

is robustly masculine as the song-writer. Of the two nuns I preferred Celeste Holm, who with very little to say, seemed able to convey in every small glance the pure sincerity and grace which creates much of the film's appeal. The Roman Catholic atmosphere is not unduly emphasised, although the story was by Clare Boothe Luce, a recent convert to that faith.

SORROWFUL JONES

(Paramount)

WHEN six re-write men are allowed to have a go at a Damon Runyon short story, no one should be surprised that the result bears little resemblance to the original. In this case it doesn't matter much, since the addition of Bob Hope ensures there will be a laugh in almost every line. His performance as Sorrowful Jones, the miserly book-maker, is one of his quieter efforts in drollery, and includes one of the slowest double-takes he has ever put across—while he gleefully counts up the takings of bets placed on a sure-to-lose outsider named Dreamy Joe, his assistant tells him it has won, and it is quite some time before he realises he has to pay back all that money and a lot more.

Nevertheless, the comedy of this film (as distinct from the sentiment, which is Runyon's) is in the authentic Hope manner. That is a measure of the picture's uncertainty; it can't decide whether it is featuring Runyon or Hope. The opening sequence is a short photographic survey of Broadway with an unseen narrator declaiming, "This is the street Damon Runyon loved, peopling it with his dolls and guys," etc., but the sight of Bob ambling along the pavement, taking a bet here and making a wisecrack there immediately raises a doubt whether it is to be a burlesque or the real thing. Later the bookie's customers watch the races on a television set, yet a more or less authentic period note is evoked by the costumes, songs, and general atmosphere of the piece. However, as might be expected, Hope wins by a long nose in the end, and few are likely to remember that this is a remake of the film in which Shirley Temple became a juvenile star overnight, 'way back in 1934.

The Ideal Wife

SHOULD a wife be so beautiful that Other Men are attracted to her? Do New Zealanders prefer their wives to be "heavily upholstered" or of the "lean and hungry" type? Do small men like big women? These are some of the questions discussed in the latest session of 22B's *Citizens' Forum*, which has been recorded for broadcast at 7.0 p.m. on Sunday, October 9. The subject is called "What is Your Idea of the Ideal Wife?" and the speakers are Anton Vogt, John Morris, and James Delahunty, with Pat Macaskill (whose photograph appears on page 25), in the chair. All are married men themselves, so they can be expected to speak with authority on this ticklish problem. Theories about the ideal wife vary considerably, of course, and the individuals in this discussion are given plenty of opportunity to air their own particular views. The ability to cook, a certain tolerance and an emotional and mental sympathy with the husband are some of the qualities eventually thrashed out as necessary in this entertaining session.

No hill too high No place too far with PLUME

