

# Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

Dear Mike: Maybe I've been Under too long or my news from the good old U.S. is coming by boat—but what is this? You're always writing about? Am really intrigued. Am I likely to run into one of my upcoming African safari? — Ken Avery, Lindfield, New South Wales.

Dear Ken: It's a wild new twist on the Twist. And if you haven't heard of the Twist, Ken, it's time you came home.

Dear Creep: Anybody who picks on The Beatles is a square and that includes you. And I mean stupid, ignorant, bigoted squares, for failing to recognize them as the leader of a new movement called The Mods, a guiding light to youth everywhere. — Ellen Hayden, Birmingham, Mich.

Dear Ellen: Knock it off, child. I like The Beatles, especially after catching their act at the London Palladium last month. But I wonder if they're really as "mod" as you say. It seems to me they go clear back to such rebels as Lord Byron's "Childe Harold," Puccini's "La Boheme" (whose bohemians were borrowed from Charles Merger's "Scenes of the Bohemian Life" as far back as 1851). James McNeill Whistler (he scammed America's bohemian scene for Europe's George du Maurier's "Trilby")—and clear up to Ernest Hemingway's rebellious youth of the 1920's and Jack Kerouac's Beats of the late 1950's. Sorry, Ellen and all you other Beatlebuffs, but the Beatles are just nice boys who are doin' what come naturally by following in their forebears' footsteps. So forgive me if I fail to dog what's so all-fired "Mod" about them.

Dear Mike: It's disgusting to turn on TV and look at those idiots screaming over the Beatles, who do nothing but make a lot of noise and can't sing worth a plugged silling. Go home, you nuts, we have better singers in this country. — T.J.E. Syracuse, N.Y.

Dear T.: You're in the minority. As you would know for sure if you could get a gander at my mail!

Sir: Quick, are Jane Mansfield and Mickey Hargitay married this week?—Jan McNamara, Evansville, Ind.

Dear Jan: It's hard to tell. They've been appearing together at Melodyland in "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" but haven't been going home together.

Dear Mike: Do the Williams Brothers get along since Andy took off from the act to become a big solo star on TV?—Mrs. George Farrar, Montclair, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Farrar: On the surface, yes, although Dick just "took five" from Andy's show to write the vocal arrangements for five new Danny Thomas specials.

Dear Mr. C.: I just caught up with two big Oscar-winning movies, "Tom Jones" and "8½." Both were awful. Both had a lot of sex. Was that why they got the awards? Give me Walt Disney's Mickey Mouse a y time. — Cynthia Gilly, Boston.

Dear Cynthia: You'll whistle a new Disney tune when you see Walt's "Mary Poppins." It's great and so are its stars, Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke.

Dear Sir: "Pink Panther" was a Punk Picture. Peter Sellers better quit while he's ahead. I can't understand why he makes a fool of himself in these stiffs when he's got a million bucks in the bank and could take it easy the rest of his life. And now I hear they're about to release four new Sellers movies—what is he, some kind of nut?—Furious and Ireful, Lowell, Mass.

Dear F. and I.: No, he just likes the Yanqui dollar.

Dear Mike: What do you think of Sonja Henie? We see her old movies on TV.—Mrs. Ellis R. Hussey, Eugene, Ore.

Dear Mrs. Hussey: Sonja's a good skate.

Dear Mr. C.: Is Bob Hope richer than Art Linkletter or Fred MacMurray?—Jake McElroy, omona.

Dear Jake: It's a tossup. Let's just say they'll never have to give a benefit for any of them.

Dear Mike: My mother says William Powell died in 1958 and I say he's still acting. Which one of us is right?—Esther Levin, Toronto, Ont., Canada.

Dear Esther: You're both wrong, only Mon's wronger. Bill is hale and hearty and lives in Palm Springs but is retired from show business.

(Mike Connolly welcomes all readers' questions but, due to the large volume of mail received, it may be some time before your answers appear. A personal reply requires a stamped, self-addressed envelope.)



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