The Society for Cinephiles held their annual convention here in Hollywood at the Hollywood Roosevelt and it was a ball! I had the distinct pleasure and honor to be seated at the head table for their big banquet and had the time of my life. Cinecon II, as the convention was called, presented a three day orgy of film de-lights for buffs and students that was really incredible. Everything from silent films to cartoons to short subjects to 3 hours of previews of coming attractions to feature films. Just before the banquet they had screened."Up-York' in tribute to JACK OAKIE town New and after the banquet, "Broadway Melody of 1936" in tribute to ELEANOR POWELL, And in between, the audience was treated to a parade of former film favorites from the late show who proved that they are definitely not getting older, they are getting better. A series of scrolls were presented for career achievement, FIFI DORSAY was the first and she brought

the house down with some one liners like "I used to be a sexpot, now I'm a sextygenarian" and "I'm old enough for medicare and too old for men to care," and then she told the group of ardent movie fans that "Fox had burned all their old films and that's why you can't find her on the late show," MARY BRIAN & RICHARD ARLEN were next, Mary still as sweet and lovely as when she was a star in the 30's and Arlen, deeply tanned and quite pleased when the entire group sang "Happy Birthday" to him. He had just turned 75 and the night before he had been feted by BUDDY ROGERS & MARY PICKFORD at Pickfair. What a party that must have been! JACKIE COOGAN, famed as "The Kid" to fans years ago and famous to today's kids for his 'The Addamms Family' took one look at a young lady sitting near him and said 'I have a tie that's older than you,' ALAN DWAN, famed director, remarked that at age 91, he thought youngsters like Arien had a long way to go DAVID BUTLER, another great director, MARC LAWRENCE (you'd remember him if you saw him, he always played the gangster), and WILLIS O'BRIEN, father of motion picture animation were other honorees.

JANE WITHERS came up to draw the door prizes and told us that she had been after Coogan's autograph for 30 years and when she finally got it earlier that evening, he had signed it 'never trust a child star' and that she had 17 scrapbooks of Eleanor Powell. Withers is THE movie fan in Hollywood, OAKIE was next and he cracked the audience up as usual ending with "I may not have a college degree but I'm summa cum laude at Graumann's Chinese," Eleanor Powell was completely thrilled with her award and startled the guests by saying "this is the first award that I have ever received for my work on the screen," She also said that "Broadway Melody of 1936" was her first MGM film and that her co-star ROBERT TAYLOR had made only one film before and he was still getting \$35 a week for this film. Still looking terrific Eleanor also informed us that she had only 10 tap lessons n her whole life and it had cost her \$35, Best investment I ever made." Her closing "Whenever you who lines were very touching, lines were very touching, "Whenever you who have made this evening such a pleasure for me see any of my old films, and you hear the best of my feet, it's really the best of my heart saying thank you." Now that's class and that sums up Cinecon II. I wish they had their convention in Hollywood every year. Special thanks to Martin Kearns for making my participation possible.

They don't make movies like that anymore. Watch an oldie but goodie- on TV this week and see what I mean,

GULF OIL REGRETS ARAB PAYOFF

NEW YORK, N.Y. The Gulf Oil

Corporation's \$50,000 contribution to a proorganization should not have been made and will not happen again, according to a letter from B. R. Dorsey, chairman of the board, Graubard, Seymour national chairman of Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Mr. Dorsey's letter was the climax of a series of conferences correspondence and between ADL and Gulf following the dis-closure last May that the oil corporation's subsidiary Bahamas had made the contribution through City First National Bank's office in Beirut to a seeking "a group better seeking understanding" of the Arab position

various issues. The Gulf official told Mr. Graubard that he "had no knowledge of the contribution at the time it was made" shared and that he ADL's concern about

it. "It is my Mr. Dorsey said "that company should not have made contribution to support political activities for foreign in-terests in the United States, and I can assure you it was never our intention to do so. The contribution in question was regrettable, and you may be certain that it will not happen again.

Mr. Dorsey testimony before the Senate Foreign Rela-Committee's tion sub - committee on

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multi - national corporations on May le had voluntarily re the contrivealed bution.

The testimony made national news and caused widespread concern and demands for action. On May 27, 11 days after Mr. Dorsey's appearance before the subcommiteee, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations adopted a resolution advising its membership to "apmembership to prove and endorse acts of conscience taken by individual members, reacting to the Gulf Oil Corporation gift to Arab sources Beirut, Lebanon, for propaganda purposes in the United States,

An investigation under the direction of Forster, Arnold associate director and general that since counsel. time revealed that in spite of the most exof tensive search the company's comrecords, Gulf officials had been unable to find who had authorized the funds.

Mr. Forster and Mr. Graubard said today that as League meetings with Gulf officials progressed, it became obvious that they were deeply conthe cerned about contributions and consuch gifts sidered improper for totally an American company

to make.
They went on to say that Mr. Dorsey and had his associates completely been forthright in their to responses League throughout the many weeks of consultations.

The Anti-Defamation League's analysis subcommittee revealed research that the contribution had been made to Affair International Consultants, now defunct defunct organization that had been fairly FRIDAY, SEPT. 12, 1975 its obscure during lifetime. Further ADL research showed that the funds in question had gone to Beirut because the treasurer of the organization was living there.

The money, Mr. Forster said, had been used in America to help subsidize a publication that dealt with such things as alleged Violations of the human rights of Palestinians in Israeli Administered Territories. The funds had also been used to help finance a pro-Arab book and one or other minor pro-Arab ventures.

The Anti-Defamation League regularly reported to and shared its findings and con-Presidents' the Conference, whose leaders agreed that in the interest of better understanding, the findings and the resulting resolution of the affair be made public.



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