

On The Shelf



by Diane Sweet, Debbie Taylor

Thomas Hardy's loved vision of 1865 rural England is beautifully transmitted in "Far from the Madding Crowd."

Emphasis on minute detail, clear, crisp photography, and a brilliantly chosen cast help to make this film equally as glamorous as Thomas Hardy's novel.

"Crowd" is essentially a love story of Bathsheba Everdene portrayed by Julie Christie, a willful, vain, and captivating young woman, and the three men enslaved by love for her.

Alan Bates portrays Gabriel Oak, the sheepfarmer who is rejected by Bathsheba, but who faithfully serves her throughout her continuous entanglements.

Peter Finch as farmer Boldwood, a successful farmer, is led to madness and murder through Bathsheba's cruel prank.

Terence Stamp as Sergeant Francis Troy is a fierce, arrogant young man who sweeps the heroine off her feet into a sudden and disastrous marriage.

Prunella Ransome portrays the shadowy Fanny Robin, seduced by Troy and bearing his child, but abandoned by him in a moment of pride when he is kept waiting at the church.

While most of the action consists of the strengths and weaknesses of the characters, fate charts the course of their destiny.

The series of events center around the Weatherbury farm, which was left to be managed by Bathsheba. Her neighbor Mr. Boldwood appears to be noble and unselfish, but through persistent love for Bathsheba, he is

Talent in 'Madding Crowd' makes it 'one of the best'

driven to insanity, which leads to his imprisonment.

Bathsheba marries later in the film to Sergeant Troy, a man unworthy of her.

The death of Fanny causes Sergeant Troy's disappearance which nearly leads to a marriage between Bathsheba and Boldwood. When the Sergeant returns he finds his wife at the Christmas party given by Boldwood to announce Bathsheba's consent to marriage. The sur-

prising appearance erupts in Troy's tragic death.

"Crowd" was Hardy's first novel with a happy ending, this being the marriage of Bathsheba and the ever-present Gabriel Oak.

Individual moments in the film are excellent but some sequences could have been left out.

Nevertheless, "Far From the Madding Crowd" is a blend of technique and talent used to make this film one of the best.

Individual decision rules

Movie censorship questionable

by Diane Sweet and Debbie Taylor

Are motion pictures fit for today's youth? Do profanity, vulgarity and sex overrule the moral standards of this generation? If so, is this the responsibility of those who make the films? Well, maybe so, but isn't the final decision that of the individual?

In this day and age there is some question of movie censorship. The so-called "seal of approval," established in 1930, is now out of date. Recently a new code, the Hays Production Code of Self Regulation, was introduced.

Jack J. Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, said the new code was established "to keep the code in closer harmony with the mores, the culture, the moral sense, and the expectations of our society." The new code incorporates one basic variation from the old one. The former codes "Seal of Approval" meant the movie was approved for all movie goers, young and old. The new code labels "some suggested for mature audiences." This meaning "declaration of principals" is to alert and inform the parents, so that they will have the primary responsibility of determining which picture is suitable for their children.

According to Senator Margaret Chase Smith, the movie industry has a "voluntary classification" system that is supposed to label films that are unsuitable for children, "But the industry wavers somewhere between the futility and hypocrisy."

Example: The MGM-Filmways presentation "Don't Make Waves" was classified as "Suggested for Mature Audiences," by the Motion Picture Association of America, the industry self-regulating body. Yet MGM-sponsored saturation advertising for the movie in such magazines as "Teen," and "Ingenuet," publications aimed specifically at teen-aged girls.

"Clearly, the problems of sex-and-sadism movies remain untouched by Hollywood's 'voluntary' classification system," says Senator Smith. "Something more must be done."

The "something more" is contained in a resolution that Senator Smith has introduced in the Senate. It provides for labeling films so that, in Senator Smith's words, "the public can tell if the film is suitable for youngsters or not."

Mr. Meshler, manager of the Paramount Theatre and a member of the National Association of Theatre Owners, states that "the moral code begins at home." Each person, with or without his parents' consent must determine which film is for him to see.

Although moral standards change from person to person, religion to religion, and from our society to others, we must take into mind that even though the times are changing and that movies are racing against humanity, we must consider, that whatever is chosen to influence your life is wholly your responsibility.

'B-Day' suggested to eliminate many boy absentees

With an enrollment of more girls than boys, it would be suspected that a larger number of girls are absent each day than boys. But this isn't true.

According to Clarence Beyers, assistant vice principal, there is an average of 110 boys and 90 girls absent each day, totaling 3839 boys and 3521 girls absent in the first grading period.

Does this mean that boys can't accept responsibility? Or are they the weaker sex?

Suppose we had a "B-Day." On this day all boys who are present would play games and be given toy prizes. "B-Day" won't be announced until that day in reg, so boys should be present every day, to be sure and get in on the fun and games.

Is this necessary? Must our male students be treated like children in order to get them to come? After all, with a greater number of girls than boys, the main attraction should be at school, not elsewhere.

In the first grading period, the freshmen have an average of one out of five students with over ten absences. The sopho-

mores, juniors and seniors have an average of one out of ten students with this many absences.

Many establishments won't hire anyone with more than six absences in one school year. How many students are planning on getting a job in the

National Council for Social Studies lures Grant teachers, many delegates

"I was chairman of the Conference on the Geography of Indonesia, and my main job was to introduce the guest speakers," stated P. O. Marsubian, discussing the 47th annual National Council for Social Studies, November 23-25, in Seattle.

Mr. Marsubian, George Flitte, and Albert Ouchi were joined by 17 other teachers from the Portland area who attended the session, only a small part of the 3,000 delegates from throughout the United States at the conference.

Featured speakers at the conference were Filipino leader

Class loads main problem faced by new committee

"The aim of the composition committee is to help acquaint teachers with the latest findings and methods and perhaps ultimately to enlist the help of teachers in other departments and the administration in achieving goals," according to Charles Randolph, chairman of the English department.

Some of the problems faced by the committee which is headed by Edward Basaraba are class sizes and teaching loads.

"It is difficult to give individual instruction to students — after all, composition is an individual skill creative process and the skills of students present a great variety of problems," informed Mr. Randolph.

It should be noted that the average high school teacher who assigns one theme per week works on corrections of these papers an average of 25 hours after school time.

The budget limit this year rules the reduction of class sizes so the teacher must look for more effective techniques for teaching composition to large blocks of students.

These main considerations led to the formation of the composition committee which is composed of Mrs. Lucille Phelps, Robert Gerber, John Hilley, and Mr. Basaraba.

"The committee will study composition practices in different high schools and make it a practical and useful object," commented Mr. Basaraba.

Each member of the committee has been given a mimeographed sheet concerning research in different areas of composition.

New members chosen to Spanish Honorary

New members were recently chosen to the Spanish National Honor society, the honor society for those Spanish students who received two A's and a B during their first two years and the first term of their third year of the language.

New members are: Jorge Baccelis, Rick Gonzales, Chio Sang, Shu Guzfung, Alma Angeles, Mark Hansen, Barbara Douthie, Connie Thompson, Barbara Kane, Liz Kallen, Patty Jensen, Pat Lewis, Cathy Radford, and Claudia Swan.

Other new members are: Barb Schroller, Bonnie Weber, Kim Martin, Diane Jubie, Sylvia McMillin, Jana Powell, Laura Carter, Leslie Frey, Raylene Erickson, and Shirley Lewton.

Completing the list are: Marilyn Leonard, Tom Creswell, Mike Garnett, Tom Wilson, Stashia Colby, Gari Robinson, and Ray Wheeler.

Watercolors used in pictures painted by Jim Torson

by Marlene Feves

Pictures of Europe in watercolors, by former student Jim Torson are currently on display in the exhibit section of the library.

Jim is presently enrolled as an art student at Principia College, a school of liberal arts in Elmhurst, Illinois. This fall the school sent Jim and several other art students to Europe for the term, to capture the beautiful country on canvas. Touring through England, France, Italy, and Switzerland, Jim concentrated mostly on scenery, boats, buildings and towns.

Jim's mother, Mrs. Virginia Torson, who is in charge of the student body store, stated, "Jim does most of his work in watercolors, but sometimes works in oils. He usually prefers painting scenery to portraits," she added.

"Jim, now twenty-one, has been studying art since elementary school and intends to be a professional artist after he gets out of the Marines," Mrs. Torson explained.

The display is Jim's first real showing, however he has sold some of his paintings before, to people who have seen them at school or just in his home. He usually gets anywhere from twenty to forty dollars for his works which are about twelve by eighteen inches in size.

Jim will be paying a visit to Miss Anne Tempest's French classes sometime before Christmas in order to share some of the slides he took on his European tour with them.

Grade schools visited; tales told, skits given

Mrs. Opal Hamilton's speech classes are going to go to neighboring grade schools to tell stories, and perhaps to present a skit to kindergarten through third graders.

There are going to be students from all of Mrs. Hamilton's classes. The presentation will be December 11-20.

future?

There has been an average of eight percent of the student body absent each day during the first semester. What will the average be next semester? How many students are willing to accept the responsibility of getting up each morning?

The Grantonian

Published bi-weekly Fall semester and weekly spring semester by the advanced journalism class of Ulysses S. Grant high school, room 203, 2245 N.E. 36th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97212. Phone 88-5975. Printed by Modern Typesetting company with a circulation of 3000. Second class postage paid at Portland, Ore. Subscription cost \$2.00 per year.

Vol. 71, No. 8—December 8, 1967

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