**BBC-MOVIE PACT**

A CLOSER alliance between the BBC television department and British motion picture theatre operators may result from discussions now in progress in London. Agreement may enable the BBC to telesport events now priced beyond its financial reach and allow the theatre people to receive theatrical reproduction rights.

If the desired outcome is achieved, BBC would authorize large-screen reproduction of its telecasts of outstanding sports and other special events by the motion picture theatres. For such events the theatres could increase admission charges. A percentage of the increased revenue from the theatre box offices would be turned over to the BBC for use in paying for the television rights.

As a non-profit organization licensed by the government as the exclusive broadcaster of aural and video programs and supported by taxes on receiving sets, the BBC has only limited funds available for rights.

It is understood that $2,000 is the most ever paid for video sports rights in England, an infinitesimal sum in comparison to telecasting sports fees in America.

BBC also will use the discussions to try to obtain certain newsreel privileges it now lacks. Unwillingness of the British newsreel makers to make any of their products available to the BBC has forced it to set up its own newsreel department, which currently produces two quarter-hour news programs a week for BBC telecasts.

Competition between theatre and broadcast newsmakers has made it difficult and in some cases impossible for BBC cameramen to cover some events. It would like to secure full rights for its cameramen. Deal may also include permission for the BBC to televise some feature films for its home viewing.

Appointment of Norman Collins, BBC controller of television, to the board of governors of the National Film Institute of Great Britain was taken by industry observers to indicate that the present discussions are being taken seriously by both sides and may produce important results in the not too distant future. The appointment was announced last Monday in London.

Mr. Collins learned of his appointment in New York where he spent last week observing American television and, viewing the premier showing in the United States (at New York’s 72d St. Translux Theater) of the film made from his best selling novel, Dulcamera Street.

Confirming reports from London, Mr. Collins said:

“Discussions concerning the future of large screen television in British cinemas are taking place at this moment in London, under government auspices.

“A committee has been formed with the purpose of examining the interest in, and potentialities of, the projection of full scale, feature films and other top-line entertainment films in the cinema and on television and the sharing of rights in their exploitation, both in Britain and abroad.”

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