MASSES

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Oxford St Rev T F Connors Masses Sundays 5 45 7 8 9 10 and 11 Holydays 5 45 7 8 9 10 Daily 6 45 8 11 Holydays 5 30 6 30 7 30 8 30 and 9 30

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Plymouth Ave. So Rt Rev Msgr J S Cameron Masses Sundays 7 8 9 10 and

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Joseph Ave Rev Frank J Hoster Masses Sundays 6 30 7 30 8 30 9 45 and 11 o'clock Holydays 5 30 6 30 7 30 8 30 and 9 30 Daily 7 45

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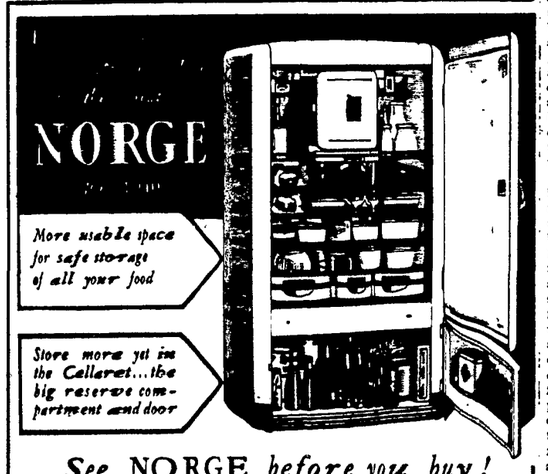

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FEATURES

VATICAN IN MOVIE — KIWANIS AND OTHERS
CINEMA COMMENTS — MOVIE GUIDE

March of Time's Vatican Film Coming To Palace

Vividly bringing the Vatican to the American people in completeness heretofore unequalled the March of Time film, "The Vatican of Pius XII" will be shown for the first time at the Palace Theater opening on Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22.

Said to be the first complete motion picture story ever made inside the Vatican, "The Vatican of Pius XII" presents particularly the efforts of Pope Pius XII in the quest of world peace. Close up views of the Pope at solemn services, in audiences and speaking to the people are shown.

Prominent figures at the Vatican, Cardinals and others high in the Church's services, diplomats of foreign countries, heads of great religious orders, and students at the North American College and Gregorian University walk across the film in clear views.

The resting places of former Popes, the great works of art, the libraries and spacious buildings which comprise the Vatican are pictured by March of Time. The Swiss and Noble Guards and those who co-operate in carrying on the extensive Vatican activity are shown at their duties.

Running with the film is a masterful commentary on the great spiritual center of the world's Catholics. This is informative and accurate throughout.

Work on the film began last summer before the present European hostilities under the supervision of Louis de Rochemont, producer of the March of Time, and after the rigid rule against cameramen in the Vatican was relaxed temporarily so that the films might be made. The calling of European cameramen to the colors delayed the filming. Thirty thousand feet were eventually taken although only 2,000 feet are shown in the completed two-reel picture. In appreciation of the privileges accorded the March of Time the organization donated $5,000 to the Holy Father's charities.

An interesting phase of the work in connection with the film survey of the Vatican is told by Jean Pages of the Paris staff of the March of Time, who sought the permission for the filming. M. Pages relates that he made a Novena in honor of St. Theresa asking her aid in securing the necessary permission. He received the permission and assurance of the wholehearted co-operation of the entire Vatican personnel. One of the scenes taken included a statue of St. Theresa and M. Pages sent a special request to Mr. de Rochemont that in the final editing of the 30,000 feet shot that sequence be retained. It is now included in the present two-reel film.

The COURIER'S COMMENTS on the CURRENT CINEMA

By JOHN SPRINGER

The movie week just passed like the one which immediately preceded it has been rather slow. The new pictures on the whole are just average but it seems to be merely a lull before the storm of approaching pictures which from advance indications are to be eagerly awaited. Soon you will be seeing Grapes of Wrath and Pinnochio which have been receiving the most laudatory reviews of any pictures of the last few years. Others that are on their way and look especially notable are Northwest Passage, "Swiss Family Robinson," the new Cole Porter Broadway Melody and "My Son, My Son."

Also I'd advise you to watch for the new edition of the March of Time which will be playing at the RKO Palace Theater Feb. 22. This one called "The March of Time Visits the Vatican" is especially timely now because of the Vatican City's current importance as one of the principal European news centers. Advance reports state that producers of the film received close co-operation from the Vatican in filming the picture. In fact many of the scenes have never been filmed before and possibly will not again.

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But now about the pictures of the week. They are a rather weak set. Out of four three are no more than fair. The fourth cannot be so definitely rated. It is "My Little Chickadee" (not yet classified) and the ratings on that would range all the way from pretty bad to very good depending on the person. I'll try to be a little more explicit now.

Whether his character name is Mr. Micawber or Cuthbert J. Twillie he's always W. C. Fields. She may be named Diamond Lil or Flower Belle Lee but you couldn't miss. She's Mae West. Whether you like them or not you have to admit that they are the only ones of their kind. They have been imitated widely but not with any degree of success.

These two individualists are together for the first time in "My Little Chickadee" and the picture is just what you expect it to be, a frail story which has no excuse other than that of exploiting the personalities of Fields and West to their fullest advantage. In that it is successful, both stars registering with several scenes. If you have liked them before you will again. They're both in fine form with Fields getting just a shade the better of it I would say.

The story is burlesque of that routine Western plot, about the brave sheriff who cleans up the bad Western town. This time, W. C. is the sheriff and his methods are unorthodox but amusing. Even for the most rabid admirer of either star there are some slow-moving sequences. But much of it is very funny.

Your enjoyment of the picture depends on how much you like the stars. It's like eating a ham omelet made with the very best ham and the very best eggs. But if you don't like ham or you don't like eggs, you probably will not care too much for the omelet. That's the way with the picture. It's all W. C. Fields and Mae West, the story and the other players don't mean a thing.

• • •

That hardy old perennial "The Valiant" which has been the mainstay of amateur theatricals and stock companies for years, is back again under the new title, **"The Man Who Wouldn't Talk"** (A-2). The play served Paul Muni in his movie debut several years ago and was then a gripping piece, but this is little better than a two-bit revival. Overfamiliarity with the story has robbed it of most of its suspense and the grim tale has been prettied up by Hollywood just a little too much. Lloyd Nolan is good in the lead and the able Elizabeth Risdon has a good bit but other performances are amateurish and direction undistinguished. However the original was good enough so that this version although a trifle hackneyed, isn't entirely devoid of interest.

"Geronimo" was a pretty nasty boy according to the picture of that name (A-1) and I, for one would certainly not want to meet him all alone on a lonely prairie. But there isn't much danger of that anymore, since Andy Devine and the boys have finished him off so handily. The picture isn't much for the history student, but it's wild-and-wooly Western stuff with all the trimmings—Indian massacres, and tortures, runaway stagecoaches and one of those wonderful last minute movie rescues. The picture has a group of tremblychinned officers standing at attention while the dead hero is decorated. Can't they get all the characters back on the screen for a final shot in some other manner than this? It isn't a standard shot with Hollywood any more—merely a trite and overworked one. Preston Foster, Marjorie Gateson and William Henry are in the cast, while a real Indian, Chief Thundercloud, plays Geronimo. Ralph Morgan has played so many sweet and gentle little men that he seems out of place as the hard and stern general. You keep expecting him to turn benevolently to the assembled cast and say, "Bless you, my children." But Gene Lockhart, as another of the wretched little toads which he does so well is expert. And, whatever its faults, the picture at least moves.

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It's too bad that the same can't be said for **"Honeymoon Deferred"** (A-2). It's one of those "Thin Man" carbon copies about the debonair detective and his wife, but it's neither funny nor mysterious. Margaret Lindsay is still an intelligent and attractive actress, but she'll never get very far with roles like this. The best performance is given by Elizabeth Risdon who has been giving stalwart support to any number of pictures recently. But one good performance doesn't make a picture when nothing else is there.

Brooklyn Priest Dies

Brooklyn, N. Y. The Rev. Patrick J. Ford, Pastor of St. Sylvester's Church here was buried following funeral services at his church. Father Ford died in the rectory of St. John Evangelist Church, Valdosta, Ga., where he was visiting.

Weekly Movie Guide

NEW FILMS REVIEWED

Death Goes North, A-1
Special Inspector, A-1
Broadway Melody of 1940, A-2
Convicted Woman, A-2
Manhattan Shakedown, A-2
Murder Is News, A-2
Sidewalks of London, A-1
Typhoon, A-2

AT THE THEATERS

PALACE

Little Old New York, A-1
Calling Philo Vance (Not classified)

LOEW'S ROCHESTER

Gone With the Wind, B

CENTURY

Castle on Hudson (Not classified)
Young As You Feel, A-1

TEMPLE

British Intelligence, A-1
Legion of the Lawless, A-1

REGENT

My Little Chickadee (Not classified)
The Man Who Wouldn't Talk, A-2

LITTLE

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (Not classified)

RIVIERA and DIXIE

Balalaika, A-2
Everything Happens at Night, A-1

LIBERTY and STATE

Judge Hardy and Son, A-1
Henry Goes to Arizona, A-1

MADISON and MONROE

Another Thin Man, A-2
Joe and Ethel Turp Call on the President, A-1

WILD WISDOM

by the Right Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynhoven
Editor-in-Chief, Catholic Action of the South

Kiwanis and Other Fraternities

The Kiwanis International at its 23rd convention held in Boston unanimously approved a resolution upholding the principal aims of the "back-to-God" movement as a means of settling human problems.

While it is edifying and encouraging to find this body of men promoting such a movement, we fear that their resolution lacked completeness and that it was another high-sounding, well-phrased expression of goodwill and noble intention about which nothing will be done. Kiwanis might have gone further and recommended some means of learning more about God or knowing Him better. When steps are taken, or movements encouraged and recommended, that tend to reunion with God, then the solution of problems will be a direct sequence. Seek first the kingdom, and all things will be added.

One reason why we have no attempt of a "turn-to-God" in the solution of human problems is because more and more people are learning less and less about God. And people know less and less about God, because we in America for generations have extruded Him from the field of education. We have been training generations to acquire a store of knowledge about the world, nature, science, industry, government, economics and human relations without a vestige of God.

The Creator and Giver of life does not fit into the picture. If youth wants to know about God, youth must get that knowledge entirely outside the halls of learning, as something foreign additional or subordinate. How is it possible for those trained or educated under such a system to turn to God for the solution of problems? Where are they going to turn but to the material things and principles they have been taught?

MAINTAIN SCHOOLS

The Catholics, the Lutherans and, in a small degree, the Episcopalians are about the only religious denominations who, in this country, maintain their schools to train children in the knowledge and love of God. Although this training gives the child what is so sadly lacking today for the welfare of mankind, Catholics in particular are criticized and suspected of civil wrong supposedly undermining true patriotism, by teaching allegiance to the Pope of Rome.

Still, statistics and truthful history plainly prove the contrary. What is taught and what is done in Catholic schools are always in the open and can be fully ascertained by any critic, at any time. Facts will show that in any land, even our own, Catholics have proved themselves dependable and loyal citizens. Impressions to the contrary have been gained by people who have never been very much in contact with Catholics and who have received their knowledge about Catholics from unreliable sources, not infrequently maliciously anti-Catholic.

The thinking man cannot help but draw some fair and favorable conclusions when he reads, for instance, that the Franciscan order counts 23,644 members who do educational and charity work in sixty-seven territories throughout the world, that the Franciscans conduct and maintain 5,656 schools, with a total enrolment of 267,407 students, 115 orphanages, with 9,227 children; 64 hospitals, with 7,078 beds; 266 clinics, handling 4,400,000 cases yearly. These men personally do not receive one cent of pay, they have consecrated their lives to the best interests of humanity.

This is just one example to suggest the results of Catholic education. Can there be anything wrong with it, when it thus influences people to the highest forms of true patriotism and unconditional love for mankind?

TAXPAYER SAVES

We Americans are prone to gauge values in dollars and cents. All right, then the Catholic-school system does not cost the American taxpayer one cent, but yearly it saves him millions of dollars in the taxes he does not have to pay.

To take only two states out of the forty-eight. If the state of Michigan had to pay for the education of children enrolled in parochial schools the annual cost would be $14,404,673 for the 132,657 pupils cared for in parish schools. Los Angeles shows that the 198 Catholic parochial and 76 high schools of California save the state considerably in excess of four million dollars annually. And these figures present only part of the State of California.

Our Americans begin to realize with a bit of panic, that we must get God back into society in order to solve the staggering problems of today. Every solution without God has been tried and the future looks darker and more hopeless than ever. Yet the only remedy, the sole means of restoring the Maker to the minds and hearts of men—Christian education of our youth—is not recommended but is criticized and fought, notwithstanding the incontrovertible proofs that religious education has shown by results that it inspires people with a concept of life which is conducive to the best interests of society.

We must teach youth that God is the Creator and Sustainer of life, that God enters into every phase of life that His doctrine and His laws are the foundation of our relationship toward our neighbor.

We must teach youth that Christian principles are the basis of society. If through our education we convince youth today of the order to reconstruct civilization necessity of returning to God in the man of tomorrow will naturally follow a "turning-to-God" system in the settling of human problems. This will never be accomplished by merely passing resolutions wishing for it.

If a better, a more effective, a more God-pleasing plan can be evolved to reach the desired results the Catholics, the Lutherans and the Episcopalians will gladly adopt it.

If in the meantime, nothing more salutary presents itself or can be proposed to take the place of our Christian education, this method should be sustained and advanced. Will-o'-the-wisp resolutions without definite action are equivalent to talking to hear oneself talk.

Help The Census Taker

(Co-operation with the Census Taker in the forthcoming Census by the United States Government is urged by the Chancery. Here are some facts on the Census for all diocesans to note).

The people of the United States, through their government in Washington, are preparing to take the regular once-in-ten-year Census that they may have the facts that will lead to a better understanding of the serious problems that face them.

The actual work of gathering information will begin on April 1, 1940 when 120,000 enumerators will start out to visit each of the 33 million households of the nation for the purpose of asking a long list of questions. There is certain information that all of us should have in order that as a people, we may hope to live better and happier lives. There are many personal and national problems that we are all facing and, if we are to solve them, the first thing to do is to get the facts.

Some people feel sensitive about answering questions about themselves. They should not do so when the census taker comes. There is no chance that any facts given him no matter what they are, should ever be used except for some such purpose as finding out how many farmers there are in the United States or how many people work in the mines or how many have gone further in school than the sixth grade.

The making of a Census is a task in which every family in the nation plays a part. It is a co-operative task of self-government in which all should enthusiastically participate. Whenever an individual or a family fails to give information, or gives incorrect answers to Census questions, that act interferes with a task that is its own, that of working out the many vital problems of the nation. All therefore, are admonished to greet the census taker with a smile, to co-operate with him, to do everything they can to help him that this vast fact-gathering task may be an outstanding success. Doing this is but one of those responsibilities of citizenship in a self-governing country. Every man, woman and child should take pride in doing everything possible to help.

'King of Kings' To Be Given Feb. 18

The famous religious movie on the life of Christ, "The King of Kings," will be presented at St. Francis Xavier's Hall Sunday, Feb. 18. There will be two performances, matinee at 3 P. M. and evening at 8 P. M. Tickets are now being sold. Children 10c and Adults 25c.

Lent is an appropriate time for the presentation of "The King of Kings." In the eye of the motion picture camera, the story of Christ has taken human form under the wizardy of a master director, Cecil DeMille, and by the reverent genius of great players.

Offer To Assist Hospitality House Comes Unsigned

Willing to help out was an interested reader of the Feb. 1 CATHOLIC COURIER who read the item appealing for coal for the House of Hospitality, 876 Clinton Ave. N. The reader wrote to Mrs. Lawrence Weider, 838 Westfall Road, offering to help but did not sign the name nor give the telephone number.

Mrs. Weider is eager to get in touch with this party or any others who can contribute coal or clothes for the unfortunates being cared for at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality.

Just Like Teething

Confession is not a punishment. It is a remedy. True, we are afraid of some remedies because of the pain they inflict. No one feels entirely comfortable walking up into a dentist's office. In anticipation the buzz of the drill sounds fiendishly in the ear and thought of its grating grind shakes the tortured soul. Yet the purpose of our visit is not suffering. It is the preservation of health and those very necessary aids to health, our teeth. So with confession. Our Saviour began it not because He wanted to take away the happiness of men here but because He wanted men to have happiness hereafter. To use a very homely metaphor, He wanted to pull the teeth of sin.—Catholic Transcript.

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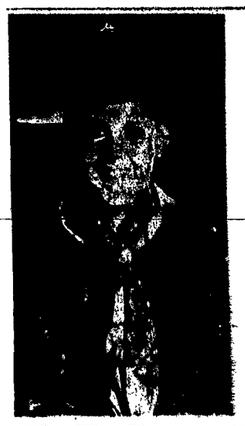

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