

As I See It

'The Experiment' Draws Some Praise

By PAT COSTA

A week or so ago we had the opportunity of watching on our TV screens a 90-minute drama wherein a young couple in pursuit of idealistic goals took up living together without the benefit of the sacrament of matrimony.

"The Experiment," by Ellen Violet, the latest in the series of CBS Playhouse productions did not fare well with its audience.

"Awful," "Dull," "Cop-Out" were some of the epithets it evoked.

I disagree. In spite of whatever shortcomings the play had, and it had plenty, for the first time I began to understand a little what all the fuss is about between the over-thirties and the over-thirties.

Simply, the story revolved around a young pair who sought to love each other without commitment. The young man, a genius in his field of electronic printing, was offered a job in a narrow-minded corporation. He takes the girl, busy writing her great American novel, with him and passes her off as his wife.

Bit by bit the corporation

begins to iron out his unconventional aspects. It is successful until it tries to ignore his black partner and condemn the young scientist's living arrangements.

The playwright's rather simple solution (marriage proposal) to one problem and confrontation with the aging head of the company as the answer to another lacked something in dramatic integrity.

But, in spite of the fact that the young actors were overwhelmed by their parts, Miss Violet managed to get something of the real gap between generations across.

Channel 21, Rochester's educational station, is getting ready for some fun. In a move to raise funds for its support and get local viewers to participate, the station will auction off merchandise from 6 p.m. to midnight on each of four nights from April 15 through 18.

Among the items to be bid upon by viewers via phone are a \$1500 scholarship to St. John Fisher, a skiing weekend in Vermont, milk coat, two cases of motor oil, contact lenses and

200 wedding invitations plus much more, all donated by merchants and other interested supporters.

Channel 21 has asked for more suggestions for items. How about a catered dinner from one of Rochester's best known dining spots in the bidder's home for six or eight people?

Or babysitting service once a week for a year?

Or a year's plowing contract for Rochester's lovely winters?

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Are you one of those who already wrote in this past week to tell us you would like a television Mass? If so, a thank you and a request that you ask others to write the Courier-Journal if they would be interested in a regularly scheduled Sunday Mass on TV. It was a record week for letters to the column. Among those we heard from were Mrs. C. Bragg of 1126 Dewey Ave., Mrs. Thomas Baker of King Ferry, N.Y., Miss Anna M. Zenkel, 178 Wellington Ave., Cecilia Richter, 55 Barry Road, Mrs. Frank Jenkins of Brockport, Mrs. Robert Pick-

ering, 32 Whitman Road, Mr. and Mrs. Foster B. Burnett of 365 French Road, Pittsford, Mrs. Leo Ruddy, 652 Genesee Park Blvd., and Mrs. Rose Bart of 131 Weaver St.

Many of these sent in names of others boosting our total to about 100 names.

Among the writers were Mary and Philip Whittington of 589 Hayward Ave. who wrote:

"We will be very happy to hear Mass on TV Sundays. We are 88 and 92 years old and are not able to attend Mass and are partially blind."

Another correspondent is Marie Lohoff of St. Ann's Home who notes that she is one of the lucky ones able to attend Mass, but "there are about 300 ill and elderly people that are not that lucky."

"I spoke to a lot of them," she continues, "and most of them said it would be heaven to hear Mass on TV."

In order to interest a television station, a minimum audience of a thousand must be assured. So if you haven't written to us yet expressing your interest please do so now.

Movies

Here is a list of motion pictures currently playing in Rochester area theaters and the ratings given them by the National Catholic Office of Motion Pictures:

With the Catholic Office ratings, we include the ratings of the Motion Picture Association: G, general; R, mature audiences; R, restricted (persons under 16 admitted only when accompanied by parents or adult guardian); X, persons under 16 not admitted.

Paramount — "The Wrecking Crew" (No Rating). M.

Regent — "Bullitt" (Adults). M.

Cinema — "Faces" (Adults, with reservations). M.

Warning — "The Lion in Winter" (Adults). G.

Monroe — "Funny Girl" (Adults and Adolescents).

Riviera — "Swiss Family Robinson" (No Rating). G.

Studio 54 — "Three in the Attic" (No Rating). R.

Loew's — "Charly" (Adults). G.

Stonewall — "The Impossible Years" (Adults). G.

Panorama — "Oliver" (General). G.

Towne — "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" (General). G.

Stutson — "Buona Sera Mrs. Campbell" (Adults). M.

Fine Arts — "2001: A Space Odyssey" (Adults and Adolescents). X.

Lyell — "Inga" (Condemned).

Little — "The Fixer" (Adults).

Path to Freedom: Christian Experiences and the Bible, by Jean Corbon (Sheed and Ward; \$5.00). With warmth and clarity, he demonstrates how the great experiences of Israel should also be the experiences of modern Christians.

The Gospel of Now, by Vincent McCorry, S.J., (Herder and Herder; \$4.50). A year's selection of McCorry's weekly America scriptural reflections.

On the Way to the Cross, by Hans von Balthasar and Joseph Hegenbarth (Herder and Herder; \$2.50). The unique collaboration of internationally acclaimed artist and theologian, presents an almost forgotten devotion by rendering it relevant to the modern religious mind and imagination.

Christian Existence in the New Testament, by Rudolph Schnackenburg (Notre Dame; \$6.95). Historicity of man vis-a-vis God as outlined in the gospels. The appeal appears strictly professional.

Faith and Reflection, by Henry Dumery, ed. by Louis Dupre (Herder and Herder; \$7.50). Coupling phenomenological method with Platonic ontology, Dumery has constructed a rather contro-

versal reformulation of the Christian faith.

The Gospel Parables, by Edward A. Armstrong (Sheed and Ward; \$4.50). A book on the literal and devotional meaning of the parables and a timely addition to New Testament Commentaries. The author is a retired Episcopal priest.

The Morality Gap, by Paul Hanley Purley (Macmillan; \$4.95). The ethical divergence of national policy originating in a corruption of Christian-

ity, and the individual Christian's obligation to work for the creation of a better society through personal action.

The Church and the Body Politic, by Franklin H. Littell (Seabury; \$5.95). This most recent book by a prolific writer and one of Protestantism's prominent intellectual chieftains, inquires what constitutes effective Christian witness on the part of the churches in modern American society.

TV Movie Ratings

Ratings are those given by the former Legion of Decency, now the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures, when films were originally shown. A-1: morally unobjectionable for general patronage; A-2: morally unobjectionable for adults and adolescents; A-3: morally unobjectionable for adults; A-4: morally unobjectionable for adults, with reservations; B: morally objectionable in part for adults; C: condemned; No Rating: film has not been reviewed by the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures (formerly the Legion of Decency). N.B. Before A-3 classification was established, A-2 indicated morally unobjectionable for adults.

Movie listings supplied through the courtesy of TV Guide Magazine

Friday, March 7 thru Thursday, March 13

Friday, March 7

Time	Channel	Movie	Rating
4:00 p.m.	8	Seven Cities of Gold	A-1
9:00 p.m.	10	Designing Women	B
11:00 p.m.	13	That Touch of Mink	B

Saturday, March 8

2:00 p.m.	13	Cannibal Attack	A-1
5:35 p.m.	10	The Far Country	A-1
9:00 p.m.	8	The Birds	A-2
11:05 p.m.	10	World for Ransom	Not Listed
11:15 p.m.	13	The Victors	A-3
11:45 p.m.	8	The Enemy Below	A-1
12:30 a.m.	10	New Orleans After Dark	A-2

Sunday, March 9

5:00 p.m.	8	Snows of Kilimanjaro	B
9:00 p.m.	13	The Cardinal	A-3
11:35 p.m.	10	My Gal Sal	A-2

Monday, March 10

4:00 p.m.	8	The Seven Year Itch	B
9:00 p.m.	8	The Plainsman	A-1

Tuesday, March 11

4:00 p.m.	8	The Tall Men	B
9:00 p.m.	8	The Whole World is Watching	Not Listed
11:30 p.m.	13	Experiment in Terror	A-2

Wednesday, March 12

4:00 p.m.	8	White Feather	A-2
9:00 p.m.	13	Captain Newman, M.D.	A-2
12:00 a.m.	13	The Umbrellas of Cherbourg	A-3

Thursday, March 13

4:00 p.m.	8	The View from Pompey's Head	B
9:00 p.m.	10	The Stripper	B
11:30 p.m.	13	Five Golden Hours	A-3

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Catholic, Protestant Pull Abortion 'Switch'

New York — (RNS) — A Catholic priest-philosopher spoke out in favor of abortion and a Protestant theologian opposed liberalization of abortion law in a CBS radio broadcast here.

Father Giles Milhaven, S.J., Professor of Christian Ethics at Fordham University, rejected the view that "cells growing and developing in the embryo are really any indication that there is a person there."

However, Dr. George H. Williams, a professor at Harvard University's School of Divinity, cited "2,000 years of Jewish-Christian history" in maintaining that the fetus is a person with a right to life.

The confrontation between the two theologians saw a reversal of positions generally assumed by church spokesmen. Frequently, Protestant leaders have favored more liberal abortion laws and Roman Catholics have been outspoken opponents of any change in laws prohibiting abortion except when the life of the mother is in danger.

The fetus in its early stages, Father Milhaven said, "is something which could become a person and therefore has a certain value which should be respected, but you don't need such strong reasons to prevent it from becoming a human being."

"My feeling," the Protestant theologian said, "is that when we are becoming so sensitive about capital punishment and whether wars are a proper instrument of public policy; when we're sensitive in so many areas to human life, to overlook this innocuous, unprotected area just because it is invisible and inside the mother is to be retrogressive."

Prof. Williams warned against arguing in favor of abortion in terms of "the quality of human life" and noted the danger of this being applied to the mentally retarded person.

"They are in institutions because of inferior mentality or insanity and I think that when we begin to define persons in terms of a kind of perfection and then make judgments about inferior forms of human stuff, we are at that point at which society is determining what has a right to life and what does not."

The Jesuit pointed out that society does exercise the right to life in the execution of criminals and the waging of war and that unless you are going to attack these positions also you have to concede this right over life to society.

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