



A cross section of the crowd of 50,000 that stood in front of the entrance as Sid Grauman opened the new Chinese theatre in Los Angeles.

50,000 Stand at Entrance as Grauman Opens "Chinese"

D. W. Griffith, Cecil B. DeMille and Will Hays Are Speakers
on Program at Premiere; Mary Pickford Presses
Button to Start Show

(Special to the Herald)

HOLLYWOOD, May 24.—Fifty thousand eager fans crowded Hollywood Boulevard, in the vicinity of the Chinese theatre, to witness its opening by Sid Grauman Thursday night. The handling of 2,000 automobiles as well as a 50,000 massed mob presented a problem for the hundred or more police on hand.

HOWEVER, everything went off without casualties. The greatest gathering of notables for any opening was assembled by the world's greatest showman. The specially invited audience began to arrive shortly after eight p. m. and were escorted in by Sid Grauman and his attendants until the rising of the curtain at 9:15. The skies were ablaze with lights and the crowd was awed by the brilliance of the throng who had responded to Grauman's invitation to come and see his new theatre and witness the Western premiere of "The King of Kings."

Unique in Design

The theatre is unique in architectural design, and in its ever-changing lights the beauty of the Chinese decorations.

The attendants were in mandarin robes and blue buttoned caps and the ushers were beautiful girls clad in striking silk costumes.

Fred Niblo introduced D. W. Griffith, who spoke briefly of theatres in general from the early days to the present. Cecil DeMille then made a brief address.

Calls Hays "Most Important"

Will Hays followed DeMille, being introduced by Mr. Griffith as a "man most important" to the motion picture business and also "most important" to the United States.

Mr. Hays, at the conclusion of his address, brought Mary Pickford to the footlights and handed her an electric button. Miss Pickford pressed the button and the curtain rose and the theatre was formally dedicated.

Among those who attended the premiere were Mr. and Mrs. Cecil DeMille, their daughter Cecilia, Leatrice Joy, Dorothy Cumming, Phyllis Haver, Jeanie Macpherson, Elinor Fair, Julia Faye, Lois Wilson, Jacqueline Logan, Lya De Putti, Dolores Del Rio, Mabel Normand, Laura LaPlante, Alma Rubens, Colleen Moore, Mary Philbin, Gertrude Olmsted, Mae Busch, Marie Dressler, Hedda Hopper.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Mayer, their daughters Edith and Irene, Winifred Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Rockett, Mr. and Mrs. Al Rockett, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Marin of New York, May McAvoy, Betty Blythe, Mr. and Mrs. Jean Hersholt.

Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford, Mrs. Charlotte Pickford, Ruth Rowland, Bebe Daniels, Priscilla Dean, Vilma Banky, Sally Rand, Vera Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. Sol Lesser, Anita Stewart, Patsy Ruth Miller, Mayor James Rolf of San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rapp, Mr. D. J. Grauman, Mr. and Mrs. Renaud Hoffman and Mayor George E. Cryer of Los Angeles.