

# HIGHLIGHTS ON THE SHORTWAVE BAND

## The BBC Pacific Service

THE BBC's Pacific Service, which is broadcast every day from 5.0 p.m. until 9.0 p.m., is being heard just now at good strength, and many interesting and entertaining programmes can be enjoyed by listeners tuning in to any one of the BBC Pacific Service wave-lengths in the 41, 31, 25, and 19-metre bands.

### Frequencies, Wave-lengths and Times of Transmission:

GRM	-	-	7.12 m/c	42.13 metres	-	5.0 p.m. - 7.45 p.m.
GVZ	-	-	9.64 m/c	31.12 metres	-	5.0 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.
GRX	-	-	9.69 m/c	30.96 metres	-	5.0 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.
GWH	-	-	11.80 m/c	25.42 metres	-	5.0 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.
GSN	-	-	11.82 m/c	25.38 metres	-	5.0 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.
GSP	-	-	15.31 m/c	19.60		
GWE	-	-	15.435 m/c	19.44		

Two special features in this week's programmes are: "Window in Europe—Belgium," and "Voyages of Discovery—Who Discovered America?" Stanley Maxted, BBC War Correspondent, and Brigid Maas, BBC Feature Producer, recently toured Belgium and recorded what they saw and heard concerning the reconstruction of that country. "Who Discovered America?" is a programme stating the claims of four Norsemen for that honour, from a script by Paul Dehn, based on the sagas.

**Typical Programmes for the Current Week:** Cricket, Gentlemen v. Players, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 7.15 p.m.; On the Land (talk), Saturday, 7.45 p.m.; Science Notebook, Wednesday, 5.15 p.m.; The Science of House Building, Friday, 6.15 p.m.; This is London—St. Marylebone, Friday, 5.30 p.m.; Voyages of Discovery, Thursday, 6.45 p.m.; Window in Europe, Thursday, 5.30 p.m.

Film Reviews by G.M.

# SPEAKING CANDIDLY

## ROUGHLY SPEAKING

(Warner Bros.)



THAT title is a temptation: a film called *Roughly Speaking* seems to be simply asking for summary treatment, especially in a column headed up as this one is. However, I am inclined to speak fairly tenderly about it. For one thing, it is clear that everybody connected with the production enjoyed the job, and also felt that they deserved well of their country and their studio. Again, there are not many films which deal with the business of *being* married instead of with the process of *getting* married; and there are fewer still in which a married couple is seen with more than one or two children. Since *Roughly Speaking* is almost wholly concerned with the post-marital career of its heroine, and since she acquires five children more or less as a matter of course, it will be realised that this is, in some ways, a rather unusual film. Added to all this is the fact that Rosalind Russell gets

the opportunity to give a spirited and agreeable performance, part comic, part serious, and very much alive.

Possibly the fact that it is based on an autobiography makes the story seem rather more true to life than the average Hollywood fabrication. That the film is also a propagandist document in favour of "the American way of life," with the emphasis on the virtues of rugged individualism and private initiative, may not escape the notice of some people—but how many, I wonder, will notice how badly the propaganda misses fire?

Louise Randall Pierson (Rosalind Russell) is presented to us as a housewife of strong character, indomitable optimism, and unquenchable humour. She is, in many ways, an admirable person—but she is also a stupid one, for she cheerfully battles her way through the vicissitudes of 50 years, patiently proclaiming the advantages of the "American way of life," without apparently being aware that a good many of her misfortunes were directly the outcome of certain aspects of that



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