

Wheeler Film Attack on Court Change Is Censored in Kansas

Prediction He Would Lose Patronage Deleted in March of Time Movie; Senator 'Wonders' if Washington Gave Order.

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A prediction by Senator Burlon K. Wheeler (Democrat), of Montana, that the Administration will strip him of patronage in retaliation for his fight on the President's court plan has been deleted from the current issue of March of Time by the Kansas State Board of Review.

This announcement, made here last night by the Washington office of the motion picture organization, drew the statement from Wheeler that the action "ought to qualify the Governor of that State for the dictatorship of the United States."

The Senator also wondered, he added, if "orders" to the board of review had been sent from Washington.

The deleted section of the film, which was devoted to "a survey of the Nation-wide controversy over the plan to increase the number of justices in the court," and to the

fight on the Wagner labor bill, read as follows:

"You can say that the privilege of appointing postmasters will not be accorded to me. You can say that I'll get no more projects for my State. You can say what you please, but I say to you and to Mr. Farley, to everybody else, that I will vote against this proposition because it is morally wrong; it is morally unsound; it is a dangerous proceeding."

The chairman of the Kansas board, Miss Mae Clausen, denied "orders

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from Washington," according to a United Press dispatch from Kansas City. She said:

"We had no orders from Washington, as Senator Wheeler hints.

"We had no word from Gov. Walter Huxman, either.

"The board is made up of two Republicans, Mrs. L. H. Chapman and Mrs. J. R. Stowers, and myself, a Democrat."

Calls Governor Dictator.

"Of course, this is a denial of free speech and qualifies the Governor of Kansas for dictatorship in the United States," Wheeler added. "If Mr. Roosevelt can pack the Supreme Court, the Governor of Kansas, if elected President, could say we needed a court to override the bill of rights and he would do it to meet the needs of the times.

"This is one of the best reasons I know of why we should not tamper with the Constitution or the Supreme Court.

The March of Time announcement said:

"Orders to cut the speech were received by T. B. Thompson, branch manager of RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. in Kansas City, in charge of distribution of the March of Time in that territory, from Miss Clausen, * * * who wrote: 'We are approving the print of the March of Time No. 9 with elimination of the entire dialogue by Senator Wheeler. We feel this dialogue is partisan and biased.'

"To the best of our knowledge this is the first time that a statement on a national political issue by an accredited authority like a U. S. Senator has been censored from the screen by a State board."