

At Home with the Movies

ADVENTURES OF THE QUEEN
Thursday, Aug. 21

This is the TV version of the Poseidon Adventure, having been produced, as a matter of fact, by the same Irwin Allen team.

Unrated.

THE LAST DAY
Thursday, Aug. 21

This shapes up as a rather solid (thanks to the acting of Richard Widmark and others, such as Barbara Rush and Robert Conrad) if routine and routinely super-violent Western. In this case, it's the story of the last big blast of the notorious Dalton Gang, who met their match in the person of Sheriff Widmark when they tried to rob the bank in little Coffeyville, Kansas, that fateful day in 1892.

Unrated.

ONE MORE TIME [1970]
Friday, Aug. 22

Possibly the worst movie of the decade. One More Time stars comedy team Peter Lawford and Sammy Davis Jr. in a sequel to Salt and Peper. They chase about the English countryside in a contrived and irrelevant diamond smuggling episode that is horribly forced and unfunny. The timing of all the gags is off, and the plot and dialogue are predictable and stupid. The film was directed, if that is the word, by Jerry Lewis.

A-III.

THE PEOPLE
NEXT DOOR [1970]
Friday, Aug. 22

Teenage use of drugs in middle-class suburbia is the subject of this film adaptation by J. P. Miller of his 1968 award-winning program on the CBS Television Playhouse. Miller's screen credits (Behold a Pale Horse, Days of Wine and Roses)

would lead a viewer to expect an insightful film on this national problem. Instead, People is a drearily moralizing, one-dimensional melodrama making the now-too-familiar distinctions between parents who drink and hide their sexual indiscretions, and the kids who smoke pot and flaunt theirs.

THE NIGHT STRANGLER
Friday, Aug. 22

Or, if you have a pretty good memory, you'll recall this high-tension turkey as The Night Stalker from a few seasons back. Yes, folks, this was the original pilot film for the truly awful TV series Kolchak: The Night Stalker, its name changed only to protect the guilty parties.

Unrated.

THE ODD COUPLE [1968]
Sunday, Aug. 24

A-III.

THE LEGEND OF
LIZZIE BORDEN
Monday, Aug. 25

Repeat. Made-for-television movie stars Elizabeth Montgomery in the title role as America's perennial favorite ax murderer.

Unrated.

THE BIG RIPOFF
Tuesday, Aug. 26

Repeat. Made-for-television thriller focuses on a daring kidnap attempt, and a con man's even more daring attempt to cash in on it. Tony Curtis plays the con artist, who decides that the kidnaping of a millionaire's wife (Lynn Borden) provides an ideal opportunity for him to turn some fast and easy cash — which is earmarked for his bookie, or else! Naturally, the best-laid schemes of mice and con-men go oft a-gley, and you can imagine the complications that set in. So, why bother to watch?

Unrated.

MAN IN THE
WILDERNESS
Tuesday, Aug. 26

Richard Harris plays Zachary Bass, a violent, godless man who is abandoned by a land-locked cross-country shipping-trapping expedition after he has been mauled by a grizzly bear. Somehow Bass survives the first few days and nights and gradually recovers well enough to begin his own trek through the wilds, hell-bent for revenge on the expedition's Ahab-like leader, Captain Henry (John Huston), and well aware of the Arikara Indians dogging the expedition's trail. The way back is tedious but frequently absorbing, as Bass comes to an awareness of life's forms and rhythms and man's cruelty to his fellow man. A-III.

Free Milk Available To School Children

A free special milk policy for Catholic elementary school children unable to pay the full price has been announced by the Office of General Education. Eligibility will be determined by family size and income.

The policy, sponsored by the Bureau of School Food Management under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Services, must be in operation in each school by Oct. 31. School officials will use an income scale and any uncontrollable financial hardship which may affect a family's ability to pay for special milk. Provision is also made for foster children.

Families falling within the income scale are urged to apply by completing application forms sent home in a letter to parents. Individual applications may be submitted any time during the school year.

Each school will designate an official to review applications and determine eligibility. Any dissatisfaction with a ruling by an official may be appealed through a hearing.

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AS I SEE IT



Pat Costa

The television networks continue to babble on about what is and what isn't fit for viewing in the "family hour" time slot now designated as the nightly 8 to 9 programs.

Cher's costumes are iffy, any rough talk reprehensible, and violence an out-and-out no.

I wonder who is kidding whom. On the Monday the CBS network switched its game show schedule and put "Match Game '75" in place of "Price is Right" and followed it with "Tattletales." I sat and watched the whole miserable hour between 3 and 4 in the afternoon.

It is true that the "Match Game" crowd gets most of its kicks using bathroom words that children under three and idiots resort to. It is for the most part innocuous and only occasionally disgusting.

"Tattletales" with host Bert Convy, whose conservative and buttoned-down appearance matches his own sense of humor, is another story. Convy, who may have been chosen for this job to offset the vulgarities doesn't succeed in his position as Mr. Clean. But then who could?

The first question posed to the husband (this is a game played with three couples who are either

married or living together — so help me —) was this:

"If you and your wife were to visit a male strip tease show would she want to stay after the 9 o'clock show where the performers strip to bikinis or would she stay for the 10 p.m. where everything comes off?"

The second question: "Can a woman who loves one man enjoy sex with another?"

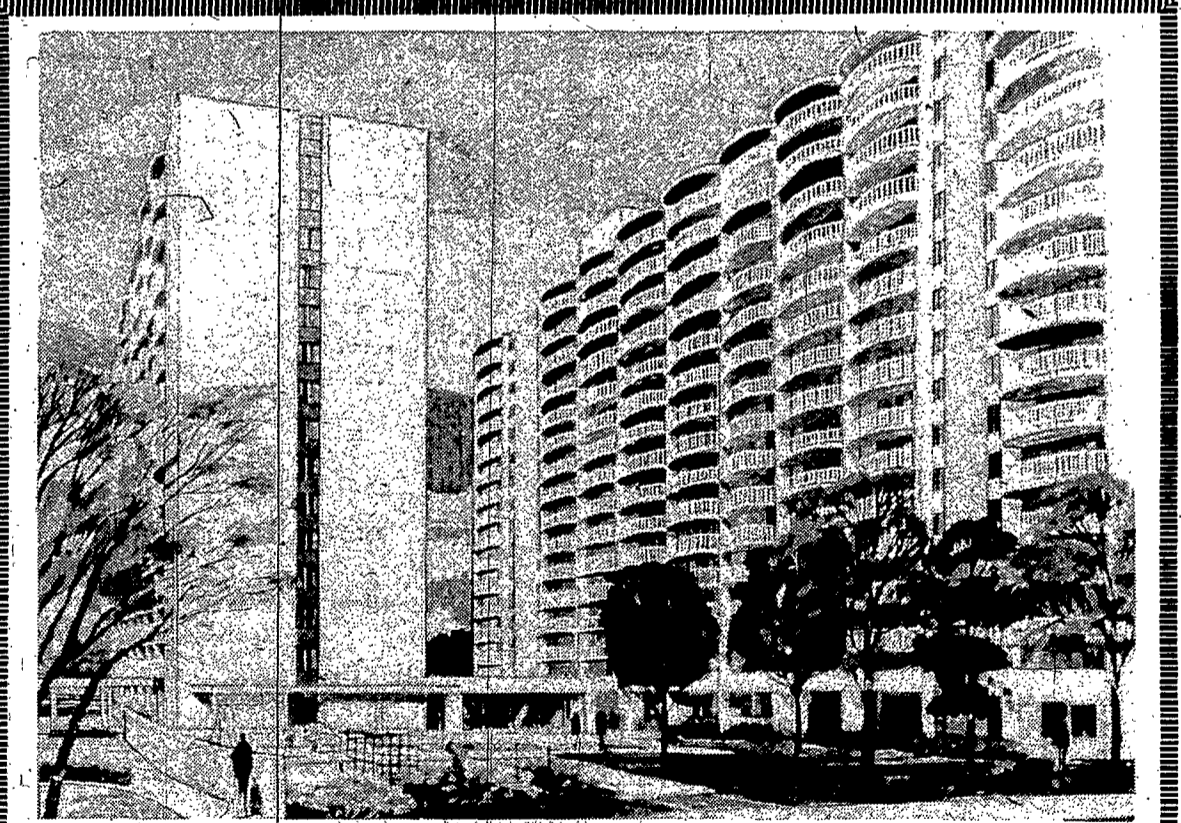
The husbands and wives take turns trying to predict what their mates will say.

Even for those who find the questions not particularly offensive the dialogue ensuing is suggestive, bordering on the salacious.

The question: Precisely who is CBS trying to titillate at 3:30 in the afternoon? School children just getting home or retired folk putting their feet up for a mid-afternoon break?

Whatever, let's not hear anything more about the evening family viewing hour until they clean up their afternoon slots.

Channel 10 has chosen not to air "Beacon Hill," America's answer to "Upstairs, Downstairs" in the 10 p.m. Tuesday niche the network has selected. Instead it will be seen at 11:30 p.m. Sunday nights in order that Channel 10 can show a local movie. This is by far more upsetting than the news that the local station will completely ignore a private eye series "Switch" starring Robert Wagner and Eddie Albert also to make room for that movie. Private eye shows are a dime a dozen. "Beacon Hill" promises to be something out of the ordinary. Throwing it to us late Sunday night is a slap in the face. This is the same station that has cried about the effect cable TV will have on its economic well-being. For shame!



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