

Tele-Visions

BY THORTON KANE

WELL WHATDAYA KNOW—Ron Randell, who starred in the O.S.S. series now airing on KTLA is set for a new series, "17 Battery Place." He'll be an investigator for the Port of N.Y. Authority . . . "The Three Musketeers," first of the "Family Classics" TV series for CBS, will star Vincent Price, Maximilian Schell, and Felicia Farr . . . Raymond Burr's hospitalization was due to a sinus condition, says exec producer Gail Patrick Jackson . . . Bill Marx, the latest actor's child to "keep it in the family" will make his acting debut with dad Harpo on "A Silent Panic," seg of the "Star June Allyson Show" . . . Tom Duggan's new phone gal is Jeanne Baird. The McGuire sisters are about to sign contracts giving them their own TV series, if the pilot makes good . . . Sammy Davis Jr. will be a familiar face when the segs of "77 Sunset Strip," "Peter Gunn," "Lawman" and G.E. Theater, in which he starred, start airing . . . KHJ-TV bought a Mexican-made series—soap opera type—in a bid for the Spanish speaking audience. If the experiment works, they'll expand it to a national market . . . About the Santa Claus Parade, KTLA will telecast it on Nov. 23 at 7:30 p.m. The theme this year is "Walk to Fame," referring no doubt to our new star studded boulevard? . . . "Route 66" co-stars Marty Milner and George Maharis lost 20 lbs each—due to the rough cross-country jumps in the shooting sched. Another "number" show will debut on Nov. 28—titled "Patrol 999." This is getting all so mathematical.

What's New in Sight

Prominent director John Newland has been named to direct the American television premiere of George Bernard Shaw's classic play "Candida," which will be presented by KNXT in cooperation with Projects '58, Sunday, Dec. 11, beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Herman Harvey, associate professor of psychology at the University of Southern California, will explore the mechanisms for reducing human conflict in Channel 2's early morning classroom, "The Nature of Human Na-

ture" Tuesday, Nov. 1, and Thursday, Nov. 3, 6:30 a.m.

Two of the world's foremost authorities on population problems will debate the question: "Is international birth control needed to head off world disaster?" on the second program of "The Nation's Future" on the NBC network Saturday, Nov. 19, 9:30 p.m.

BLOOMING POTS

Use blooming pots of cyclamen to replace Tuberous Begonias as they go out of bloom.

KTLA's Quiz, 'Words and Music' Full of Unexpected, Hilarious Events

Walker Heads Cast

Howard Teichman's hilarious comedy, "The Girls in 509," is featured as "The Play of the Week" Thursday, Nov. 3, from 8 to 10 p.m. on KCOP, Channel 13. Heading the talented cast are Nancy Walker, Margalo Gilmore and Larry Blyden.

"The Girls in 509" is the brightly and timely story of Aunt Hettie and her niece, Mimsy, who completely shut themselves off from the rest

of the world in a hotel suite in 1932 in a protest against "that man" taking over the White House. When their story is brought to light, a journalist professor and both the Republican and Democratic National Chairmen gain interviews with the pair—the latter two hoping to gain their support for their party. But, it seems the ladies have other political plans.

If the unexpected makes for a good television show, then KTLA's "Words and Music" should be one of the best.

Hosted by Johnny Gilbert, a newcomer to West Coast living room screens, the new nightly game show has come up with more surprises—many of them hilarious—than the producers every dreamed of.

The reason for this is that the show is telecast live. Unlike filmed or pre-taped offerings, there is no way to eliminate fluffs and miscues that are almost standard fare in live shows. If there is a goof during a live telecast there is nothing that can be done about it.

Johnny Gilbert, lean, hand-



KTLA'S GILBERT

some, and a ringer for the late Mario Lanza, wouldn't have it any other way. True, he'd rather not get involved in mistakes, but doesn't let on-screen bloopers panic him.

Johnny is, at 30, a veteran night club singer and comedian. He's appeared in musical revues in this country and overseas, and is certainly no stranger to live audiences or night club hecklers, which may account for his attitude toward live television. He likes the challenge of it.

On "Words & Music" he has plenty of challenges. First, the show is live, and second, it's a musical game show which means that Johnny has to remember the lyrics to countless tunes. The game, a crossword puzzle with music, is played with members of the studio audience and with home viewers. Home viewers send in postcards with their phone numbers to indicate they want to play. The game is played for cash prizes.

But getting back to bloopers, Johnny remembers two that provided plenty of laughs and nearly sent the program's director into a state of shock.

During the first week the show was on the air, Johnny was playing the game via the phone, with a home viewer. He paused midway in the game to deliver a commercial and when play resumed found that his contestant and he had been disconnected. He dialed back immediately and — you guessed it—he got a wrong number. Fortunately, he managed to get back to the original party in time to complete the game.

Recently, he got involved in a minor hassle with another home viewer contestant. He dialed the player, a woman, and she was all upset because he got her out of bed. She resented being called despite the fact that she sent in a card indicating that she wanted to play. Needless to say, Johnny wouldn't like to go through that again, though he managed to calm her down.

Johnny can't really complain about the bloopers, though. Where else can a guy get paid for mistakes?

EXOTIC TOUCH

If you want an exotic touch in the window this winter, try a potted orchid. When you select one, make sure it will bloom during the winter months.

WINDOW BOX PLANTS

Mass plant a boxful of Fairy Primrose in a window box and you will share their cheer through many weeks of cool weather. Or try a handful of Cyclamen plants. You buy them in bloom and keep them that way for months on end. They don't know the meaning of gloom, no matter what the weather man says.



"BACHELOR FATHER"—The half-hour domestic comedy series, starring John Forsythe as the handsome but harried Bentley Gregg and featuring pert Noreen Corcoran as Bentley's impish niece, Kelly, is in its second season on Channel 4.

POOR VISION AT DUSK

Extra driver alertness is needed at dawn and at dusk when a driver's vision is always poorest. Vision experts say there isn't sufficient natural light to see by, yet it isn't dark enough for headlights to be completely effective.

When approaching a bicycle rider from behind, watch the way he turns his head, traffic police advise. The direction he turns his head will usually correspond to the direction he turns the wheel of his bike.



AN HOUR WITH DANNY KAYE—Danny Kaye stars in an hour comedy and variety special with guest star Louis Armstrong, Sunday on Channel 2 at 8 p.m.



CANDID CAMERA—Phil Silvers turns up as a barber in Manhattan, Sunday night on Channel 2 at 10 p.m.

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