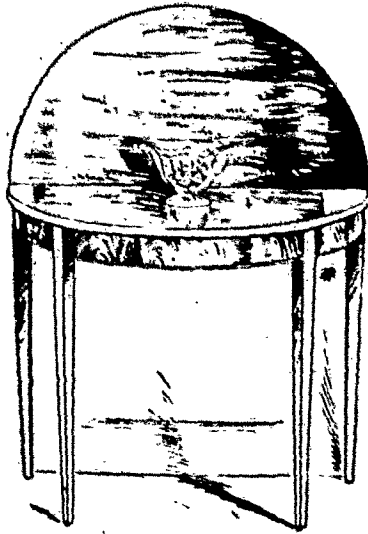


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COURIER'S CURRENT INEMA OMMENTS
By JOHN SPRINGER

How you get around via the movies! The pictures of the past week, for instance. The variety of locales ranged from the Burma Road to the mountain-top kingdom of two women and a gorilla. If you had gone in spirit with the characters of the movies of the week, you would have traveled from blacked-out London to Lisbon and across the Atlantic by air to Washington. You could have been in New York and Hollywood and Mexico City. You could have attended a rural Mexican religious fiesta or gone to church services in an English village. You might have spent some time in a metropolitan radio station or in a small town jail. And, in most cases, you would be having an exciting or amusing time. But consider the pictures of the week individually.

"Hold Back the Dawn"—A-2
Two of Charles Boyer's most successful films were "Algiers" in which he played a romantic scoundrel, and "Love Affair," with its tender, poignant love story. There is a little of both pictures in his latest, "Hold Back the Dawn."
He plays a Roumanian gigolo who drifts to Mexico but finds himself unable to enter the United States because of quota restrictions. In order to accomplish his entry, he marries a little American school teacher with the purpose of using her and then getting out of the marriage. He learns that he really loves her almost too late.
It's a good chance for Boyer to do all the things he does best, but he is crowded for top honors by Olivia de Havilland, who gives a moving portrayal of the naive school teacher, Paulette Goddard, who grows more bashy in appearance with each picture, plays his former dancing partner who gives him the angle on getting in to the states. There are excellent supporting bits by Victor Francen, Walter Abel, Rosemary DeCamp and Mikhail Ruzhynsky. The story is directed by Mitchell Leisen, whose treatment lends novelty to the new story and takes full advantage of the colorful settings.

"Poison Pen"—A-2
Every so often, the Temple Theatre gets a picture of more than average interest. "Night Train," "Voice in the Night" and "Black-out" were such pictures. "Poison Pen," though it isn't quite up to expectations, is another.
Flora Robson, one of the great artists of the theater, in a story by Richard Jewellyn author of "How Green Was My Valley" such a combination should have resulted in a distinguished motion picture. Jewellyn has written a compelling psychological study of a warped mind expressing itself through the writing of anonymous "poison pen" letters which create chaos out of the normal existence of a small town. Miss Robson plays with consummate artistry, slowly and believably unfolding the gradual disintegration of the character of the tortured woman. There are excellent supporting performances by Robert Newton, last seen in "Major Barbara," Catherine Lacey and Reginald Tate.
But, although the acting and original story are everything they should be, the direction and script writing are responsible for abnormally slow pace and lack of suspense. The identity of the "poison pen" is revealed early in the picture, due to faulty direction. Therefore it remains an interesting psychological study, but it might have been a suspense-charged drama, as well. What a picture Alfred Hitchcock or Carol Reed would have made, using the same story and actors!

"Never Give a Sucker an Even Break"—A-1
Never give a sucker an even break! So says W. C. Fields in titling his latest picture—and quite a marquee-full it is, too. And Fields, in writing his new one under the pseudonym of Otis Cribble-cobbles, hasn't given a literal-minded movie audience much of a break either. But you can't be literal, coldly-analyzing with a Fields picture. Fields, as a rule, and in his

Library Unit Meets
Duluth.—The Minnesota-Dakota unit of the Catholic Library Association will hold its seventh annual meeting at the college of St. Scholastica here late in November. It was announced by Sister M. Justina, O.S.B., chairman of the unit for 1941.

St. Casimir's Parish
Fr. Woloch Named Chaplain
Special parties are held every Tuesday evening in the school gymnasium at 8 o'clock. Everyone is invited to attend.
CYO activities are occupying the spotlight these days with St. Casimir's parish team tied for first place.
Fr. Woloch has been appointed Chaplain in the Navy and will report for duty on Nov. 5. All the parishioners of the parish join in bidding him best wishes in his new post. (Complete details appear in this issue with Fr. Woloch's picture.)

St. Mary's (Corning)
RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION GIVEN 145 STUDENTS
Religious instruction for pupils of the Corning Free Academy are given every Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock in St. Mary's School. Buses pick up the children and bring them to the school.
There are two classes: the first includes the 7, 8 and 9 grades; the second includes the 10, 11 and 12 grades. Attendance has been excellent with about 145 in both groups.
Instruction is given by the Rev. John A. Smith, pastor and the Rev. John A. Albert, assistant.

new picture particularly, defies analysis.
But for the confirmed Fieldian, "Ngaach" is an enjoyable spree, with the hilarious moments compensating for occasional dull and unfunny passages. I don't remember ever having seen Fields more funny than in the restaurant sequences of this picture. The soda-fountain bit, with W. C. confidentially ad-libbing to the audience that the Hays Office wouldn't let him go into a bar, is another high spot. So is that maddest of all chase sequences Sunny Gloria Jean and a capable supporting cast play minor stogoes to the great man. Because the picture is all W. C. Fields and that statement is both promise and warning.

"International Lady"—A-2
Now the G-men and Scotland Yard are getting together to apprehend a glamorous Nazi spy and her gang. "International Lady" is all very reminiscent of the funny papers among other things but it has its lively moments, few of which are contributed by Miss Ilona Massey as the lady of the title. Miss Massey is improbably beautiful in the manner of a department-store mannequin and has little more animation. She just languishes through the picture and leaves the active business to people like George Brent, Basil Rathbone, Gene Lockhart, George Zucco and Marjorie Gateson. It's rather old-fashioned detective melodrama, despite its up-to-date Nazi spies and the doings in the deserted granary which recall similar goings-on in "Foreign Correspondent." However it keeps you wide awake, if hardly on the edge of your seat.

Other Films of the Week
"Married Bachelor," A-2 Very unimportant but pleasant comedy, with Robert Young, Ruth Hussey and the perpetually-promising Lee Bowman well cast. The situation is similar to that of Loretta Young's "Doctor Takes a Wife," with Robert Young as the married man who finds himself the successful "author" of a book on the bachelor life.
"Buy Me That Town," NYC—Burlesque on racketeers and rackets with a slightly different twist. Good enough if we must have second halves of double bills and well played by Lloyd Nolan, Sheldon Leonard, Albert Dekker, Warren Hymer and Constance Moore.
"Burma Convoy," A-1—The old melodramatics against a new background. It's too bad that the first picture which uses the colorful atmosphere of the Burma Road is such ordinary serial stuff. Charles Brickford, Frank Albertson and Truman Bradley are involved in the trite plot.

"Nine Lives Are Not Enough," A-1 Jerome Odlum, author of "Dust Be Thy Destiny" and "Each Dawn I Die," comes along with another tricky title for his new one. It's a reporter-racket melodrama rather juvenile, but fast moving and well played by up-and-coming Ronald Reagan.
Each heart has a wireless station and as long as it receives messages from God, you are safe.

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