

# OPEN TODD-AO FACILITIES FOR INDUSTRY INSPECTION

## Showing Within Ten Days on Kling Lot

Within 10 days the new Todd-AO dubbing, scoring and looping facilities at Kling Studios will be opened officially for inspection by the industry. Several unique technical innovations are to be unveiled then at the lot, where it has taken about three months to install some \$1,000,000 worth of Todd-AO equipment, it was also learned.

Presently, equipment and space is being utilized by Michael Todd's "Around the World in 80 Days" company for additional sound effects on the film. They have been at work there since Feb. 24 and are expected to finish shortly.

Todd-AO facilities on the Kling lot are handled by S. A. Sanford. Sound work is headed up by Fred Hynes. There will be a nucleus of six men supervising the high-priced equipment.

Cost of other Todd-AO cameras and projectors, etc., away from Kling are estimated at \$4,000,000.

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On arrival back here from Paris yesterday Mike Todd announced the first five openings of his "Around the World in 80 Days." The world premiere will be in New York Sept. 7. A month later it bows in London with a big charity premiere for the Old Newspapermen's Fund. In November there will be a Paris premiere and about three weeks later it will be unfurled in Mexico City. The Los Angeles opening will follow, coming around Christmas week.

In each spot Todd is leasing theatres on a four-wall basis, placing his own theatre personnel for the runs.

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The Academy Award given the Todd-AO sound department for recording of "Oklahoma!" makes 23 Oscars won by recordings on Westrex equipment.

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Mike Todd, who sat next to us, applauded loudest when Fred Hynes won for his sound recording of Todd-AO's "Oklahoma!"

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## Todd-AO Opening Doors to Industry

The Motion Picture Production Division of the Todd-AO Corp. yesterday opened its entire recording, dubbing, looping and scoring facilities to the industry, following a half-hour demonstration and tour of the setup for the press.

The equipment, which includes a unique closed circuit TV system for scoring, will now be available for majors and independents alike, and it will be accessible for all methods of theatrical projection. The cost for installing the equipment is estimated at \$1,000,000. Mobile operation of projection equipment will offer use of facilities on any one of the three stages.

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## Todd-AO Negotiations

Two companies, one major and one big indie, are reported to be in negotiations for the use of the Todd-AO process. Thus far only "Oklahoma!" and Michael Todd's "Around the World in 80 Days" have been made for the 70mm projection method.

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A 15-minute short titled "This Is Todd-AO" will be released in about two months to precede bookings of "Oklahoma!" The short, made by Pictorial Research of New York, will in-

clude six-channel sound and other "participation" not demonstrated in "Oklahoma!"

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## SMPTE Coast Meet Takes Up Todd-AO

The Pacific Coast Section of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers will meet next Tuesday in a dual session, the first at 7 p.m. and the second at 8:45 p.m., in the Todd-AO Dubbing-Review Room at Kling Studios. Aspects of the Todd-AO process will comprise the agenda.

The San Francisco sub-section of the society meets March 29 for inspection of the Todd-AO installation at the Coronet Theatre in that city.

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