

# Tele-Visions

BY THORTON KANE

**THAT MARTIN MAGIC**—A middle-aged woman of small good looks a couple of weeks ago became the embodiment of the boy who never grew up, "Peter Pan." Mary Martin's magic, whatever its source, made for one of the truly delightful shows of the season. She was Peter Pan. Adding to her convincing portrayal of the boy from Never-Never Land, was the charming script, a lilting score, and the unexcelled Martin voice.

While on the subject of "Peter Pan," much praise should be awarded to Cyril Ritchard. His "Captain Hook" emerged as a villainous, though entertaining, pirate, jealous of the boys who had Wendy to mother them, explaining his dark plots to the music of a tango or tarantella, and finally going to his doom by walking the plank. In this case, walking the plank was actually a fast schuss down a slide inspired by a children's playground.

Children, of course, must have enjoyed "Peter Pan" more than their elders, but it was a welcome sight to a good many older eyes. There are still a good many of us who have an occasional yearning for a story with heroes that are all good and villains that are all bad and invariably get their just desserts.

**WELL WHADAYA KNOW**—KTLA's tv coverage of the Rose Parade, on Jan. 2, will start with Pre-Parade activities at 7:00 a.m. . . . Don Taylor, who has done practically no acting since he took up directing reins, will co-star with Dick Powell in "Silent Sentry" seg of Zane Grey Theater . . . George Gobel will film his new pilot, a family situation series, in Feb.—but no cast has yet been set . . . CBS-TV will bring back "Sports Spectacular" on Jan. . . The 90-min. show consists of all types of sports not before seen on tv . . . Frankie Avalon is in town to film a "My Sister Eileen" episode . . . Alfred Hitchcock talked Tony Perkins into tv-debuting on his "Presents" show, in a specially written script with Hitch directing. Andy Williams will have his 3 brothers as guests on his May 7 NBC spec. They all used to be billed as the Williams Brothers of the Kay Thompson act . . . "Hollywood and the Movies," tv documentary will network air in Feb., with Gene Kelly doing the narrating . . . Rory Calhoun, back from Europe, is prepping his new tv series "Tangiers" . . . NBC-TV will air portions of Bob Hope's Christmas shows, given for troops in the Caribbean area, on Jan. 11 . . . "O'Conner's Ocean," the John Payne pilot aired Dec. 13, was mediocre enough to get on as a regular—judging from the normally bad programming being done lately! . . . "Mister Ed," the Alan Young series, will debut Jan. 6 on KRCA . . . Desilu is ready to start filming a half-hour comedy telefilm series about the home life of a professional baseball player. Story is taken from "The Long Season," a book by Cincinnati Redlegs pitcher Jim Brosnan . . . Jan. 10, NBC-TV will air "Tribute to a Patriot," an hour-long spec on the life and career of President Eisenhower. James Stewart is set as narrator . . . Remember Billy Gilbert? of sneezing fame in movies. He'll go dramatic for the first time in "Coney Red Hots" seg of Warners "The Roaring 20's" . . . "Route 66" will definitely roll right through the summer months, thanks to General Motors confidence in the show . . . Darren McGavin is going to take a whirl at directing—his first being a "Death Valley Days."



**PALS**—Ole Svenson strikes up a fast friendship with Blitzen, one of the reindeer at Santa's Village. Ole will be on hand to welcome the jolly gentleman, who'll make a special

visit to Dick Sinclair's "Polka Parade" Christmas telecast, Sunday, Dec. 25, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Channel 5.



**G.E. THEATER**—Harry Townes portrays one of the wise men searching for Christ in "The Other Wise Man," tonight on Channel 2 at 9:00 p.m.

## HOLIDAY FEATURES ON KTTV

"Anchors Aweigh," starring Frank Sinatra, Kathryn Grayson and Gene Kelly will be the first presentation of Channel Eleven's "Holiday Hall of Fame" program of film classics when it screens today Christmas Day, Dec. 25, at 6:30 p.m.

In planning the holiday blockbuster program of seven all-time-great MGM hits, KTTV enlisted the aid of the viewing public, requesting them to write in their recommendations for the seven pictures they most wanted to see from a list of 18.

Other films selected, and the days they will be shown, are:

- Monday, Dec. 26, 7:30 p.m. — "They Were Expendable," with Robert Montgomery, John Wayne and Donna Reed.
- Tuesday, Dec. 27, 7:30 p.m. — "Northwest Passage," with Spencer Tracy, Robert Young and Ruth Hussey.
- Wednesday, Dec. 28, 7:30 p.m. — "The Postman Always Rings Twice," with John Garfield and Lana Turner.
- Thursday, Dec. 29, 7:30 p.m. — "Gaslight," with Ingrid Bergman, Charles Boyer and Joseph Cotten.
- Friday, Dec. 30, 7:30 p.m. — "Honky Tonk," with Clark

Gable and Lana Turner. Saturday, Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. — "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," with Van Johnson and Spencer Tracy.

KTTV is departing from its regular programming for one week to present these seven films as a holiday special.

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Christmas will mean so much more to you if you attend the special services at the church of your choice with your family. Hear once again the beautiful story of His birth; join in singing the lovely carols and hymns; pause to reflect on the true meaning of this Holy Season.

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