

As I See It

Yellow Brick Road Really Is

By PAT COSTA

Probably no one appreciates color television more than the family whose color receiver has just gone on the blink and who has been reduced to black and white viewing again.

We are in this position at our house, the second time in six months, which says something about the efficiency of the set's construction since it was purchased less than a year ago.

Now being unable to receive a color picture, it seems a good time to say something nice about a TV screen which not only allows you to see what color eyes the announcer has, and the pattern of a sofa in a soap opera, but actually offers an extra dimension to the picture.

As I said above, while present appreciation for this phenomenon of the electronic age stems from the fact that we aren't getting any, earlier insight as to the superiority of the color picture came last week or so as the kids proceeded to watch "The Wizard of Oz" for what seemed like the umpteenth time.

Heretofore when the "Oz" portion of the picture started and the initial black and white of the movie is replaced with color we simply saw a black and white cowardly lion, a pale

gray tin man and a fuzzy scarecrow. Needless to say the yellow brick road was neither yellow nor really distinguishable as brick.

With the color set, which at that time was still in working order, "Wizard of Oz" turned out to be a whole new picture which we had never seen.

Those who have never had the pleasure of seeing a golf match on color television, or a basketball or football game, have an experience in store.

Excellent drama, it has been said, does not require the extra stimulation of color. In fact, films made for movie houses, are still sometimes produced without color for added dramatic impact.

But certainly everything else benefits from having a color tint.

"Sesame Street," the excellent NET offering produced by Children's Television Workshop, is terrific in black and white. See it in color and it becomes truly great as visual stimulus for the youngsters to whom it is beamed.

Travelogues are informative and somewhat broadening when seen with-

out color. Add the extra element and one suddenly sees features of the terrain that were not there before. The viewer can see the distance between a river and a mountain, for example, as the color delineates and separates.

Everyone agrees that filmed reports and pictures on newscasts are improved by color. But actually even the announcer or commentator seems to take on new immediacy as well as personality when you can see what colors the stripes of his tie are.

Color television is definitely here to stay and the sooner technicians can perfect the sets and manufacturers can bring the price down, the more enjoyable it will be for all of us.

"A Clear and Present Danger," NBC's TV movie that premiered last Saturday starring Hal Holbrook and E. G. Marshall concerned itself with the imminent dangers of pollution—pollution from smokestacks, automobile exhausts and cigarettes.

And to make the viewer ever aware of just how real these pollution factors are, someone arranged for commercials of Kent cigarettes and Silva Thins to be shown. How's that for splendid timing?

Mickey Mouse To Head Up Disney Show

The world's most famous pseudo-mus musculus will be the star attraction at "Disney On Parade," a live action spectacular at the Rochester War Memorial, April 1-4.

The internationally known screen star, Mickey Mouse, heads up a cast of more than 100 Disney characters in a show which encompasses elements of live choreography, motion pictures, sound effects, music, unique lighting methods, a specially designed mobile staging area and the classic art of the magician. The result is a parade of Disney stars and stories never seen before in any medium of entertainment.

Fame—international fame—came to Mr. Mouse at a very early age. Two years after his creation, a Mickey Mouse cartoon was selected by a German jury as one of the 10 best pictures of the year. In 1931, Louella Parsons declared, "Mickey Mouse has a bigger screen following than nine-tenths of the stars in Hollywood"; the London Reporter disclosed that Queen Mary listed him as one of her favorites; Madam Tussaud included him in her famous wax museum and a headline proclaimed, "Outstanding Personality in Germany Today, Mickey Mouse, Dominates Leipzig Toy Fair."

In the year 1932, Disney was awarded his first Oscar for the creation of Mickey Mouse. The following year several publications honored him; so did the Motion Picture Academy; Disney was selected to appear in Britain's "Who's Who" as his creator.



Walt Disney Psychedelic?

Catholic Press Features

New York — Walt Disney made a controversial film? So states the latest "Catholic Film Newsletter."

Walt Disney was a turned-on psychedelic-conscious movie-maker for hippiedom long before its time? So think thousands of young people who have made a 30-year-old Disney "flop" an "overnight success."

The film is "Fantasia," made by Disney in 1940 to help make classical music popular via animation and Mickey Mouse, but which drew poor critical and audience response.

In a "Catholic Film Newsletter" review marking "Fantasia's" re-release, the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures has suggested that Disney might have made greater contributions to the cinematic art had the critics of that time been more perceptive.

"The film was essentially an experimental one in which a number of different approaches and styles of animation were used in the separate sequences," NCOMP commented. "Those that failed were, at the least, creditable attempts to find visual equivalents for music classics."

"It was also one of Disney's most ambitious undertakings and crucial for his future development, coming as it did after the enormous success of 'Snow White' and 'Pinocchio.'"

"If its critical reception had included some positive recognition of its attempts at abstraction, Disney might not

have been locked into the literal pictorialism to which he returned in 'Bambi' and his subsequent work."

"Fantasia," which NCOMP labeled "Disney's most controversial film set to classical music, such as Dukas' 'Sorcerer's Apprentice' (with Mickey Mouse directing a bucket brigade of brooms), Mussorgsky's 'Night on Bald Mountain,' and 'Dance of the Hours,' with a dainty-toed hippopotamus doing a ballet.

But although it failed at the box-office in 1940 and did

only so-so business in a 1957 re-release, more people may get a new opportunity to see "Fantasia" because the hippies have found it to be just groovy.

Disney executives have been inviting editors of underground, high school and college newspapers to screenings of "Fantasia," pointing out that Disney was a mixed-media master before they were born, and even quoting Disney himself on the fact that "Fantasia" was "a voyage of discovery into the realms of color, sound and motion."

Utopia Is Just Around the Corner

By THE MISSION SINGERS

Mama Cass Elliot, with her latest hit, "New World Coming," is keeping up a tradition she began with the Mamas and the Poppas. Though "New World" doesn't seem to be in the same league with great songs like "Monday, Monday," "California Dreaming" and "Creeque Alley," still it's a pleasant ditty that can catch the imagination.

It's a song about finding Utopia, about reaching the Omega Point or, if you prefer, some home-spin version of Heaven. "There's a new world coming, and it's just around the bend."

The Associated Press office in Saigon once filed a story about weapons in use in Vietnam. Here is a very short excerpt:

"The Pentagon has come up with two new devices for the war — the Lazy Dog and the CBU. The Lazy Dog is a container with 10,000 shell bombs about the size of a 50-caliber slug. When the container is dropped from a plane, it opens and the bomblets spread over an

area about twice the size of a football field.

"The weapon generally is considered less effective than the CBU, a variation of the cluster bomb. Jets can see fairly large areas with the little bomblets in seconds. Each one hits, bounces up in the air and blasts thousands of steel pellets in all directions."

Commenting about this story, one Catholic newspaper quipped: "Mankind marches upward toward the Omega Point." You begin to wonder about "New World Coming" and its certainty about the nearness of "a brand new morning rising clear and sweet and free."

One of the reasons why this song's hope is hard to take is that a lot of people don't want to see any more "new" things coming along. "There's a new world coming, this one's coming to an end." For a lot of people, that statement is a threat. Everyone these people know and everything they own belongs to this world.

As novelist Bernard Malamud once wrote: "In a sick country, every step to health is an

the music bag

"NEW WORLD COMING"

There's a new world coming, and it's just around the bend, There's a new world coming, this one's coming to an end, There's a new voice calling, you can hear it if you try, And it's growing stronger with each day that passes by.

There's a brand new morning rising clear and sweet and free, There's a new day dawning that belongs to you and me, Yes, a new world's coming—the one we've had visions of, Coming in peace, coming in joy, coming in love.

(Published by Screen Gems-Columbia)

Buddy Rich

To Appear At Fisher

Buddy Rich, the top drummer in the country, and his 16-piece band will be sponsored by the St. John Fisher College Alumni Association in concert on Saturday, April 11, in the college's Athletic Center.

Known almost as widely as a singer as a drummer, Rich has recorded a half dozen vocal albums, the most recent being, "The Voice Is Rich" on the MGM label.

Rich has also accumulated credits both as a motion picture and television actor.

Books

God Is Beautiful, Man, by Carl F. Burke (Association Press; 1969). Religious concepts expressed by underprivileged youngsters in jail and detention homes. Education and Religion.

The Gerontics Campaign, by Odie B. Frank (Oxford 1969). Bitter story recounting the rise and fall of perhaps the most famous and renowned American Indian. Admittedly biased in Gerontics' favor, but fascinating and well-documented. History and Travel.

Suppers and Midnight Snacks, by George Bradshaw (McKay; 1969). Imagination and zest spark late night entertaining for the experienced cook. Science and Technology.

The Dawn Warriors, by Robert Bigelow (Little; 1969). Traces mankind's simultaneous evolution from smaller wars to larger wars and from narrower to more general states of peace. Business and Social Science.

Infants and Mothers: differences in development, by F. Berry Brazelton (Doubleday; 1969). Profiles of three babies for the first 12 months showing the wide range of behavior that would be classified as normal.

California in Color, by Hans W. Hamann (Doubleday; 1969). Portrays California's rich past and colorful present in beautiful photos and well written text. Covers the better known attractions plus some more remote humans. History and Travel.

The Third Listener, by John M. Carroll (Dutton; 1969). An anecdote-filled account of electronic espionage (bugging) as done by professionals, government workers and amateurs. Science and Technology.

If I Had to Do It Over Again, by Robert S. Gallagher (Dutton; 1969). Examines the how and why of the adult dropout, the missing person who vanishes to escape his every day life. Business and Social Science.

Prayers from the Burned Out City, by Robert W. Castle (Sheed and Ward; 1968). Prayers written in the form of free scanning poems from the viewpoint of the ghetto dweller. Education and Religion.

Mountains of Switzerland, by Herbert Meader (Walker; 1968). A mountaineer and photographer has produced a stunning book showing the world of the Swiss Alps from

a single ice crystal to the greatest peaks. History and Travel.

The Old Person in Your Home, by William D. Poe (Scribner; 1969). Sympathetic and practical advice to those caring for the elderly. Science and Technology.

Six years ago, the war on poverty was announced with all the pomp and splendor of a royal pronouncement. We can remember discussing the new programs in class with our teacher. We talked about how good it would do, and how truly inspiring it was to see politi-

cians finally getting off the bench and onto the field by doing something concrete and constructive.

Our teacher mocked us and said that in five years the whole program would be a shambles.

Six years later we know he was right. If there's going to be a "new world," it's going to have to come in a different way. It's going to be a matter of every person doing his own bit and hoping that other people—including the "leaders"—will follow.

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ALL IN

Adopted B

By Sarah Child

It has been a hectic week house. And an extremely happy one. We have brought home a new child for our children.

At three months she is a smiling and responding to attention, sleeping all the night and happy and relaxed the day.

From experience we know one way or another all beautiful. But we were not for her own exquisite self-roses of a face, her plump body, the "just-right" fit in our arms.

Our oldest child, just five old herself, sighs with great as we came home with the the car. "Oh, Mommy, I've for a baby sister for such time."

Their brother, now 2 1/2 has seemed to have grown nger and older in one morning the baby's soft cheek and "Jeffie Pie."

EUROPE

Vatican Sti

By Robert Holtor

Courier-Journal Special Correspondent

Rome — The Pontifical Pe nitent last week called on governments of the world to the right of Roman Catholic conscientious objectors to service.

The committee, an arm of tical Commission for Jus Peace, made it clear howe was not putting the Churc position of promoting or em conscientious objection.

"It does not mean that th now will begin a program t age conscientious objection," Sean McBride, secretary of the International Committee tice. "It merely means that the Church recognizes the Roman Catholics to be cons objectors and is calling on to recognize that right."

Mr. McBride, former mi external affairs for the Re Ireland, was among 30 exp attended the four-day, thir

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