

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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Be Sure You See It

Occasionally the Bulletin has not been slow to condemn a film unworthy of your patronage, and told you so very bluntly. Such a movie, it was pointed out, was not only an occasion of sin for individuals, but was a source of income for immoral and Godless producers; and you, by your presence would encourage them to repeat similar productions.

After all, movie-making is business -- big business. Frequently, whatever emerges as a solid investment is the only criterion that matters; whatever develops into a box-office hit is good, very good, regardless of other considerations. What does it take to "pack them in?" -- that's the only thing that matters.

But if you stay away, it hurts the box-office. Even more important in the fight for decency, your absence discourages evil pictures.

On the other hand, a good movie that is also a work of art deserves our patronage. Our presence is good for the box-office, and encourages the industry to give us more wholesome and excellent entertainment. You owe it to yourself, and to the cause of decency, to support producers who come up with a genuine masterpiece.

Just such an excellent picture is The Miracle of Marcelino, booked all next week at the State theatre. It's as human an experience as you will ever witness. And you can thank the St. Mary's Alumnae Club of South Bend for sponsoring the show. Indirectly, your attendance will help this group to be an even greater influence for good in the locality. Indeed, they deserve much praise for introducing a refining influence on our local entertainment. They also deserve our support.

It's also an opportunity to prove to producers that good pictures are still good "box-office." Be sure you see it.

Have You A Sense Of Humor?

A sense of humor is a gift of God. Since all our perfections are participations of Divine Perfection, the nearer we come to God, the stronger should be our sense of humor. Cheerfulness and good nature, particularly during Lent, and under adversity, mark the daily communicant. It seems that God makes life a little lighter for him. Try it. There's a stronger relation between goodness and cheerfulness than you imagine.

Good Sport!

Self-respect is the virtue which keeps a man from doing the things that gentlemen should not do. Human respect is the vice opposed to self-respect. Human respect causes a person to commit sin rather than appear too good in the eyes of the world.

The catch-phrase of human respect is "Be a sport!" Its implication is that you may have to break the law of God in order to be a sport.

The spirit of good sportsmanship is fair play -- with God, with your neighbor, and with yourself. Anyone who dishonors God, his neighbor, or himself in order to be a good sport is no sport at all.

He's a cad.

Tonight at 6:45: The Sorrowful Mother Novena in Sacred Heart Church.