

(continued from previous page)

of the early German school of cinematography. They are perhaps the highlight of the film; though I should like to speak a warm word of praise for the performance of Dick Powell, who has clearly all along been missing his vocation as an actor by trying to be a singer, and for that of Claire Trevor, who is one of the nicest exponents of feminine nastiness on the screen.

## THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE

(RKO-RADIO)

**SIR ARTHUR WING PIN-ERO'S** play about a homely spinster and a disfigured returned soldier who, looking at one another with the eyes of true love, see themselves as beautiful, has here been brought up to date with a World War II. setting and sensitive performances by Dorothy McGuire and Robert Young. Many people will find the film intensely moving, and I hope I shall not hurt anybody's feelings by saying that I found it disappointing and even rather sickly. I am sorry to have to say this, because the acting of the principals is pretty good all through and occasionally quite outstanding. Even Herbert Marshall, though suffering soulfully as usual (in the role of the blind pianist), is also rather more convincing than usual; and I liked Mildred Natwick as Mrs. Minett, the psychic housekeeper. For another thing, the central theme is a more profound one than Hollywood normally tackles, and any film of which that can be said should perhaps receive all possible encouragement. (After all, a deliberately unglamorous heroine is undoubtedly a novelty, though one must not overlook the point that she is not required to remain unglamorous all the time. I wonder if the film would be so popular if she were?)

And yet, somehow, it doesn't quite come off. Where there should be enchantment in the story there is only technical efficiency; where there should be inspiration in the camerawork and settings there is only orthodoxy of treatment. And was it really the magic of true love that caused the hero and heroine to be "transfigured by a power beyond this world"—or was it only the make-up artist and the hairdresser who did it? Perhaps those are not altogether fair questions, and yet if the film succeeded in creating the right atmosphere such questions would not even suggest themselves. *The Enchanted Cottage* is a highly-efficient tear-jerker, but it is not much more.

## ENGLISH WITHOUT TEARS

(Two Cities)

**THIS** British comedy is of same type as *Quiet Wedding* and *Demi-Paradise*, in that it pokes satirical fun at the English character and particularly at the English attitude to foreigners. But this time I am afraid the joke misses fire rather badly. There are some bright patches, particularly at the beginning, when an English delegation to the League of Nations in Geneva presents a resolution demanding protection for British migratory birds and, quite oblivious to the sensation that is being caused, creates the impression that Britain is demanding more territory, not to mention oil concessions! This is clever farce, but neither the cast, the director, nor the script-writer can keep it up. When they try they succeed only in labouring the point.

## NATIONAL FILM UNIT

THE manufacture in New Zealand of bags, grips and every variety of luggage is the subject of one of the items in the Weekly Review from the National Film Unit, released on November 30. This reel also includes "U.S. Flagship in Auckland" and "H.M.S. Newfoundland in Lyttelton."

## Literary Award



Spencer Digby photograph

A recent photograph of Miss Stella Morice whose "Book of Wiremu," published last year, has made her the first recipient of the Esther Glen Award given by the Council of the New Zealand Libraries' Association. The purpose of the award, which carries with it a gold

medal, is to recognise outstanding work in the writing and production of New Zealand books for boys and girls; the purpose of the name to commemorate the work of Esther Glen, a pioneer in children's journalism. "The Book of Wiremu," which has run through one edition and is about to appear again, was first printed serially in "The Listener."

## "Rambles With a Botanist"

THE morning talk to be heard from 2YA at 11.0 a.m. on Tuesday, December 4, will be "Rambles With a Botanist," by Rewa Glenn, who has discovered that hunting for lichens to make dyes is a pleasant and useful pastime. Not only can she tell us how to find dye-yielding lichens on our own rocks and shady banks, but she has also found out some interesting things about the uses of lichens in other lands for reindeer fodder in the far north, and soup for Eskimos and Laplanders in the winter, lichen jelly in Iceland, and so on.

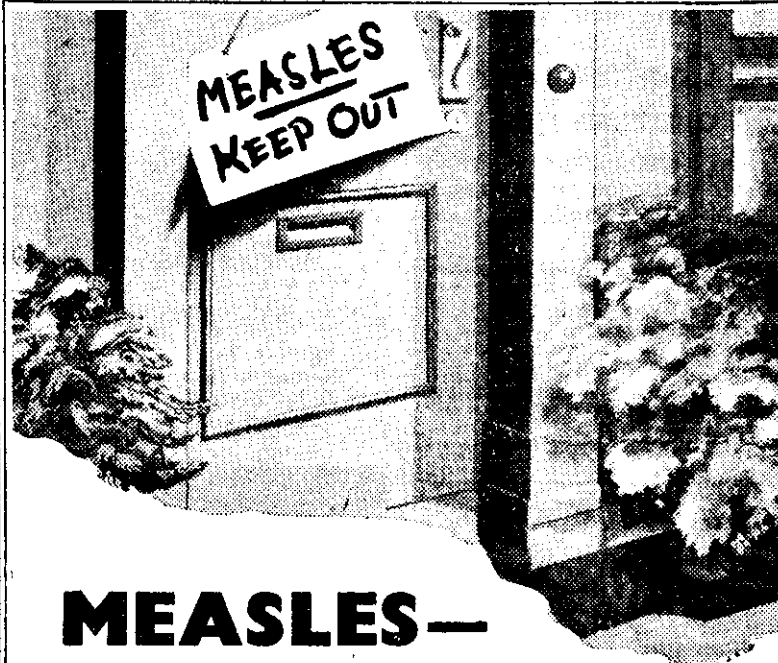
## Work As Usual

**GEORGE BERNARD SHAW**, as he entered his 90th year, adopted an un-Shavian silence and refused to make a birthday pronouncement. He declared that he planned to work as usual, would not be home to callers, and hoped no misguided well-wishers would bother him on the telephone.

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## MEASLES— Watch Out for the Danger Signs!

This highly infectious disease of childhood is on the warpath again.

If your child has what looks like a dose of influenza—nose-running, often a sore throat, coughing and sneezing bouts, reddened eyes—**Immediately suspect measles and act**—particularly if there are reports of measles in your locality.

That means bed at once—in a warm, well ventilated room—**AND COMPLETE ISOLATION**. Then call the doctor.

In the "influenza" stage—before the rash appears—measles is highly infectious. This stage usually lasts for three days, and on the fourth day the tell-tale rash shows up.

By putting the child to bed you ensure his timely treatment, and you keep him from infecting others.

● **Treatment in bed involves:** A warm sponge down daily, avoidance of constipation, and keeping the patient from facing the light. If the eyes become sore bathe with boracic acid lotion two or three times daily. If temperature runs high, give four-hourly tepid sponges. Relieve an irritating cough by steam inhalation with Friar's Balsam (one teaspoon to a pint of water). Serve a very light diet with plenty of orange, lemon or rose hip syrup drinks.

And don't let the patient out of bed too soon—at least **Ten Days in bed is necessary from the onset**. This will mean a quick and safe convalescence.

## THE REAL DANGER OF MEASLES LIES IN POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS

KEEP THIS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

7b

FOR A HEALTHIER NATION

