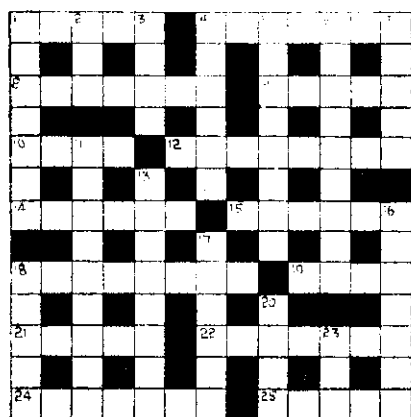


THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

(No. 238: Constructed by R.W.C.)



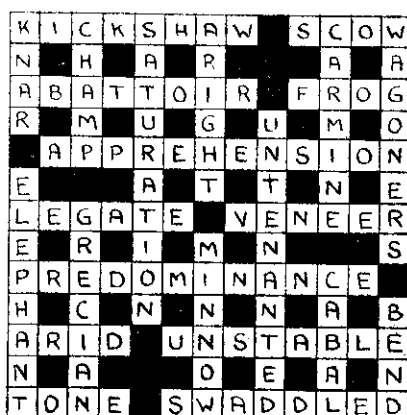
Clues Across

1. "Of the making of many — there is no end . . ." (Ecclesiastes).
4. Motley.
8. Find lie for an unbeliever.
9. I'd removed from 8 across.
10. Composer of the music for "Comus."
12. Her gallant captain was given "three cheers and one cheer more."
14. Assimilate.
15. He may be made to ride, although he's probably more accustomed to write.
18. Ring round cannon near the mouth.
19. An 18 down was the cause of his fall.
21. In rhyming slang, these form part of the stairs.
22. Where the music goes round and round?
24. This triangle is not featured in geometry books.
25. It would take more than one of these guides to make one pistol.

Clues Down

1. Dan is upset under the Scotch bridge.
2. Rather more than half a loaf.
3. Neither back nor front, top nor bottom.
4. The friend on the cover is very pale.
5. Mere lads offer you jewels.
6. Ted ran off—evidently insulted.
7. Shelter on a point of the compass—this is stupid!
11. Appropriate dream for a grim thane.
13. In a couple of donkeys you have a hired killer.
16. You know the hymn "As pants the hart," but have you ever seen a —?
17. In the song, we are exhorted to roll it out.
18. In the plural, this fruit forms the first half of the rhyming slang referred to in 21 across.
20. Inverted saucepans come to rest.
23. No score.

(Answer to No. 237)



(continued from previous page)

anyone except those fans who remembered that Cary Grant's real name is Archibald Leach.

And so on. This sort of thing is, as I say, more legitimate in a picture like *The Princess and the Pirate* than in any other kind, and in this case it is actually the source of a great deal of innocent merriment. But taking one thing with another, it is perhaps not going too far to suggest that Hollywood producers must be running rather dangerously short of worthwhile ideas and material when they fall back so often on these artificial methods of appeal.

THE CLIMAX

(Universal)

IF it is true that the target of the average film producer is the 14-year-old intelligence, then it is equally true that in this case Universal Pictures have lowered the range by a good ten years. Designed as a harum-scarum shocker with technicoloured trappings, and embellished with snatches of Chopin and Schubert (snatches is the right word: the composers are not acknowledged), *The Climax* presents Boris Karloff as a mad doctor who has already strangled and embalmed one prima donna and tries to silence another (Susanna Foster) by hypnotising the voice out of her. Since Miss Foster really has quite a good soprano voice, this is pure prejudice, but what with Dr. Karloff moping round the opera house and turning up at rehearsals, and the love-sick attentions of one of the silliest-looking leading men in screen history (Turhan Bey), she never has a chance to do herself justice.

Coming so soon after *The Phantom of the Opera*, of which it is so obviously such a poor imitation, this film would have been much more appropriately entitled *The Anti-Climax*.

HYPODERMIC REVELS



An anaesthetic which puts patients into a drunken sleep with few after-effects is being used in Russia, says an American review of Soviet medicine. The anaesthetic consists almost entirely of alcohol and is administered by injections . . . When the patient awakes he is irrational for a period and has to be watched. About 6 per cent of patients have hangovers and 4 per cent have headaches.—News item.

THE anaesthetic principles

Of Russian operations
Are undergoing really
Fascinating transformations.
How thrilling for a patient who
Has sufferings stomachic
To enter temporary sleep
Induced by revels Bacchic!

BUT, think of the awakening from
The orgy alcoholic!
Would pretty, white-capped nurses soothe
The headache diabolic?
Or would they raise Slav eyebrows in
Severe disapprobation
Of the slow return to normal after
Sweet inebriation?

IT all sounds so delightful that
There's bound to be a catch.
Does Matron draw the cork and say
"Now, Ivan, down the hatch"?
Or does she merely answer when
The patient's weary voice
Asks for whisky, beer or vodka
"Little Father, there's no choice"?

WHEN you look into this matter
there's
The sobering reflection
That the dosage is administered
By means of an injection.
There are methods much more simple
and
Enjoyable by far;
I'd rather take my liquor in the
Comfort of a bar.

—E.R.B.

AMERICAN SOCIETY BEAUTY



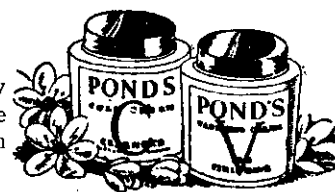
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