

FILMS FOR CHILDREN

by
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There cannot be two opinions that the future of the nation depends upon the children of to day. So their up-bringing and training should get the attention right from now. Apart from schooling, congenial domestic atmosphere and sports children need regular entertainment in building up their character. In this context the findings of the modern psychological research are very relevant here. According to this a child receives about one per cent of his impressions from taste, about one and half per cent by smell, three per cent by touch, eleven and a half per cent from hearing and *eighty three per cent from sight*. But there is a difference between what he retains and what he receives as the first impression. What he learns is only about 10 per cent of what he reads, 20 per cent of what he hears, and 40 per cent of what he sees. If hearing and seeing are put together he gathers about 50 per cent of his impressions from these two sources. If we go a little further *what he sees is about 80 per cent and what he sees and does is about 90 per cent*. These figures reveal the great importance of the films. Impressions acquired according to the above assessment from films would be 50 per cent i.e. 30 per cent of his seeing and 20 per cent of his hearing.

In view of the great role the children's films can play in influencing their hearts and minds it was decided among some conscious people of Nepal to establish a suitable organisation to deal with it and consequently "Children's Films Society, Nepal" was founded under the chairmanship of Her Royal Highness Princess Sharada Shah. The contribution of the female members of the Royal Family to the cause of children is by far the greatest. Her Majesty Queen Ratna has herself set a standard by accepting the Chairmanship of Nepal Children's Organisation and by participating in the activities undertaken for the upliftment of the children. Her Royal Highness Princess Sharada has followed this footstep by providing constant inspiration and leadership to the Children's Film Society of Nepal as a result of which the Society has been able to record an impressive success within one and a half year of its existence.

The children's films have already evinced a great interest among the Nepalese children and parents. There is a large turn-out of the children at the festivals organised in

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Kathmandu. All the six children film festivals held in Kathmandu and two in Narayani Zone have been quite successful within considerably a short time that the Society had at its disposal to organise them. In the coming days the Society will try to exhibit children's films in other parts of the country. The enthusiasm shown by the people in this field assures us of the bright future of the Society.

This spectacular success would not have been possible but for the co-operation and assistance from the friendly countries. The Nepal Children's Film Society is grateful to the Indian Children's Film Society and embassies of India, USSR, USA, China, France, UK, Poland and Czechoslovakia for providing educative and entertaining films for the children of Nepal free of cost. The Society hopes to receive such assistance and co-operation from these friendly countries in future. The Society will also try to contact other friendly countries and international organisations engaged directly or indirectly in welfare of children and young people in the promotion of children's film movement. However the Society has still to go a long way in fulfilling its objectives of producing and distributing suitable children's films within Nepal itself. It has also to take necessary steps to establish a central studio where films of educational, scientific, cultural, historical and recreational values can be produced and stored.

The Society has made ample room for generous persons and institutions to come within the fold of the Society and contribute to the noble cause of betterment of the children. The constitution of the Society provides that any individual, trust or corporate body can become life-member if he subscribes to the objectives of the Society and donates a sum of Rs. 10,000/-. Similarly the institutional membership can be obtained by any organisation duly established, registered or recognised by the government and has been in existence for a period of more than three years by paying a sum of Rs. 250/- per annum. Associate membership can be granted to the exhibitors and distributors of films on payment of a sum of Rs. 500/- per year. Donor membership can be extended to those who pay an amount of Rs. 1000/-. The Society hopes to see many people taking interest in it.