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It is, incidentally, one of those pictures which I should like to see given a special certificate recommending it as being particularly suitable for children, especially boys.

## SQUADRON-LEADER X

(RKO-British)


 ANOTHER good British effort. Don't be surprised if you find it reminds you of *49th Parallel*, for it has the same star (Eric Portman), the same script-writer (Emeric Pressburger), and basically the same theme as that picture — a man-hunt, with a Nazi as quarry and a whole nation in pursuit of him. But *Squadron-Leader X* avoids the major psychological blunder of arousing sympathy for the hunted which made *49th Parallel* such a dubious piece of propaganda.

What *49th Parallel* showed—although it didn't mean to—was that a true Nazi is imbued with unswerving and completely selfless purpose, untiring energy, boundless resourcefulness and great courage, and is only to be beaten by trickery. However, you need shed no tears for Mr. Portman's Nazi in this new film, and your sporting instincts are not likely to be aroused on his behalf. He is a thoroughly nasty job of work, arrogant, treacherous, and lily-livered—a Luftwaffe ace who, by bad luck, finds himself in England masquerading as a squadron-leader in the R.A.F., and who spends the rest of the story trying to get out of the country again and back to Belgium. How he happens to land himself in this embarrassing predicament is too good a bit of script-writing to spoil by divulging it here: so are some of the tricks he gets up to in order to persuade certain people in England to give aid and comfort to one of His Majesty's enemies; or the reason why the agents of the Gestapo in London are just as keen to blot him out as are the British security officers. But it can be revealed that the Nazi's ultimate fate is a particularly lyrical example of poetic justice.

If you put them under the microscope, various situations and devices in the plot would be shown up as improbable — the film, in fact, is rather too ingenious a piece of propagandist entertainment to be true. At the same time, several good performances (particularly by Martin Miller as a former Nazi sympathiser in London, as well as by Portman himself), and good direction by Lance Comfort, manage to make the whole thing seem plausible as well as highly exciting. *Squadron-Leader X* should, in brief, give you a very good run for your money.

## THEY GOT ME COVERED

(RKO-Radio)

 PRESENTING Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour without benefit of Crosby in a nonsensical mix-up about foreign correspondents and enemy agents in Washington. As the stupidest newspaperman who ever missed a scoop, Hope works hard for laughs, and manages to extract a good many, especially towards the end, when he is turned loose in a beauty salon, but it is pretty thin material all the way, and some of the gags are particularly threadbare. They got Miss D. Lamour much better covered than usual, though. Not a sarong in sight.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

*Interested (Miramar):* Only information available is that both *The Great Mr. Handel* and *The Gentle Sex* will definitely be screened in the fairly near future.

*D. Rae (Wadestown):* (1) Location of house not known. (2) Donald Crisp.

*M.L.M. (Christchurch):* It has been shown in a few of the smaller centres, and it may go back to Christchurch, but the only definite booking I can give at the moment is Temuka, September 6. Is it worth the trip?

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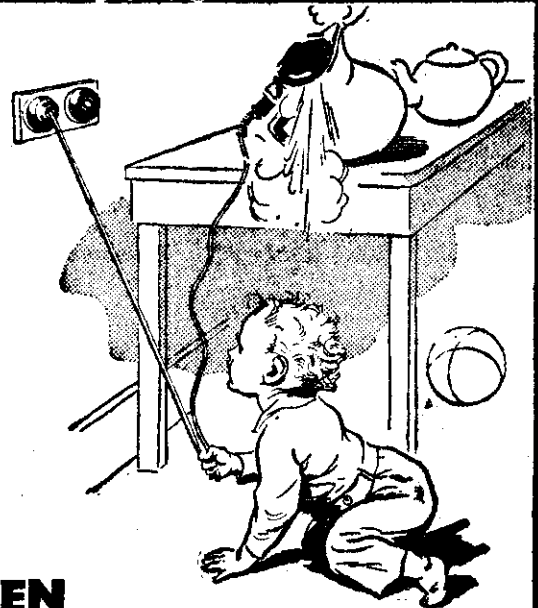
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## CHILDREN

## INJURED AT HOME

Every year young children in this country die as the result of mishaps in the home. Our children's wards are rarely without their little patients suffering from scalds and burns received in the kitchen, the dining room, the sitting room. Some of them die; others are disfigured or crippled for life.

And all because inquisitive baby fingers reached up and pulled the flex of an electric jug, or grabbed the pretty red bars of an electric heater, or took a fancy to a red-hot coal in an open fire, or clutched at a hot stove.

## SECURITY OR DANGER, IT RESTS WITH YOU

Surely the toddler is entitled to safety in his own home, in the rooms where he plays.

You can give it to him this way: Guard your radiators and open fires. Your electric flexes and jugs, your pots and pans on stoves should be out of reach of young fingers. Razor blades, knives, scissors, pins, needles, should be kept in a safe place. So should matches, poisons, cleaning fluids, caustic soda, etc. When bathing baby, always put the cold water in first. Toddlers learn by touching, trying and sampling. But see that they do it the safe way.

**KEEP PREVENTABLE ACCIDENTS OUT OF YOUR HOME**

FOR A HEALTHIER NATION