
First National Pictures photographs

Special Collections

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Descriptive Summary

Title: First National Pictures photographs

Date (inclusive): 1920-1931

Collection number: 1092

Creator: First National Pictures

Extent: 30 linear feet of photographs.

Repository: Margaret Herrick Library. Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Languages: English

Access

Available by appointment only.

Publication rights

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Preferred Citation

First National Pictures photographs, Margaret Herrick Library, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Sid and Diana Avery, 1989-1991, with additions from Kay E. Kuter and Jean Kuter Harvey, 1991

Biography

First National Pictures was an American motion picture exhibitor and producer. The company, founded in 1917 as First National Exhibitors Circuit, Inc., was formed by 27 independent motion picture exhibitors. In 1922 it opened a studio in Burbank, California, and began producing its own films. Between 1920 and 1925 the company was known as Associated First National Pictures. In 1928 Warner Bros. absorbed First National by acquiring the Stanley Company, First National's majority stockholder. Shortly thereafter, Warner Bros. moved its principal production facility to First National's Burbank lot. Under the terms of the acquisition agreement, First National was still considered a separate production entity and remained so at least until the early 1930s. Even after that, primarily in the 1930s and 1940s, certain Warner Bros. films were designated as First National productions and releases. The First National banner occasionally appeared on some Warner Bros. films as late as 1956.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

The First National Pictures photographs span the years 1920-1931 and encompass 30 linear feet. The collection consists of 18,370 photographic prints for 144 films. The majority of the material consists of scenes, but there are also many off-camera and publicity portrait photographs. Typical files average more than 100 photographs per title.

Arrangement

Arranged in the following series: 1. Motion picture production photographs

Indexing Terms

First National Pictures
