



Movie Review

BY BOB NISBET

It is well known fact that movies are one of the chief diversions of the Aggies, and that is the reason for such a column as this. However, the inhabitants of Aggeland are a most peculiar people. An Aggie first notes his finances, then his times, and with both in accordance to his general feeling, he makes up his mind to go. On the way or after he arrives at the show he may or may not inquire as to what the picture is. These facts in view, mere forewarning should be the purpose of "Movie Review."

The first attempt at this forewarning, will be to proclaim that the much publicized "Babes in Arms" is not the outstanding picture it is supposed to be. It misses the first requirement of a "three-point" picture. To enjoy the show, the audience must feel part of the picture itself, and that the events taking place on the screen are real. Any scene that is unreal or not true to life will shatter the appreciation for the picture.

"Babes in Arms" stars Mickey Rooney, Judy Garland and Charles Winninger in a musical comedy depicting the fall of vaudeville and the rise of the movie industry. It claims that talking pictures forced vaudeville shows out of business. Perhaps that is correct but this picture only pours salt on an open wound without doing too much holding back on the salt.

Getting to the picture (after so long), there is one scene right after the kids decided to put on the show in which they start out down the street singing a flag-raising song with destination unknown. While they are singing, all the extras in Hollywood troop in behind them carry boxes and lighted torches. With a dramatic bandish of arms the scene fades away, and with it fades away any interest left in the show.

The story depicts Mickey and Judy as adolescent sweethearts—offsprings of two of the most famous families in vaudeville. The birth of the new fad of talking pictures has proved the death of vaudeville shows. To offset the downward trend of the family finances, Mickey organizes his own show amid the natural skepticism of his parents. Teamed with Judy, he and his show put on a routine that is worthy of their talents. Judy does some fancy stepping, and Mickey puts over some good imitations of Lionel Barrymore, Clark Gable, and President Roosevelt.

Some shows to look forward to with at least an optimistic anticipation are the following:

"The Man in the Iron Mask," with Joan Bennett and Louis Hayward; "Bachelor Mother," with Ginger Rogers and David Niven; "The Old Maid," with Bette Davis and Miriam Hopkins; "Ninotchka," with Greta Garbo and Melvyn Douglas.