Skeena Health Unit, was appointed Medical Health Officer for the City of Prince Rupert succeeding Dr. W. B. Laing.

**HIGHEST MOUNTAINS**

The Coast Range has Canada's highest peaks—Mount Logan, 19,850 feet, in the Yukon and Mount Waddington, 13,260 feet, in British Columbia.

**AUDREY HEPBURN** and Peter Finch and all other performers in Warner Bros.' "The Nun's Story," now showing at the Totem Theatre, went through an "indoctrination" period before beginning their roles in the Technicolor film. The training was particularly aimed at Miss Hepburn, who stars as Sister Luke, a nursing nun. She spent weeks learning the technique of a surgical nurse, how to walk in the long nun skirts and the movements of worship.

MOVIE COLUMN

# Aherne working "head off" in "sleeper"

By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—"I've been working my fool head off," says Brian Aherne, "all because I got involved with a sleeper."

The term has long been used to designate modest movies that achieved unexpected success, but it also applies to the stage.

Aherne wasn't looking for anything like a long run after he finished 15 months in the road company of "My Fair Lady." The producer wanted him to sign on for another five years at a fine

"I couldn't possibly," he said. "If I had stayed with the show any longer, I would have lost my health, my wife, my family. It was absolutely exhausting. I don't understand how Rex Harrison was able to do it for two years in New York and one in London."

**SHAW'S CORRESPONDENCE**

Aherne limped back to Hollywood to marshal his forces. Then he received a call from Katherine Cornell. She said a man named Jerome Kilty had put together the correspondence between Mrs. Patrick Campbell and George Bernard Shaw for a reading. The tryout was cheered from Arizona to Florida.

"We suddenly discovered we had a hit on our hands," said Aherne. "None of us ever suspected it. We thought it was something that might go over in academic communities.

"We were scheduled a year ahead to play big college auditoriums and one-nighters; the tickets were already sold. We can't even get into New York until March."

# Alderman Youngs asks improvements in water, streets and voters list

By DICK AYRES
Editor of The Daily News

Alderman T. Norton Youngs ended 1959 in a blaze of oratorical glory in an effort to have City Council tidy everything up before the start of 1960.

It wasn't so much the way he said it, it was merely that there were several matters he wanted attended to.

In a spirit of goodwill City Council went along with him on most of his requests.

Water and mud were the subjects upmost on Ald. Youngs' agenda but he also wanted a change in the method of compiling the city's voters list before the next civic election.

He suggested that the city adopt a system of enumerators to conduct a door-to-door canvass of the city for the compilation of the voters list.

"This should increase the number of tenant electors on the city voters list," he said.

Council voted to approach the Department of Municipal Affairs on the matter.

**WANTS EXTRA PUMPS**

Next Ald. Youngs wanted further protection for the city's water system since the last two versions of water supply and distribution bylaw had been defeated by the voters.

He suggested and moved that the city investigate the possibility of obtaining high-capacity diesel pumps so that the capacity of the standby pumps at Shawatlan Lake could be increased.

Alderman R. G. Large seconded the motion, providing it merely meant an investigation.

Ald Youngs then took after what he termed the "disgraceful state" of Third Avenue West after the new sewer had been laid by contractors. He said it was a mud hole from curb to curb and should have been graded.

He also complained about a "swamp" between Eleventh and Twelfth Avenue at Bacon Street which since the sewer had been installed was "worse than it was before."

City Administrator R. W. Long was instructed to have the public works department give immediate attention to the problems.

Also to be checked into was a matter broached by Ald. Large, that of the continual flooding during rainy weather of the basement of M. J. Saunders at 1207 Water Street.

Ald. Youngs then moved the traffic committee investigate the introduction of signs at the corner of McBride Street and Third Avenue West, to prohibit left turns at certain times of the day.

As a final thought for the year he respectfully suggested to Mayor P. J. Lester that in the coming year the standing committees not be made up of the entire council but be composed of smaller groups meeting at irregular times.

"In the past two years, under the present system it has meant four council meetings a month and the board of works committee hasn't been out as a whole to see an entire public works project."

Mayor Lester said he would take Ald. Youngs' suggestions under advisement.

**STRANGE MISHAP**

GUELPH, Ont. (CP) — Mrs. Helen Dermo found the roof of her car had been damaged while in a city parking lot. Police believe it caved in under the weight of pranksters climbing on the roof.



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