

Film Conference - Dr. Armstrong's Office - July 12, 1932

Present:

Dr. Armstrong	Mr. Jacoby
Dr. Lanza	Mr. Goldman
Dr. Galdston	Miss Crosby

The conference was taken up with a rather detailed discussion of the revised scenario. The following subjects were discussed:

1. Music

Mr. Goldman reported that a very attractive score was being worked out, that the stringed instruments would be featured, that the music would fade out when the Professor talked.

2. Conversation and Lecture

While conversation between characters will be taken at the same time as the picture, it is understood that the accompanying lecture will be put in after the film has been taken in its silent form. In this way, it will be possible to fit it in to the action, and to fit in the music.

3. Introductory scene

Dr. Lanza raised the question as to whether the present plan of introducing the film with the plague scene which is not the central theme of the scenario will be confusing. Would it be better to stick to the original plan of beginning with the lecture room and introducing the humorous element of a rough house in a medical lecture - perhaps women students.

4. Placis Scene

Mr. Goldman plans to have this a cafe scene showing listeners at other tables and introducing the possibility of some humor.

5. In general, it was agreed to use the term "germ" all through the film rather than "microbe", "bacteria", etc. with the possible exception of using "animalcula".

6. Mad Dog Scene

There was a question as to whether it is wise to show an actual dog because of the possibility of too horrible a scene. Mr. Goldman suggested a phantom over-flash of a dog, but it was generally agreed that it could be left out entirely particularly as space is at a premium, and that in its place more footage could be given to the Von Behring scene in which he gives the first dose of antitoxin.

7. Possibility of more definite tie-up to present health practices

To meet the argument as to how this film could be more practically tied up to the Company's health program, it was suggested that in at least three instances the modern application of this work could be shown:

- a. When smallpox is being discussed a statement could be made to the effect that vaccination, there as now, would have wiped out this disease. (show vaccination?)
- b. When discussing Pasteur and his experiments with heat, a definite mention of pasteurization of milk could be made and scenes introduced showing cows, the pasteurization plant, and the baby.
- c. In the diphtheria scene, a definite statement should be included to the effect that toxin-antitoxin and tetoid now make it possible to protect children against ever having this disease. (possible shot at toxin-antitoxin administration)

If necessary to sacrifice scenes to put in this additional material, the scene of old New York could be taken out, the malaria reference, and even the cholera episode in the story of Koch.

Dr. Childston suggested that if additional space is still needed, the emphasis should be kept on the Von Behring incident and then simple references should be made to Koch and others and the diseases on which they made discoveries.

8. Dr. Dublin's comment as to whether Lister's work was being credited too much to the influence of Pasteur was discussed, but it was felt that there was a good historical basis for the present story.

9. Ending

Dr. Armstrong suggested that the microscope was not an exciting ending and he urged some sort of picture indicating that the reason for all this work in the final analysis was the happiness and well-being of individuals.

It was agreed and suggested that a picture showing a baby, a child, a group of children, and possibly a beautiful girl diving, might well be substituted.

10. Specific Phrases To Be Changed or Emphasized

- a. On page 3, emphasize the word "heat" in some way.
- b. Use the expression "free" and not "keep free".
- c. On page 4, in the Lister scene, suggested wording: "in this way with the use of chemicals as Pasteur had with heat". It was urged that the word "kill" not be used.

If the mad dog scene is still kept or if the wording is included, the sentence should read: "As in his work with anthrax vaccine, he had demonstrated the third important way of combating germs, that is, by biological action such as the use of vaccines and antitoxins."

- d. Koch - T.B. bacillus - 1882 not 1884
- e. On the last page, omit the allusion to helpful bacteria in water, but strengthen the idea that all germs are not bad germs and that many of them are essential to life.

July 13, 1932

Helen Crosby -
Assistant Welfare Supervisor