

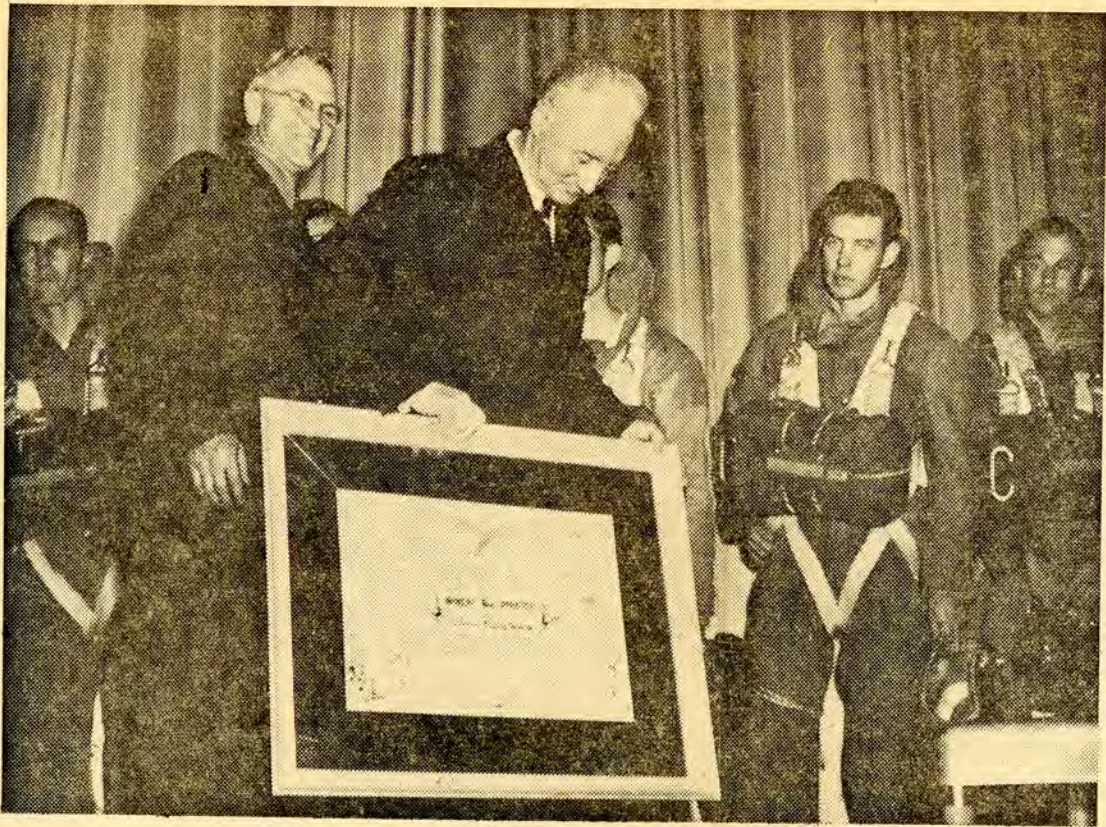
Forest Service Equipment Shown in Premiere Parade



Missoulian-Sentinel Photo

Bulldozers, smoke jumpers, radio equipment and truckloads of logs joined musicians and motion picture personnel in a parade on Higgins avenue Sunday as part of the "Red Skies of Montana" premiere program. Two planes of the Johnson Flying service, a Ford trimotor and a helicopter, passed back and forth over the city as the parade column moved south on the ground. The trimotor is at top of this view. Higgins avenue was lined with spectators. The parade began at the scheduled time, 3:30 p. m., and was led by Evan W. Kelley, retired regional forester and a former president of the Missoula Chamber of Commerce. He was in charge of parade arrangements.

Views of 'Red Skies of Montana' Premiere



Robert R. Johnson, center, veteran western Montana airman and operator of the Johnson Flying service, Sunday evening at the Fox theater was presented with a scroll in recognition of "outstanding service to the cause of conservation..." The presentation was made by P. D. Hanson, left, forester for forest service region No. 1. The photograph was taken just after the award was made. In the background are smoke-jumpers.



Bob Graham, center, and Helene Stanley, motion picture players here for the premiere of "Red Skies of Montana," filmed in the Missoula vicinity, Sunday afternoon were the center of interest of children standing on the curb in front of Hotel Florence. The actor and actress were on their way to take part in a conservation parade.

20th Century-Fox Premieres 'Red Skies' Here

Missoula blazoned on its history Sunday a new milestone in the fields of forest conservation and entertainment with the world premiere of the smoke-jumping motion picture, "Red Skies of Montana," at the Fox theater. Under the leadership of the Missoula Chamber of Commerce, the city

Root Praises Support Of Premiere

Missoula's first world premiere was "a fine demonstration of community interest and support," H. F. Root, president of the Missoula Chamber of Commerce, said Sunday night at the completion of the Chamber-sponsored day of celebration in connection with the initial showing at the Fox and Roxy theaters of "Red Skies of Montana."

"The Chamber of Commerce couldn't have done the job alone. It was entirely a community project," the Chamber head commented.

"H. C. Jensen, chairman of the tourists and promotion committee of the Chamber, is the man who really got the ball rolling. He organized and co-ordinated the various events and brought the celebration to a successful climax," the president said.

He and Mr. Jensen expressed appreciation for the planning assistance received from Oakley E. Coffee, Ralph W. Dickson, Walter H. McLeod, W. L. Murphy and Dr. F. Gordon Reynolds.

Forest Service Lauded

"The all-out support given by the forest service is especially appreciated by the Chamber," Root said. "P. D. Hanson, regional forester, recognizing at once the possibilities for conservation promotion offered by the premiere, put all the resources of the regional headquarters office at the disposal of Mr. Jensen.

"Our city officials gave us every co-operation. They furnished a patrol for the parade and special police along the line of march and at the premiere showing, got their graders out before dawn scraping off the streets for the marchers, and Mayor Ralph L. Starr himself was on hand to be in the parade.

"That parade, by the way, was a fine job of organizing by Evan W. Kelley, retired regional forester, and showed imagination in the way it pointed up conservation," Root added. "And both the Chamber and Mr. Kelley are appreciative of the generous contribution of the parade's entrants, many of whom went to considerable expenditure of time and money to prepare their exhibits.

"Appropriately, the horse on which Kelley rode as parade marshal is named Smokechaser. The

went "all out" to express its appreciation to Twentieth Century-Fox Film corporation for its efforts in behalf of forest conservation and for making Missoula its scene as well as filming much of it here.

In addition to the premiere showing, highlights of the day's celebration were presentation of scrolls to Samuel G. Engel, producer of "Red Skies of Montana," and Robert R. Johnson of the Johnson Flying service of Missoula, pioneer flyer; the appearance of a Hollywood star and two stars of tomorrow, Bill Lundigan, Bob Graham and Helen Stanley, and a parade exemplifying forest conservation.

It was a scene familiar to motion picture fans as the Hollywood party arrived at the Fox theater to appear on the stage. There were photographers' flash bulbs, a newsreel cameraman from Fox-Movietone, announcers, a Kleig light shooting a beam far into the sky, exploding aerial bombs and ropes to keep the crowd back.

Mr. Engel received his scroll from Governor John W. Bonner, who came from Helena to help the Garden city honor the motion picture personality. The scroll, framed with Montana pine and copper, said: "We, the people of the state of Montana, cognizant of the magnificent contribution to the cause of conservation made through the writing and filming of the motion picture, 'Red Skies of Montana,' do hereby cite Samuel G. Engel, producer, as the subject of their especial friendship, gratitude and appreciation." It was signed by Mr. Bonner and Sam W. Mitchell, secretary of state, and the state's great seal was affixed.

Johnson Gets Scroll

Mr. Johnson received his scroll, which was similarly framed, from P. D. Hanson, regional forester. The scroll said: "The U. S. forest service on behalf of the people of the Pacific northwest, recognizing outstanding service to the cause of conservation, presents this award of merit to Robert (Bob) Johnson of the Johnson Flying service. His pioneering development of aerial technique for fire control, his pre-eminent leadership in mountain flying and his acceptance of assignments beyond the call of duty have made a contribution unique in the annals of forest conservation."

In making the presentation, Mr. Hanson, who signed the scroll, praised the veteran flyer for the role he has played in the aerial delivery of equipment and supplies, the aerial detection of fires and the aerial rescue of injured and