

The Courier Covers THE NEW MOVIES

By John Springer

(Editor's Note: Undaunted by repeated admonitions by Army doctors because of slight eye defects, John Springer has finally enlisted in the army and left last week. His valedictory could not be printed in one edition as here in the balance before. Trained at Aquinas Institute, St. Michael's College and Marquette University, John has faithfully and capably presented his views on current motion pictures in this column each week. He hopes to keep us informed on his activities in army life and from time to time will be back with us again in print. The best wishes and prayers of the CATHOLIC COURIER staff go with him into the Army).

(Continued from last week) I can see the editor tearing out his hair at this point and wondering how he's going to get all of this into one paper—but maybe he'll forgive me for running over on this last column. For I'd never want it said that I didn't go on record with my choices of best pictures and best performances of 1942 even though it's only a 10 1/2-month year for me. So from January through this week, I select the following as the best pictures covered in these columns during that time. They're in order of excellence: "How Green Was My Valley," "Mrs. Miniver," "One Foot in Heaven," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "The Male Animal," "Tortilla Flat," "Pride of the Yankees," "Kings Row," "The Invaders," and "Woman of the Year" with close competition from "Wake Island," "Moon and Sixpence," "All That Money Can Buy," "Talk of the Town," "This Gun for Hire," "Joan of Paris," "My Favorite Blonde," "The Big Street" and "The Man Who Came to Dinner." "Fantasia," "Bambi," "Kukon," "Target for Tonight" and "The Gold Rush" can hardly be rated with the usual type of movie but they, of course, were tops in their field. I pick John Ford's direction of "How Green Was My Valley" as the best of the year with special bows also to William Wyler for "Mrs. Miniver."

Performances are not so easy. Greer Garson is my final choice of best feminine performance for her memorable work in "Mrs. Miniver" but the work of Martha Scott in "One Foot in Heaven," Teresa Wright in "Pride of the Yankees," Betty Field in "Kings Row," Fay Bainter in "The War Against Mrs. Hadley" and many others cannot be registered. I'd say Henry Fonda in "The Male Animal" as best masculine performance of the year, with strong bids made by Fredric March in "One Foot in Heaven," James Cagney in "Yankee Doodle Dandy," Gary Cooper in "Pride of the Yankees," Ronald Reagan in "Kings Row," Spencer Tracy in "Woman of the Year" and "Tortilla Flat," Walter Huston in "All That Money Can Buy," Fonda in "The Big Street," Monty Woolley in "Man Who Came to Dinner" and others. Sara Allgood wins the palm for best feminine support with "How Green Was My Valley," but Teresa Wright and Dame May Whitty in "Mrs. Miniver," Nancy Coleman in "Kings Row" and Agnes Moorehead in "Magnificent Ambersons" come close. There are a whole flock of outstanding supporting male performances, headed, I'd say, by Frank Morgan in "Tortilla Flat" and Van Heflin in "Johnny Fager," with notable competition from Donald Crisp in "How Green Was My Valley," Eric Portman in "Invaders," Charles Coburn in "In This Our Life" and many more. Nobody gives Roddy McDowall in "How Green Was My Valley" competition for best juvenile performance of the year. I consider Alan Ladd and Nancy Coleman the most important newcomers of the year.

But so much for that. And, in closing, I want to thank many people for co-operation, advice and assistance. I could write on and on about my reasons for gratitude but I won't. Tom O'Connor as I know you're beginning to worry about space. And you are one of the people I want to thank, along with Howard Klippert and the rest of the CATHOLIC COURIER staff. Then there are George L. David

and Cliff Carpenter, of the Democrat; Howard Hooper, Amy H. Conington and Arthur D. Goodman, of the Times-Union; Bill Fay and Jack Lee, of WHAM; Matt Neuhaus, of WRAY; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Buchanan, of the Little Theater; Jay Golden and the managers of the various RKO-Radio theaters, not forgetting the late Bill Cawcutt; and, of course, Will R. Curtis, of the Auditorium. To all of them—and many more—I can only say I won't forget what you've done. And thanks also to you readers. And so I write the end to the Courier's Comments on the Current Cinema—at least for a while—and leave you with sincere wishes for all the best in the world.

Film Daily Poll

The Film Daily, which each year takes a poll of American critics on their choices of best pictures, performances, etc., is now gathering the votes for 1942. This department made the following selections as the Ten Best pictures of the year. Such pictures as "Yankee Doodle Dandy" not generally released within the time limits specified, were not eligible; such pictures as "Suspicion" and "Maltese Falcon," released at the end of last year and selected in this department's personal list of 1941 movies, were. However, the list of ten best pictures selected by us for the poll is as follows: "How Green Was My Valley," "Mrs. Miniver," "One Foot in Heaven," "The Male Animal," "Fantasia," "Maltese Falcon," "Suspicion," "Tortilla Flat," "Dumbo," "Pride of the Yankees." As best male performance I selected Henry Fonda in "The Male Animal," female Greer Garson in "Mrs. Miniver," masculine support Frank Morgan in "Tortilla Flat," feminine support, Sara Allgood in "How Green Was My Valley," juvenile, Roddy McDowall in the same picture direction John Ford for the same picture.

Movie Guide

- NEW FILMS REVIEWED
Army Surgeon, A-1
Junior Army, A-1
Pardon My Gun, A-1
Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant, A-2
The Hidden Hand, A-2
Lady from Chungking, A-2
Life Begins at 8:30, A-2
Seven Miles from Alcatraz, A-2
You Were Never Lovelier, A-2
AT THE THEATRES
PALACE
Who Done It? A-1
Great Impersonation, A-2
LOEW'S ROCHESTER
For Me and My Gal, A-1
Boston Blackie Goes Hollywood, A-1
CENTURY
Flying Tigers, A-1
Smith of Minnesota, A-2
TEMPLE
Death of a Clown (Not classified)
Texas to Betan, A-1
REGENT
Once Upon a Honeymoon, B
Lucky Legs, A-2
LITTLE
Moscow Strikes Back (Not classified)

Norbertine Abbot Blessed in Holland

NEW YORK.—It was learned from a private source today that the Rev. Dr. J. Andersteyn has been blessed as Abbot of the Abbey of the Norbertine Fathers in Heeswijk. The Auxiliary Bishop of Hertogenbosch, the Most Rev. William Vutsaerts, officiated at the ceremony.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH SOCIETY'S COMMUNION

meeting will be held on Sunday afternoon immediately following the 4 o'clock services. The Rosary Society of Holy Family Parish will receive Holy Communion at the 8 o'clock Mass. All members...

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