

Double Dose of Terror Prescribed at Hawaii

BY JOHN L. SCOTT

Home of film shockers, the Hawaii Theater provides thrill-seeking customers with another double dose of terror this week. On the bill are "The Body Snatcher" and "The Brighton Strangler." For good measure there is a stage prologue with Eric Jason as chief ghoul.

"Body Snatcher" takes place in Edinburgh 100 or so years ago when corpses for dissection study were provided by unscrupulous chaps who didn't particularly care where they secured the bodies. A surgery teacher, driven from practice, and a sinister cabby team up to create the "horror" in this opus. The doctor eventually is forced to murder because his cab driver "friend" won't let the past die. There's one of those plunge-off-the-cliff finales.

Lots of Villainy

Boris Karloff as the cabby purveys plenty of soft-spoken villainy, while Henry Daniell gives an equally interesting portrayal as the doctor. Bela Lugosi, Russell Wade, Sharyn Moffett, Edith Atwater, Rita Corday and Donna Lee play other roles. Val Lewton, who specializes in weird yarns, produced for R.K.O.

Second feature, "The Brighton Strangler," goes to England for its setting. John Loder takes the leading role as a stage actor who has been scoring a hit as "The Strangler." During a blitz bombing he receives a head injury and goes berserk, believing he is really the character of the drama.

Remainder of the picture con-

cerns how he murders various personages of Brighton, including the Mayor and chief inspector of police, just as he did in make-believe on the stage. However, when he gets around to the girl the script writers catch up with him and he falls off a hotel penthouse. By coincidence, both pictures on the program end with death plunges.

Loder gives a forceful performance. June Duprez does well by the heroine role. Others who fit in the scheme are Michael St. Angel, Miles Mander, Rose Hobart, Gilbert Emery and Rex Evans. Max Nosseck directed.