

Movie Industry To Rate Itself, Protect Children

By SUE SHAUGHNESSY
Entertainment Editor

Setting up reasonable and responsible guidelines to public taste is a sticky task. For years the motion picture industry has avoided the problem. Into this void stepped the Catholic Church and Parents Magazine. The Catholic churchmen were forced to revamp their approach a few years back because of the growing sophistication of the general public. The first step was to change the name of the reviewing board from the Legion of Decency to the more positive sounding National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures. The office then instituted a new grouping of classifications designed to help the viewer make an intelligent judgment.

BEGINNING NOV. 1, the motion picture industry itself is moving into the field. The venture is a joint project of the Motion Picture Association of America and the National Association of Theater Owners.

The film makers set up four classification. (see box).

Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, explained that "our primary concern is children, and that concern is the dominant reason for the voluntary film-rating program."

The ratings will be run along with the advertising for the films.

Ratings will be determined by the Code and Rating administration in association with the film makers production code.

A TOTAL OF 11 STANDARDS has been developed for making the ratings. They are:

- MOVIE AUDIENCE GUIDE •••**
A SERVICE OF FILM-MAKERS AND THEATERS.
- These ratings apply to films released after Nov. 1, 1968
- THIS SEAL**
- In ad indicates the film was submitted and approved under the Motion Picture Code of Self-Regulation.
- ☐ Suggested for **GENERAL** audiences.
 - ☐ Suggested for **MATURE** audiences (parental discretion advised).
 - ☐ **RESTRICTED**—Persons under 16 not admitted, unless accompanied by parent or adult guardian.
 - ☐ **Persons under 16 not admitted.** This age restriction may be higher in certain areas. Check theater or advertising.

- The basic dignity and value of human life shall be respected and upheld. Restraint shall be exercised in portraying the taking of life.
- Evil, sin, crime and wrong-doing shall not be justified.
- Special restraint shall be exercised in portraying criminal and anti-social activities in which minors participate or are involved.
- Detailed and protracted acts of brutality, cruelty, physical violence, torture and abuse shall not be presented.
- Indecent or undue exposure of the human body shall not be presented.
- Illicit sex relationships shall not be justified. Intimate sex scenes violating common standards of decency shall not be portrayed.
- Restraint and care shall be exercised in presentations dealing with sex aberrations.
- Obscene speech, gestures or movements shall not be presented. Undue profanity shall not be permitted.
- Religion shall not be demeaned.
- Words or symbols contemptuous of racial, religious or national groups shall not be used so as to incite bigotry or hatred.
- Excessive cruelty to animals shall not be portrayed and animals shall not be treated inhumanely.

VALENTI, IN ANNOUNCING the new rating system, had a few things to say about the problems of the industry and censorship: "Censorship and classification-by-law are wrong. We will oppose these intrusions into a communications art-form shielded and protected by the First Amendment."

"At the same time I have urged film creators to remember that freedom without discipline is license, and that's wrong, too."

"We cannot allow children to set the boundaries for motion picture creativity, any more than we would allow children to organize our moral apparatus or our national priorities. But we can be concerned about children. In moral pictures that concern is made visible by setting apart those pictures we believe parents may not want their children to see."

Valenti said that he expected that 80 to 85 per cent of the theater owners in the country would cooperate with the rating system and that these theaters would account for about 95 per cent of all box office admissions.



INDIAN MISSION CHURCH at the Chipewewa village of Peshawbestown is located between Traverse City and Northport, a particularly colorful section of Michigan.

It's 'Leaves Falling Moon' Season On Traverse Bay

The Chipewewa Indians call it the "Season of the Leaves Falling Moon" or "Nakawewa Gishis," and to visitors in the Grand Traverse Bay region in northern Michigan it is an autumn season of unmatched beauty.

Traverse City, at the foot of the bay, features a network of circle routes spreading over the northwestern peninsula to give travelers interesting variety.

The first frost has covered the hills with a brilliant blanket of red and gold leaves of the hardwoods shimmering against green pines. It is a fine day for adventure.

An overnight stay in one of the many area motels gives an early start, so we stayed at the famed Park Place Motor Inn. It is a surprisingly sophisticated hotel, first built in 1873, and three times rebuilt into its present pleasant surroundings.

Since Color Tours are a house specialty, we left our quarters at 9 a.m., supplied with a marked map of our Circle Tour, generous directions and a box lunch to eat by the wayside.

TRAVELING NORTH to M22, we followed the west arm of Grand Traverse Bay. Just outside the city limits, we passed to admire the rare rock of wild white swans, who live year around along these shores. Once almost extinct, these pampered birds now officially number more than 200.

Of this coast to the east lies wooded Marlon Island, home of more than 50 deer who often swim across to the mainland before your eyes.

Twelve miles to the north, suddenly you view Sutton's Bay, "the Little Alpine City," home of several artists of note. Unique art shops feature etched notes and colorful ceramics.

YOUR NEXT STOP must be the Indian Mission church in the Ottawa-Chippewa village of Peshawbestown, named for old Chief Peshawbe long ago. This mission, started by Father Ignatius Mrack, was built for Ottawas moved there from Harbor Springs in 1845.

These present-day Indians

while not picturesque in dress, still observe many tribal customs. Nov. 1 is All Saints' Day, when the dead walk. Feasts are celebrated, and food dedicated to ancestors is thrown into the fires.

As the Indian crafts, woven sweet-grass baskets and small porcupine-quill boxes are fast becoming a lost art. Don't fail to buy several in shops throughout this peninsula.

A few miles beyond Peshawbestown is the village of Omena, quiet and unchanged. In the mid-1800s, a Rev. Dougherty established his Presbyterian mission here, one of few missionaries who could speak and translate Ottawa and Chippewa languages.

The Indians called their village "Mikooos," meaning Little Beaver.

Built in 1858, it has served as both church and school for Ottawa and Chippewa children. For almost 85 years, a light has burned in the church on Christmas eve.

The door is never locked. Walk through the tiny churchyard, and note that many early pioneers and Indians lay side by side.

AT NORTHPORT, you may wish to drive out to the "Point" on M229, the outermost Lake Michigan tip of this peninsula. This is a graveyard for nearly Michigan shipping, which foundered regularly in wild storms, leaving thousands of dollars in gold and artifacts scattered in forgotten sands. Scuba divers often secretly discover these sunken vessels.

Lovely Peterson Park, overlooking Northport Marina, proves a dandy spot for exploration of box lunches, while watching the sailboats dance along the waves.

On leaving Northport, M22 takes us southerly past Lake Leelanau to Leland, an important art colony.

Fresh-smoked fish is delicious, still observe many tribal customs. Nov. 1 is All Saints' Day, when the dead walk. Feasts are celebrated, and food dedicated to ancestors is thrown into the fires.

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The Gourmet Adventures of

DICK BENSEK

Onions are probably used by more people all over the world than any other single vegetable. They are certainly the most popular of all seasonings used to enhance the flavor of almost any dish except desserts. Onions are delicious raw in salads; they are out of this world when sliced, dipped in butter and crisped in deep hot fat, and quite detectable when sautéed in butter as part of a good stew or fish concoction. This is one vegetable you can buy already cooked in the can, if you want whole tiny cooked ones. You can use them for just about any dish you are making.

It's the seasonings along with good quality food that makes the difference in the dishes that we serve at DANISH GYN, 2205 Grand River Ave., 478-5320. We serve Smorgasbord every Tuesday evening... Danish Meat Balls - Fried Pickles - Danish Lobster Tails... at Reasonable Prices.

HELPFUL HINT:
Running a knife through a potato will eliminate onion or garlic odor.

Children's Productions Announced In Livonia

The Livonia Entertainment Guild has announced a schedule of three children's productions.

The season will open Saturday, Dec. 7, with performances of Rudyard Kipling's "Just So Stories"; the Wayne State Players will bring their production of "Hansel and Gretel" to the area on Saturday, Jan. 18; while the Dixie Marionettes will close the season with a puppet production of "The Golden Fish" on Sunday, March 22.

Tickets in all the performances are 50 cents. For advance tickets and group reservations contact Mrs. Janet Bennett at 425-4855 or Mrs. Lillian McCann at 423-3271.

TWO performances of the Kipling work are scheduled for the Clarenceville High School Auditorium by Dance Adventure, Inc. The dance and narration will be done at 1 and 3 p.m.

The Wayne State Players will perform in the Park 11 a.m. in the Franklin High School Auditorium. Additional performances will be at 1 and 3 p.m.

Stevenson High School is the setting for the puppet show at 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.

THIS YEAR begins the 10th season of children's productions by the Guild. More than a half million children have attended performances during the past nine years.

Proceeds from the productions go to the Livonia Public Library for the purchase of children's books.

Last year the Guild and the Library co-sponsored three productions: "Little Red Riding Hood" by the Piccolo Opera Co.; "Please Don't Sneeze" by the Court Players; and "The Wonderful World of Mr. Toad" by the Reed Marionettes.



Moliere Opens EM Season

The Eastern Michigan University Players will begin the current season Wednesday, Oct. 23, when Moliere's masterpiece "The Miser" opens for a six performance run.

All performances will be in the Daniel L. Quirk Auditorium on the EMU campus in Ypsilanti.

The play tells the confusions of perhaps the greatest tightwad who ever lived. Managing to single up the love affairs of his entire family and most of his friends, Moliere's portrait of a tight-fisted lecherous antique gives amusing central focus to the play.

Directed by Dr. Parker R. Zellers, associate professor of speech and dramatic arts, the production is under the technical direction of P. George Bird, professor of speech and dramatic arts. Stage manager is John Schudel.

Season ticket reservations are currently being accepted, while general sale of tickets begins Oct. 21. Admission price is \$1.75.

The EMU box office is open weekdays from 12:45 to 4:30 p.m.

Sponsored jointly by the OU Division of Continuing Education and the Detroit Women Writers, the event is a credit-earning course on all facets of the writers' trade.

Advice on the writing of every type of literature as well as on marketing and editing is available to registrants who may choose four topics out of 51 sessions. Guidance will be given by 63 published authors and editors.

New Group Casting On Oct. 27

Casting for the newly formed community theatre group of Northville's first production is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 27, in the Northville Scout Recreation Building, 215 West Cady, Northville.

Tryouts will begin at 8:00 p.m. The play is "The Marvelous Land of Oz." This is the second in the Land of Oz series in the area.

In this production, the audition will need new characters including a wooden, pumpkin-headed man; a large beetle-like creature known as the Wogglebug; and General Jinjur, leader of the Women's Army of Revolt.

The more traditional characters as the Tin Woodman and the scarecrow also appear. Other characters are a witch; a small boy; a soldier; and a princess.

The tryouts are open to all who are interested. Help is also needed for backstage work and costuming.

YM Film Travels To Asia

The second in the Wayne Area YMCA's Travel and Adventure Series will be presented at 8:15 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10, in the Wayne Memorial High School Auditorium with Curtis Nagel as guest speaker.

A nationally known film-lecturer, Nagel's program will be "Road to Mandalay." The film was co-produced by William Moore.

The prior travels visits a Southeast Asian "hot spot," fabled Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Rangoon, Mandalay and other cities and countries in that part of the world.

Tickets may be purchased at the YMCA, 827-S, Wayne Rd., Westland, or from Mrs. Harriet Gordon, Westland, phone 728-4030 or 261-0338; George Schumm, 35415 Elm, Wayne, phone 722-0052.

Writers To Get Tips On Craft

Five hundred published and beginning authors are expected to attend the seventh annual Writers' Conference to be held in a day-long session at Oakland University Saturday, Oct. 26.

Sponsored jointly by the OU Division of Continuing Education and the Detroit Women Writers, the event is a credit-earning course on all facets of the writers' trade.

Advice on the writing of every type of literature as well as on marketing and editing is available to registrants who may choose four topics out of 51 sessions. Guidance will be given by 63 published authors and editors.

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