

Alexander Is Given Lead In Dam Picture

10-16-35
HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16. (U.P.)—Ross Alexander, whose work in "Midsummer Night's Dream," and "Shipmates Forever" won plaudits from critics all over the United States, today was assigned to play the male lead in the Boulder dam picture, "Backfire," which will go into production at Warner brothers' studio in the near future.

The story for the picture is an adaptation of Dan Templin's original yarn, adapted for the screen by Ralph Block, Sy Bartlett and Laird Doyle.

Ann Dvorak has been given the top feminine spot and Lyle Talbot will be featured in the film as well. The direction of the film has been turned over to Frank McDonald.

Warner Brothers announced this morning that "Backfire" will go into production as soon as Alexander finishes work in "Captain Blood" a film that is now in the course of filming.

The male lead in the picture originally was scheduled for James Cagney, but at the time Cagney was given the film certain obstacles arose over outdoor shots at Boulder dam and the picture was shelved for others.

Several days ago, it was announced that William Gargan would be featured in the picture but today's announcement indicates that the personnel of the cast has been definitely assigned and that work will be started as soon as possible.

Warner Brothers refused to state whether a large company of film artists would be taken to Las Vegas and Boulder dam for the outdoor sequences, but when the picture originally was scheduled for production, it was reported that a company of some 50 persons would be sent into Nevada to shoot scenes in that area.