



Lynn Redgrave entertaining children in "Georgy Girl."



Ida Kaminska and Josef Kroner in "Shop on Main Street."



Robert Shaw as King Henry VIII and Paul Scofield as Thomas More in "A Man for All Seasons."

New York — The second annual film awards to be given by the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures have been won by "A Man for All Seasons," "Georgy Girl" and "The Shop on Main Street."

They were honored at an NCOMP awards ceremony as the 1966 films "whose artistic vision and expression best embody authentic values."

In addition, the Catholic film office paid tribute to the late Walt Disney for his "many enduring achievements" in motion pictures.

"A Man for All Seasons," a drama on the life of St. Thomas More, was selected by NCOMP as the year's "best film for general audiences." "Georgy Girl," about an awkward but warmhearted British girl who manages to rise above the decadence around her, was cited as "best film for mature audiences," and the Czech-made "Shop on Main Street," a tragicomedy about two people who are affected by the Nazi genocide plot, was termed "best foreign-language film."

No prizes were awarded this year in the categories "best film for youth" and "best film of educational value," because in the opinion of the awards selection board — composed of film critics and educators — there were no outstanding films to merit those prizes last year. NCOMP awards for best youth and educational films went to "Nobody Waved Goodbye" and "World Without Sun," respectively.

Other films honored last year were "Sound of Music" as best for general audiences, "Darling" for mature audiences and "Juliet of the Spirits" as best foreign-language film.

The NCOMP awards, presented this year by Bishop Christopher J. Weldon of Springfield, Mass., chairman of the U.S. Episcopal Committee for Motion Pictures, were established "to give public recognition to films of outstanding merit and to assure makers of such films that their efforts are genuinely appreciated by the national Catholic community."

The tribute to Disney, who died in December at 65, was in the form of a "citation of merit," presented to the Buena Vista Distribution Company, the firm that distributes Disney films. It was presented "in acknowledgment of the many enduring achievements of Walt Disney in providing motion picture entertainment for general audiences and in recognition of his artistic and technical contributions in the field of animation, documentary and narrative cinema."

Winner of 29 Academy Awards, Disney created for wide audiences highly successful films in each of the three kinds of film. In animation, he was famed for his "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (made in 1938, it was the first feature-length cartoon), "Pinocchio," "Fantasia," "Bambi," "Cinderella," "Peter Pan" and "Sleeping Beauty."

His documentary films included "The Living Desert," "The Vanishing Prairie," "The African Lion" and "White Wilderness." In narrative films, among his most successful were



WALT DISNEY

"Treasure Island," "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," "Old Yeller," "Swiss Family Robinson," "The Absent-Minded Professor" and "Mary Poppins."

"A Man for All Seasons," fast becoming the most honored film of the year, was directed by Fred Zinnemann from a screenplay by Robert Bolt, who wrote the original stage play from which the film was adapted.

English actor Paul Scofield portrays Thomas More, a 16th-century lawyer who gave up position, wealth and eventually his life rather than compromise his conscience on the matter of Papal supremacy and King Henry VIII's divorce and remarriage to Anne Boleyn.

In its first official commentary on the film, expressed in its latest Catholic Film Newsletter, NCOMP called "A Man

for All Seasons" "profoundly entertaining and an exceptionally beautiful achievement."

The film office added that Thomas More becomes important for "this season" of the 1960's... only when one looks beyond the political-religious conflict of the sixteenth century and focuses on the larger issues of the film. More's problem is: how to stand up for what he believes in conscience to be true when the whole of society believes otherwise. He did not try to destroy society or even less, the State; but he tried to retain his dignity — a dignity which he said must be founded on something which isn't a matter of reason; finally it's a matter of love. The film is distributed by Columbia Pictures.

"Georgy Girl," which previously had won the International Catholic Film Office prize at the Berlin Film Festival, is a satiric comedy in which Lynn Redgrave stars as Georgy (a from which the "Georgy" of the title comes), a chunky cloud-hopper of a girl whose buoyant disposition and sense of humor — and of moral rightness — help her to overcome a perverse environment, a caricature of modern society.

Her own mother and father, for instance, encourage her, without success — to be more "appreciative" toward a lecherous millionaire who piles her with gifts. When her roommate becomes pregnant, it is Georgy — who has a job in which she teaches preschoolers — who lays plans to adopt it. In everything that the "hip" world dictates, she finds herself unable to conform.

Seton Groups In Action

80TH BRANCH of Seton Workers will meet Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. Mrs. Jack C. Forsler, 40 Lansing Circle North will be hostess.

11TH BRANCH monthly meeting to be held at St. Mary's Hospital, Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Directed in bouncy "mod" style by Silvio Narizzano, "Georgy Girl" was rated A-4 by NCOMP (morally objectionable for adults, with reservations), with the observation: "For all its wit and comedy, 'Georgy Girl' is a serious film about a young girl of instinctively sound principles who comes in conflict with an amoral post-Christian environment. In spite of moral lapses, she emerges as a person who refuses to be treated as a plaything and demands the respect due to her as a woman. Reservations are indicated because some of the treatment is coarse and realistic." Columbia Pictures is also distributing this film.

"The Shop on Main Street," co-directed by Elmar Klos and Jan Kadar, is set in a village in Slovakia in 1942, as the Nazi regime is carrying out its anti-Semitic campaign. In the village, a dim-witted carpenter is appointed "Aryan controller" of a button shop operated by an 80-year-old Jewish woman.

Hardly able to see or hear, she assumes he has been sent by Jewish friends to be her assistant.

He expects to profit financially, but learns the shop has long been bankrupt and that the old woman is supported by the Jewish community. A deep affection develops between the pair (played by Ida Kaminska and Josef Kroner) and when the order for the deportation of all the Jews in the town is given, the carpenter must choose between protecting the woman at the risk of being shot or merely looking to his own safety.

Observed NCOMP in its newsletter at the time of the film's release:

"The film is subtitled a 'tragicomedy,' and so it is in the fullest sense of the term: an unceasing, unsettling juxtaposition and blending of the comic and tragic elements right up to its bitter ending. The Shop on Main Street should be examined on multiple levels: the unnering questions it

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Chancelor

Father James Moynihan has been named to be Chancelor of the Diocese to succeed Monsignor George Cocuz pastor of Holy Family Church. Father Moynihan, ordained in 1957, has been associated with the Chance since 1961, and served Bishop Kearney's secretariat since 1963.

Notre Dame Theologian

Holy Cross Father Albert Schiltzer, a native Rochester and now in the theology department at Notre Dame University, will speak Temple Beth El Monday, Feb. 13, at 6:30 p.m.

Attending the talk, follow a dinner, will be members of the Temple, St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Blessed Sacrament Church.

Arranged by the Men's Club of the three congregations, event is open to all members of those congregations.

Father Schiltzer is the husband of Mrs. Bruce Carson who is chairman of the program. He has a brother, Ronald, who is a Redemptorist priest.

He is well known, particularly in the mid-west, for his participation in international meetings of scholars of the various churches.

Vernacular Layman Dies

Wellington, N.Z. — (RNS) Funeral services were held for John K. Ross-Duggan, not Catholic layman and a promoter of the vernacular Mass and other Church rites, who died Feb. 1 at age of 78.

At the time of his death was visiting Wellington where his family lived and where he had been educated. An American citizen since 1940, he lived with a daughter in Rockaway Point, Queens.

He was co-founder of the Vernacular Society in Chicago which was devoted to the introduction of English in most of the Mass and in the Sacrament.

In 1951 he founded the city's publication, Amen, a service as editor until 1955 when he began preparations for the Second Vatican Council for his magazine. He attended all four sessions of the Council from 1962-65.

As a result of the Vatican Council's liturgical reforms a the introduction of the vernacular in parts of the Mass and other rites, in 1965 the Vernacular Society merged into the National Liturgical Conference in Washington, D.C., which has long sponsored annual National Liturgical Weeks.

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