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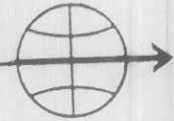
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tral, who told me that the movie was over five years in almost one hundred million dollars.

Patrons are urged to reserve their seats early as **GOERS** have reserved seats for part one on a particular night the following week to see of this very spectacular and memorable production.

THE heralded Russian motion picture production of Leo Tolstoy's "War and Peace"—winner of the Academy Award for "Best Foreign Film of 1968"—will open in Limerick next week in colour and wide screen.

The largest and most ambitious motion picture ever made, "War and Peace" was filmed over a period of five years at a cost of more than 100,000,000 dollars.

It brings Count Leo Tolstoy's masterpiece to the screen with complete fidelity, precise, historical accuracy, and with size and spectacle commensurate with its unprecedented budget.

Against a background of life in Czarist Russia during the early 19th century, "War and Peace" traces the story of Napoleon's invasion of Russia, his early victories, his occupation of Moscow, and his eventual defeat by the combination of the Russian people and the savage Russian winter.

Interwoven within this framework are the individual stories of many people and what perhaps is literature's most famous love story, that of Natasha and Andrei.

"War and Peace" was directed by Sergei Bondar-chuk, who also stars in the film in the central role of Pierre.

The cast is made of the finest performers in Russian acting with major stars even the minor roles. One important new star, Ludmila Savelyeva, portrays Natasha Savelyeva, now 22 old, was a 17-year-old ballet student in 1912 when she was selected for the part and not destined to become the first truly international motion picture star.

Her co-stars Vyacheslav Tikhonov and Irina Selezneva as Helene.

The statistics of the production are astounding. The battle scenes were staged as precise recreations of the actual events. At Borodino, over 120,000 troops were fought one of the battles of all time. 120,000 troops were recreated in this battle.

Forty-seven years producing pictures and making "War and Peace."

Over 165,000 uniforms were used in the film. Fifty-two tons of smoke compound of gunpowder, 16 grenades, 6,600 bombs and 1.5 were used in the scenes.

The collection of museums and libraries including the Hermitage, Kremlin Armory, Russian Museum and Library loaned sculpture, icons, arms, suites of furniture and numerous other items to the production.

tribute to the architecture of the palaces and interiors shown in the film.

One-hundred and over 200 sets were built for the film.—E.C.

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