

Peter Lorre

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THE voice was soft, somewhat breathless, slightly accented. It emerged from the round-faced, slant-eyed man in a nasal whine—and it scared the socks off a generation of moviegoers.

Now it is still. Peter Lorre, actor, is dead at 59. He rose to fame as a child-murderer in his first film, the German movie, "M," and in a host of other films over the years built an international

reputation as the screen's most sinister villain.

In recent years he had often played pseudo-villain roles that satirized his chilling forte as the pathological killer. But Mr. Lorre, in private life a shy man with a sense of humor, will be remembered most appreciatively for giving flicker fans the next best thing to a good laugh — a good, wit-scattering scare.

Satan Cultists Hoped to Resurrect Lorre

1964

NORMAN, Okla., June 26 (UPI) —A teen-age cult devoted to witchcraft planned to exhume the body of movie star Peter Lorre and attempt to restore it to life, police have disclosed.

They are continuing to investigate the cult, which was broken up by the arrest of four boys Monday after a church had been vandalized.

The four, aged 16 and 17, are free in \$3000 bond each pending trial on felony charges.

FIFTH ARRESTED

A fifth suspect, Larry McLean, 20, was arrested Wednesday in connection with a 10-month church vandalism spree.

Police reported the others said young McLean, a wheelchair student at the University of Oklahoma, advised them on "black magic" but he denied it.

Police said the cult also indulged in animal sacrifices and

midnight rituals in worship of Satan.

They said one boy signed an "order" and passed it on to the others indicating plans to exhume Mr. Lorre's body and resurrect it by means of witchcraft.

Only one boy had been in previous trouble with the law, police said. They described their parents as "pretty well shocked."

