

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR RELEASE

Thursday, July 25, 1957

No. 59

THREE FRENCH FILMS AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Three early sound films will be shown July 25-27 at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, the current program in the summer series "Sixty Years of French Film."

Never seen in the United States before, Natation par Jean Tais (1932), written, directed and edited by Jean Vigo, is a short documentary on the French swimming champion of the 30's. The film's surrealist ending and several poetic touches indicate the loss to the French cinema by Vigo's death in 1934 at the age of 29. Photography is by Boris Kaufman, whose recent work includes Baby Doll and On the Waterfront.

L'Affaire est dans le Sac (It's in the Bag) (1932), directed by Pierre Prévert from a scenario by Jacques Prévert, is a screw-ball comedy with Mack Sennett overtones. Based on humor of the French music hall, the plot involves an American millionaire kidnap victim so delighted with his adventure that he refuses to be rescued.

In La Pêche à la Baleine (Whale Fishing) (1934), Jacques Prévert sings dead pan in Tchimoukoff's satiric illustration of a folk song.

There will be showings each afternoon at 3 and 5:30, with an additional showing Thursday evening at 8 in connection with the Museum's late Thursday closing, 10 p.m.

For further information please contact Herbert Bronstein, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York. Circle 5-8900