

IN ONE EAR

By ART KELLY



TOTO, the 12d-eyed Scotty above, is the central figure in the program "Michael and Kitty," to be heard over WHAM on Friday evening, November 21. Throughout the entire program it is Toto that plays the major role in the mystery drama. In real life Toto is called Bashful, and is owned by Albert Miller, who writes the script for the program. Kitty, holding the dog, is Elizabeth Keller and Michael, at the left, is Santos Ortega.

strikes 8 P. M., EST The ritual follows:

1. After putting all the innocent little beads to bed, enter the secret chamber.

2. Sleep carefully over the four bodies you will find on the floor.

3. Press the white, skull-shaped knob to the right of the hat-filled chimney.

That will place you en rapport with the NBC-Blue (celebrated from ghost-to-ghost) Network for another episode of "The Monster in the Mansion," that comic comedy that fearsome farce that tricky tragedy being presented by Carlton E. Morse on the "I Love a Mystery" series.

Come one! Come all! The Muckjans Beer, Pretzel Chowder and Marching Club of Hollywood has agreed to provide all necessary ambulances, hearses and wheel chairs for the gala occasion heard over Station WHAM.

The Studio Beat

Curly-haired Leon Janney and charming Linda Carlson heard as son and mother on the "Parker Family" Sunday-night NBC Blue series have strong ties off the air as well. The pair are record fans and wear the music shops for rare old copies and first editions and constantly exchange vinyls to hear each other's collections. Janney has a number of early classical and jazz records that today are collector's items.

Pandora had nothing on the Blue's "Inner Sanctum Mystery" producer, Himan Brown, when he received a huge carton in the mail the other day with an ominous warning: "Don't open. 6. Hobgoblins inside." Curbing an instinctive desire to call the bomb squad, Brown opened the package and found another message but no hobgoblins. It read: "Now you've done it. You've let them out!" Elizabeth Steller glumously "Kit" on the NBC Blue's Friday night "Michael and Kitty" mysteries is getting plenty of practice these days in screams, gasps and groans. Each show features at least one murder and "Kit's" been there when each corpse been discovered.

Richard Kent, NBC's renowned "Traveling Cook" becomes first honorary mayor of Marineland, Fla. on Nov. 27. Population consists of 26 registered voters and 50,000 fish. Gerard Darrow, 9-year-old "Quiz Kid" prodigy, has been penciled in as a forthcoming guest on the NBC Blue's "Treasure Hour" show which would make him youngest emcee on air. Tentative date for the boy Britannia is Nov. 18.

Incidentally, most of official Washington follows the Treasury Department shows. Richard Wouk, scripter of the series, received a personal note of congratulations from the President for his "Rhyme of BB-69" referring to America's naval construction program which highlighted a recent broadcast. Mary Lou Cook, photogenic new "blend" girl of the Merry Mares swangy quartet of the Blue's "New Old Gold Show" obtained her professional start through leader John Scott Trotter. The latter discovered and hired her as vocalist with a dance band he organized for a night club date.

Laurie York Erskine, author-narrator of the NBC-Blue's "Adventure Stories," always brings a thermos jug and eight small paper cups to the studio. These are filled and carefully arranged in a neat row, to be drained during the course of the broadcast. He started the practice 20 years ago because of a fear his throat would run dry if never his but he's reluctant to change the habit.

The Courier Covers

THE NEW MOVIES

By John Springer

(Editor's Note—Listed as Class C, Contended, by the National Legion of Decency, this week, is "Le Roi," a French film; objection, "Crime is presented as attractive; virtue is ridiculed and adultery is condoned." Listed as Class B, objectionable in part: "Escort Girl"; objection, "Suggestive dialogue and implications." "Man Who Seeks the Truth"; objection, "Several objectionable scenes and sequences stressing infidelity." "Swamp Woman"; objection, "Suggestive song, dances and costumes.")

I had expected to review "Sergeant York" A-1 before deadline time this week, but because of some unforeseen circumstances I was not able to see it in time. It is safe to say that it is very well worth seeing. New York critics and commentators were highly enthusiastic about it and, although I cannot speak from experience, this week I feel I am not overstepping the bounds in saying that it is one picture that should not be missed. "Birth of the Blues," A-1 and "Shadow of the Thin Man," A-2 are other movies that opened too late for review but if these live up to advance expectations, they should be much better than average. Right unseen I recommend them all with the privilege of changing my mind when I actually review them. But about the pictures that have been covered. The best of them was far from promising. Surprisingly enough, it turned out to be a compact, tense melodrama of considerable effectiveness. The picture in discussion is titled or mis-titled "Hot Spot."

"Hot Spot"—A-2
Steve Fisher's popular novel "I Wake Up Screaming" has been taken over by Hollywood and turned into a first-rate mystery melodrama, despite the new title, which would suggest that it is just a night club yarn. It is not a picture which was long-awaited and promised importance. The story was good, but good stories have been runned by Hollywood in the past. The director, H. Bruce Humberstone, has done a couple of good pictures but his usual output is run-of-the-mill. The stars, Betty Grable, Victor Mature and Carole Landis, have been known in the past almost entirely for their beauty.

But somehow the ingredients seem to jell firmly. The story has suspense and excitement, which is intensified by the expert touches of Director, Humberstone. Grable, Mature and Landis are adequate enough, although the picture goes to extremes to show the Mature-Grable beauty in a swimming sequence that doesn't belong. There is outstanding acting by a supporting cast which includes such talented players as William Gargan, Allyn Joslyn, Alan Mowbray, Elsha Cook Jr. and most important, Laird Cregar. Cregar's strong performance as the sinister, menacing Cornell gives the picture an atmosphere of chill horror of grim foreboding that turns it from just another routine melodrama into an effective and unusual film.

"The Chocolate Soldier"—A-2
Fully conscious that this is a minority report, I'll have to confess that I didn't like "The Chocolate Soldier" very well. Further, I'll have to go so far as to admit that I found it an elaborate, pretentious bore. "The Chocolate Soldier" is the picture that combines the music of

the Strauss opera of that title with the book of Molnar's "The Guardsman." It isn't an altogether happy union. There is no fault to be found with the music—Strauss, Wagner, Delibes, St. Saens except possibly, that there isn't enough of it to keep Nelson Eddy and Rise Stevens occupied with singing. They have to act, too. And that's bad.

To begin with "The Guardsman" as a story, has become pretty old hat. But even so, if it is done at all, it should be attempted only by masters of smooth, unstrained comedy. Comparisons may be odious but they are inevitable when Eddy and Miss Stevens take over these roles, played originally on screen and stage by Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontaine. I know that the ads state that Eddy's beard brings out his comical spirit. But to at least this commentator, he is no less stiff than always. Miss Stevens is a little more flexible but she too is at her best in the musical moments—a strained and unsure in the straight portions of the picture. Usually, "The Chocolate Soldier" passes with honors. But sometimes just a little is not enough.

Other Pictures

"Three Girls About Town," B is comedy that has come under the "Archie and Old Lace" influence with John Blondell, Binnie Barré and Robert Benhley as the trio who tries to get rid of a corpse. It has its funny moments, most of which are contributed by Miss Blondell but it also has more than its share of suggestive scenes. John Howard and a newcomer, Janet Blair, are involved in most of these. The reliable Barnes and Benhley are neglected in the background.

"Great Guns," A-1 is the new draft picture if you had to have another. It is also the new Laurel and Hardy picture if you had to have another of those. The surprise is that the boys have worked up some new routines and used many moments of the picture very funny indeed.

"Marietta" Leads the Way

In their first co-starring film, "Naughty Marietta," A-1 Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy set such a high standard for themselves that they have never been able to approach it. "Marietta" was just right for a picture of its type. Only in "Maytime" a serious operetta did they come close to repeating their early success. It is rather interesting therefore to note that first returns from the readers in the Little Theater Request Picture poll have most frequently named "Naughty Marietta" as a picture worthy of revival. "Maytime" follows closely in the returns.

The complete returns will be listed in this column next week, along with the names of winners of tickets to the Little Theater. In the meantime you still have time to list pictures that you would like to see again at the Little Theater. Send your lists to: John Springer, CATHOLIC COURIER, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, and your choices will be included in the final poll.

John Springer discusses a popular picture of the past on Your Movie Memories over WSAJ every Monday morning at 10. This week's Movie Memory discussion will concern the comedy-drama, "These Glamour Girls," which featured Jane Bryan, Marsha Hunt, Lana Turner, Richard Carlson and Lew Ayres.

Movie Guide

NEW FILMS REVIEWED

Billy the Kid's Roundup, A-1
Land of the Open Range, A-1
Royal Mounted Patrol, A-1
Sierra Sue, A-1
Spooks Run Wild, A-1
Cadet Girl, A-2
Week-end for Three, A-2
Escort Girl, B
Man Who Seeks the Truth, B
Swamp Woman, B
Le Roi, C

AT THE THEATRES

LOEWS' ROCHESTER
Shadow of the Thin Man, A-2
Two Latinas from Manhattan (Not classified)

PALACE
Birth of the Blues, A-1
Moon Over Her Shoulder, A-2
CENTURY
Sergeant York, A-1

REGENT

Great Guns, A-1
Hot Spot, A-2

LITTLE

Philadelphia Story, B

TEMPLE

Sailors on Leave, A-2

RIVIERA

Yank in the R.A.F., A-1
Sing Another Chorus, A-1

DIXIE

Lady Be Good, A-2
This Woman is Mine, A-2

STATE and LIBERTY

Honky Tonk, B
Tillie the Toiler, A-1

MADISON and MONROE

Honky Tonk, B
Tillie the Toiler, A-1

LIVES OF SAINTS

Dramatizing the Lives of the Saints, Station WOLF Syracuse, will present on the Ave Maria Hour program Sunday, Nov. 23 at 8 p. m. the life of

ST. GERMAINE

Born of peasant farmers near Toulouse in 1570, St. Germaine Cousin seemed marked for poignant suffering from her birth. A cruel stepmother combined with all the ills and pains that flesh is heir to only served to increase her love for Mary and her adoration of the Saviour. Adding voluntary austerities to her overflowing bitter cup she found her reward in her only book the Rosary happiness in her only interest the Sacraments. Only twenty-two when she died her body is said to be incorrupt to this day.

PALACE
BING CROSBY
MARY MARTIN
BRIAN DONLEVY
ROCHESTER
in
THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES
MOON OVER HER SHOULDER
Lynn Bari — John Sutton

CENTURY
GARY COOPER
in
Sergeant York

REGENT
BETTY GRABLE
VICTOR MATURE
CAROLE LANDIS
in
HOT SPOT
LAUREL and HARDY
in
GREAT GUNS

TEMPLE
ON STAGE—IN PERSON
Thurs.—Fri.—Sat.—Sun.
TED LEWIS
and His
ORCHESTRA
ON THE SCREEN
SAILORS ON LEAVE

CAPITOL
SONJA HENIE
JOHN PAYNE
GLENN MILLER
in
SUN VALLEY SERENADE
LLOYD NOLAN in
DRESSED TO KILL

THIS'LL KILL YOU!
Lady: Did you ever wake from a sound sleep to find your head shaved as bald as an egg?
Sir: Have you ever savored the never-to-be-forgotten dark brown aftertaste of an overdose of knock-out drops or had your right arm severed at the elbow?
Monster: Did you ever have such a murderous frolic as is now going on in the high-ceilinged, ivy-covered, cobweb-draped, blood-spattered country estate of St. Eustace Griffin, Esq?
Naturally!
Therefore, take our perfumed word for it, a new and wholesome thrill awaits you on Monday as the clock in the cemetery strikes twelve.

WASCHINE THEATRES SUNDAY

RIVIERA
Tyronne Power
Betty Grable
A Yank in the R.A.F.
J. Downs Kay, France
Sing Another Chorus

LIBERTY
Clark Gable
Lana Turner
MONKY TONK
Wm. Tracy Kay Harris
TILLIE THE TOILER

STATE
Clark Gable
Lana Turner
MONKY TONK
Wm. Tracy Kay Harris
TILLIE THE TOILER

MADISON
Clark Gable
Lana Turner
MONKY TONK
Wm. Tracy Kay Harris
TILLIE THE TOILER

MONROE
Clark Gable
Lana Turner
MONKY TONK
Wm. Tracy Kay Harris
TILLIE THE TOILER

CAMEO
Ann Sothern
Robert Young
LADY BE GOOD
Brenda Marshall
HIGHWAY WEST

WEST END
Ann Sothern
Robert Young
LADY BE GOOD
Brenda Marshall
HIGHWAY WEST

DIXIE
Ann Sothern
Robert Young
LADY BE GOOD
F. Tone Carol Bruce
This Woman is Mine

LAKE
Crawford Taylor
Greer Garson
WHEN LADIES MEET
Red Skelton
Whistling in the Dark

GRAND
Crawford Taylor
Greer Garson
WHEN LADIES MEET
Frankie Darro
Let's Go Colliegate

WEBSTER
Fred Astaire
Rita Hayworth
You'll Never Get Rich
F. Tone Carol Bruce
This Woman is Mine

MOVIES FOR PLEASURE
Cameo Shows at 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30