

'Hansel, Gretel' Find Showing

Final performance of the Storytellers Summer Playhouse musical production of "Hansel and Gretel" will take place tonight, Friday, July 29 at 8:15 p.m. in St. Agnes High School Auditorium.

Under the direction of Sister Claudia, leading roles will be played by James Fritsch as Hansel, Judy Mott as Gretel and Bonnie Meath as the Witch.

They will be supported by 80 boys and girls representing 25 Rochester area schools.

Staff includes: Sister M. Francis and Sister M. Natalia, musical assistants; Sister Joseph Marie, choreographer; Tony De-Croce, set designer; Father Walter Cushing, technical director; Colleen Maher, Bonnie Meath, Annette Sleyman, student directors; Mrs. Clifford Dreas, properties; John T. White, design; Sister M. Kieran, Sister M. Thaddeus and Mrs. Thomas Casselman, publicity.

A Warning on 'Khartoum' - Don't Miss the Moral

New York—Only weeks after issuing a strong moral objection to an "action" film called "The Blue Max," the national Catholic film office has turned its attention to another action film, "Khartoum," and has issued another warning—that moviegoers might miss the film's religious value.

"This film is laced throughout with salient but unobtrusive comments about Christian legacy and Christian mission and witness," commented the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures in its latest newsletter.

"Khartoum" is an historical account of English General Charles Gordon's ill-fated attempt to save the Sudan's capital city from capture by the Mahdi, a fanatical Arab religious leader who had sworn to

kill every man, woman and child for precisely that reason, quoting the Prime Minister's remark: "I trust no man who consults God before he consults me."

Gordon, a national hero in Britain at the time (1883), is sent to Khartoum by Queen Victoria's Prime Minister, William Gladstone, but merely to placate public opinion. He does not share Gordon's concern that the Mahdi may over-run all of Africa, and therefore withholds necessary troops. At film's end, Gordon and Khartoum fall to the Mahdi.

NCOMP labels Gordon "an enigma, an idealist, a professed Christian" who "becomes revealed in the course of events as a man of intense Christian conscience with a deep sense of commitment." It also notes Gladstone's distrust of the man

which could be mounted and framed as a museum piece, so fine is the balance."

But, NCOMP concluded: "In the end, one remembers best the figure that stands above all his excellent supporting cast: Heston as the handsome, noble Gordon, the ingenious soldier-engineer who gave his all." (Catholic Press Features)

The film office has also found the film high in entertainment value (the picture has been given an A-1 "family" moral rating): "Director Basil Dearden has masterminded a red-blooded, swiftly-moving Cinema spectacle that is really chock-full of extras and actually deserves all the superlatives commonly used to describe every wide-screen epic. This film, for all its length (2 hours, 15 minutes) and bounty, never drags, never gets out of hand and always entertains."

Special praise was given to "second unit" director Yakima Canutt, who directed the film's many battle scenes, "many of

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'Roar' Slated At Playhouse

Starting on Monday night, Aug. 1, East Rochester's Town and Country Playhouse proudly presents the first area showing of the new musical, "The Roar of the Greasepaint, The Smell of the Crowd."

The coauthors of the musical, Anthony Newley and Leslie Bricusse, have continued their break with traditional musical comedy—which they began so successfully with their "Stop the World" production.

Town and Country Playhouse has obtained both the male leads who have received high acclaim in "Roar's" recent national touring company, Edward Earle, who understudied Anthony Newley and then inherited the role in the New York Broadway run, plays the down-trodden clown, "Cocky." The swaggering role of the pompous but crafty "Sir" is portrayed by David C. Jones.

"Roar of the Greasepaint" will be the sixth show in this summer's Town and Country schedule. It will play the one week from Aug. 1 through August 6, with a matinee on Wednesday, (Aug. 3) at 2:30 and two shows at 5 and 9 p.m. on its final day. Ticket reservations can be made by phoning the box office at (716) DU 1-1001.

Theater News

Show Boat

by EUPHEMIA WYATT

It was in May, 1928, that the Cotton Blossom first chugged into the port of New York. Now for the fourth time her hawsers have been made fast to the wharf of Broadway but, of course, she has paddled her way backwards and forwards across the country and her music has become a natural heritage.

Edna Ferber's story dramatized by Oscar Hammerstein Jr. with Jerome Kern's score is a major contribution to American folk lore both for the paddle-wheeled steamers theatre and the chanted of the great Mississippi, "Old Man River."

One recent review found the story of "Show Boat" too dated but the incident of the beautiful quadroon and the test of her white husband's loyalty will always be to me an arresting scene with the foreboding of the crises ahead that are so bitter.

In 1928, a plump little comedian, Charles Winninger, identified himself so closely with



Captain Andy that it was difficult to accept a tall fat man called Dumke in the third revival in 1946.

Now David Wayne, an excellent actor but no funny-face comic, plays Andy straight as a cheerful enthusiastic theatre man with meek respect for his ratchet-nosed-Parthy-Ann who is determined to bring up her pretty daughter, Magnolia, as properly as a show-boat and a show-boat father will permit.

Margaret Hamilton lacks the commanding stature of the original Edna May Oliver but she can still command. Barbara Cook, always charming, is Magnolia who, to her mother's horror and her father's connivance, marries a handsome adventurer, Ravenal, who teaches her to sing "Only Make Believe" and deserts her after a duet at the World's Fair.

The most exciting member of the cast is Constance Towers who was Anastasia in an operatic flop called Anya last season and is now Julie singing "Bill" on top of a piano and making it just as important as it was in the old days. (A program note reminds us that the words are by P. G. Woodhouse). Miss Towers is tall and beautiful with a haunting sweetness of voice.

With William Warfield singing "Old Man River" in Act I and "Bill" in Act II and Franz Allers as conductor the New York State Theatre should not lack audiences.

Oliver Smith's Cotton Blossom can navigate but his decor is mostly common place. The costumes by Stanley Sirmans have flamboyance but little else; the choreography by Ronald Field is routine. Lawrence Kasha's direction permits the crowds in the levee of Natchez to turn their backs to the Cotton Blossom as she pulls in so that they may face the audience to announce her arrival. But "Show Boat" paddles on and happy those who have a ticket for her.



Charlton Heston in "Khartoum"

Lunts, 'Hogan's Goat' To Be Honored

New York—(NC)—The husband and wife acting team of Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne will be honored by the National Catholic Theatre Conference during its annual convention in St. Paul, Minn.

The Lunts will be presented in honor of Father George Dinneen, S.J., founder of the conference, for "their consistently valuable contribution to the American Theatre."

Award presentations will be among the highlights of the week-long gathering (Aug. 15 to 21).

Receiving the Religious Drama Award will be William Alfred, author of the current hit "Hogan's Goat," for a play with a "genuinely Christian spirit embodied in true dramatic form."

"Parable," the film produced by the Protestant Council of New York for showing at the 1965 World's Fair will receive the conference's Religious Film Award.

Mercy College of Detroit will be granted the \$500 award presented annually to a conference member for outstanding work in drama.



IN COSTUME for their lead roles in "The Roar of the Greasepaint—The Smell of the Crowd" are David C. Jones in the role of "Sir" and Edward Earle as "Cocky." Both actors starred in the National Touring Company of the musical slated Aug. 1 through 6 at Town and Country Playhouse.



Roseland Rodeo This Weekend

Ride 'Em Cowboy! Two members of the Rodeo Cowboys association of Denver, Colorado, tune up for the Championship Rodeo to be held Friday and Saturday (July 29 and 30) at Roseland Park on Canandaigua Lake. Cowboys from over twenty states will compete for championship points leading to the title of "All Round Cowboy." In addition to competitive events, the Roseland Rodeo will also feature specialty acts including rope spinners, trick shot artists, fancy riders and rodeo clowns. Performances are scheduled for 8 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday evenings, and tickets are \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children.

FILMS ABOUT TOWN

A MENTION OF MOTION PICTURES OF MORE THAN ROUTINE INTEREST

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?—The wit and harshness of the original are undimmed, and the language is unbowdlerized. Richard Burton's performance is so strong that the emphasis has been shifted: Martha's play has become George's movie. The other actors—Elizabeth Taylor, George Segal, and Sandy Dennis—do very well too. Mike Nichols was the director. Ernest Lehman adapted the script. —New Yorker Mag.

Doctor Zhivago—"A beautifully photographed but oddly muted version of the Pasternak novel. With Juli Christie, Omar Sharif, Tom Courtenay, and many others, directed by David Lean." —New Yorker Mag.

Walk, Don't Run—"Stepping lightly out of his customary Romeo role, Cary Grant plays matchmaker for Samantha Eggar and Jim Hutton. The trio squeezes winning high comedy from a wheezy plot about crowded housing in Tokyo during the 1964 Olympics." —Time Mag.

Squad of Music—"The Broadway story of the Trapp Family Singers is directed by Robert Wise in lively cinematic style. Beautifully filmed in color, Julie Andrews stars in this delightful musical.

"The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming."—"A Soviet submarine bumps aground on a tight little island off the New England coast, causing a hilarious invasion panic that is at its funniest when Broadway's Alan Arkin dominates the action as an unstrung Russian sailor." —Time Mag.

IN THE WINGS
Born Free—"Rather than send Elsa, her grown-up pet lion, to a zoo, a game warden's wife teaches it how to survive in the jungle. This is a beautiful nature film that fills the eye with its colorful African locale and satisfies the imagination with its animal photography. Directed by James Hill, it stars Virginia McKenna and Bill Travers from whom Elsa steals the picture." —Catholic Film-Newsletter.

The Glass Bottom Boat—"A secretary (Doris Day) and a scientific genius (Rod Taylor) get involved with each other and assorted spies, gadgets and contrivances. This wide screen color comedy has a number of good sight gags, some clever situations and a fine supporting cast. As put together by director Frank Tashlin, it adds up to a lot of fun." —Catholic Film-Newsletter.

Penfield Lists 'Cinderella'

The Rochester Repertory Company will present a two-act musical version of "Cinderella" at Indian Landing school in Penfield today (Friday, July 29) at 2 p.m. The production, designed for children's audiences, features several performers from area high schools.

Melissa Nauheimer and Marilyn Schubert, both Mercy High seniors, take the roles of the two step-sisters. Nazareth Academy's Betsy Griswold has the title role of Cinderella. Aquinas student Nick Fici plays the young prince. Tony Coramella of the same school handles the piano accompaniment.

Sponsored by Penfield's Recreation commission, the play runs for 90 minutes.

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