

### U. S.-Brazil Catholic Link Disclosed

Washington (NC) — Between the hustle and bustle of Brazil's Ministry of War in Rio de Janeiro and the tranquil beauty of the Lima Memorial Library at the Catholic University of America in this nation's Capital, there stretches a Catholic link hitherto overlooked.

Brazil's Minister of War is Gen.

Aurelio de Gooz Monteiro, remembered in this city as the man who headed his country's military mission to the United States in 1939. It is not generally known, but General Gooz Monteiro, while in Washington, visited the Lima Memorial Library on the personal invitation of his cousin, Mrs. Manoel de Oliveira Lima, who with her late husband donated the library and some 40,000 books and pamphlets to the university.

## Critic Picks 'Ten Best Films' of 1945

By William H. Moorings

The critics all pick their "Ten Best" films of the year. I don't know why they settle for ten, nor why they never vary the process of awarding scallops to the "Ten Worst." It would be easier, I think, to select my ten favorites purely on a basis of personal enjoyment.

Last December, when I selected my ten favorites, I struck among them all five of the films later nominated by the Hollywood Academy as contenders for the golden "Oscar."

This year the Academy, and most of the national critics, will not look twice at some of the pictures I thought best. For 1945 has been a lopsided year in Hollywood. The sudden end of war, thanks be to God, brought peace to most people. It did not, however, bring peace of mind to the movie producers. They became confused; didn't know what kind of screen stories the public would prefer next.

Unfortunately, too many of them decided upon what they call "escapism" which seems to be a Hollywood synonym for "escapades."

During 1944 they'd been making money and movie history with films in which an upsurge of spiritual and moral values had reflected humanity's great need of faith and fortitude. They had piled up fortunes out of films describing the home as the fortress of the nation. All that stopped like a jolopy out of gas as soon as the war ended. Only one of this year's major movies stuck to the point, and I place it way out in front.

Although "The Bell of St. Mary's" is not technically speaking, a cinematic masterpiece, it does have about everything it takes to entertain, amuse and uplift people suffering a hangover from war.

Next I'd take "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes" which told a delightful story of Scandinavian settlers in America; "National Velvet," filled with the simple adventures of a typical English country family, and "State Fair," in which a comparative Middle Western householder gave emphasis to the thought that people all over the world are the better for honest labor performed for love of God and mankind. These pictures did not sermonize but, in the potent language of the screen, argued by contrast the futility of life among the vacuous killers who populate too many of Hollywood's movies.

"Anchors Aweigh" draws my vote as the best musical, but is unlikely to win Academy recognition which is usually reserved for "showy" dramatics. "The Lost Weekend" a brilliant but wholly ethical study of dipsomania, failed in the film's primary function as entertainment. I drop it from my ten best, although it may well become the Academy choice as the best motion picture of the year.

On the other hand "Junior Miss" judged as pure entertainment, appealed to me because of its humorous and unaffected parody on the daily vicissitudes of family life.

I choose "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" and "The Southern Belle" because both dealt with real people whose abject poverty failed to extinguish hope and faith.

"The Clock" gets my vote because it so neatly typified the meaning of home and family through the loneliness felt by our absent boys — even in the great

Winter Kingdom where life after death continues, it is to be blessed by RKO with a special award for its star, in having found on the screen with screen writer Dudley Nichols, the right

and their deep yearning for the day of their return, now happily arriving.

Because I am familiar with Welsh mining people, "The Corn Is Green" proved particularly interesting. It certainly described, with a fidelity rarely if ever before achieved on the screen, the lives of these simple miners and the social conditions which encompassed them before free national education became an institution.

Unfortunately, a sequence in this story resolved questions of parental responsibility in such a way as to cause the Legion of Decency to register partial objection.

tion. Of the rest of my preferences, five were classified by the Legion as suitable for family audiences, and four as objectionable for adults.

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(Page 12)

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