Legion Of Decency

Refused Review Prints Of 'Thrillers'

New York—(NC)—A number of low-budget motion pictures are now appearing in neighborhood theaters across the country before the National Legion of Decency has been given the opportunity to review them.

The pictures, "thrill movies" with titles like "I Was a Teen Age Frankenstein," "Motorcycle Gang" and "Sorority Girl," are the work of an independent producing agency which has refused to give full cooperation to legion reviewers for advance screenings.

AN OFFICIAL of the legion, which has its national headquarters here, said that the company, American-International, has not provided the agency with prints of some films prior to their release, "despite repeated requests."

The legion spokesman said the producing company claimed that no advance prints were available. However, it made this claim after several of the movies involved had been appearing for weeks in theaters in the Midwest, prior to their New York opening.

A legion spokesman explained that "they kept putting us off. They say they will let us review the films, but then before we know it the films have come out and we have not had the chance to review them."

LEGION OFFICIALS said that the agency gets cooperation in the matter of reviewing films from all major U.S. producing and releasing companies. Less than 10 per cent of the companies fail to cooperate.

The legion is generally provided with advance prints of first-rate productions several weeks in advance of their premiere. It usually provides classifications of second-rate films at the time of their New York release.

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DOINGS AT THE DALY'S

Take It Easy Make It Easy

By Mary Tinley Daly

"What's for homework, Ginny?" we asked as we finished the dishes. "Get part of it done before dinner?"

Mary Daly

"I guess so," Ginny slapped her leg with the dish towel, glanced up guiltily and put the towel into the soiled clothes bag. 'Gotta memorize a poem, review Bible history and do 'rithmetic."

This, we sensed, was no time to mention the dish towel incident.

"Want to say the poem first and get it out of the way?" We went into the dining room as Ginny laid out her books.

"By John Henry Cardinal Newman." Ginny drew a deep breath, plumped down in a chair, shut her eyes tight, and began a singsong: "Lead kindly light amidst the encircling gloom.

"Lead Thou me on.

"The night is long." Ginny hesitated. "The night is dark?"

"The night is . . ."

Ginny peeked in her book. "The night is dark and I am far from home.

"Lead me Thou on."

Ginny heaved a deep sigh. "Guide Thou my steps . . . my feet?"

The heartless dissection of Cardinal Newman's classic made us wince.

"Don't learn it that way," we whispered, with an arm around her shoulders. "Ask Daddy to play 'Lead Kindly Light'."

"Play the piano before home work?" Ginny brightened. "Sure!"

AS THE TWO of them sang effortlessly the beautiful words of all the verses became part of Ginny's consciousness.

"Um-m: nice," she murmured, returning to the dining room and repeated without a mistake the whole of the poem. The "singsong" this time had meaning.

"Now Bible history?" we suggested. "Look it over and we'll hear you."

"Goliath was a giant and David was a shepherd boy," she read under her breath. "Wish you had a song about Goliath, Daddy," Ginny called into the living room where the Head of the House was reading the evening paper.

"Who says I haven't?" he called back. "There's the 'Biblical Baseball Game'. Don't know who wrote it but let's play it."

Ginny snuggled up against her daddy on the piano bench, her blond head pressing his shoulder and the Head of the House sang his baseball song:

"Eve stole first, and Adam stole second;

"St. Peter umpired the game.

"Rebecca went down to the well with the pitcher

"While Ruth in the field gained fame.

"Goliath, he was struck out by David,

"Abel got a base hit off Cain;

"And the Prodigal Son made a big home run;

"Brother Noah gave out checks for rain!"

"Gee, Daddy, that's funny!" Ginny laughed aloud. "And it's true, too. We've studied all those things in school — but this kinda makes me remember 'em better."

We went back to Bible study—sans music — then on to arithmetic with no gimmicks whatsoever — inversion of fractions.

CERTAINLY the light touch can't be added to homework every night. Superficial — the gim-cracks? Of course. But how often do all of us resort to the intriguing "gimmicks" acquired along the way of education?

Perhaps they propel us along to the next step. Most of us recall the date of Columbus' discovery of America by the jingle: "In fourteen hundred ninety-two, Columbus sailed the ocean blue"; and which months have 30 days comes back via the childish: "Thirty days hath September, April, June and November."

Then the chemical formula for water and sulphuric acid: "Here lies Johnny Jones, now he is no more. For what he drank as H_2O was H_2SO_4."

And the mathematical one as to right angled triangles: "Hey youse! Sum of square of other sides — square of hypotenuse."

Serious students in universities and colleges don't need such tricks they have motivation and a real interest in study. But for grade school pupils, the "serious students" of the future, these little memory joggers are a shot-in-the-arm.

For them, there is so much to learn — and so much of it deadly dull. If a few guideposts, via fun or even nonsense, can be implanted, let's cue them in!

Soviet Zone Reds Take Over Scouts

Berlin — (NC) — The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of communist-East Germany have been taken over by the state as "the official socialist organization for the children of the German People's Republic," it was announced here.

The Pioneers, as the scouting organizations are called here, form the largest organization for young people in East Germany.

Couple Married In Geneva Rites

Geneva—Carol Wethey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. James Wethey, and Charles Marquardt, son of Mrs. J. C. Marquardt and the late Dr. Marquardt, were united in marriage Saturday, Feb. 1 in St. Stephen Church, Geneva by the Rev. Raymond P. Nolan, pastor.

The bride's sister, Miss Judith Ann Wethey, was maid of honor and Donald Sullivan was best man. Ushers were Michael Doyle, Robert Whitehead and Michael Kayes.

The couple will reside in Rochester.

Duet Yourself Family

'They Shall Have Music'

No need for Hi-fi or TV at the Laramie's home. As the old nursery rhyme goes, Charles Laramie and his wife Margaret "shall have music wherever they go."

In another few years they can have their own family orchestra. Even now Mr. and Mrs. can "duet yourself" with piano and violin.

The Laramie's live on Apollo Drive in suburban Greece and are both members of their parish choir at St. John the Evangelist Church, Ridge Rd. West.

In emergencies, Mr. Laramie can take over at the organ console, and his wife can wield the baton as need arises.

THEIR FOUR children, Anne and Linda at Nazareth Academy and Bernard in parochial school (Paul is getting ready for next year), are following in the musical footsteps of their parents. "Sometimes they're following way behind," says the head of the house, as he reminds the youngsters to do their practicing.

The couple had their music talents sparked when they were children.

Sister Rose Cecilia, now at Perkinsville parochial school, formerly a teacher at Rochester's St. Francis Xavier school, gave Mr. Laramie his first piano lessons. His wife was set on her musical path by Dominican nuns when she was a pupil at St. Peter's school, Plattsburg.

"We enjoy music — listening to it, and trying to make it," said Mr. Laramie.

"I hope the children will continue it too," he said, "because even if you don't have a piano or violin at hand you can get to know your favorite selections so clear in your memory that you can have music wherever you go."

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Laramie of suburban Greece make their own music, on piano and violin, or sing together in their parish choir.

Local Catholic Artists Exhibit Religious Works

Catholic artists in the Rochester area are making talented contributions to contemporary religious art. This fact is very evident to visitors at the public exhibit of religious art now open to the public at Rush Rhees Library of the University of Rochester.

Highlighting local interest in the University exhibit are works by John C. Menihan, noted Rochester painter; and several nun-artists including Sister Magdalen, S.S.J., and Sister Mary Estelle, R.S.M.

Sister Magdalen, head of the art department at Nazareth College is exhibiting a woodcut of Veronica. Sister Mary Estelle of the Rochester Sisters of Mercy has several serigraphs or silk screen works, including "Holy Family."

Menihan's contributions include drawings, paintings, prints and serigraphs. Notable among these is a luminous drawing of St. Francis Xavier and a print of St. Anthony of Padua.

Sylvia Davis, a former instructor at Nazareth College, has samples of brass construction including St. Francis of Assisi and Crusader. Alphonsas Dargis, an employee at Kodak Park and a displaced person from Lithuania, has a woodcut Madonna on exhibit.

Several other nuns and Catholic artists from throughout the country are also exhibiting their works.

Hours of the exhibit are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 to 10 p.m. from Monday to Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and 2 to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The exhibit will remain until March 1.

SISTER MARY ESTELLE'S "HOLY FAMILY"

Estimate Reports Religious Donations

New York — (NC) — More than $34 billion — approximately 51 per cent — of the $67 billion given in philanthropy in this country during 1957 went to "religion," according to an estimate made here.

● The wife of an unsuccessful novelist was talking to a girl friend on the telephone. "Ronald is especially discouraged this morning," she was saying. "It seems the publishers no longer bother even to send back rejection slips with his manuscripts. They merely stamp them 'Opened by Mistake'."

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What'd You Expect?

● A barbershop customer was complaining about the price of haircuts. "I'm just back from London," he said. "Over there I was able to get a good haircut for 65c."

"Yeah," retorted the barber. "But look at the fare."

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