BAROMETER

FAIR TO FINE: "Cyrano de Bergerac," OVERCAST: "The Magic Face."

ment consoles us for our own. In the pursuit of happiness we are almost all of us beaten by a nose,

THE MAGIC FACE

(Columbia)

THERE have been many occasions when I have seen indifferent films for want of anything better to look at, but it was simply crass carelessness (and House Full notices) that landed me with The Magic Face on the Saturday after Anzac Day. This fantastic melodrama describes how a wronged husband (by a lucky chance he was also a stage impersonator) managed to murder Hitler in 1940, stepped into the Fuehrer's jackboots while they were still warm, and by pertinaciously making all the wrong military decisions succeeded, by 1945, in bringing the entire Third Reich down about his ears. Luther Adler, as Janus the Great, provides a noteworthy impersonation of Luther Adler impersonating Hitler, but the most remarkable contribution to the film is that of William L. Shirer, as narrator and apologist for the story. His Berlin Diary is now demoted to the bottom of my bookcase.

Between Prison and Freedom

RECENTLY appointed regional probation officer in Auckland, P. K. Mayhew, an M.A. (Oxon.), who did a postgraduate course in probation work at the London School of Economics, is to deliver two talks on 2YA's Women's Hour on May 12 and 19. The Work of a Probation Officer is not concerned simply with probation work from the career angle, but with the question of how the criminal is to be treated by society. Mr. Mayhew is most concerned with the problem of rehabilitation and points out that at present the man or woman released from prison is not sufficiently prepared for return to normal life. The part which probation can play as a practical intermediary stage between prison and freedom is something which, Mr. Mayhew feels, has been disregarded by the public. In consequence, he says, one of the best known methods of meeting the crime problem, and one of the most basic remedies, is unfortunately neglected. Mr. Mayhew's interest in his work is evident in these talks and listeners who hear them will understand why he can say that probationary work is, for him, "so infinitely worthwhile." Listeners who are interested in this method of lessening "anti-social activities," but are unable to hear the talks from 2YA, will have an opportunity to hear them when they are broadcast by other National stations later in the year.

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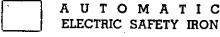
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