

An Open Letter to the North Shore Members of the "No Man's Land" Moving Picture Syndicate

Mr. Ayres Boal, 701 Sheridan Rd., Winnetka

Mr. H. C. Edmonds, 670 Blackthorn Rd., Winnetka

Mr. Henry T. Stanton, 698 Blackthorn Rd., Winnetka

Mr. A. W. Shaw, Locust Rd., Winnetka

Mr. Mancel T. Clark, 76 Locust Rd., Winnetka

Mr. Gilbert H. Scribner, 812 Ash St., Winnetka

Mr. H. O. Edmonds, 37 Kenilworth Ave., Kenilworth

Mr. Alfred T. Carton, Laurel Ave., Lake Forest

GENTLEMEN:

You are about to impose Sunday moving picture performances on a community that has always voted and legislated against them.

Your spokesman, Mr. Ayres Boal, openly stated to Kenilworth and Wilmette representatives that you intend to build apartment houses adjacent to your theater in "No-Man's Land."

And you have strenuously opposed through your attorney and otherwise, passage of House Bill 51 at Springfield which would give Wilmette the authority to annex, regulate and police "No-Man's Land."

A few weeks ago, certain members of your syndicate made overtures to come in under Wilmette jurisdiction under certain conditions. Mr. Ayres Boal, Mr. H. C. Edmonds and Mr. Henry T. Stanton, met with Kenilworth and Wilmette officials and representatives in the office of State Representative, Howard P. Castle. They stated that you might be willing to come into Wilmette providing a referendum was held in Wilmette on the subject of Sunday movies and that you were given assurance that the Wilmette Zoning Board would zone all property in "No-Man's Land" for business purposes.

Wilmette officials told you that they would willingly agree to the referendum and that they would zone everything for business purposes except a narrow fringe along Tenth Street and a narrow fringe backing up against Chestnut Street—this they would want to zone for residential purposes for the protection of the adjacent property holders.

That arrangement apparently did not appeal to your representatives and I asked Mr. Boal the direct question: "What do you intend to put on that property along Tenth Street?" "Why we figured on

putting apartments up there and having our parking space behind them," he replied.

Your representatives also stated at that time that you might not be able to get some of the other owners of "No-Man's Land" property to join you in the annexation move and we showed them how it was possible under the law for you people to accomplish this all by yourselves. You agreed to consider the matter and again get in touch with us at the end of a week.

You did not advise us at the end of a week as agreed, but after about 3 weeks you announced that you were no longer interested in the plan and would go no further in working it out.

Why this change of attitude? Was it because during that time Evanston voted 2 to 1 against Sunday movies—and Evanston is our most cosmopolitan and metropolitan North Shore suburb? Was it because of this fact that you decided not to take chances on a Wilmette referendum and preferred rather to stay "outside the law" of the surrounding community?

Tell us then, Gentlemen, how in the light of all these things, how in the light of your long residence on the North Shore and the privileges you have enjoyed as its residents—how in the light of everything considered that has transpired, you can feel justified in soliciting the patronage of this North Shore community for your theatrical enterprise.

The North Shore would like to know. It wants to treat you fairly but it also wants to be treated fairly. Wilmette and Kenilworth officials showed at the conference that they were willing to go to any reasonable extent in protecting your financial investments but at the same time desired to protect the financial investments and the community life of North Shore property holders.

Very truly yours,

NEW TRIER CITIZENS COMMITTEE

ARTHUR BONNET, Chairman.

New Trier Citizens:—Have You Written to Springfield Yet?

Put your influence behind House Bill 51. Write, wire and talk to any State Representative or Senator you know or can get in contact with. Tell him you want the Bill passed so *your* home and *your* community can be protected from unrestricted, unregulated and unwelcome development. Do this *now*, we need your help. And if you can spare \$10 toward the fund to win this fight, send it. We need money, too. Address NEW TRIER CITIZENS COMMITTEE, KENILWORTH, ILL.