## Pathfinder

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## Disney's Zip

One episode in Walt Disney's newest film, Melody Time (RKO), should raise his stock with moviegoers disappointed in Song of the South and Fun and Fancy Free. The legend of Pecos Bill, narrated and sung by Roy Rogers and the Sons of the Pioneers, is up to Disney's best standards. It has imagination, super-fanciful drawing, a hit parade song (Blue Shadows) and wry humor. There's a chuckle a minute in it.

The film's other sequences, linked to-

gether by Buddy Clark as emcee, are at least average Disney. Once Upon a Winter-Time, in which Frances Langford sings of two lovers who go ice-skating, has a beribboned, Christmas-card quality. Blame It On the Samba features Ethel Smith's sizzling organ-playing and the hip-wriggling of Donald Duck, Jose Carioca and the Bird of Brazil. And there's Rimsky-Korsakoff's Flight of the Bumble Bee, transformed into a nightmarish Bumble Boogie, by Freddie Martin. Little Toot creates a new cartoon character—a precocious tugboat. The tone poem, Trees, is the film's visual high point, with music supplied by Fred Waring. And

Dennis Day sings several catchy tunes in a new version of Johnny Appleseed.

As usual, Disney's staff has turned out a movie with wide audience appeal, technically perfect and carefully Technicolored. But much more to Melody Time's credit is the fact that a great deal of the inimitable Disney spark is showing.



**Pecos Bill.** Disney's genius worked overtime on his creation.

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