

HOLLYWOOD

Rita Hayworth steps into the top spot in the Columbia production, "Tonight and Every Night." Janet Blair has the second feminine lead. . . . 20th-Fox is all set for the release of "Roger Touhy-Gangster" following FBI okay. . . . Ethel Barrymore returns to the screen after 11 years' absence to share stellar honors with Cary Grant in "None but the Lonely Heart." . . . J. Carroll Naish will play the main character role in Paramount's "A Medal for Benny." . . . Jean Arthur co-stars with Lee Bowman in a comedy of hasty wartime marriages titled "The Impatient Years." . . . Henry Hull goes into the cast of "Good Night, Sweetheart," which has Ruth Terry and Robert Livingston, ex-cowboy star, in the romantic leads. . . . "Lost in a Harem" is Abbott and Costello's next, with Marilyn Maxwell supplying the heart interest. . . Alice Faye will play the role of Cissy in the film version of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." . . . Cagney Productions has bought the screen rights to "Only the Valiant," by Charles Marquis Warren. Burroughs Mitchell PhM3c, editor of The Courier at Norfolk (Va.) Naval Hospital, started this one off to success when he was associate editor of Argosy magazine and a reader for the Macmillan Company, which published the book. . . James Melton, Ann Sothern and Fannie Brice are in the screen version of "Ziegfeld Follies." . . . Gene Kelly has the leading dancing and romantic role in "Anchors Aweigh," in which Frank Sinatra is starred. . . . Ann Miller's next is the musical, "Eadie Was a Lady." . . . Ella Mae Morse, of "Cow Cow Boogie" fame, has signed a two-picture deal with Universal. . . . In the coming "Something for the Boys," Carmen Miranda will sing "Mairzy

BAND BEAT

Doats." . . . John Hodiak has the lead opposite Lana Turner in "Marriage Is a Private Affair."

Vaughan Monroe scored well at the Commodore Hotel's Century Room, New York, when he opened his sixth engagement there. Dell Parker supplied the feminine vocal interest. . . . Lina Romay, vocalist



with Xavier Cugat for more than three years, will leave about May 1 for Hollywood, where she is under contract to MGM. . . . Duke Ellington, playing an RKO Theater date in Boston recently, spoke before the Colleges of Music of Harvard and Boston U. His subject was "Negro Music in America." . . . Charlie Ventura, saxman, has broken with

Teddy Powell's crew and joined the Jon Arthur band at the Shangri-La in Philadelphia. . . . Jimmy Cook is the new vocalist with Tommy Dorsey's outfit. . . . Sonny Dunham goes into the Sherman Hotel, Chicago, on May 19. . . . Jimmy Palmer, vocalist, has taken over the baton of the Grace Barrie band. . . . Charlie Agnew's band is at the Rainbow Randevu in Salt Lake City. . . . Red Norvo and his new six-piece outfit is rocking em at the Preview in Chicago. . . . Glen Island Casino, N. Y., reopens on May 25 with Bob Strong's orchestra featured . . . Horace Heidt's orchestra comes out of semiretirement this summer. . . . Ann Cornell debuted recently as vocalist with John Kirby's crew. . . . Tony Pastor moves into the Terrace Room of New York's Hotel New Yorker for eight weeks starting May 1.

> d May 26 By the men . . . for the men in the service