

# The Film Forum

## Education via Entertainment

The Saturday Review's Guide to Selected 16mm.  
Sound Films dealing with Contemporary Issues.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In response to many requests for information about films available without charge to schools and organizations, the following group has been annotated. They are all part of the institutional advertising policy of some industry or trade organization; they have been carefully chosen for their entertainment value, and in each case the sponsor's message is of an educational character. Films for public relations make no direct selling appeal; they are designed to inform or influence attitudes.

### GETTING TOGETHER

Produced by the American Telephone & Telegraph Co.  
Available from your local Bell Telephone Co.  
(9 minutes.)

An amusing combination of several types of special effects are used as the vehicle to show all the parts needed to make the hand telephone. Animated cartoon and trick photography (stop-motion) illustrate the many different materials, fabrics, and metals used in the manufacture of a familiar household item. The parts are then assembled on a table, and to the strains of a martial air they march as a well-disciplined army to get together and become a telephone. Interesting and clever, with a good musical score.

### JUST IMAGINE

Produced by the American Telephone & Telegraph Co.  
Available from your local Bell Telephone Co.  
(10 minutes.)

This is a more up-to-date version of the above film; it uses a new model telephone to demonstrate the 433 parts needed to make one telephone. In a pleasing cartoon film, "Tommy Telephone," with the aid of motion-picture magic, grinds the raw materials out of a hopper to make the parts needed; they then march regally onto the parade grounds where they assemble themselves into a hand-set telephone.

### PARTY LINES

Produced by the American Telephone & Telegraph Co.  
Available from your local Bell Telephone Co.  
(15 minutes. Color.)

The greatest puppets ever filmed are the actors in the cast of this popular motion picture. "Snarky Parker," the star, was featured for two years with the Ziegfeld Follies and during the war Uncle Sam used him as a good-will ambassador as part of our Good Neighbor Policy in Latin America. Until you have seen Baird's Marionettes you cannot realize how disarmingly they can be used to draw the analogy of neighborly cooperation, whether on the drive-way or at home on the party-line telephone.

### REDDY MADE MAGIC

Produced by Walter Lantz for Ashton B. Collins.  
Availability restricted in some areas.  
Write to Mr. Collins at 50 Church St., New York 7, N. Y.  
(11 minutes. Color.)  
(Comic book study guide available.)

You have seen Lantz's animated cartoons for years at your theatre. He is responsible for the creation of Andy Panda and Woody the Woodpecker (sic!). Together with Ash Collins he has produced the best commercial film ever offered to the public. This is the story of electricity told in the most engaging ten minutes or so. It traces the theory of electrons from the early experiments of Thales, who lived in Athens 2,500 years ago; it follows the experiments of every important contributor (Gilbert, Grey, Musschenbroek, Franklin, Edison, etc.) and ends with the role electricity plays in our civilization. The theme song is in the better Tin Pan Alley tradition. Recommended for the whole family.

### THE TELEPHONE HOUR

Produced by the American Telephone & Telegraph Co.  
Available from your local Bell Telephone Co.  
(30 minutes.)

Two of the Tuesday night broadcasts of the Telephone Hour have been recorded on film. "The Telephone Hour" features Donald Vorhees conducting the orchestra, and Josef Hoffman as guest. Music includes Rachmaninoff's "Prelude in C Sharp Minor" and the last movement of Beethoven's "Piano Concerto #5." "Rehearsal," the other film, shows Mr. Vorhees preparing a program with Ezio Pinza and Blanche Thebom. Both pictures contain an interesting short commercial announcement.

### MUSIC IN THE SKY

Produced by Westinghouse Electric Corp.  
Distributed by Modern Talking Picture Service.  
(20 minutes.)

For the millions who cannot attend a radio broadcast, this film brings one to the 16mm. audience. John Charles Thomas, of the Metropolitan Opera, acts as master of ceremonies and sings "In the Gloaming," "Come Thou Almighty King," and "De Camptown Races"—the last with the Ken Darby Chorus. The symphony orchestra is conducted by Victor Young. There is an interesting sequence on the "good old days" of grandma's time humorously narrated by John Nesbitt.

A. BERTRAND CHANNON.

For information about the purchase or rental of any films, please write to Film Department, The Saturday Review, 25 West 45 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

lectual foot-hold in Eastern Europe is rapidly being lost by default.

The British, who know a real diplomatic opportunity when they see one, have sent some of their best brains to Warsaw. The British Council is at work day after day interpreting Britain's culture and strengthening the intellectual bond between the two nations. It is no coincidence that 155 British titles were brought by Polish publishers last year whereas not a single American book came through.

It would be easy, but untrue, to blame the American silence on the Iron Curtain. Again and again Poles of all walks of life—including the deputy minister of culture—have stressed the fact that the people want American fiction even in preference to Russian books. This is not wishful thinking; even today reprints of "Tobacco Road," "Native Son," "For Whom the Bell Tolls," and most of the novels of Upton Sinclair, John Dos Passos, John Steinbeck, Theodore Dreiser, and Sinclair Lewis are on Polish best-seller lists. All through the occupation "Gone With the Wind" was secretly read as a resistance novel

which permitted sentimental and emotional Poles to identify themselves with the fighters of the American South. And Louis Bromfield has for many years outsold most Polish fiction.

"But today," a scholarly writer in Warsaw observed with some bitterness, "America has dropped a Parchment Curtain a long way west of the Iron one." It is true that Poland might buy copyrights direct from American publishers; but the fact remains that like most European countries Poland cannot afford to spend dollars for literature.

The United States Information Services have neither the means nor the personnel to remedy the situation. One evening I discussed the new currents in Polish education with Professor Stanislaw Helsztynski of the English department at Warsaw University. For a while he listened patiently to my objections to the one-sided ideological slant which I feared to be the ultimate result of interference by a Communist-dominated gov-

ernment. At last he interrupted. "Yes, we have established a chair of Marxist theory," he said, "but I have also been permitted to introduce a department of American literature for the first time in our history. Yet, when I try to get even the most basic American books, I find it impossible."

At a time when an American cultural beachhead in Poland is a matter of international, and perhaps strategic, necessity, he finds it impossible to secure even single copies of "The Oxford Companion of American Literature," Mencken's "The American Language," Parrington's "Main Currents in American Thought," and Beard's "Basic History." While legislators argue in terms of billions, a

# LITERARY I.Q. ANSWERS

1. Fables. 2. Story. 3. Life. 4. Sonnets. 5. Speech. 6. Address. 7. Hymn. 8. Epitaph. 9. Confessions. 10. History. 11. Villanelle. 12. Rubaiyat. 13. Saga. 14. Elegy. 15. Tales. 16. Legend. 17. Ode. 18. Ditties. 19. Dissertation. 20. Song. 21. Letter. 22. Psalm. 23. Masque. 24. Diary. 25. Essay. 26. Lay. 27. Play. 28. Prayer. 29. Ballad. 30. Eulogy.

## FRASER YOUNG'S LITERARY CRYPT: No. 271

*A cryptogram is writing in cipher. Every letter is part of a code that remains constant throughout the puzzle. Answer No. 271 will be found in the next issue.*

BFALCOHKNTK NK AOF

GNPRNPX MG SLR

QFLKMPK GMQ DOLA DF

SFWNFEF ZCMP NPKANPTA.

G. O. SQLRWFH

### Answer to Literary Crypt No. 270

Next to knowing when to seize an opportunity, the most important thing in life is to know when to forego an advantage.

B. DISRAELI.

"One of the great novels of our time..." says LORD DUNSANY of

# Bridie Steen

by ANNE CRONE

This story of an Irish girl's growth from a naive child into a woman of courage and fire has everything to reward the reader: superb characterization, rich humor, compassionate understanding of human folly, descriptive passages which rival the best to be found in English literature. BRIDIE STEEN will find a special niche in the hearts of those who love fine fiction. **\$3.00**

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