#### MISS SADIE THOMPSON

(Columbia)

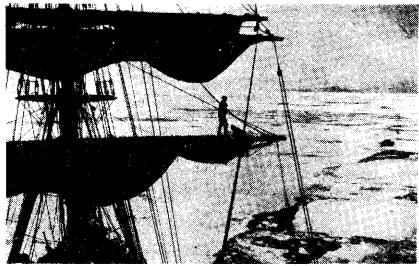
HAVE never quite got over my disappointment at missing the orgy of sin which Joan Crawford seemed to promise from every hoarding when she appeared (how many years ago?) in Somerset Maugham's Rain, and now that I have seen Rita Hayworth in the same part I feel even more curious about Miss Crawford — and about Gloria Swanson before her. I haven't read the Maugham original, but as a woman with a past whom a mission leader named Davidson rescues, and rapes, Sadie Thompson should, I feel, be a part calling for a certain amount of genuine emotion. Miss Hayworth, who might be quite good fun throwing all this energy into a different sort of story, plays it most of the way at musical comedy level; and the scenes, particularly the climactic one, where José Ferrer, as Davidson, manages faintly to suggest that there's more to it than that, are so brief that they never come near establishing a serious tone. I don't blame Miss Hayworth entirely, either, I've a feeling that, even without her, the South Sea setting, the Marines and the thousands of feet of colour film waiting to be spoiled (not that all of it is), would have gone to everyone's head.

#### FLIGHT TO TANGIER

(Paramount)

FLIGHT TO TANGIER is a mildly entertaining piece, though when I get down to motives I've really only the eaguest idea what it is all about. This isn't completely contradictory. having decided what side you're on you can enjoy the big chase without asking questions. This chase takes the form of a flight, by car and on foot, not to but from Tangier, with Jack Palance. Corinne Calvet and Joan Fontaine pursued by crooks and police. The best parts of this are very exciting, with the three principals, all giving a good acthemselves-there's ample scope for Mr. Palance's dynamic style, and, since a girl must keep cool somehow, there's opportunity for Miss Calvet to display her lovely form, even when a fugitive in the desert. You may ask what Mr. Palance is going to do with two women, and I think he's troubled by that himself before the end, even though Miss Calvet is a bit of a two-timerslightly schizo, I'd say. Unhappily for one of them he never has to make up

### UNCONQUERED CONTINENT.



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ANTARCTICA, the great island of ice, waited for centuries before men solved the riddle of its existence. When its whereabouts was known, it waited generations again to feel the tread of the first foot, and years more before men journeyed at great hazard to its centre. Now it waits patiently for its discoverers to find some way to put its land to use.

Neville Friedlander, a young Australian writer, has written a feature about Antarctica which opens with a vivid description of this last and loneliest Continent: "Picture yourself for a moment at the southernmost tip of the world. You are in the centre of a great plateau of ice rising ten thousand feet above the level of the sea. Travel over this vast blanket of ice and pass with it through steep mountain openings as it falls slowly towards the sea. For a moment, the ground is flat and the massive sheet of ice lies even. Suddenly, there are huge cracks in the earth and the ice drops sharply . . . now, the ice runs straight again and forms a frozen plain. Twelve hundred miles from its starting-point, the great dome of ice slides into the sea, sending pieces of its body tumbling out across the water."

Four hundred years before the birth of Christ, Greek philosophers had calculated that there must be land at the bottom of the Globe. They called the Arctic after Arktos, the Constellation of the Great Bear. What better name to give its opposite than Anti-Arktos? But it was seventeen hundred years after Christ that Cook caught the first glimpse of the Great South Land. Since then, Antarctica has seen great epics of exploration—the expeditions of Bellingshausen, Ross, Amundsen, Shackleton, Scott, Byrd—and there has lately been talk of another American expedition and also of a Commonwealth one.

What is the future importance of Antarctica—economically? Politically? Listeners to 1YA at 8.0 p.m. on Thursday, October 28, will hear those questions discussed in the NZBS production, by Alan Morris, of Antarctica—The Unconquered Continent.

The illustration shows the Antarctic packice—photographed from the masthead of the Terra Nova.



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