

LEGION OF DECECY
The following are titles of films reviewed this week by the National Legion of Decency. Add these to the complete listing which will be published once a month.

Class A, Section 2
Blowing Wild
Botany Bay
Prisoners of The Casbah
Torch Song
Wings of The Hawk
Class B
Decameron Nights

Movie Recalls Existence Of Seamless Robe

"The Robe", Twentieth Century-Fox's spectacular CinemaScope production based on Lloyd C. Douglas' best seller, is scheduled to open Friday, Oct. 23, at the RKO Palace Theatre in Rochester.

Though Douglas' work is fiction, a Robe, traditionally identified as the seamless garment woven by Mary for Our Lord and thought to have been worn by Him on the way to the Cross, actually exists today.

KNOWN AS THE Holy Coat of Treves, it is enshrined in the ancient Cathedral of Treves (Trier), Germany, where it has been venerated for sixteen centuries as one of the most hallowed relics of Christendom.

Exposed for public veneration in 1844, 1891 and 1933, the relic attracted hundreds of thousands of pilgrims, many of whom reported miraculous cures.

Among the most famous, the young Countess of Droste-Vischering, who had been afflicted with a crippling disease in the right knee, obtained permission to touch the Holy Coat in 1844, and served the rest of her life as a Sister of Charity, after recovering use of her leg.

A GREYISH BROWN tunic, 4 1/2 long in front and 5 behind, the Holy Coat is all the more revered because it is believed to have been stained by the blood of Our Lord.

A richly patterned covering of purple damask and gold thought to have been made during the reign of the Emperor Justinian. In the sixth century, it has almost completely tumbled away, leaving only a few remaining patches of color.

But the Seamless Robe of Treves remains, an ageless symbol of unbroken faith.

NEW And NOW

By ROBERT SMETT

Michael Derrick, assistant editor of the London Catholic weekly, The Tablet, recently wrote a most interesting article for the N.C.W.C. news service about the work of the British Catholic Stage Guild.

Almost every one of Britain's more than 500 theaters has a card posted at the stage door giving the times of Mass in the neighboring churches.

For this and other helps to their spiritual life, British Catholics connected with the world of entertainment are indebted to the Catholic Stage Guild, which helps to make up to them for their inability to participate in normal parish life.

The Catholic Stage Guild recently concluded the successful presentation of a new play about Mary, Queen of Scots, at the Embassy Theatre in London. This was "Fotheringhay," a verse play by Scottish playwright George Scott-Moncrieff, which was brought to London straight from its run at the Edinburgh Festival.

"Fotheringhay" was the first London production directly sponsored by the Guild since World War II. However, it is by no means the first in the organization's history.

MANY STILL remember "Caesar's Friend," which had a long run at the Westminster Theatre. This play about the court of Pontius Pilate was written by Catholic dramatist Dermot Moran, whom Queen Elizabeth II made Ardour Herald Extraordinary for her Coronation this year.

The guild's best known production is the annual All-Star Gala Variety show, put on at the Adelphi Theatre in London each year since the war. This one-performance show raises the money needed by the guild during the ensuing year to give a helping hand to those of its members who may meet hard times.

Another important side of the Guild's work is international-keeping in touch with similar organizations overseas, and with actors and actresses visiting Britain from other countries.

Chairman of the Catholic Stage Guild is New Zealand-born Ted Kavanagh, of radio fame. Among its prominent members are Marie Ney and Maira Lister, who hail from New Zealand and South Africa, respectively; and Australian-born opera singer Joan Hammond, a recent convert who is one of the latest recruits to its ranks.

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A RECENT INCIDENT clearly proved the value of this chaplaincy to theatrical folk on tour. In Glasgow an elderly member of a touring company collapsed on the stage and was taken in a critical condition to the nearest hospital.

The stage manager, knowing that the dying actor was a Catholic, consulted the card at the stage door and thus was able to speed the guild chaplain to the bedside of the stricken man. The priest arrived in time to administer the Last Sacraments.

Nor did the Guild's spiritual "first aid" end there. Local members of the Guild made arrangements at once for simultaneous Requiem Masses in Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Twice a year, in Lent and Advent, the Guild sponsors retreats for its members which are conducted in London by well-known preachers. In addition, special "Actors' Masses" are regularly celebrated in provincial towns.

Meanwhile, members of the Guild receive a monthly bulletin to inform them of future plans. On the first Friday of every month there is a special Benediction service in a London church, followed by an informal talk given by some leading personality of stage or screen. These have to be over in time to allow members to reach their theaters before the curtain rises.

Social evenings at the Arts Theater Club are also arranged by the Guild, preceded always by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

THE GUILD'S WORK, is not confined to the spiritual needs of members. Though a small bene-

MURAL OF ACTOR-SAINT



SPOTLIGHTERS (from left) Stan Szczepanski, Will Wagner and Dan O'Mara examine newly-executed mural of St. Genesius, patron of the theatre, backstage at Aquinas Institute. The Aquinas Spotlight Club launches a new season on Oct. 12 with a Mass in honor of the actor-saint.

Dramatic Club Opens Season With Mass Honoring Patron

Members of the Aquinas Spotlight Club will open a new season on Monday, Oct. 12 (Columbus Day), by attending Holy Mass in honor of St. Genesius, patron of the theatre, in the school chapel.

Breakfast will be served back stage, when priests of the faculty will be guests of the drama club.

Center of attention for the members will be a recently painted mural of St. Genesius, which has been executed in the wings of the Aquinas stage.

ST. GENESIUS, a Roman comedian, suffered martyrdom under Diocletian around 300 A.D. The legend relates that Genesius, leader of a theatrical troupe in Rome, performing one day before the Emperor, and wishing to expose Christian rites to the ridicule of his audience, pretended to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When the water had been poured upon him he proclaimed himself a Christian. Diocletian, a first ordered the realistic play, but, finding Genesius to be in earnest, ordered him to be tortured and then beheaded.

He is now honored as patron of theatrical performers and of musicians.

HEADING THE Spotlighters' agenda for this first meeting will be the choosing of a president and vice-president from seniors of Aquinas and Our Lady of Mercy High School.

Dates will be set for the three major Spotlight presentations of the new season.

Historical Figures On TV Spot Series

Hollywood, Calif. — (NC) — Historical figures, spanning nine centuries will be turning up on television screens throughout the nation starting November 1, to tell the meaning of faith and prayer in their lives.

Called "Inspiration Please," the series dramatizing the piety of saints, scientists and statesmen, has been filmed by the Family Theater. The one-minute "spots" will be released to all television stations without cost.

The year-long series, directed by Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., will feature the words of such figures as Abraham Lincoln, Queen Victoria, Louis Pasteur, St. Francis of Assisi and St. Teresa of Avila.

Included is the testimony of Captain Mort Thompson of the U.S. Marine Corps to the prayer and faith of American servicemen on Okinawa in World War II.

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Musical 'State Fair' Set By Holy Family Theatre

A large turnout of Rochester's Holy Family Theatre members gathered at the Holy Family Pine Room, on Wednesday, Sept. 30 to discuss plans for their next musical.

"The State Fair," which will be presented Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, Nov. 22, 23 and 24, with a matinee on Sunday at 2 p.m.

The case was selected, consisting of the principals and a chorus of six boys and six girls.

Larry Klueber will be stage manager; Helen Schraml, vocal instructor; Mary Rose Muller, accompanist on the piano; Bob Kuchman, dance instructor; Marilyn Froehner, usherette chairman; Frank Pilecki, organ.

REHEARSALS began on Monday, Oct. 5.

During the meeting new officers were welcomed and the old officers were paid tribute for their work of the past two years.

Actress June Haver Tells Why She Left Convent

(N.C.W.C. News Service)

Santa Monica, Calif. — Speaking from the seclusion of her mother's home, June Haver asked The Tidings (Los Angeles archdiocese newspaper) to explain why she left the convent of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kan., and why she also gave out to a clamoring press statements that were indefinite.

She had been well-advised, as she was when she entered the novitiate, to avoid publicity as far as possible, she said. Her search and the decision she ultimately reached, could become a headline story for the press only by reason of the full emphasis common to our times. Hollywood values had no place in her thoughts.

MANY YOUNG women start on the same quest only to retrace their steps as meditation, prayer and practical test indicate other ways of serving God. The press usually is unconcerned.

"I learned a great deal," June said, "that may be of help to me whatever I decide to do in the future. The Sisters were most kind and I found the religious life a beautiful one. Physically, however, I was not equal to the test."

"I became particularly absorbed in the classes the study of the Scriptures, Old and New Testament, and of Christian Doctrine. I hope to be able to continue these at home."

"AT PRESENT I am planning a quiet rest with mother. It looks as if we may have to slip away somewhere because so many people wish to talk over the matter with me. I appreciate their interest, but I really have nothing to say to them except that I gave serious thought and earnest prayer trying to discern God's will."

"Now my decision is made, I am at peace. I have no idea what I may do in the future, but whatever it is, I feel that what I have learned about myself, about God, and about my relationship with God, will help me the better to serve Him humbly and as well as I can."

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Monday, Oct. 12 — Robert Sikora, St. Hyacinth;
Tuesday, Oct. 13 — James Dranczak, SS, Peter and Paul;
Wednesday, Oct. 14 — John Orr, St. Mary;
Thursday, Oct. 15 — Bernard Marino, St. Francis of Assisi;
Friday, Oct. 16 — Frederick May, Holy Family.