THE STORY

Believing his father to have killed a man, Tommy Doyle, a little Cockney, runs away from their Bowmore lodgings and seeks sanctuary within the arches of his dream castle, Tower Bridge. He makes his home high in the North Tower, furnishing the uppermost room with all the ingenuity of a nine-year-old boy. Here he makes one friend, a seagull he calls Sammy. To the bey the bridge is a living character with a personality of its own and the cawings, creakings, engine rooms and bascule chambers are a magic world in which he is king. Although he takes care never to be seen, the maintenance staff become aware of a strange "personage" and when his timely death prevents a suicide the papers follow up the story that has won the hearts of London. Following the boy to the top of the Tower, he realizes the building has become father, mother and home to the boy, all the things he should have been. He explains that the bridge which was built to bring people together has brought them together too. As Sammy flies away to join his own kind Tommy zeroes to come home.

THE CAST

Tommy Doyle ................. Ian Maclaine
Polly Doyle .................. Lise Redmond
Tugboat skipper ............. James Hayter
Tugboat engineer .......... Norman Maclean
Bridge master ............... Geoffrey Keen
Marketer porter ............. Jack MacGowan
Evangelist ................... Royal Dano
Bridge mechanic ............ Rob Sheen
Young girl ................. Joscelyn Britton
Biltingspate buyer ............ Nigel Arkwright
Biltingspate salesman .... Brian Simmons
Organ grinder ............... Andreas Malandros
Publican of the Globe ..... Stuart Saunders

Publican's wife ............. Chili Boushier
Landlady ..................... Elita Webb
Yeoman warder ............. Meadows White
Publican of the Angel ..... Toddy Kennedy
Police-constables ............ Neil Wilson

THE CREDITS

Screenplay by Geoffrey Orme, Kevin McClory and Desmond O'Donovan; Based on a story by Leon Ware; Produced and Directed by Kevin McClory; Associate Producer, David East; 2nd Unit Director, Desmond O'Donovan; Production Supervisor, Leigh Amari; Assistant Director, Bluey Hill; Lighting Cameraman, Ted Saffle; Sound Manager, David Cogan; Sound Camera Operator, Harry Tate; Art Director, William Huston; Music Supervisor, Edith Allen; Music arranged and conducted by Malcolm Arnold; Waltz composed by Josephine Bryer; A Xanadu Production; A Columbia Picture. 

A BRITISH PICTURE made at Twickenham and Shepperton Studios, England.

Length 8148 feet Running Time 91 minutes Certificate "U" Registered No. BR/E 24504
**FANTASY AND REALITY**

A film which combines fantasy and reality with magical success is due on October 12th at the Theatre. Starring the sensational new child discovery Ian MacLaine and distinguished Irish actor Liam Redmond, it is the Xanadu Production for Columbia Pictures' release, "The Boy and the Bridge." This enchanting story of a little cockney truant's story-book existence high in one of the turrets of London's Tower Bridge was selected as the official British entry of the Venice Film Festival.

Advance reports are unanimous in their acclaim of nine-year-old Ian MacLaine's portrayal of a neglected small boy who runs away from his father and their squattled Bermondsey lodgings to make a home of his own on the Bridge. Here, in a fairy tale world of catwalks, engine rooms and bussle chambers, he escapes from the harsh outside world. Sharing a world with him is a seagull which he gradually tames. His action makes his carelessness but well meaning father realise the boy's need for a real home. Liam Redmond is said to play the latter role with a careful astuteness that keeps the part sympathetic. Described as by no means least among a fine supporting cast, which includes such stalwarts as James Hayter and Geoffrey Keen, is the amazing feathered performer who portrays the boy's only friend, Sammy the seagull.

Geoffrey Orme, Kevin McCleory and Desmond O'Donovan wrote the screenplay of "The Boy and the Bridge" from a story by Leon Ware. Kevin McCleory produced and directed.

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**NEW CHILD STAR**

A short twelve months ago an unknown cockney boy was chosen by director Kevin McCleory to play the lead in an important new production. On the film set nine-year-old Ian MacLaine was watched by eminent film critic John Huston and rated by him as "the greatest find since Jackie Coogan." That was no idle statement; he judged it from the completed motion picture, "The Boy and the Bridge," now showing at the Theatre. Ian stars with Liam Redmond and a talented feathered discovery, Sammy the Seagull, in the Xanadu Production for Columbia Pictures' release which was the official British entry at the Venice Film Festival.

The search for a lad to play the little cockney runaway who makes his home within London's famous Tower Bridge proved to be a lengthy one. More than 3,000 boys were interviewed and 16 were actually given screen tests before Ian was finally selected.

Despite his sudden success, Ian remains a likeable youngster indistinguishable from the other boys in the north London district where he lives. In school football sessions he plays right wing and his idol is Stanley Matthews. His neighbourhood cricket game counts him as "a good bat." The son of an aircraft worker at the De Havilland factory at Hatfield, Ian has never had previous professional experience.

Geoffrey Orme, Kevin McCleory and Desmond O'Donovan wrote the screenplay of "The Boy and the Bridge" from a story by Leon Ware. Kevin McCleory produced and directed.

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**RUNAWAY**

Rated by eminent film critic John Huston as "the greatest find since Jackie Coogan," nine-year-old Ian MacLaine portrays a little boy who makes a home for himself in London's famous Tower Bridge. In the Xanadu Production for Columbia Pictures' release "The Boy and the Bridge," also starring Liam Redmond are Sammy the Seagull, in the Xanadu Production for Columbia Pictures' release "The Boy and the Bridge," also starring Liam Redmond in the Theatre. The film was selected as the official British entry for the 1959 Venice Film Festival.
EXPLOIT THE GREAT BOX OFFICE POTENTIAL OF
"The Boy and The Bridge"

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THE BOY AND THE BRIDGE

NEWSPAPER COMPETITION No. 2

Here is a newspaper competition that should appeal to all your local newspapers.

Here is a mixed-up list of bridges you would pass under when proceeding up the River Thames from Tower Bridge, London Bridge, Southwark Bridge, Albert Bridge, Putney Bridge, Hammersmith Bridge, Waterloo Bridge, Blackfriars Bridge and Westminster Bridge. Readers should be asked to place these bridges in their proper order. The correct order of these bridges can be obtained from Columbia’s Exploitation Department.

NEWSPAPER COMPETITION No. 1
"THE BOY AND THE BRIDGE"

Ian MacLaine has been acclaimed as a Jackie Coogan of our time. This gives you a wonderful opportunity to tie up a personality contest with your local newspaper. Readers should be asked to send in photographs of their small sons up to the age of nine. The newspaper could print three daily and pick out the main three winners at the weekend.

We are sure that a live showman would easily get some very good prizes from your local traders to give the winning boys.

LETTER TO THE HEADMASTER

Send a personal letter to each schoolmaster telling him that, apart from a great interesting story, "The Boy and the Bridge" is for children and adults; that for the first time in any film the wonderful machinery that operates the working of the Tower Bridge can be seen in motion in "The Boy and the Bridge" at your theatre.

Date ..........................................

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A credit card and a still of the Bridge and the Boy will make a very good display for any toy shop, with a credit reading "You can build a Tower Bridge with Meccano sets"—or any other toys, they may have for building bridges.
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