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TWO CITIES FILMS

Producers of









NOW GIVE YOU ...

TOPOS IS THE SPUR

WITH

MICHAEL REDGRAVE

And a Cast of Thousands

"Cannot Be Overpraised! A Rare, Great Film!"

-New York Post

"Explosive And Exciting
To The Full!"

-New York Times

"Fascinating Stuff . . . Wonderfully Exciting!"

-The New Yorker

THE STORY OF

A SELLOUT!



FUMO IS THE SPUR

Produced and Directed by

JOHN and ROY BOULTING

Presented by

Edward L. Kingsley

(In Association with Oxford Films)

Distributed through

DISTINGUISHED FILMS, INC.

INTERNATIONAL PREVIEW ACCLAIM!

LONDON EVENING STANDARD:

"A great outstanding British picture ... Redgrave's performance is one of the most brilliant on the screen since the peak days of the silent film!"

LONDON GRAPHIC:

"Not since 'Citizen Kane' has the screen given us anything to compare with!"

SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS:

"Every man who sees this picture will want to re-examine himself."

DAILY WORKER:

"A terrific British film!"

JOSEPH LASH, N. Y. POST:

"A superb psychological study."

FOITH SPUR

"ROUSING DRAMA!"

"THE MOVIES DO NOT PROVOCATIVE THEME SO FORTHRIGHTLY"

"Michael Redgrave
Makes a Real
Character Always
Exciting!"

-New York Sun

EXC/////G

FOITING SPUR

FASCINATING STATE.

WONDERFULLY

Endorsed as

"SUPERIOR ENTERTAINMENT"

By National Organizations Representing

22 MILLION WOMEN!

... Concensus opinion of American Library Association, Protestant Motion Picture Council,
Parent-Teachers' Association, Daughters of American Revolution, General Federation of Women's
Clubs, American Association of University
Women, American Legion Auxiliary,
National Board of Review, National Federation of Women's
Clubs and National Fedration of Music Club.

RATE FOR
THOSE
SEEKING
ADULT
ENTERTAINMENT!

'FIRST

— Variety

'SHOULD PROVE WIDELY FASCINATING!'

— N. Y. Times

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-ame is the spur



Star of "FAME IS THE SPUR"

1 COL. SCENE MAT 1-A

CAST

The Boy Hamer	Anthony Wager
The Boy Ryerson	
The Boy Hannaway	Gerald Fox
Mrs. Radshaw	
Grandpa	
Suddaby	
	Michael Redgrave
Ann	
Tom Hannaway	Bernard Miles
Arnold Ryerson	
Lady Lettice	Carla Lehmann
Old Buck	Sir Seymour Hicks
Lord Liskeard	David Tomlinson
Aunt Lizzie	
Dai	
Magistrate	Milton Rosmer
Pendleton	Wylie Watson

CREDITS

Produced by	John Boulting
Directed by	Roy Boulting
Screenplay by	Nigel Balchin
Based on the novel "Fame Is The Spur" by	Howard Spring
Music Composed by	John Woodbridge
Played by	Philharmonia Orchestra
Cameraman	Gunther Krampf
Running Time	98 minutes

F. Del Guidice in charge of production

A Two Cities Film

SYNOPSIS

"Fame Is The Spur" unfolds a panorama of political England from the industrial unrest of the 1870's to Ramsay MacDonald's first national government. The film is based on Howard Spring's novel of the same name about a boy from a Manchester working district who became a Cabinet minister and eventually a peer.

Hamer Radshaw is a boy of fourteen when the film opens on a barrack-like street in the mill town of Aincoats, Manchester. He lives with his widowed mother, who works in the mill, and his feeble old grandfather, retired on a pension. We see Hamer fired by the power over the crowd of a street orator whose slogan is the words "Bread and Liberty." At home, Hamer gets his grandfather to relate again the story of the Peterloo Riot in 1808, when his sweetheart was killed by dragoons who charged into a crowd marching under the banner with the same words "Bread and Liberty." His grandfather has kept the sword which he knocked out of the hands of one of the soldiers. This sword becomes a talisman and symbol for Hamer.

After finishing his schooling, Hamer is working in a bookshop avidly reading the socialist classics by day and studying by himself at night. He is a serious purposeful young man, earning 10 shillings a week. When his grandfather dies and his pension cut off, Hamer accepts a job with the grocer Hannaway at a five-shilling raise. This job requires him to be up at five in the morning and go to market, to bring back under his own steam, a cart loaded with fruit and vegetables and be a general handyman around the store.

Hamer's aid is enlisted by his friend Arnold Ryerson, a union organizer who is running as Labour candidate for St. Swithin's. Hamer's oratorical fire and genuine enthusiasm seem likely to swing the seat away from its traditional holder, Lord Liskeard. He fails in this, but establishes a reputation for himself. During the campaign, he meets again and marries a young woman of good family, Ann Artingstall, who has been attracted by the Labour cause.

Two years later, Hamer wins the by-election and becomes a Labour M.P. When his friend Ryerson asks him to come and offer encouragement to a group of striking miners, Hamer readily assents. He brings with him his grandfather's sword. Ryerson warns him against a fire-eating speech, telling him the men need only be told that the people in London are aware of their struggle and consider it important. But Hamer, intoxicated by his own oratory, and brandishing the sword, incites them to march against the mine owners. One of the miners is shot down. When Hamer is questioned afterwards by reporters on his part in inciting the riot, he denies he was in any way responsible.

As a Labour member of Parliament, Hamer takes the line of least resistance, shedding old friends when necessary, making new ones, if they can help, as long as it leads to glory and power.

Only his wife Ann really knows him and is unblinded by her deep love. He resents her suffragist activities, which shame his own opportunism. But she is true to her ideals and goes to prison for them. Her self-imposed hunger strike accelerates her end and on her deathbed, she reveals to her husband the feeling that he had not been acting on principle.

When Labor comes to power, Hamer joins the Cabinet. Vanity and adulation is too rich a diet. When Labor joins its opponents to form a National Government, Hamer throws over any remaining principles to retain his high position. At the next election he is rejected. Losing his seat he accepts a peerage, and becomes Lord Radshaw.

Closing scenes show Hamer an old man, addressing the Lord Mayor's banquet and avowing he has stuck to his principles throughout his life. As some of the past flashes through his mind, his mind wanders and he fails to make sense. The film ends on the symbolic note of the old man struggling in vain to draw the sword from the scabbard in which it has rusted.



ROSAMUND JOHN in "FAME IS THE SPUR"

1 COL. SCENE MAT 1-B

READER

"Fame Is The Spur," British film version of Howard Spring's best-seller novel of the same name, starring Michael Redgrave and Rosamund John, will have its local premiere.

at the ...

Theatre.

Fillipo del Guidice, who was responsible for "Hamlet," "Henry V" and "In Which We Serve," supervised production of "Fame Is The Spur." It was directed by Roy Boulting and produced by John Boulting for Two Cities Films.

The film tells the story of a gifted political leader who traded his principles for personal success.

A distinguished cast was assembled to support the star Michael Redgrave, including Rosamund John, Bernard Miles, Carla Lehmann, Marjorie Fielding, Sir Seymour Hicks and Anthony Wager, who played the boy "Pip" in "Great Expectations."

Nigel Balchin, whose novel "The Borgia Testament" was just published here, wrote the screenplay. The Howard Spring novel was a Literary Guild selection, and was serialized in "Redbook Magazine."



MICHAEL REDGRAVE and ROSAMUND JOHN
in "FAME IS THE SPUR."
2 COL SCENE MAT 2-A

READER

Michael Redgrave and Rosamund John, who are co-starred in "FAME IS THE SPUR," current at the

Theatre, were co-starred in Britain's biggest box-office success "Way To The Stars." American audiences have seen them co-starred in "Thunder Rock," which like "FAME IS THE SPUR" was produced and directed by Roy and John Boulting.

Redgrave's fame as an actor led to his importation by Hollywood to appear in "Mourning Becomes Electra" in which he co-starred with Rosalind Russell, and "The Secret Behind The Door," where he appeared with Joan Bennett.

He first came to stardom in the famous Hitchcock thriller, "The Lady Vanishes," which was as popular here as in Britain. Redgrave came to the films from the British stage where he was a leading actor. He resisted film appearances for some time, fearing that he might not be suitable. But Hitchcock convinced him to essay his first movie role and public acceptance did the rest. Emlyn Williams, noted British actor, recently declared in an interview that Sir Laurence Olivier and Michael Redgrave were Britain's greatest actors.



Advertising



THEATRE

Ad Mat No. 201

2 Col. x 115 Lines





STARTS TODAY!-IN MOVIE PLAYS IN PICTURES

Unprecedented Advance Campaign Heralds "FAME" In Chicago!

Chicago

THE U.S. SAT OFFICE DOPPRIGHT SHEET

EVERY DAY IN

THE TRIBUNE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1949

laîln Trîbune

THIS PAPER CONSIDER OF

C FOUR CENTS-PAY NO MORE

MOVIE F "FAME IS THE

SPUR" THE STORY

The struggles and triumphs o a small group of Britisher striving to achieve a politica ideal in the turbulent era, 1880 to 1935. A J. Arthur Ran production, distributed by Eagle-Lion.

THE CAST

Hamer Radshaw . Michael Redgray Hamer (as a boy) ... Wager Ann Rosamund John

Arnold Ryerson, Hugh Burden

At a banquet in his honor, Lord Radshaw of Handforth, born in poverty in a mill town, takes his distinguished guests back thru the pages of political history and of

his own life. . . .

Part 2.

Modern and Victorian

England are contrasted in

this new British film, star-

ring Michael Redgrave and

Rosamund John, with An-

thony Wager and Hugh Bur-

den. Start the photo preview

in "Movie Plays in Pic-

tures" today on Page 11,

2 As a boy, Hamer Radshaw is spell-Z bound by the tale his grandfather tells of his fight to better the lot of working men. He is handed the symbol of the fight, the sword of Peterloo.

The Tribune of Chicago as a track, 12 hours, attracted a sporse reand

and futten almost continuously for the director, J. Edger Honour, have

3 Young Hamer, fired by the story of his grand-father's struggle to form a national Labor party, listens to his first political speech in the small town of Ancoats, Manchester. He is stirred by the words "bread" and "liberty."

4 The years pass and Hamer joins the fight for "bread and liberty." He halve his follows and liberty." He helps his friend, Arnold Ryerson, organize the Labor party. Ryerson is running as St. Swithins' first Labor candidate. Also helping him are Ann and Lizzie (Marjorie Fielding).

5 Arnold is defeated in the election. Hamer decides to be the candidate the next time. He plans his campaign early and asks Ann to be his wife and help him fight to win. She accepts. (Continued tomorrow.)

- www astraddle Cicero av., Brake letture was given as a Washington, Dec. 18-A coallpossible cause of the accident, tion party of Republicans and Disbut company officials later issued lecrets, under a new name, as were

a statement saying, "Preliminary spaced

"FAME IS THE

SPUR": PART 2 WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE At a banquet in his honor, Lord Radshaw of Handforth (Michael Redgrave), born in poverty, takes his guests back thru the pages of his own life. As a small boy (he was Hamer Radshaw then) he was fascinated by his grandfather's story of his fight for the rights of man and was given the sword of Peterloo, a symbol of the struggle. As the years pass he takes an interest in efforts to organize a Labor party in Eng-land. He decides to become the Labor candidate from St. Swithins and asks Ann (Rosamund John) to marry him and help him. She accepts.

MOVIE PLAYS IN PICTURES

After a long, arduous campaign, the election is held at St. Swithins and Hamer Radshaw becomes the Labor party's first member of parliament from that district. Ann (right) is now his wife and they smile over their triumph.

At house, the George T Hortes MacArthur to EVERY DAY IN

2 As Labor's representative, Hamer is asked to address the striking miners in Wales. He makes a brilliant, inflammatory speech, brandishing the symbolic sword that killed his grandfather's sweetheart in a labor disturbance at Peterloo. party policy that Names and nationalities of the

THE TRIBUNE

3 Hamer's speech incites the striking miners to violence.

Hamer leads them in storming the mine property and during a clash with guards one of the miners is killed. Hamer's radicalism brings him considerable notoriety.

4 The 1900s bring the famous Suffragist movement. When Hamer discovers his wife, Ann, has joined the

cause they find themselves in opposing camps. Hamer thinks Ann's activities will harm his political ambitions.

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MILAN POLICE WITH 300 DOCS duplaced the on

the city and pack tinguished from that shown by slup and the tip of its left wing district police departments. Chi- regular guardians of public safety. struck the one story Acme will page firemen, and peast guards in its marked by a special country HAVE BAD TIME the area who were deemed to have | "I have

3 Hamer has risen steadily in politics and in 1924 the first Labor government comes to power. Hamer becomes Sir Hamer Radshaw and minister of internal relations. Gradually his championship of the poor is

that police records would be freely Tower, Chicago 11, iii."

4 Hamer, now Lord Radshaw, falters as he is telling his guests his life story at the banquet in his honor. As the ghosts of his forgotten ideals crowd upon him he goes home. There, he tries to draw the sword of Peterloo, but it has rusted in its sheath. (THE END.)

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SPUR": PART 3 WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE At a banquet in his honor, Lord Radshaw of Handforth

"FAME IS THE

(Michael Redgrave), born in poverty, takes his guests back thru the pages of his life. As a small boy (he was Hamer Rad-shaw then) he heard his grand-father tell the story of his fight for the rights of man. He was given the sword of Peterloo, a symbol of the struggle. As the years pass he takes an interest in the new Labor party politics and is elected to parliament. When he learns that his wife Ann (Rosamund John) has joined the Suffragist movement he protests, saying it will injure him politically.

MOVIE PLAYS IN PICTURES

Ann now has become a militant crusader in the votes-for-women battle. She handcuffs herself to the fence in front of a government building and is arrested. Her husband, Hamer, to protect himself from the controversy, makes no effort to free her from jail. STARTING TOMORROW: "THE INSPECTOR GENERAL,"

life to helping the workingmen who elected him.

Submerged in the glitter of power politics.

Submerged in the glitter of power politics.

Walter Slezak, and Gene Lockhart

a Movie Play in Pictures starring Danny Kaye, Barbara Bates, Walter Slezak, and Gene Lockhart 2 Ann goes to prison three times for her persistence.

She is finally released, dying of tuberculosis. Hamer takes her to Switzerland. Before she dies Ann asks Hamer not to forget his original ambition to dedicate his

life to helping the workingmen who elected him.

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE MANY OR PERC 11,

"Best movie of the month!"

> -CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"A product distinction and merit!"

> -WASHINGTON TIMES HERALD

"Vividly acted by an inspiring cast-- You should yourself see it!"

> - WASHINGTON EVE. STAR

"An adult engrossing film... It is the sort of celluloid stuff we seldom get from Hollywood. An absorbing film in the best tradition British movies!"

-LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

These ads sold Fame" in New York and Washington!





Ad Mat No. 208

Ad Mat No. 302



Ad Mat No. 105

"CANNOT BE OVERPRAISED! A RARE, GREAT FILM!"

MICHAEL REDGRAVE

TONO
ISTHE SPUR

"The movies do not often tackle
a provocative theme so forthrightly!"
—COMPASS

"Michael Redgrave makes a real character always exciting!"— SUN

"Rousing drama!" -WORLD-TEL.

CINE NET 6'AVE at 39 ST.

Ad Mat No. 207



Ad Mat No. 209

DISTRIBUTED BY

DISTINGUISHED FILMS, INC.

229 WEST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

LOngacre 4-3971

"CANNOT BE OVERPRAISED!

A RARE, GREAT FILM!"

-N. Y. POST

-N. Y. POST

-N. Y. TIMES

"Should prove widely fas-

cinating . . . has vivid au-

thority. Some episodes are

explosive and exciting to

the full!"

MICHAEL REDGRAVE

THE SPUR

"Should prove widely fascinating!"
-N. Y. TIMES

"The movies do not often tackle
a provocative theme so forthrightly!"

—COMPASS

Cine MET 6th AVE. at 39th ST LO. 4-1141

Ad Mat No. 106

"A RARE, GREAT FILM!" - POST
"Should prove widely fascinating!"-TIMES

FAMOUR SPUR

with Michael Redgrave

Cinte 6 AVE at 39 ST. LO.4 1141

Ad Mat No. 108

8th Smash Week!

TWO CITIES, producers of "HENRY V" and "HAMLET" now present

Fame IS THE SPUR

"Fascinating stuff . . . wonderfully exciting!"

—THE NEW YORKER

Fame IS THE SPUR

"Cannot be overpraised! A rare great film!"-N. Y. POST

Fame IS THE SPUR

"Explosive and exciting!"
-N. Y. TIMES

-ame

starring

MICHAEL REDGRAVE

"The movies do not often tackle a provocative theme so forthrightly!" —COMPASS

Cine MET 6 AVE at 39 ST.

Ad Mat No. 104

MICHAEL REDGRAVE
in HOWARD SPRING'S great story

-ane IS THE SPUR

"Not since 'Citizen Kane' has the screen given us anything to compare with it!"

LONDON GRAPHIC

CINEMET GAVE of 39 ST.

Ad Mat No. 107





Ad Mat No. 205

2 Col. x 61 Lines



Ad Mat No. 101 | Col. x 77 Lines



THEATRE

Ad Mat No. 105 | Col. x 47 Lines



Ad Mat No. 102 | Col. x 61 Lines



Ad Mat No. 104 | Col x 51 Lines



Deluxe
Exploitation
Trailer
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Order Direct.

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LOngacre 4-3971



Ad Mat No. 206 2 Col. x 33 Lines



3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th



Exploitation

Cash is the Spur!

HERE'S HOW TO WIN NEW PATRONS BY AN ORGANIZED CAMPAIGN FOR:



In addition to newspaper stories, pictures and layouts, here are twenty ways to publicize the picture

1

In New York City the Board of Education (high schools) endorsed the picture and reviewed it in its own publication "High Points." In New York City, the Board of Education has a special setup whereby it distributes special priced tickets direct to the students in the schools. This was done. You may not have this kind of setup in your city, but you should invite school officials to see the picture, endorse it and make arrangements for ticket distribution to the schools.

The Magazine "Senior Scholastic," which is widely circulated in high schools throughout the country, reviewed "FAME" and listed it as "Movie of the Month" together with "All The King's Men."

2

You have received a list of endorsements by national organizations. Contact their local chapters and get them to give publicity to the film, arrange for theatre parties, etc.

3

The Protestant Motion Picture Council has endorsed the picture highly, and sent out notices to all churches about it. Contact the YMCA's and the Protestant Churches to give publicity, for theatre parties, etc.

4

The National Catholic weekly "Commonweal" gave a fine review to "FAME." This carries weight with Catholic schools. So do the endorsements of national organizations mentioned above. Maybe you can make an arrangement with the Catholic high schools in your city for special students tickets.

5

Labor union members are big potential market for this picture. Every union leader who has seen this picture likes it. That goes from right to left. All union publications which have reviewed the picture have praised it highly. Among those which have given it high praise are the U.E. News, Teachers' Union, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Textile Workers and others. Get reviews in local union papers, publicity. Some unions will surely go for theatre parties.

G

Left Wing groups will know about the film from the terrific reviews in the Daily Worker. Contact the left-wing organizations for publicity, theatre parties.

7

The Progressive Party-oriented, nationally-circulated "National Guardian" devoted a full page of pictures to the film. Progressive Party officials who saw it here liked it very much. Progressive Party clubs will go for this film for theatre parties, etc.

8

Joseph Lash, who is known to representatives of "Americans for Democratic Action" from coast-to-coast, described this film as great. Get local officers to see film, endorse it, etc.

9

Better Film Groups—Archer Winsten, critic of the "New York Post," said everyone who is interested in motion pictures as an art will want to see this film. Prof. Robt. Gessner, Chairman of the Dept. of Motion Pictures, New York University, said "'FAME' is a superior film. Every student of motion pictures should see it." Get local groups interested in better films to see and endorse this picture, circularize their membership, etc.

10

All Jewish papers from left to right praised the film highly. Get your local Jewish press to see it. "The Forward," right-wing Jewish paper, heavily influential with Jewish right-wing unions, reviewed "FAME" as the "Movie-of-the-week."

11

The foreign language press and its readers are all highly interested in political events and hence in a political film like this one. Ten foreign language papers in New York City all reviewed the film with highest praise. Invite local editors of foreign language press to screening, plant publicity, etc.

12

Colleges will love this picture for its historic background and its story. Get professors of History and Literature to see the film. Get local college papers to review. "School And Society," a national publication well-known in colleges, reviewed the film, said it was very important, worthwhile.

13

Book clubs, book columns, etc. The film is based on the novel of the same name by Howard Spring, which was a Literary Guild selection here and serialized in "Redbook." Use this in special announcements for book columns, etc. Invite book reviewers to see film, get comment.

14

The International Workers Order has branches throughout the country. Organization's official publication "Fraternal Outlook" is giving picture story and swell review to picture. Contact local chapters. They will go for this picture with publicity, theatre parties, etc.

15

Invite local political leaders, all parties, to see film, give endorsements.

16

Get local celebrities to see film, give endorsements.

17

Women's Groups. This film has the best depiction of the struggle and hardships women in England underwent to win the vote, ever put on the screen. It also contains as "Parents Magazine" pointed out a "beautifully acted story of a marriage." The courageous honesty of the women in the picture is one of its high-lights. Women's groups will go strongly for this film as shown in the endorsements by national women's organizations mentioned above. Sell this angle hard to women's groups from right to left.

18

The picture has been approved for children from 8 upwards by the National Board of Review in New York. This is a selling point everywhere. Get similar endorsements in your city.

19

American Library Association endorsed film as "Exceptional." Try for display of stills and/or book at all libraries.

20

All motion picture awards for film directing and acting, nominated "Fame" as the contender. Nominated by the New York Film Critics Circle as one of the best films of the year.

RARE PRAISE FOR A RARE FILM!

NEW YORK POST HOME NEWS, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1949

"CANNOT BE OVERPRAISED! A RARE, GREAT FILM!"

-ARCHER WINSTEN

MOVIE METER

For some years now there have been rumors of a great picture over in England that didn't seem able to cross the ocean. Maybe it was too pro-labor and too outspoken against the rich. It's here now, at the Little Cine Met, three or four years late but impervious to time. It's called "Fame is the Spur"

Whether or not it's pro-labor and anti-rich is beside the point. It does favor justice for the laborer, and it does poke a sharp stick at one rich man and paint an unidealized portrait of a Lord. But these are incidental to the full-length, profoundly realized portrait of a labor politician.

The picture starts when he is a young lad, learning class hatred who cherishes a sword wrested from the soldiers at Peterboro, 1819. That was a massacre of poor Welsh folk who marched in protest under the banners of "Bread and Liberty." It follows him through the years, as a student in a bookstore, as a delivery boy for a grocer, and finally as a silver-tongued orator fighting the battles of the poor.

The picture covers a long life. It makes many transitions, sometimes crudely, with dates sliding down the screen. It is not a picture of miraculous texture or finely worked art. The edges are rough-hewn, but the center is a performance, a character analysis and a human tragedy which

cannot be overpraised. Michael Redgrave's portrayal of Hamer Radshaw, the labor politician who rose so high in the Government that he lost sight of his first objectives, is magnificent in every respect. Within the pattern of what the world regards as success we see the inner fault that destroys men not only in politics. I have never seen a picture so brilliantly lighting up the dilemmas of failure accompanied by wordly success and rocklike integrity withstanding the assaults of wordly failure.

The greatness of this picture is not merely that it shows these things as they are. It seeks out the early intimation of what may come, and then it shows how it comes, and, finally, in what is one of the most irresistibly logical pieces of symbolism the screen has ever known it says everything that needs to be said.

Though all else is properly subat the knee of his grandfather ordinated to Redgrave's major performance, there are others who have perfect contributions to make. Rosamund John is wonderful as the wife whose love does not blind her to his faults. Marjorie Fielding is splendid as the old aunt whose dauntless humanitarianism had a violent period in the fight for women's suffrage. Hugh Burden provides the portrait of the steadfast labor leader who had nothing but integrity, no eloquence at all: And the saturnine Bernard Miles is a self-made, selfish man who never had to fool himself, only to fleece his victims.

The Boulting brothers, John as producer and Roy as director, are directly responsible for this rare. great picture. The screenplay was witten by Nigel Balchin from Howard Spring's novel. The man behind the production was that same Filippo del Guidice, the Italian whose name has been associated with so many other fine pictures in England, from "In Which We Serve" to "Hamlet"

and "Henry V." Anyone who believes that films can be art, serious art, and that art can also teach, and tell, and show, in the highest sense, must see "Fame Is the Spur." It makes many a fine and artful picture seem small.

"Fame Is The Spur"

with Michael Redgrave, Rosamund John. Oxford Films

IMPRESSIVE PRODUCTION CONTRIB. UTES MUCH TO INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING. EXPERT, UNUSUAL THEME IS WELL FABRICATED. FOR MATURE, DISCRIMINATING TRADE.

DIRECTION: Expert. PHOTOGRAPHY: Good.

Another transAtlantic voyager that contributes to wider understanding of various peoples via the medium of film, this production by the Boulting brothers, John and Roy, is an intelligent contribution to the mature, interested audience that bears the imprint of expert fabrication all down the line and parmits the viewer to exercise his mental processes rather than be belabored with a set of trite conclusions and deduc-

This film translation of Howard Spring's novel is a moving examination of British politics-forces and individuals-only faintly disguised if at all. Contributing to its worth are adroit performances. It is a lengthy job, teiling a long story that rarely falters in its character analysis.

The political rise of "Hamer Radshaw" from rousing embryonic stirrings in working men's clubs in mean quarters of industrial England, with strong emphasis on such phrases as "Bread and Liberty" to the heights and social circles of the Cabinet are the substance of the story. The segments which contrive to hold the structure of the characterization are such factors as the growth and decline of wife, friends and philosophies and the inclination to ignore these prime sources when the lofty perch is attained.

PROTESTANT MOTION PICTURE COUNCIL

Mrs. Jessie Bader,

National Chairman

This is the dramatic disclosure of the corroding effect of inordinate lust for fame and power. Out of the tragedy of Peterloo (1819) when poor people were sabered for "bread and liberty" came a sword and a romantic reformer, both of whom were to mold the destiny of an impressionable boy (Anthony Wager). This boy becomes a man with gifts of oratory and leadership and is animated by visions of service. As he discovers the power of these gifts he allows the lust for fame to dim his social ardor. The result is that, as he climbs in fame, he sinks in selfishness and pride, losing his vision and changing sides in the conflict. Based on Howard Spring's novel, this film achieves the impact of a strong social and ethical message while presenting absorbing entertainment of high order. Michael Redgrave's portrayal of Hamer Radshaw deserves special praise, it is intense, consistently dramatic, covering a span of fifty years. Rosamund John is Ann, his wife, a woman strong in faithfulness, conviction, discernment and charm. Marjorie Fielding is excellent as a militant feminist.

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

Fame Is the Spur

Oxford Films-Two Cities-A Man's Weakness

A magnificently acted film with a strong, believable story that probes deep into human character, this British picture is a natural for the art houses and quite possibly for some regular theatres where British product has clicked

Based on the Howard Spring novel, "Fame Is the Spur" provides an ideal vehicle for Michael Redgrave, whose performance dominates the picture. He plays a man who rises from a Manchester slum to an important post in the British Cabinet. Somewhere along the line his strong socialist beliefs undergo some severe modification until, while maintaining them in principle, he becomes almost diametrically op-

posed to them in practice. Redgrave is given the best possible support from Rosamund John as his wife who fights for womens' rights, whom he permits to go to prison and who finally, on her deathbed, tells him the bitter truth about himself. The film was directed by Roy Boulting with a fine and sensitive hand. John Boulting produced, with

Fillippo Del Giudice in charge. The other characters all give standout performances, making this one of the best films to come from Britain in some time. It is true that American audiences may miss some of the



By Catherine Edwards

Screen biography is rarely used to highlight a character's faults, except when these faults are later overcome. But this British picture is a relentless probing of unacknowledged weaknesses in a man who had many of the qualities of greatness. As played by Michael Redgrave, Hamer Radshaw is heartbreakingly human. For, compared to the evil men in high places often commit, he was a saintly soul. True, vanity was his setting sin, but he didn't know he was vain. Starting out in life as a poor boy, he dedicated himself to improving the lives of the underprivileged, but in a crisis his love of drama, of hearing the sound of his own voice, of winning the friendship of important people, time and again turned him away from those he truly wanted to serve, until in the end he was rejected by his labor constituents because of his too many compromises. Contrasted with the hero's vacillation is the steadfast adherence of his wife, Ann (Rosamund John) to the principles she believes in. Against her husband's wishes she campaigns for votes for women, ruining her health through repeated jail sentences and a final courageous hunger strike. Aside from its political overtones, some of which may be lost on American audiences, the film is a beautifully acted story of marriage. Ann loved her husband deeply even when she came to see his character weakness. Her unwavering faith that he could live up to the best in himself, and her brave insistence that he do so, is an inspiring example to present-day wives who, in their absorption in seeking equality for themselves, have let go much of their moral responsibility for holding the torch of integrity to light the steps of men in a confused and confusing world. A. & Y. EXCELLENT.

