

As I See It

## A Dramatic Lesson

By Pat Costa



Very seldom does anything come along on television of the quality to tempt you to run to the telephone and tell your neighbors to "watch it."

ABC's recent "Eye of the Storm" had this effect on me although I resisted making any calls at the late hour that it was shown.

Seen at 10:30 at night, "Eye of the Storm", an experiment in race hatred, should have been screened at 7:30 so every school child in the land and all of their parents could have seen it.

Jane Elliott, a teacher of third graders in Riceville, Iowa, set out to show her students what discrimination is, what it feels like, what it takes to inspire it, what its effects are.

She succeeded—so admirably that "children who were cooperative and thoughtful turned nasty and vicious."

There are no Negroes in Riceville. Minority groups as they exist in cities are not to be found in that Iowa town.

So Mrs. Elliott divided children into blue-eyes and brown-eyes.

First day the brown-eyes were inferior with few privileges allowed them. They were made to wear conspicuous black collars. The blue-eyes were given extra rights.

The next day the roles were reversed.

There in front of the television viewer were the effects to be seen clearly. Name-calling resulted. Pupils with extra rights did better on tests one day, then with roles reversed, did poorly on the same type tests.

Tell an individual often enough that he is dumb and he will respond to that evaluation. Tell him he is bright and he immediately performs above his normal capacity.

Produced, written and directed by William Peters, the reporter was Bill Beutel, a member of ABC news.

Beutel at program's end called Mrs. Elliott "a courageous and creative teacher."

She is every bit of that. ABC, for bringing the program to us, is just as creative and courageous. May it and the other networks continue to fill the airwaves with more light to fight the ignorance and pettiness and fear behind the discrimination so prevalent in this country.

Another program of interest for persons concerned about children with no parents. Channel 21 on Saturday at 10 p.m. during its regular "Saturday Night" show will have a discussion centering around the adoption of racially-mixed children and adoption by single individuals.



Bob Scarciotta, a human ad.

## Everybody's in the Act

Audience involvement is the keynote of Cardinal Mooney High School's production of "Carnival", on May 22, 23, and 24. A circus atmosphere will be created through a gaily decorated auditorium, ushers dressed as circus characters, and vendors who will circulate during the performance selling popcorn and souvenirs.

Lili, the young girl who believes that "Love Makes the

World Go 'Round", even after she meets many hardened carnival personalities, will be played by freshman Lori Van Loo (Saturday, May 23, and Sunday evening, May 24) and sophomore Katie Phelan (Friday, May 22, and Sunday afternoon, May 24).

Tickets are \$1.50 and \$2.50; all seats reserved. Evening performances begin at 8:15 p.m. Sunday's matinee is at 2 p.m.

## For Movies

# 1969 'No Vintage Year'

Palm Beach, Fla. — (NC) — If you think today's movies are worse than ever, you share the views of the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures; if you believe the success of films which exploited sex and nudity was due to the patronage of youth, you don't share those views.

According to Father Patrick Sullivan, S.J., executive director of NCOMP, the 1969 "film year was not a vintage year" from any point of view. He spoke here at the 12th annual convention of the Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women.

Of 315 films reviewed and classified, he said, only 26 received an A-1, or general audience, rating; while 40 movies were rated C, or condemned. "In the 35-year history of NCOMP," he added, "1969 yielded the smallest number and percentage ever of films suitable for general audiences and for adolescents."

"Adult-oriented productions increased significantly," he continued, "and the total of 40 C-classified films reached an all-time high. Moral values and measurements aside, it is interesting to note that there were hardly 20 motion pictures of more than mediocre quality in the entire 315 films of 1969."

Admitting there is no single answer to the question of national concern over the state of movies, Father Sullivan criticized ad copy for films, which he said highlight the worst, "rarely the best" about Hollywood.

## NAZARETH ACADEMY SCHEDULES CONCERT

The music organizations at Nazareth Academy will present their spring concert in the school auditorium at 8 p.m. Friday, May 22.

The Glee Club and Perosian Choir are under the direction of Dr. David Fetter; the band under Alfred Fabrizio, and the orchestra under Alfred Castle.

The Nazareth band will participate in the local St. Anthony's Day Parade on June 13 and the Memorial Day Parade on May 30.

## Northwest Area To Hold Festival

"Come Together", the Northwest Community Arts Festival, has been slated for June 6 and 7. Presented by Northwest Area Churches, the festival will be held at Christ Presbyterian Church, 5 Locust St. and St. Anthony's school gymnasium, 15 Costar St.

Billed as a "fantastic festival of freedom", the program opens with a children's workshop at Christ Church, June 6, 1-5 p.m. A concert at St. Anthony's at 8 p.m. follows.

Sunday will feature a parade and a sidewalk arts show and program of the performing arts at Christ Church, 2-6 p.m.

## ND Magazine Wins National Honor

Elmira — The June 1969 issue of "Genesis", Notre Dame High School's literary magazine, has been awarded first place in the national Columbia School Press Association competition.

Receiving a score of 925 out of a possible 1000, the magazine was judged in the categories of layout, illustrations, and literary content.

The competition is held annually at Columbia University in New York City.

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Describing the state of the film medium as "bad," Father Sullivan said that financial losses for five of the major motion picture companies exceeded \$200 million in 1969. Columbia Pictures, he declared, which coincidentally was not associated with any X rated films, had a good year.

Many people on the creative side are available at a fraction of the fees asked only a year ago, and unemployment in the Hollywood community is reaching up to 65%, he pointed out.

Father Sullivan attributes the Hollywood "disaster" to many reasons. First, he declared, a new demand created by young people in the 1960s was misread by Hollywood which then substituted sensationalism for art.

"It's interesting to point out that pictures such as 'I am Curious (Yellow)' were successful not because of the patronage of young people," he said, recalling that when that picture was shown in New York, the long lines of older people who waited to see it were matched by similar lines of young people standing outside Carnegie Hall prior to a concert.

Scoring the fact that the same persons who demand better movies do not support the efforts of some exhibitors to promote general and worthwhile entertainment, Father Sullivan said the "key concept must be that we each have our own responsibility, not only as to what films we allow the young people under our charge to see, but as to what pictures we shall see."

He said that young people want reasons for being told not to see a certain film, which can't be determined from ratings. "If you can't see the movies, read about them, be informed, and go occasionally to the more talked-about movies with your child, then discuss it with him," the priest advised.

Those reared in the era of the Legion of Decency, Father Sullivan continued, sometimes have "an incapacity to realize that mature pictures do not have to be suitable for the youngest member of the family." But he warned parents to "look very carefully into any picture that has an industry rating of GP, which is not General Patronage, but General — Parental Consent Advised."



Theodore Hollenbach

## Bach Festival

The Rochester Bach Festival will return to Asbury-First Methodist Church to present the 15th season of Bach concerts under the baton of Theodore Hollenbach. The festival will be Friday and Saturday, May 22-23.

The architecture and acoustics of a church provide a fitting place for the featured work of the festival: Johann Sebastian Bach's "St. Matthew Passion".

The Bach Chorus and Orchestra also will give a Cantata and

Concerto program Friday evening May 22. All performances will begin in the churchyard with chorales led by Emory Remington's Trombone Choir.

The Saturday afternoon program will be an all J. S. Bach Sonata program featuring Millard Taylor, violin; Joseph Mariano, flute; and Frank Glazer, piano. The "St. Matthew Passion" will be presented Saturday evening May 23.

For the third year, Father Charles Lavery is chairman of the festival.