

Continued from page 67
cle that capitalizes on Christmas.

"HOLIDAY INN" (1942), by the way, is the movie in which Bing sang "White Christmas" for the first time. Apart from that, the film is mostly undistinguished. Fred Astaire also sings and dances to some of Irving Berlin's more forgettable tunes, while Marjorie Reynolds plays the girl.

"THE BISHOP'S WIFE" (1947) has three things going for it: Cary Grant, Loretta Young and David Niven. Grant plays an angel who returns to earth to assist Bishop Niven in raising funds for a new church. Along the way, Cary charm's the bishop's wife while goading the crotchety churchman into enjoying the Christmas season. All three performers were at their prime and director Henry Koster gets the most out of them. This is one of those rare films in which everyone is just right for the part.

"CHRISTMAS CAROL" materializes in several forms each year: the 1938 and the 1951 versions are but two. The earlier picture is an MGM production that evokes warm feelings of the Dickens classic. The latter is British-made and a bit seemier and more realistic, as British films are wont to be. Both are quite good, though. And then there's the recently made-for-TV Henry Winkler version which is colorful, long on scenery and also entertaining. Don't be surprised if another adaptation pops up this year. After all, Dickens wrote the story solely for the money, which is a concept known to have motivated television networks in the past.

Stepping out

Area bands take to the streets at 2 p.m. Dec. 7 for the annual Rochester holiday parade. The floats and costumed folk follow a course along Main Street in that northern suburb's downtown area. (Photo/David Frank)



"CHRISTMAS IN CONNECTICUT" (1945) has Barbara Stanwyck as a newspaper writer involved in a phony Christmas dinner scheme. A soldier, Dennis Morgan, is invited to dinner ostensibly as a token of thanks to all our fighting boys, but Stanwyck's motives are actually much more corporeal. Any resemblance between Stanwyck and Scrooge is purely intentional. Sydney Greenstreet, Reginald Gardiner, S.Z. "Cuddles" Sakall and Una O'Connor co-star.

"MEET JOHN DOE" (1941) isn't really a Christmas movie, but its climactic scene does take place on Christmas Eve, at which time Gary Cooper has pledged to jump from a rooftop to symbolize his contempt for an unjust society.

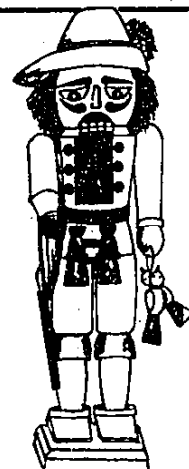
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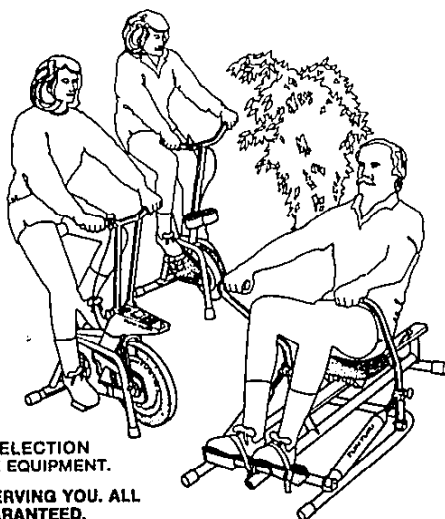
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bundles of happy holiday
greetings and tying them
up with wishes for the very
best throughout the new year.

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