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14th. August, 2000.

Your Ref. 92-25-4.

M/s Annette Kuhn,
Professor of Film Studies,
Lancaster University,
Institute of Cultural Research,
Bowland Tower South,
Alexandra Square,
LANCASTER. LA1 4YT.

Dear M/s Kuhn,

Thank you for your letter of 8th August regarding the screening at my father's cinema of a double bill of "FRANKENSTEIN" and "DRACULA".

Both of these films were made around 1930/1931, the leading roles were taken by Boris Karloff in "Frankenstein" and Bela Lugosi in "Dracula". They were certainly Horror Films of their day. I'm afraid I cannot give you the specific date of their showing but I reckon it must have been around 1939/1940.

I'm afraid these films are a bit "simple" compared with the "Horrors" of today. Bearing this out, my younger sister related an incident which might amuse you. She and her young son were watching "Frankenstein", the original version mentioned above, on Television some 25 years ago when her son was 8 years old. At the end she asked him for his reaction to what had been a real scarey experience for her at the same age. His reply was that he thought "Frankenstein" was really quite a nice chap - and he liked the screw in his neck!

Each of these films would have been Feature Films in larger circuit cinemas perhaps a few years earlier.

I am pleased to have been able to assist you again in your research. And in answer to your other question - I was born on September 27th, 1922. and have, so far, enjoyed good health.

With best wishes for your continued success.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) Helen Gilmour.