MURDER CAME...

"OUT OF THE FOG"
For George Mallon, ex-convict with a long record, discharge from prison offers no return to real freedom. He has a big chip on his shoulder and is convinced that the effort to start a new life is not worth trying. He is distrustful of all offers of help and aggressively resistant to sympathy. On his discharge he reluctantly agrees to go and stay at a hostel for ex-convicts run by a well-meaning Mr. Daniels, where rooms and good food are provided for old lags and every effort made to find jobs to give them a fresh start. The residents of the hostel are a bright and cheery collection of ex-crooks, forever looking forward to the day of the big robbery that is going to put them all in Easy Street. Their reformation is believed in by nobody but Mr. Daniels, and least of all by the local police.

The lads in the hostel welcome George as a newcomer and amiably invite him to participate in their many little schemes; but George isn't interested. He tells them that when he does a job he prefers to do it alone. Coincidental with George's arrival at the hostel a wave of attacks on girls breaks out, all on a large tract of waste land known locally as The Flats. Over a period of several weeks, two girls are murdered and a third almost strangled. The police turn naturally to investigate the lads in the hostel, and discover that each time a girl is killed, George is somewhere in the vicinity. Superintendent Chadwick regards George as his chief suspect but cannot find sufficient evidence to justify an arrest.

Then Chadwick suddenly realises that the murders on The Flats have a definite pattern—all the victims have been blonde, and each has happened at exactly four-week intervals. From this he infers that the killer may be a homicidal maniac, and that the probable date of the next murder can be predicted with exact accuracy. He selects a young woman police officer, Sgt. June Lock, and instalts her as an employee in the furniture shop at which George is now working as a driver. Her job is to get friendly with George and decoy him into an attack on her so that he can be caught red-handed. All the time, of course, she will have unseen police protection.

The friendship proceeds exactly as planned, except that June begins to have doubts about George's guilt as a killer. On the night of Chadwick's predicted next attack, there is a dense fog and June begins to get frightened when George wants her to go with him across The Flats for a drink on the other side. George is aggressive and insistent, and she finally agrees. Because of the fog, June's police guard has lost touch with her and is not near when she and George walk off into the mist.

Superintendent Chadwick's prediction was right. June is violently attacked in the middle of The Flats and almost strangled.

There is a desperate struggle—the police regain contact—and the killer is finally apprehended.
THE CAST

George Mallon ........................................ DAVID SUMNER
June Lock .................................................. SUSAN TRAVERS
Supt. Chadwick .......................................... JOHN ARNATT
Mr. Daniels .............................................. JAMES HAYTER
Sgt. Tracey .............................................. JACK WATSON
Mrs. Mallon ............................................. OLGA LINDO
Ma .......................................................... RENEE HOUSTON
Chopper .................................................. GEORGE WOODBRIDGE
Tich ....................................................... MICHAEL RIPPER
Ted .......................................................... MICHAEL WYNNE
Harry ...................................................... RICHARD SHAW
Blacky ..................................................... JOHN WOODNUTT
Herb ......................................................... JOHN BROWN
Locky Jackson .......................................... MICHAEL PEAKE
Mrs. Foster ............................................... HILDA FENEMORE
Lily Foster ............................................... CORAL MORPHEW
Muriel Masterson ...................................... MELA WHITE
Governor .................................................... JOHN WELSH
Chaplain ................................................... ANTHONY OLIVER
Landlord ................................................... LARRY BURNS
Manager ..................................................... TONY QUINN
Dorothy ..................................................... PENNY MORELL
Little Girl ................................................ REBECCA DIGNAM
Sgt. ........................................................ ROBIN MAY

TECHNICAL CREDITS

Lighting Cameraman ................................ JAMES HARVEY
Production Manager ............................... DOUGLAS HERMES
Editor .................................................. OSWALD HAFENRICHTER
Art Director ............................................... JOHN EARL
First Assistant Director ........................... EDWARD LEWIS
Camera Operator ....................................... GERRY LEWIS
Sound Recordist ....................................... W. BUCKLEY
Continuity ............................................... GLADYS GOLDSMITH
Make up .................................................. MICHAEL MORRIS
Wardrobe ................................................. JUNE KIRBY
Hairdresser ............................................. DAPHNE VOLLMER

Musical Director ...................................... PHILIP MARTELL
Music composed by ................................. KEN THORNE

Produced by
MAURICE J. WILSON

Directed by
MONTGOMERY TULLY

Screenplay by MAURICE J. WILSON and MONTGOMERY TULLY

Based on the novel "Fog for a Killer" by
BRUCE GRAEME

R.C.A. Recording

LENGTH : 6168 ft.  RUNNING TIME 68 mins.  CERT. A  REG. No. BR/E27730
What the Trade Press says:-

DAILY CINEMA
12 SEPT 62

RATING
Neatly contrived suspense yarn; adequately staged and acted, with strong climactic excitement. Sound programme support for popular halls.

CRITIC'S VIEW
The film divides its attention between the character of the truculent ex-convict George, with a chip on his shoulder and a mother who disowns him, and the trap to catch the killer. Then the two themes neatly dovetail and build up to a creepie climax.

The local "colour" in the old lags' home is superficial but adds to the interest and the characterisation, in general, deftly fits in with the lively pace of the drama.

David Sumner does well as George; Susan Travers, surely the prettiest policewoman in the force, is the accommodating June. John Arnatt and Jack Watson provide a few touches of wry humour as the twin pillars of the law. While James Hayter, Olga Lindo, Renee Houston head an efficient supporting cast.

Altogether, its a good pull-up for crime addicts.

M.H.

KINE WEEKLY
13 SEPT 62

HOMICIDAL "who-dunnit," with a wide London backdrop. It's about a young lag who, while on parole, is suspected of assaulting and killing girls, but cleverly uses a police trap, set for him, to catch the real culprit. The ingenious tale, appropriately embellished, is competently acted and directed and realistically staged. The overall solid and exciting crime fare should hold and intrigue most audiences. Good British "second."

Production.—The picture has a few loose ends, yet firmly superimposes its portrait of a young man with a grudge against society on a tense "strangler" plot. David Sumner convinces as the mixed-up, unfriendly but shrewd and courageous George; Susan Travers is adequate as June; and John Arnatt impresses as Superintendent Chadwick. James Hayter, Jack Watson, Renee Houston, Olga Lindo and other well-known players effectively fill the supporting roles. The police detail has an air of authenticity, the settings, which take in saloon and Espresso coffee bars, are suitably varied, and the climax is suspenseful.

Points of Appeal.—Eventful story, long and capable cast, apt and colourful by-play, twist ending, handy footage and quota ticket.

GRAND NATIONAL PICTURES LTD
13-14 DEAN STREET, LONDON W.1
Tel: GERrard 5792-6