

# As I See It

## Doctors Waiting in the Wings

By PAT COSTA

The TV doctor era is about to return. Reports are there are at least a couple of medic shows in the offing for the coming fall season and last Sunday we were treated to a partial preview of one.

Ceremonies for Gen. Eisenhower made it necessary for Channel 13 to delay the movie, "Marcus Welby, M.D." for one hour and when it did screen it, the station chose to let us see the last half.

Curiously enough it was sufficient to give an idea of what the upcoming series based on this pilot will be. Robert Young in the title role is a general practitioner, one of a very few in the world of specialists.

Not only will this give the script writers more leeway in penning the weekly dramas but perhaps it will help to popularize again the role of the doctor who treats most all

of the problems of an entire family.

To be seen with him is James Brodin as his young partner who uses a motor-cycle to make his house calls and Anne Baxter who is apparently going to provide some of the romantic interest as Dr. Welby's friend.

The two-hour pilot had a katelectroscopic quality, obviously a play of the producers to show all the gambits they have up their sleeve regarding storylines. But it tended to confuse, which when combined with the fact that the film was a fragment, made for some headscratching.

On the whole, however, Marcus Welby would appear to be several cuts above the hospital-oriented garbage referred to as soap opera and

seen in abundance during television's day hours.

Frankly, if television must move in cycles then I am glad as not to see the era of the medic returning. Ditto for the lawyer which should follow if the shot-callers are following chronological sequence in their cycles.

They may not be what I call prime programming but they are in my book to be preferred over the monster cult, the fantasy super hero, the nighttime soap opera, private eye—the situation comedies about kooky young marrieds, the police officer shows plus many others all of whom have enjoyed their own cycles. Westerns never really left, witness "Gunsmoke" now in its teens and "The Virginian" with seven or eight seasons under its belt.

Telephone calls to the Courier-Journal regarding Channel 13's Wednesday night movie of recent weeks may be an indication that the public is beginning to revolt against the now prevalent permissiveness in the film and TV industries.

Seven viewers last week registered their disapproval over such movies as "The Servant," "Town Without Pity" and "The Children's Hour" all scheduled for WOKR-TV in lieu of the Wednesday Night network movie. The first deals in part with multiple rape and the third with lesbianism. How's that for family viewing? Wonder if those who are upset over the Catholic schools sex syllabus have registered their interest in this area of children's "education."

# Patronize Good Films, Not Bad Ones

## Catholic Press Features

New York—In the future, we will acknowledge only those letters of complaint about "dirty" films which indicate the letterwriter has taken his family to see "My Side of the Mountain."

Robert Radnitz, the only major film-maker outside the Walt Disney organization who committed to producing family-type films, has been steadily picking up support, but that "put up or shut up" decree from a leading Protestant clergyman is undoubtedly the strongest boost Radnitz has ever received.

The Rev. James M. Wall, editor of "The Christian Advocate," not only laid down the challenge in a review of Radnitz's latest film for family audiences but also outlined a program of action for pastors.

"Church complaints about why don't we have good pictures are rarely backed with a display of box-office support," commented the Rev. Mr. Wall, a Methodist, whose publication is distributed to ministers. He proposed that any ministers who are concerned about a lack of suitable film fare for young people ought to "go to your phone and call the local theater manager," and promise support if the manager will book the film.

"Why do this?" Mr. Wall asked. "Because a Radnitz film arrives on the public screen once every two years, and the film folk who put up the money to make his films want to know if there is profit in them. They need support from churchmen because these are the kinds of film we have been saying we want. To ignore them at the box office is to forever forego our right to complain about products that sell because of their sexual content."

At the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures, Father Patrick J. Sullivan, S.J., executive director, said his office fully endorsed Mr. Wall's "point of view regarding the need to support the kind of films we want. This certainly is the viewpoint we have held: The public is going to get the kind of films that they support by going to see them."

Father Sullivan then read an excerpt from an upcoming review of "My Side of the Mountain" in NCOM's "Catholic Film Newsletter," in which the film office said: "Producer Robert Radnitz has led a crusade against family



A 13-year-old nature enthusiast (Ted Eccles) makes a jacket from deerskin as his pet raccoon stands by in Robert Radnitz' latest family film, "My Side of the Mountain."

films can be intelligent entertainment, and "My Side of the Mountain" demonstrates it. Adults in the company of their families will enjoy this film's spirit of youthful independence as much as their smallest youngsters."

"My Side of the Mountain," which is Radnitz's fifth film—preceded by "A Dog of Flanders" (1960), "Misty" (1962), "Island of the Blue Dolphins" (1964), and "Now Miguel" (1966)—is about a 13-year-old nature-lover and admirer of Thoreau who sets out to spend a year living alone in the Canadian mountains.

NCOM said the film gives the viewer "an intriguing story with substance instead of clichés" and the Rev. Mr. Wall noted that in the film,

Washington—Toward Tomorrow," the National Catholic Educational Association's award-winning film story on Catholic education today, has been selected for showing in Moscow next summer as part of a USA exhibition on American education. The show will open in the Soviet capital on July 1.

disliked "Sound of Music"), said "Mountain" is "that rare family film that deals with Flesh and Blood rather than fairytale people."

Radnitz, who has talked recently of establishing a separate film company to produce family-type films unless the existing major companies devote much more attention the genre, has been hailed by "Newsweek" in a special article about children's films for "fighting the good fight." Said "Newsweek":

"For years he has been fighting the good fight for financing: to reach a child's mind through films you must first reach the mind of a banker. He has proselytized for movies that 'not only entertain but educate' as well, and has faithfully delivered such goods to studios that would prefer the standard Disney imitations."

Now on a national tour to promote the film, which will open at Easter-time in some cities and then throughout the Spring and Summer nationwide, Radnitz commented:

"In some of my talks to groups around the country, invariably the question comes up: 'What can we do to help promote better films?' The answer to that, of course, is patronize them. It is very easy to be negative and to criticize.

"It is also important that we criticize, but if we used a little bit more of our energy to support the good instead of criticizing the bad, for me, this would be a step in the right direction."

(Part 2 of a Series) By FR. CLIFF HOWELL, S.J.

The historical basis of the ceremonies buting Holy Communion plain much of the reform of this rite Howell is an expert and has written wide phases of the liturgical renewal.

To some extent improved since then. There are churches the priest now face ple over the altar can see what he. They see him "take his own host and 'bless' it since the now out loud and. But even if they that he breaks his they gather no mea-

Clearly he is not it in order to give it. Nor does he so. For it is quite note of them rec sacred food from they receive it out ernacle from a cib secreted perhaps— other priest at st. Mass.

Communion still an interruption to something separate thing inserted f where. This—imp especially strong if leaves the altar v celebrating in orde to another altar p—ports the taberna— he may thence ciborium.

It still does not a meal which he with them, for the white discs do not bread, and were 1 from what he cons the altar, and are 1 in a human way t the usual termino sumed." The syn lamentably poor.

Is there any r this poor and symbolism? Yes; cannot be compl dated without f forms, even now. To improve it, ly. This, however,

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# 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; M, mature audiences; R, restricted (persons under 16 admitted only when accompanied by parents or adult guardian); X, persons under 16 not admitted.
- Paramount — "Angel in my Pocket" (General). G.
- Regent — "Up Tight" (Adults). M.
- Cinema — "Buona Sera Mrs. Campbell" (Adults). G.
- Waring — "The Lion in Winter" (Adults). G.
- Monroe — "Funny Girl" (Adults and Adolescents).
- Riviera — "The Vixens" (No Rating). X.
- Studio 2 — "Three in the Attic" (Objectable). R.
- Loew's — "Charly" (Adults). G.
- Stoneridge — "Love Bug" (No Rating). G.
- Panoramas — "Oliver" (General). G.
- Towne — "Romeo and Juliet" (Adults, with reservations). G.
- Stutson — "The Shoes of the Fisherman" (General). G.
- Fine Arts — "2001: A Space Odyssey" (Adults and Adolescents). G.
- Lyell — "100 Rifles" (No Rating).
- Little — "Skammen" ("Shame"). (Adults). R.

The Abortion Decision, by David Granfield O.S.B. (Doubleday; \$5.95). A reasoned, non-political analysis of the complex problem of abortion in modern society.

Act of Love, by Rosemary Haughton (J. B. Lippincott; \$4.50). Without faith, Rosemary Haughton believes, life is wasted. And without the willingness to love, which recognizes the vulnerability of total commitment to something, there can be no faith.

Alienation, Atheism and Religious Revolution, by Thomas F. O'Dea (Sheed and Ward; \$4.50). An analysis of religious crisis facing America and Europe. The author sees the religious crisis as part of the broader crisis in politics, culture and technology.

Black Abolitionists, by Benjamin Quarles (Oxford University Press; \$6.75). This book by a leading scholar in the field of Negro history

## Current Comments

ect) showing the debilitating realities of a life few people could bear.

Cybernetic Serendipity: The Computer and the Arts, edited by Jasia Reichardt (Praeger; \$9.95). This volume explores how man can use the computer and other new technology to extend his creativity and inventiveness.

The Flesh, Instrument of Salvation, by Cipriano Vagaggini (Alba; \$3.95). It shows that the body plays a focal role in man's quest of salvation.

Marian Era, edited by Marlon Habig O.F.M. (Franciscan Herald; \$4.95). This new volume of the popular annual has a wealth of theological data on the new approach to Mary in the Church.

Prayer and the Creative Christian, by Donald J. Foran (Bruce; \$1.75, paper). A creative insight into prayer for modern life.

tions on the moral values of American Law, by Charles P. Kindregan (Bruce; \$6.50). A valiant, realistic framework for discussing such issues as transplant surgery, eugenic engineering, drug addiction, abortion and other topics of current debate.

Revolutionary Writings, by Camillo Torres (Herder and Herder; \$4.95). The essays of the priest-revolutionary who has become a symbol.

The Tragedy of Lyndon Johnson, by Eric F. Goldman (Knopf; \$3.95). Told from the viewpoint of his Special Consultant.

Still Hungry in America, by Robert Coles, photographs by Al-Claudio (World Publishing \$2.95, paper). An unforgettable story of deprivation afflicting hundreds of thousands of American families presented in 110 photos and a powerful narrative. Introduction by Senator Edward M.

# 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 all; 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, April 4 — Thursday, April 10

Time	Channel	Movie	Rating
4:00 p.m.	8	Under Two Flags	A-2
9:00 p.m.	10	King of Kings	A-4
11:30 p.m.	13	Mystery Submarine	A-1
12:55 a.m.	10	The Great Sinner	A-2
<b>Saturday, April 5</b>			
2:30 p.m.	10	Francis Goes To West Point	A-1
3:30 p.m.	8	Breakthrough	A-1
5:35 p.m.	10	Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner	Not Listed
9:00 p.m.	8	Becket	A-3
11:05 p.m.	10	Postmark for Danger	A-3
11:15 p.m.	13	King and Country	Not Listed
12:00 a.m.	8	Kid from Left Field	A-1
<b>Sunday, April 6</b>			
5:00 p.m.	8	Demetrius and the Gladiators	A-2
9:00 p.m.	13	The Robe	A-1
11:40 p.m.	10	Sweden	A-1
11:45 p.m.	13	Green Light	A-2
<b>Monday, April 7</b>			
4:00 p.m.	8	Only the Best	Not Listed
9:00 p.m.	8	The Reluctant Astronaut	A-1
<b>Tuesday, April 8</b>			
4:00 p.m.	8	No Highway in the Sky	A-2
9:00 p.m.	8	Madame X	A-2
11:30 p.m.	13	Counterplot	A-2
<b>Wednesday, April 9</b>			
4:00 p.m.	8	Genevieve	A-2
9:00 p.m.	13	The Gallant Hours	A-2
11:30 p.m.	13	Carry on Constable	B
<b>Thursday, April 10</b>			
4:00 p.m.	8	Destination Gobi	A-1
9:00 p.m.	10	The Chapman Report	B
11:45 p.m.	13	Everything's Ducky	A-1

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