The New Powell Tackles Fascists in Argentina

By DON CRAIG

The New Deal Powell did a beautiful job of solving a couple of straight killings and making the crooks involved wish they hadn't done it in "Murder, My Sweet." He has a bit more trouble when he takes on the Fascists of Argentina in "Cornered," which opened yesterday.

"Cornered" is the almost complete lack of incidental covers. No matter whether it's a bar, a hotel lobby, a cafe, a sidewalk or even a subway station, there's never anybody on hand but Powell and whoever he is involved with at the moment.

Maybe it's just Powell. Maybe Argentina is like that. Or maybe the picture got caught in a Hollywood crime wave. Whichever it is, it's another aspect of "Cornered" you'll probably enjoy arguing.

POWELL AND BLEXAK
Here he is outclassed.

Burt Lancaster is just plain simple. Actually, both of us are able UNDERWRITERS and able to understand the grade. Powell knows by testifying in "Murder, My Sweet," does not genuine dramatic ability. And, unlike Lancaster, he is the hero of the piece and can't help but come out on top.

HEADLINES COINCIDENCE

What really makes "Cornered" of importance — and Hollywood won a real gamble in achieving it — is the coincidence of having a picture rilling into the Nazi-Powell sympathizers in Argentina playing day and date with the State Department's fliers on the same subject in headlines all over the country.

It's a chance that what "Cornered" tries to say is of more interest, for the moment, than the way it says it. But the Powell Lancaster sympathy parallel in effect: You defied us once before and we row again on the stress of victory you expressly let slip from your fingers... and we'll do it again... in enough to make everybody who hears him stop and think, if only for a moment. Be in their own words: "We've won and we've won and we've won and we've won... we've lost..." .

GERARD IS OUTCLASSED

The trouble, dramatically speaking, is that both the Powell and the anti-Fascist are too big for poor Joel, Gerard.

His only interest is uncovering and summarily bouncing off the collaborators, the German who gave the order to slaughter Gerard's French tribe along with other civilians during the war. It helps him from Normandy to the Marne and now to Moscow. He has taken him in and out of three cities than has traced any one more since "Grand Hotel."

He also gives his在一切out from under his feet as many times as he may have developed in a lifetime's appendix. Despite the presence of all this, you can't help wishing he would send his gun little poe and help, rather than continually saving the intelligent patriots who are ready and to bring him to public justice.

Walter Slezak does a beautiful job as International Commissary Max Jonas, self-appointed "camp believer of culture and fine wine," but the crucial character is properly bawled out by young Mona Zeman. And Nina Vale makes an effectively witty lady nurse.

Most notables peculiarly absent.
Courtesy Adrian Scott Papers, American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming-Laramie.