



Sister Bede Sullivan

Nun--Expert On Films Tells How She Does It

Sister Bede Sullivan, O.S.B., regarded by many as the nation's leading nun-expert on motion pictures, has put between book covers the high-school film course that has made her that.

Her book, "Movies: Universal Language," presents in detail an 18-session course in "film and the humanities" that she has taught for three years in Kansas City's Lillis High School, which is co-ed and culturally and racially mixed.

Sister Bede's work there has been largely responsible for her appointment last year by the governor of Missouri as secretary of the Film Committee of the Missouri Council on the Arts and for her selection as the first Film Committee chairman by the National Catholic Theatre Conference.

"Some educators," commented the national Catholic film office in a review of Sister Bede's book, "are trying to put school and life together again by looking more and more toward programs in both film and the humanities. In their search for successful programs, they can find a great deal of help in 'Movies: Universal Language.'"

The book (published in paperback by Fides Publishers, Inc., at Notre Dame, Ind.) outlines an 18-session course of about two hours each that Sister Bede has taken her students through at Lillis High School.

It ranges from an analysis of what makes certain scenes effective to how teachers can make room in their schedules for inclusion of film study. "Skip what the student has been skipping for years: a little Malory, a little Defoe, some Pepps, a little Boswell, and a pinch of Dryden."

In "Movies: Universal Language," whose cover features a strip of red film curled up to resemble an apple — indicating that the film has replaced the apple as the "fruit of knowledge" — Sister Bede argues that it is essential that teachers use films to get humanistic values across to their students.

"Since the goal of literature study is the development of humanistic values, it is especially helpful to use motion pictures with groups of students who find books difficult to penetrate because of reading difficulties," she says, referring to the culturally deprived members of her classes.

But like other leaders in the film-education movement — she says Catholic schools are leading in this area because of "all the red tape" that public-school teachers encounter in trying to bring film into the classroom — she maintains that the increased use of the image media for communication makes visual education a must.

Theatre of Deaf At Arts Center

The new Nazareth College, the Civic Music Association.

Fine Arts Center will host a moving and exciting theatrical experience, a "first" of its kind, when The National Theatre of the Deaf is presented there Sat., Sept. 3 under the auspices of

Catholic Press 29 Million

New York—(RNS)—Roman Catholic newspapers and magazines in the United States and Canada have combined circulations, topping the 29-million mark, according to the Catholic Press Association.

James A. Doyle, CPA executive director, said the circulation figure of 29,092,174 was a result of the continuing gains made by diocesan newspapers. Last year's circulation was 28,944,724.

Statistics on the Church's religious publications are contained in the latest edition of the Catholic Press Directory published by the CPA.

The directory shows that there are 128 diocesan newspapers, four national newspapers, and 11 published in languages other than English in the U.S. Their combined circulation is 6,742,944, while last year it was 5,991,020.

The new directory lists 576 publications for the U.S. and Canada — 157 newspapers, 364 magazines of all types, and 55 diocesan directories or buying guides.

'Land of Smiles' At Eastman

Franz Lehár's world-famous operetta "Land of Smiles," starring the operatic tenor Giuseppe di Stefano comes to the Eastman Theatre, Sun., Oct. 1 under the auspices of the Civic Music Association.

Tickets for this production of "Land of Smiles" are now on sale at the Eastman Theatre Box Office.

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This fall tour will play to over 25 colleges and community theatre dates in September and October. A longer tour is planned for the Spring. This new art form has won critical acclaim wherever it has been demonstrated.

25 Years Ago

(From Catholic Courier, Sept. 24, 1942)

Practical Christian living and wartime cooperation and sacrifice were stressed by Bishop Kearney at the 38th Diocesan Teachers Institute at Aquinas.

Payment in full of the debt of St. Francis Church, Auburn was announced by Father Adolph Gabbini to his parishioners at Sunday Masses.

Father Leonard A. Kelly of Nazareth College faculty left for Navy Chaplains' Training School, Norfolk, Va. Father Henry Smit, O.M.C., Auburn native, was commissioned as First Lieutenant, Army Chaplain and went to Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island.

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