

television rogramme

NOVEMBER 26
Scolle: Junior
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Six
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DAY, NOV. 27
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Newbury, Linn
Down
Time
Angels

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
11.15—Telefe: Scoile: Junior
Mathematics presented by
Frank Anderson.
11.45—Close Down.
2.15—Senior Physics presented
by Frank Anderson.
2.45—Close Down.
3.30—Junior Concert Hall.
3.55—Five To Six.
6.00—The Angelus.
6.01—Leagras.
6.15—Newsbeat.
6.45—F. Troop.
7.15—Quicksilver.
7.45—Cross Country.
7.55—Telefe: Felmre.
8.30—The Dream Of Jeannie.
8.50—The Life Of O'Reilly.
9.15—News.
10.10—The Changing Face of
Ireland. Irish Acres.
10.55—Naucht.
11.00—Katie News.
11.05—Close Down.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1
5.30 p.m.—Murphy agus a
Chaire.
5.45—At Home and Abroad.
5.55—Five To Six.
6.00—The Angelus.
6.01—Labbair Gaelic Linn.
6.15—Newsbeat.
6.40—Road Safety Campaign.
6.45—Hone for Tea.
7.30—The Bing Crosby Show.
8.00—The Danny Kaye Show.
9.00—Garda Patrol.
9.05—Sport in Action.
9.15—News.
10.00—The Council.
10.30—Time to Remember.
11.00—Nacht.
11.05—Late News.
11.10—Close Down.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2
11.15 a.m.—Telefe: Scoile: Junior
Chemistry.
11.45—Close Down.
5.30—A-Zoo.
5.55—Five To Six.
6.00—The Angelus.
6.01—The Adventures of Lolka
and Bolka.
6.15—Newsbeat.
6.40—Road Safety Campaign.
6.45—Farmer's Daughter.
7.15—Allie.
7.45—The Fugitive.
8.45—Sixty Five.
9.15—Get Smart.
10.05—The Cure for Love.
11.05—Naucht.
11.20—Late News.
11.25—Close Down.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3
2.15—Telefe: Scoile: Senior
Chemistry.
2.45—Close Down.
3.15—Ladies.
5.55—Five To Six.
6.00—The Angelus.
6.01—Labbair Gaelic Linn.
6.15—Newsbeat.
6.40—Road Safety Campaign.
6.45—O.K. Crackerly.
7.15—The Riordans.
7.45—Teen Talk.
8.15—The Virginian.
9.15—News.
10.00—The Hunter on the Ditch.
10.35—The Desperate People.
11.05—Naucht.
11.10—Late News.
11.15—Close Down.

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PEOPLE are not making as much tea as they used to. That is to say that making tea is confined to major meals, such as breakfast, dinner and supper. It is no longer available at all hours of the day.

BY
JOHN B. KEANE

perished with the cold, for hot water to make the tea for himself and his friends. The tea was always ready when he came. The great-hearted woman of the house was waiting and she supplied the sugar, milk and tea free of charge. There was a time when the country was full of such women. They were the saviours of cycling postmen and Civic Guards on the look out for unlicensed dogs. Houses had names for "tay" just in the same way that fields had good names for mushrooms.

Some houses never offered tea. It wasn't that they were mean. They just hadn't the knack of offering it. There were other houses where a person could never be sure that the tea was given with a good heart and I personally remember women who used to say:

"Sure you won't have tay!" The impression one got was while one could have the tea, if so desired, it was, nevertheless, asking for too much.

May the Lord have mercy on those great-hearted women whose teapots were always on the coals waiting for the casual caller. They never asked a caller if he would have tea. If it wasn't ready when a person called, no words concerning tea were exchanged, but if one was observant one noticed a secret communication between the old woman and the young woman. While one occupied the visitor's attention, the other surreptitiously filled the kettle and before you could say Jack Robinson they were sealding the teapot.

Then came the formalities. One was expected to say: "Sure you're not making tea for me?" and the answer would be: "We were making it anyway and you'll have a cup to warm you." When these women passed on to their eternal rewards, one could gather much information about them in the public houses afterwards. "I never left that house without the tay," one man might say and another might put it like this: "The teapots made no battle while she was on her feet." Men who brush winter roads and cut hedges will know what I'm on about. Postmen, Civic Guards and Insurance Agents will know too and they will fondly remember a certain woman in a certain locality who was al-

People are not making as much as they used to THE "TAY"

ways good for a cup of tea. Or a man might be enquiring for a direction and he would be told: "Go up as far as the first cross and turn left. Go on then till you pass a two storey house on your right and turn left. Then there's three or four cottages together and 'tis one of them."

"But how'll I know the right house?" the traveller might ask.

"Simple!" would be the answer. "The minute they see you coming they'll send a small girl to the well for water. Watch the door she comes out of and that's the right house."

I well remember a woman called Kate Moloney who was dead but who surprisingly came back to life again and in certain country places you'll hear about the time Kate Moloney rose from the dead. Word spread far and wide about her passing and many of her old friends arrived to say a prayer for her.

Soon the house was full of old men and women and there were also a few young girls who skit as young girls do no matter where they are. Any way the kitchen was full and there was mumbled conversation as time passed. All admired the corpse and said that it was a pity that there was none of her own alive to take charge of the proceedings.

It was then that Kate Moloney sat up in the bed. Some were astounded and all were too shocked to say a word. Kate Moloney heaved a monumental

sigh and shook her head. From under the table she took the white enamel bucket which was filled with spring water. She then took the kettle from the hob and filled it. She laid the table and scalded two teapots when the kettle was boiled. She then returned to her bed and lay down again and when she was examined it was found that she was as dead as a door-nail—but this time there was a smile on her face. In all probability she would never have stirred from the bed if there had been somebody to make the "tay," but Kate Moloney would never give it to say to her neighbours that they left her house without a mouthful.

Some people still put on the kettle when visitors call, but the majority don't. They have forgotten the great ritual, spread far and wide about her passing and many of her old friends arrived to say a prayer for her.

The man I enjoy most is the man who stoutly protests at the idea of the woman of the house making tea for him. She quiets him by saying that she's only giving him a cup in his hand. He still protests, because it is expected of him and then he fulfils his role by drinking from cups and eating several slices of bread.

by James O'Carroll

IN YOUR GARDEN

Bloom for Christmas

EXCEPT for a few trees and shrubs that may bloom in mid-winter, there is little or no native material to give us blossoms at Christmas time.

Of the winter flowering trees there are only two that come to my mind: Arbutus Unedo, the Irish strawberry tree, and Prunus Subhirtella Autumnalis, the winter flowering plum.

There are, however, a few flowering shrubs worth cultivating for their mid-winter bloom. In the list below, the

yellow winter-flowering Jasminum, Corus Mas, the Camellia, the winter-flowering heath, Viburnum Laurustinus and Viburnum Pragnans.

There are also some shrubs that usually bear colourful berries in mid-winter, while a few others, such as the Dogwood and Willows have colourful twigs.

The holly is the most popular berrying shrub, but it is not planted very often as it takes a long time to grow up and fruit. When planting it is wise to plant a male specimen among the female hollies, otherwise there will be no berries.

Other berrying shrubs worth growing are the Skimmias and the Pyracanthas. The former are slower growing even than the holly, but like the holly they must have a male plant near hand to produce berries. When they do fruit the berries are really lovely.

While the Skimmias make low bushes suitable for the edge of the shrubbery, the Pyracanthas, or Fire Thorns as they are called, are more suited for the back of the bed or to plant near a wall to cover it.

There are several varieties with red and yellow berries. They are all suitable for training on walls and although they will thrive in a warm aspect they will also grow well even on a north wall. Incidentally, the pyracanthas can make fine, thorny evergreen hedges up to six feet high and are fairly fast growing. They are easily propagated from cuttings inserted in the soil at this time of year, but they root better in a sand frame in June, July.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS
Coming back for a moment to blooms for Christmas, the Arbutus I mentioned, although a native of Kerry is not very hardy in Ireland.

Where this evergreen tree thrives successfully the branches of strawberry like fruits are very decorative.

Such outdoor winter decorative material is usually so scarce at Christmas time we have to turn to plants and flowers that can be forced into bloom for that season.

The chrysanthemum is the most desirable and although it is nearly hardy-glass with a little artificial heat is necessary to be sure of not having the blooms spoiled perhaps just in Christmas week.

Chrysanthemums are so subjected now to forcing into bloom all the year round that one wonders how they are still popular. It seems, however, that blooming out of season only makes them more popular.

Nowadays a dwarfing hormone is used to keep the plants dwarf in the pots.

BULBS
Certain varieties of tulips, hyacinths and daffodils are also forced into bloom for Christmas.

There is not much trouble in bringing some special bulbs into bloom early as they have been already prepared for early forcing by the growers of bulbs.

Generally speaking, the bulbs are artificially pre-cooled by a kind of cold storage. Such bulbs should be potted or planted immediately they are received, otherwise they may not bloom at all.

Such bulbs of tulips, hyacinths and daffodils can be flowered in several mediums, such as soil bulb fibre or even pebbles. If soil is used then proper pots with drainage holes must be used.

The housewife for cleanliness and handiness reasons uses bulb-fibre. She fills the bowls and leaves the points or tips of the bulbs just above the fibre.

Then she puts the bowls away in a cool, dark cupboard. This is to induce strong rooting of the bulbs. When such happens it will be noted that the tips of the bulbs have grown an inch or so in the dark.

At this stage the bulbs are brought out to the light and stood inside the window in a warm room.

They must never be put near the fire or radiator and when the flowers are fully out the

bolus should be stood in the coolest window in the house. When the plants are in a cold frame or plant them in a cold frame for the winter. Protect from snugs with a dressing or two of meta and bran.

Where there is no frame or glasshouse protect the plants by putting them in a dark cupboard, he buries the boxes in the coldest part of the garden. To protect the tips of the bulbs a thin layer of sand is put over them. The boxes are then covered with the four of five inches of soil.

Here the bulbs remain until they are well rooted and it is time to force them. Each variety has its own time for forcing, but now is the time to life the first of them, those which are suitable for the Christmas trade.

About six weeks before Christmas the prepared lots of, say, "Brilliant Star," the dwarf scarlet tulips are lifted, the soil washed off the tips and the boxes put into the heated greenhouse.

They are covered with papers for a few days until the white stems and leaves get green. Then they are put up on the shelves near the light to keep the plants sturdy and not too long or lanky.

Some of the varieties will be forced for cutting and obtain long stems the bulbs are lifted under the shelves in semi-darkness for a few days after they are brought in from the "plunge."

A week before Christmas, Brilliant Star and the like will be showing colour and the bulbs are lifted with as many roots as possible left on. Five of these are put in each ornamental bowl and finished off with a little moss on the surface.

Three hyacinths are sufficient for a bowl. The bulbs are set in bulb fibre or peat and watered before being sent to the market. Such watering should be sufficient for the life of the blooms. The bulbs are not worth saving after forcing.

WEEK'S REMINDERS
Lift a plant or two of each

varietal, of outdoor or early flowering Chrysanthemums. Box them or plant them in a cold frame for the winter. Protect from snugs with a dressing or two of meta and bran.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir—The letter from "Buck Jones" under the heading "Film Fan Hits Out" in last week's edition of the Limerick Leader made for some very interesting reading, and being an avid film goer myself, I would like to add some more comments to those already made by your scribe.

The advent of television has certainly changed our Irish way of life, and one has only to look at the number of Cinemas, theatres, drama groups, etc., etc., that are in existence now, compared to four years ago, to fully realise the impact that the small screen has had on us.

The cinema appears to have been hit most, and in the Annual General Report recently a well known cinema group actually admitted that the fall in attendances at their cinemas was causing "true concern." It is not surprising if one is to judge on the standard of films

disbursed out to us nowadays? The entertainment level of commercial cinema in this city is slowly being lowered to the lowest common denominator, which is the level of some of the rubbish shown on TV on Sunday nights, and many goodness, that is low enough. However, it has been shown in some cases that if the cinema produces the right entertainment, the TV will stay in second place. Cork and Dublin have realised that the cinema-going public is becoming more and more discerning, and it is most heartening to see the crowds flocking back to the best cinemas in these cities, to see films that are really worth watching.

Indeed, in these days when we hear of so many cinemas closing, it was gratifying to learn that Cork opened a new cinema which is to be devoted mainly to Continental films. Walk down Connel Street in Dublin any evening and you will see queues waiting for admission to all of the first run cinemas. Why? Because in Dublin they have woken up to the fact that people will no longer venture to go to the cinema unless they are going to be entertained, and over the past couple of months Dublin cinema managers have been praised for some really outstanding bookings, and now they are back to the stage when the can release films for four, five and six weeks.

But this is not happening in Limerick. Each week we are subjected to some of the worst revivals such as "The Honey-Moon Machine," "Secret Pass," "Battle of Powder River," "Toll Tale Heart," Gold for the Caravans, "The Law versus Billy The Kid," "Mobs Incorporated," "One Foot in the Hell," "Run of the Arrow," "Cover Girl," etc., films which have outlived their purpose and have been shown in this city more often than they have played the entire country.

This might be an exaggeration I know, and while I realise that it is not possible for local cinema managers to rent out first run films every week, would it be asking too much of them to choose films that are of entertainment value and not sheer drivel. Worthwhile revivals such as "Luck Soup," "The Pilgrim," "Bicycle Thieves," "Joan of Arc," "Modern Times," "The Great Adventure," "Le Crime De Mon," "My Wife's Family," "Libel," "Executive Suite," "Mon Oncle," "Wizard of Oz," "Citizen Kane," "Guys and Dolls," "Around the World in 80 Days," "The Admirable Crichton," "Father Brown," "Pat-terns of Power," "Man Upstairs," "Three Came Home," "The Entertainer," "Reach for the Sky," "City Lights," "Plovers of Fear," "Trouble With Harry," "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," "Great Day," "Spanish Gardener" and "Witness For The Prosecution" to name but some, would be far better than those revivals which we are asked to endure week after week, films which E.C.C. TV and I.T.V. would not dare attempt to show.

As your scribe said last week, for some time back only one cinema has been showing first run films, when Dublin, Cork and Belfast can offer something new to patrons almost every week. It is bad enough having to endure revivals, but when local cinema managers are charging prices that compare favourably with the cities mentioned above, for mutilated copies of cheap re-runs, it calls for a public outcry. More often than not we have two revivals, and the cinema managers claim that they are giving great value for money by advertising mammoth three and four-hour shows. Recently I went to see two films at a local cinema which normally last for four hours, but somehow, they managed to show both in 3 hours, including a trailer, advertisements and an intermission. These might I add, were films which were shown here on numerous occasions before.

Limerick cinemas are laying out this type of entertainment with a trowel. Personally, I thought the whole part of a double feature programme was to remove two films which together would add up to a tolerable evening's entertainment. Would it not be better to show one full length feature, with some good shorts thrown in to make up a reasonably good programme? Another thing I must mention is that when first run films come to Dublin and Cork there are often two shown in the one programme. Yet, when they come to Limerick they are shown separately, with an oldie thrown in. Shorter appear to be a thing of the past in Limerick. Perhaps some of our local cinema managers might consider the idea of releasing some time and see the shorts that are available for bookings.

Thank God there is one cinema in Limerick which makes every effort to get first class revivals, and shows them in full. I am referring to the City Theatre, which over the years has maintained a very high standard in selecting quality films. While most cinemas dish out revivals we are being deprived of the opportunity of seeing some top-class films. Quite a few first-run plays in Limerick recently, but not before they played in such small towns as Fermoy, Nenagh, Birr, etc., and local cinema managers can book such films after their runs in Dublin and

Cork. Indeed, there are some films which I saw in Cork and Dublin months ago and which have yet to grace local cinema screens. Sure, they will play here sometime, but why not immediately after their runs in the bigger cities. On the other hand, exasperated filmgoers, such as myself, anxiously await films which never turn up. Most of them are undeniably minority in their appeal, but with potential audiences, I am sure, considerably larger than for revivals.

Films which have yet to come to Limerick but have been on release for some time, are, "Lord of the Flies," "Mary Mary," "Dr. Strangelove," "The Saboteur," "The Spyglass," "The Passenger," "Life of Adolph Hitler," etc. True, some of these films are of the art variety, but nonetheless would go down very well with local audiences. Of course there are intellectual snobs who only pretend to like Bergman, Resnais, Fellini, just as there are inverted snobs who refuse to try to like them, but there are also, thank goodness, a good many people who go to see these so-called arty films for sheer enjoyment. Why not give them a try? One such film came here recently, but looking at it I thought it sheer junk. No, it was not the film-makers fault, but the cinema manager's. The film I refer to is "Joseph Loozy's 'The Servant'" and only for I having seen the film earlier in Dublin, I just would not believe it was "The Servant" that I was looking at. True, the censor got his hands on the film before it went out on general release, but so too must the projectionist at the cinema where I saw it in Limerick. Cutting art films is like slashing Greek sculpture, or to bowlerise Shakespeare.

Local Cinema Managers appear to shun Continental films. Cork and Dublin have cinema managers mainly devoted to foreign films, so why not Limerick? I might I congratulate the City Theatre for daring to show such masterpieces as "Wild Strawberries," "Virgin Spring" and "The Magician," but these films are all too rarely shown here.

The visitor could be forgiven for thinking that we are a cowboy and gangster conscious city, if he were to judge our mentality by the films shown here.

Furthermore, the project of equipment in some of our cinemas is anything but satisfactory. Some produce the most intolerable standard of picture to the image, and the sound is like listening to a cheap record player. Comot matters little nowadays, and indeed some of our cinema towns appear to pay more attention to selling sweets, cigarettes, etc., than providing for one's enjoyment. The behaviour of "coppers" looting in the seats, with less on the mind than front go on without being corrected by the attendants in the correct manner. I had occasion to visit a Limerick cinema recently and for a full after-of-an-hour we had to contend with somebody shovelling a me, thing behind the screen while the film was in progress. I presume they were shovelling coal into a furnace of some kind, but surely this should have been done before the cinema opened.

So, wake up, Mr. Cinema Manager. Remember, this is 1965!

Might I add that the local Press could help in a big way to improve the standard of films shown here. Some fine films have come here over the last two years, but because of the want of big publicity they died in death. Advertising alone will not bring the fans to the cinema. A good synopsis of each film is necessary if it is to be a winner. "Hush, Hush, Sweet Charlotte," I stayed to disappointing attendances last week mainly, I'd say, for the want of good publicity. Another striking example of poor publicity was evident in last week's issue of the Leader. I am referring to the film "The Visit," now playing at the Lyric. It is the duty of the previewer and the reviewer to enlighten his readers to the quantities, etc., of the film, but in your paper last week no attempt was made to give a brief synopsis of the film—but instead your previewer devoted some 60 lines or so to telling us of his meeting with Ligrig Bergman in London!

Which was more important? This sort of publicity is not going to entice people to go see what I would term a first-class film.

"Lord Jim," "How The West Was Won," "To Trap A Spy" and "The Comedy of Terrors" got very scant notices as well, and as all these were first-run films (the biggest number for many weeks), would it not have been better to give a story of each in more detail instead of giving us the names of the stars which, in any case, would appear in the advertising columns? The cinema depends a lot on a good review and that is something which local papers have not been giving us.

I spoke to the Secretary of a film rental organisation at the Cork Film Festival in September and asked him what steps should be taken by the public when they attend a film which has been hacked by the cinema in which it was shown. His answer: "Write to the film company concerned." They would be delighted to hear your complaint and should it be justified they will get in touch with the cinema concerned and more than likely withdraw their films from that cinema.

So, the Cinema Manager, the Press and the public can all help to improve the standard of cinema showings in Limerick.

Yours, etc.,
JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY.

P.S.—Now that we are coming near the Christmas season it will be most interesting to see the revivals the local Managers have booked for us. More "cowboys" and "gangsters," I bet—films that B.B.C. and I.T.V. have rejected.

More Letters on Page 3



OFF TO SYDNEY
Mr. Trevor Morrow, Deputy President, J.C.C.I., and Mr. Patrick Hickey, National President, J.C.C.I., pictured prior to their departure from Shannon Airport to Sydney, where they will bid for the location of the Permanent World Secretariat of the Junior Chamber International at Shannon Airport.