



ANTHONY QUINN  
"Swaggering, shouting, laughing, swilling"

Film Reviews, by F.A.J.

## ONE MAN SHOW

RIDE, VAQUERO!

(M.G.M.)

I DON'T often see Westerns these days, but it always pleases me that I can still enjoy them, and I hope I shall go on enjoying the odd classic like *Stagecoach* or *High Noon* as often as it is revived. I mention this partly because a friend said the other day he intends to see no more of these fairy tales which he finds so much less interesting than the times they misrepresent. A more telling objection could probably be built around their easy acceptance of violence; but if it's fairy tales you object to I think Westerns are, at any rate, more innocuous than pre-fabricated day-dreams about present-day American life.

*Ride, Vaquero!* which is in Ansco colour and directed by John Farrow, is no Western classic, but here and there it makes effective use of several of the old ingredients; and it includes an exciting performance by Anthony Quinn as the villain. The story is about the efforts of a young couple (Howard Keel and Ava Gardner) to establish a ranch in country which Mr. Quinn and his band of Mexicans consider their dominion. Among the ingredients I've mentioned are some of the beautiful long shots one expects in a Western, plenty of horses, an exciting raid and chase or two, and lots of gun play. Considering the spot they're in, Mr. Keel and Miss Gardner look pretty normal most of the time, and as for the other star, Robert Taylor—he looks about, forever unsmiling, through half-closed eyes, and is much given to a sort of fatalistic philosophising in a voice which might have been specially created for the echo chamber. One gathers he knows all too well that it was laid down at the First Cause that Miss Gardner would kiss him and he would slap her face.

### BAROMETER

FAIR: "Ride, Vaquero!"

OVERCAST: "This Woman is Dangerous."

and that after that it's only a matter of time before guns blaze simultaneously in the bar-room.

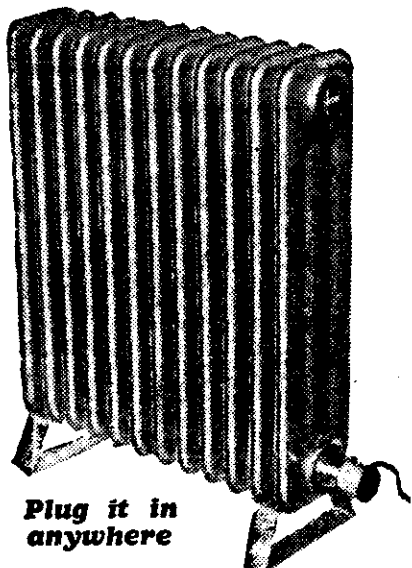
But don't let Mr. Taylor put you off. Mr. Quinn's name may be in smaller type and his part may be a bit over-written; but swaggering and shouting, laughing like Mephistopheles and swilling his wine as though *The Lost Weekend* had never been written or filmed, he carries the show magnificently. Mr. Quinn is an actor—as you probably guessed if you saw him in *The Brave Bulls* or *Viva Zapata!*

### THIS WOMAN IS DANGEROUS

(Warner Bros.)

*THIS WOMAN IS DANGEROUS* is a part thriller, part hospital romance. "This woman" is Joan Crawford as Beth Austin, a woman with a past who, with two gun-toting brothers (David Brian and Philip Carey), is operating as a big-time crook. Crime seems to be getting on her nerves a bit as the first reel gets under way, and when she lets Dr. Hallek (Denis Morgan) perform a very dicey operation in an effort to save her failing sight she begins to see the light. But she still feels she owes a lot to Mr. Brian for his help in the past, and he's

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