



CLIFTON WEBB
"I taught Mr. Houdini"

have been around Saigon before with Alan Ladd will recognise the atmosphere. The promise of violence hangs like a thundercloud over the film until Mr. Powell comes to grips with his quarry, gives him the old one-two, and retires to the States with the girl. I've seen melodramas that were worse, but I've seen Dick Powell in several films that were much better. And I dislike seeing a reasonably good actor being typed as a genteel thug. One doesn't mind Van Johnson stripping off his singlet once in every picture, as a recognition-signal, but there's no need for Powell to beat someone into insensibility every time he appears before the cameras.

"MY HERO" (M.G.M.)

MOST of the jokes in this Red Skelton show have got a bit dog-eared in the filing-cabinet, but those who enjoy the star's highly personal brand of farce will find enough dumb clowning to compensate for deficiencies in the dialogue and complement the frantic nonsense of the script. The time is 1865 and the place St. Louis, but neither is of much significance; the general formula is unvarying.

NATIONAL FILM UNIT

WEEKLY Review No. 407, which will be released by the National Film Unit on June 24, contains the following news items: "Gramophone Records"—a glimpse of an industry new to New Zealand; "Amphibious Tow," showing new hydro condensers for Auckland's electricity supply moving by waterway instead of roadway on account of their great weight; "School's Big Day," an item from Marton; "Steeplejacks" at work in Wellington, and "Flying Sheep," showing a whole flock of stud sheep moving by air from the South Island to the North.

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AN EMINENT GATHERING

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