



THE QUEEN ON THE BALCONY
"The pavements glisten with rain"

colour (Warnercolor) is often better, the camera-work is occasionally more original, and the spoken narration (by Leo Genn) easier to hear. As a result, both films can be seen without loss of interest. Nevertheless, *Elizabeth is Queen* loses through its more prosaic commentary, written by John Pudney, and by spending less time inside the Abbey. Neither film shows the most sacred part of the ceremony, the anointing.

In both films the camera records many intimate and amusing incidents among the audience, and those who participate in the ceremony. Field-Marshal Montgomery is picked out in the crowd, peering over his spectacles. Winston Churchill nods and chubbily smiles, the massed rows of peers shuffle and adjust their coronets. In the gallery of the Abbey Prince Charles appears for a brief time, between

his grandmother and aunt, and looks down on the ceremony with apparent boredom. When the peers pay their homage to the Queen the Duke of Edinburgh knocks her crown slightly askew, and she demurely straightens it; the Duke of Gloucester stumbles and almost falls as he backs away down the steps from the throne.

In *A Queen is Crowned* special music was written by Guy Warrack and played by the London Symphony Orchestra under the supervision of Sir Malcolm Sargent. In *Elizabeth is Queen* the official music for the Abbey ceremony was played by the London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sir Adrian Boult.

Film Gradings

GRADINGS of films reviewed in *The Listener* during the first six months of 1953 are summarised below:

FINE: *Limelight* (31.1.53), *The Card* (6.2.53), *The Quiet Man* (20.3.53), *Miss Julie*, *High Noon* (15.5.53), *Cry, the Beloved Country*, *The Story of Gilbert and Sullivan* (19.6.53).

FAIR TO FINE: *Pat and Mike* (23.1.53), *Ivanhoe* (6.2.53), *Carrie* (27.2.53), *Unwanted Women* (13.3.53), *The Sound of Fury* (27.3.53), *Where's Charley* (2.4.53), *O. Henry's Full House*

(17.4.53), *Manon, Paris, 1900* (22.5.53), *Hans Christian Andersen* (12.6.53). *A Queen is Crowned*, *Elizabeth is Queen* (26.6.53).

FAIR: *Hotel Sahara* (9.1.53), *The Greatest Show on Earth*, *The Story of Robin Hood* (16.1.53), *Because You're Mine* (23.1.53), *Home at Seven* (30.1.53), *Scaramouche* (13.2.53), *The Sniper* (20.2.53), *Encore* (27.2.53), *What Price Glory* (6.3.53), *The Blue Veil* (13.3.53), *The Prisoner of Zenda* (20.3.53), *My Six Convicts*, *Anything Can Happen* (27.3.53), *Dreamboat* (2.4.53), *The Model and the Marriage Broker*, *The Devil Makes Three* (10.4.53), *The Changing of the Guard* (17.4.53), *The Bad and the Beautiful* (1.5.53).

MAINLY FAIR: *The Marrying Kind* (13.2.53), *Fearless Fagan* (20.2.53), *Derby Day* (6.3.53), *The Snows of Kilimanjaro* (24.4.53), *A Girl in Every Port* (1.5.53), *Plymouth Adventure*, *The Marriage of Figaro* (8.5.53), *Son of Paleface* (29.5.53), *Just for You* (5.6.53), *Young Bess* (19.6.53).

OVERCAST: *Carbine Williams* (9.1.53), *Meet Me Tonight* (24.4.53), *Man in the Dark* (8.5.53), *House of Wax* (29.5.53), *Affair in Trinidad* (5.6.53), *Fort Ti* (12.6.53).

DULL: *The Merry Widow* (13.3.53), *Bwana Devil* (22.5.53).

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