Movie Said Propaganda

Vienna —(RNS)— "Tyrello's Millions," an East German Communist film was attacked by the Catholic Peoples Party (Volks Partei)here as an attempt to discredit the Roman Catholic Church in Germany.

Shown recently over the Socialist-controlled television network, the film was also condemned by the Austrian Catholic Film Commission as "a crass propaganda effort," depicting "Roman Catholic and capitalistic society at the turn of the century as corrupt."

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Watching The Screen

Comedy Hunger

BY RAY SMITH

Looking over the lists of the past few months as to what we have been viewing in our theatres, it seems we have been given by Hollywood too many "heavies" and not enough comedies to exercise the belly muscles. I'm talking about good adult comedies. I can only count two such entries in three or four months past; these being "The Bellboy" and "Bells are Ringing." Remember way long ago (about 8 months) when "Operation Petticoat" was packing them in for the fourth, fifth, six, etc. weeks throughout the country. It's what the people want.

It even shows in TV. One of the hottest things today via that medium are some old 2-reel comedies featuring the Three Stooges which have been flattening all competition to the amatement of the movie trade. And it's not all kids under 10 that are watching. Many over 10 are being captured by their antics.

THE ORIGINAL Stooge combination, when it was at its crest 25 years ago, consisted of two brothers, Moe and Jerry Howard, and an outsider named Larry Fine. In physical appearance the three were not quite of this earth. Short and stocky, they resembled animated fireplugs with bizarre heads.

Moe's hair was bowl-cut; Larry's was bushy, frizzy, and tended to stand up straight with natural fright; Jerry had no hair at all (and so was called Curly.) The Stooges retained their popularity until '46 when Jerry Howard became ill and was forced to retire (he died not long ago).

His place was taken by another brother, Shemp Howard, but his style was at variance with the Stooges' pattern. In '56 Joe Besser took over for Shemp, who has since died. But now, at this writing, there is yet another Curly, who is Joe DeRita.

There are approximately 194 Three Stooge comedies, of which 7 have been released to TV. So there are many more left still to be seen. Oh Boy! Without going too deeply into what is Comedy, let us just say that the Three Stooges are the more primitive among us from the restraints of society — and reason.

Back to my Clinton Avenue beat. I find that the Loew's Theatre is scheduled for a second week of the "B" movie "Strangers When We Met." Not much better will follow it as "Macumba Love" is on tap which also is "B."

One way or the other the Palace Theatre will be packing in as Marilyn Monroe is there in "Let's Make Love." I hesitate to comment on this flicker as it may be "B," and, as my intelligent readers know, we do not encourage in this column attendance at any movie morally objectionable no matter how "artistic" it may be. As long as the Church backs the Legion of Decency, we will too. I'm not saying that some "B" movies aren't gripping stories with some fine acting. Sorry, you'll just have to be encouraged by some other writer to see them.

ELMIRA—It's half and half in your fair city this week with the Elmira Theatre having another "B" movie in the form of "Psycho." Things look much better at the Colonial Theatre with "THE TIME MACHINE" being offered for ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS. It's one of those that's way out, if you know what I mean, chums.

HORNELL — Robert Wagner and Natalie Wood are the guests of Manager Jim Macris in "ALL THE FINE YOUNG CANNIBALS" at the Majestic Theatre. In CinemaScope and Color this drama is aimed at the Younger set but, sorry to say, it's not for them but for ADULTS ONLY.

Theatre Guide

RIVIERA
Ben-Hur A-1
(Unobjectionable)
Observation—The Legion of Decency recommends Ben-Hur as wholesome entertainment on an unusually high level of achievement for the whole family.

RIALTO—East Rochester
Lost World A-1
13 Fighting Men A-1
The Jolson Story A-1
The Devil's Disciple A-2
The Rialto Theatre is to be commended for its policy of banning all objectionable films and only showing films rated in the "A" classification by the Legion of Decency.

PALACE
Let's make Love Not Listed
Tripped in Tangiers A-2

CINEMA
Schools For Scoundrels Not Listed

MONROE
Can-Can B
(Objectionable)

LOEW'S
The Last Days of Pompeii A-1
Macumba Love B

LITTLE
Expresso Bongo C
(Condemned

Missionaries

Cologne — (RNS) — Two members of the Dominican Order will leave here for Bolivia this fall as the first contingent of German Dominicans bound for missionary work in the diocese of Santa Cruz de la Sierra in the eastern part of the South American country.

Saint Of The Theatre

PATRON OF ACTORS, dancing teachers, musicians, organists, clowns and other entertainers, St. Genesius of Rome is said to have been converted, and subsequently martyred, while taking part in a burlesque of Christian Baptism rites in the days of Emperor Diocletian. His altar-tomb is in Rome's Santa Susanna Church, titular church of Boston's Cardinal Cushing. A chapel is dedicated to St. Genesius in St. Malachy's Church, New York City, and is nationally known as the "Actors' Chapel." Today, August 25, is the feast-day of the actor-martyr. (Drawing executed by Gerry Rooney of the Boston Pilot.)

Theatre News

'Measure'

By EUPHEMIA WYATT

MEASURE FOR MEASURE: The New York Shakespeare Festival is showing one of the most difficult and least attractive of Shakespeare's plays in Central Park but the audience followed the intricate story with hushed attention.

I believe one secret of Joseph Papp's success in his productions is that he accepts Shakespeare's aptitude as a story teller. He adheres strictly to the playwright's sequence of scenes and makes sure the lines are intelligible. This time Alan Schneider (he directed KRAPP'S LAST TAPE and ZOO STORY) is the director and his first try with Shakespeare is all to his credit.

MEASURE FOR MEASURE has a theme of chastity opposed to a drab background of vice but chastity is neither a popular nor a current virtue nowadays — outside of Catholic circles — and poor Isabel, who is given the choice of assenting to dishonor or having her brother executed, is too often called a selfish prude for remaining virtuous.

This young and lovely Isabel is first seen in the convent where she is a novice and she brings a breath of purity with her when she comes out in the world to save her brother. Angelo, the man deputed by the Duke of Vienna to clean up the city, is a Puritan, harsh in his own code and his judgment and he does have a very real horror of himself when he discovers that he covets Isabel.

YET SO FAR does evil engulf him that he tries to double cross Isabel when he thinks she has accepted his infamous proposals. But — don't be alarmed — Isabel remains virginal and thanks to the Duke, who oversees everything disguised as a friar, Angelo is caught in his own trap with a trick that was used in the Bible and not a very pretty one.

Neither does the low life of Vienna engender very pretty comedy but Mr. Schneider has, at least, made it funny. He has also seen to it that the parts are played naturally. Lucio, sometimes a fop, is shown as just an ordinary gossip and scandalmonger. He also receives his punishment, but gets many laughs as played by Frederick Warriner. The humor is coarse so are the scenes in the prison but one hardy criminal persuades the Duke to stay his execution because he is too drunk to say his prayers! The scenes between Isabel and Angelo have strong drama in them, thanks to Marjolie Hartley and Philip Bosco and Mark Lenard is so benign as the Duke, who likes to play Santa Claus, that he gives a pleasant atmosphere to the play which is greatly aided by David Amram's incidental music. MEASURE FOR MEASURE is mediocre Shakespeare but another success for Joseph Papp.

Legion Of Decency

The following are the titles of the films reviewed this week to be used in their respective classification of the Legion of Decency. The last complete listing appeared in the Aug 11 issue. Clip both and save.

Class A, Section 1
For The Love of Mike
Under Ten Flags

Class A, Section 2
Walking Target

Class A, Section 3
Angel Wore Red
Ocean's Eleven

Class B
Between Time and Eternity
Objection: This film tends to create sympathy for adultery.

THREE-WAY BATTLE SET AT FAIRGROUNDS

A three-way battle for the top money in the Sportsman Class feature is in prospect on Friday night's, Aug. 26, program of stock car racing at the Monroe County Fairgrounds.

Heading the field will be Elmer Musclow of Rochester, the track point leader, who is seeking his second Fairgrounds track championship. Elmer won the crown in 1958 and was second last season to Billy Rafter of Niagara Falls.

Races are also slated Friday night in the Late Model Class. First event is set for 8:15 p.m. with warmups at 7:30 p.m.

Powder Puff Derby Listed At Speedway

A Powder Puff Derby will highlight activities at Spencer Speedway on Route 104, Williamson Saturday, Aug. 27. This will be in addition to regular stock car racing. First race is set for 7:30 p.m.

Sue Hudson, Mary Roth and Barbara Youngman will head the list of women drivers for the contest. In other races, Pat O'Neil, Mike Miller, Bob Merz and Bruce Miles will be looking for victories.

Drag racing is featured Tuesday nights at the Spencer oval with inspection starting at 6 p.m.

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Off The Record

Top Tunes

By SUZANNE WIGG

Every week a new batch of popular tunes hit the Top Lists in "Billboard" or "Variety". Most of these are pretty awful, mouse rock 'n roll or something worse. But for the few which are an honest attempt to return to good music, I believe a mention of some of the better ones is in order. Anita Bryant on Carlton records sings a charming ballad called "In My Own Little Corner Of The World." The melody makes sense and there is a nice recognizable beat in the background.

Connie Francis, who sings with a rather hillbilly twang, has a couple of good going for her. "Everybody's Somebody's Fool" is in the twenty-one spot on the Top One Hundred and a newer one "My Heart Has A Mind Of Its Own" jumped from nowhere to the fifty-six place. Connie follows in the Patti Page tradition — she doesn't sing out and out hillbilly or western but there is a definite folky flavor. This isn't the greatest type of music in the world but it is at least digestible.

A TUNE called "Look For a Star" caught on a few weeks ago and is still flying high. This is one of the best pop melodies to happen along in many years. Garry Miles on Liberty has the most popular version, although he sings rather badly and definitely out of tune. Garry has a left-over rock 'N roll approach —perhaps this is the reason for its popularity. But it doesn't hurt the tune a bit.

The next and by far the best recording is by Billy Vaughn on Dot Label. It is an instrumental which is a great relief. The guitar plays the very interesting rolling accompaniment and the strings take care of the lovely melody. The other recordings are by Deane Hawley on Dore and by Garry Mills on Imperial.

Neither of these boys have the ability to stay in pitch in addition to the fact that the voices aren't worth listening to in the first place. It's a shame this tune wasn't recorded by a singer, like Perry Como, Bing Crosby or Frank Sinatra.

THE PLATTERS of Mercury have been taking old standards and giving them a new twist. It has obviously been quite successful. The newest one is "Red Sails in the Sunset." Although this idea doesn't help the song any, it has been very helpful to the Platters.

Along the same line, a young fellow by the name of Paul Anka, is doing a nice brisk business with an old standard called "Hello, Young Lovers" on ABC Paramount Label. Anka has a pretty good voice but one could hardly recognize this famous Rodgers-Hammerstein tune from this particular arrangement.

A REAL GOODIE which probably got on the list by mistake and by the same probability will not stay too long, is a tune called "My Love" by the old master Nat King Cole. Nat is backed up by, of all people, Stan Kenton.

Who ever would dream that Kenton would be on a popular record poll. The record has a nice bounce, Nat sings in his usual easy, winning way and the fabulous Stan Kenton band with that familiar brash brass section adds a real kicker to the whole sound. (Capitol)

THE McGUIRE SISTERS, a group which sings consistently on pitch, with even blend and artful phrasing, have a good one starting for them. It is called "The Last Dance" on Capitol. This isn't the best tune that they have recorded but it is certainly listenable.

IN THE FOLKSY department, "The Wreck Of The John B" by Jimmie Rodgers on Roulette and "My Tani" by the Brothers Four on Columbia are both well done musically. This is sort of unusual in the case of folk music. Most people believe they

HUGO WINTERHALTER has done everything in albums now except gypsy music. So, not to be outdone, he decided to try that too. Here it is — "Hugo Winterhalter Goes Gypsy." The contrasting moods of gypsy music — from dark, smouldering themes to fiery, spirited numbers — have been captured by Hugo Winterhalter in brilliant modern arrangements which give them a fresh, contemporary flavor.

However, he employs the guitar, mandolin, cimbalom, marimba and tambourine in order to keep an authentic sound. The exotic tunes contained in the album are: "Hungarian Dance No. 5," by Brahms; "Hora Staccato," "When A Gypsy Makes His Violin Cry," "Francesca," "Csardas," "Zigeuner," "Golden Earrings," "The Back Of Her Head," "Gypsy Don't You Cry," and "Gypsy Love Song." (RCA Victor)

WELL, I GUESS Mitch Miller has finally sung out his "sing along" series. But not to be outdone or out sung he has come up with a brand new bag of tracks. This album is called "March Along With Mitch." This could go on forever. However, here it is, a stirring group of ruffles and flourishes, shining brass, tweeling piccolos and thundering drums.

This is not a collection of military marches but rather familiar tunes which can be marched to. The album includes "Whistler And His Dog," "Dixie," "Alouette," "Yankee Doodle" and "The Girl I Left Behind."

Chaplain Dies

Buenos Aires — (RNS) — Father Alexander Michalik, who served for 25 years as chaplain to Polish Catholics in Argentina, died here after a brief illness.

Doubleheader Set At Batavia Downs

For the second straight year, Batavia Downs will hold two full nine-race programs on Labor Day, Sept. 5, it was announced by Downs officials.

Started last year because of the lack of sports activity in this area on the final summer holiday, the trotting twin-bill met with overwhelming success.

Downs officials said that the afternoon card will get underway at 2 p.m. The regular evening program will start at 8:15 p.m. In each case, daily double windows will close 15 minutes before the start of the first race.

A band concert will be held between programs and box lunches will be served for those remaining for the evening card. Other intermission entertainment is now being planned.

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