

As I See It

'Misterogers'... a Lack of Pretension

By PAT COSTA

One of the first things I did when we bought a new television set recently and at long last were able to receive educational television on Channel 21 was to turn on "Misterogers Neighborhood."

"Misterogers" as neighboring mothers had told me was excellent and what was more the children seemed to like it every bit as much as their parents hoped they would.

Since acquiring our set a month or so ago I have seen the late afternoon children's show at least a half dozen times — not always all of it but enough to come away impressed.

Our two children, ages 4 and under 2, likewise appear to be captivated by the program host, Fred Rogers, a Presbyterian minister who created and produces the show in Pittsburgh.

Probably the first thing I noticed about this television kiddie host was the lack of costume or any other extraordinary paraphernalia.

Misterogers opens the show by coming through a door to

the set dressed in a plain business suit. He usually doffs the jacket for a white lab coat, as he did the day when he cooked oatmeal for the young viewers to see or for a casual, around-the-house-casual sweater.

He is also likely to remove his street shoes in exchange for a pair of sneakers and takes the opportunity to demonstrate how to tie a bow.

The second most noticeable feature about the dark-haired young man is the warm and genuine affection he has for the children watching him.

None of this "Uncle Horace" kind of stuff, but rather a more honest relationship that might exist between an adult and a child who saw each other frequently on a casual basis. As he says in his very familiar song to the children, "I like you as you are."

There is one point at which he loses this adult viewer every day and that is when he turns to the fantasy world of puppets including an owl, some royal figures and a cat among others. But he apparently knows what he is doing

for the children stay entranced from start to end.

One particular feature that intrigues this older "kid" is the introduction of various people who bring along their talents and display them.

Among them a young woman who played and explained how her French horn worked, a mime, a young knitter and a nurse.

There are also frequent animal visitors just as one sees on Captain Kangaroo or Romper Room.

In fact much of what Misterogers does is precisely in line with the standard format for the better children's shows. What makes "Misterogers" different and better is the man himself who spends less time on horseplay or games than the other shows might.

Instead he focuses on the children as individuals who he seems to be saying are, in spite of their youth, certainly worth cultivating as friends.

And his young viewers return the compliment.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Sleeveless garment
- Delights
- Downpour
- Passageway
- In this place
- Transom
- Fusa
- Rough lava
- Marvels
- Inquire
- River
- So Am.
- Liberate
- Stream of water
- Transparent substance
- Pause
- Periah
- Insect
- Yields
- Sign of the infinitive
- River

DOWN

- Belief
- Brother of Moses
- Dessert
- Half an em
- Leg parts

Answers:

32. RPK, for one: abbr.
34. Ruffian
37. Gazelle
38. Spread
40. Music note

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—"Sweden Heaven and Hell" X.

Cinema—"Goodbye, Columbus" (Adults, with reservations). R.

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

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

Riviera—"Slaves" (No rating). M.

Regent—"A Fine Pair" X.

Studio 2—"If" (Adults, with reservations) X.

Stoneridge—"True Grit" G.

Panorama—"Oliver!" (General). G.

Towne I—"Sweet Charity" (Adults and Adolescents). G.

Towne II—"Where Eagles Dare" (Adults). M.

Stutson—"Support Your Local Sheriff" (General). G.

Fine Arts—"Dr. No" and "Goldfinger" (no rating).

Little—"Romeo and Juliet" (Adults, with Reservations). G.

Movie Moguls on Ratings

New York—(NC)—The movie industry's high command is apprehensive over failure of some theaters to employ the industry rating system in advertising attractions.

Jack Valenti, president, Motion Picture Association of America; Julian S. Rifkin, president, National Association of Theater Owners; and Munio Podhorzer, member of the governing board, International Film Importers of America, Inc., composed an "open letter" to exhibitors stressing responsibilities involved in the rating system which went into effect last November.

The high command also requested cooperation of trade publications to get the message to theater operators.

The industry got some strong word of suggestions from Martin Quigley Jr., president of Quigley Publishing Company, in an editorial in Motion Picture Daily.

"The problems which the system faces are those primarily confronting producers and distributors, rather than exhibitors," Quigley wrote.

"If producers continue to make, and distributors continue to merchandise, products which arouse public and legislative wrath, no film labeling system will keep trouble away.

"A rose is a rose by any name, an obscene or pornographic film's character is not nullified by giving it an 'X' by the M.P.A.A.'s Rating Administration. It is the type of product

Why Ratings Don't Change

Catholic Press Features

New York — Why doesn't the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures re-classify films—particularly after cuts have been made or, more importantly when the film office no longer objects to certain elements in films rated earlier?

The question is certain to be asked more frequently, as NCMOP's "competitor" the Motion Picture Association of America—is showing no qualms about re-rating films after appropriate cuts have been made.

In addition, the MPAA has just awarded an "M" rating (suggested for mature audiences) to the Otto Preminger film, "The Moon Is Blue," which in 1953 could not get a Production Code seal because it contained the word "virgin."

Now Preminger is planning to sell "The Moon Is Blue" to television, and unless NCMOP changes its longstanding policy of not re-rating films, the film will still carry the "Condemned" rating awarded by the old Legion of Decency, even though the film office has given "A" ratings (morally unobjectionable) to hundreds of films since then that are many times more "adult" than was "The Moon Is Blue."

In recent weeks, too, the MPAA has re-rated the new film, "If" from "X" to "R" (from: no one under 18 permitted at all, to no one under 16 admitted unless accom-

panied by parent or guardian) after the film's distributor cut several fleeting scenes of male and female nudity.

The MPAA also changed the rating of John Wayne's new Western, "True Grit," from "M" to "G" (for general audiences) after the distributor agreed to delete several obscenities. Conversely, the MPAA changed the rating of "Winning" from "G" to "M" after Universal Pictures consented to a re-consideration of the rating, according to the MPAA, which suddenly realized that the treatment of adultery in the Paul Newman-Joanne Woodward film about auto racing was not exactly family fare.

But through the years, the Catholic film office has refused to alter its ratings for any reason—the one notable exception being "The Pawnbroker," after several nudity scenes had been deleted.

But even then, the rating was changed, from "C" to "A-3" (for adults), on a technicality: the film had a "C" rating, from one company to another.

This reason may seem picayune, but underlying it is the Catholic film office's prime argument against re-rating films, especially those that were originally condemned.

If NCMOP gives a "lighter" rating to a film after cuts have been made, the reasoning goes, the film's distributor can capitalize on the no-

tority and publicity brought to a film by a "C" rating. Then, after the distributor makes some cuts and gets a lighter rating, the reasoning continues, he can then sell it to more theaters, or to television stations that won't take a "C" film. Thus, he would have the best of both worlds: an initial "C" rating that helps publicize his film, then a lesser rating that enables his film to get wider distribution.

For this reason NCMOP adheres to its policy of not re-rating films.

A strong example of the movie industry's "exploitation" policies that further entrenches NCMOP in its non-re-rate stance is the popular "Romeo and Juliet."

The film office has come under strong fire for its heavy "A-4" rating (unobjectionable for adults, with reservations), which the film office gave for a fleeting nudity scene that it considered unnecessary and particularly offensive because the film was being aimed at a young audience.

Although NCMOP later gave an enthusiastic review to the film and even recommended it for older teenagers, it has refused to modify its "A-4" rating because, it is understood, the film company was planning to use the nudity sequence in advertising to sell the picture.

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Jackie Gleason Views Catholicism

Radnor, Pa.—Television star easier, not because they made Jackie Gleason, reflecting on more sense. I believe you should stick with the religion you're used to. Religion is an obligation.

"Being a Catholic is no hang-up with me. You know when you've sinned and you know the consequences.

"At first they appeared very attractive because they were

"I absolutely do believe in God. I haven't the slightest idea who or what He is, but I feel some one or some thing must have started all of this. Everything has to start from something."

Paramount—"Sweden Heaven and Hell" X.

Cinema—"Goodbye, Columbus" (Adults, with reservations). R.

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Stutson—"Support Your Local Sheriff" (General). G.

Fine Arts—"Dr. No" and "Goldfinger" (no rating).

Little—"Romeo and Juliet" (Adults, with Reservations). G.

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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. 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

Week of Fri., June 20 thru Thurs., June 26

Time	Channel	Movie	Rating
Friday, June 20			
10:00 a.m.	13	Love Nest	A-2
9:00 p.m.	10	Lust for Life	A-2
11:30 p.m.	13	The Tarnished Angels	A-2
11:45 p.m.	10	Night Into Morning	B
Saturday, June 21			
2:30 p.m.	10	Toy Tiger	A-1
3:00 p.m.	13	Midnight Story	A-1
5:35 p.m.	10	Never Say Goodbye	A-2
9:00 p.m.	8	Fear No Evil	A-2
11:05 p.m.	10	River of Evil	Not Listed
11:15 p.m.	13	My Man Godfrey	A-2
11:20 p.m.	8	The Black Scorpion	A-1
Sunday June 22			
2:00 p.m.	13	Apache	A-2
2:00 p.m.	10	East of Samatra	B
3:30 p.m.	13	The Night Raiders	A-1
5:00 p.m.	8	Desiree	A-2
9:30 p.m.	13	Boeing Boeing	Not Listed
11:15 p.m.	13	The Bride Came C.O.D.	A-2
11:20 p.m.	10	Sherlock Holmes, the Secret Weapon	A-2
Monday, June 23			
10:00 a.m.	13	The Tarnished Angels	B
9:00 p.m.	8	Companions in Nightmares	Not Listed
Tuesday, June 24			
10:00 a.m.	13	My Man Godfrey	A-2
9:00 p.m.	8	The Jokers	A-2
11:30 p.m.	13	Mohawk	A-2
Wednesday, June 25			
10:00 a.m.	13	Mohawk	A-2
11:30 p.m.	13	My Blue Heaven	B
Thursday, June 26			
10:00 a.m.	13	My Blue Heaven	B
9:00 p.m.	10	The Defector	A-2
11:30 p.m.	13	Love and Kisses	Not Listed

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Fr. Valen Van Etten To Observe
Father Valentin OFM, Cap., administrator of St. Pius Church I will mark the 25th of his ordination, 22, at a Mass in 1ish in New York

Nazareth Art Works
Nazareth College summer workshop ceramics and sculpture may be taken with credit.
The jewelry course runs from June 18 to July 18 covers a full range of design. The sculpting begins July 21 and August 8, with an of the principles, techniques in the temporary sculpture.

Ceramics is held two sections. Section from June 30 through section 2 from July 21 through 8. Curriculum will structure for the the experienced student in nearly a hand and wheel structure.
Registration for shops will be at 27 and 28.

Br. Leibeng To Become
Brother Gerald OSB, will study the University of Toronto for preparation for the priesthood in the Benedictine C Hingham, Mass., a

St. John Ki Plan Field
The 52nd annual field Mass of the John and Ladies will be celebrated at day, June 22, outdoors at Holy Sepulchre

Bishop James E offer the Mass homily. The public is suggested that ing bring folding will be no benches

Nazareth
Richard Donov of the English Nazareth College awarded a fellow U.S. Office of E will go on leave 70 to work in W is one of 20 tea to serve as special the education off

FISHER A
Frank C. Arge has been elected the 2,400-member Fisher Alumni A

Frank R. Web ton is the new v David B. Eelman is secretary and teith, Rochester,

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