

Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

Hollywood—MIKE'S MAIL-BAG—

Dear Mike: I'll bet Debbie Reynolds is upset about having to take in Harry Karl's three children by the late Marie McDonald, isn't she? — Carole Blackman, Sea Girt, N.J.

Dear Carole: On the contrary, Debbie says she's delighted to have them. "It's wonderful," she tells me, to acquire three new children without having to have a single extra birthday!"

Sir: Is it true that Dorothy Kilgallen was Allan Sherman's mother? — Mrs. Theda Hickman, Pampa, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Heckman: Poor Dorothy used that line as a gag once, to introduce Allan as a guest on "What's My Line?" The last time I saw her, at the party she threw in her New York town house last June for Darryl Zanuck, she told me, "I've got to quit trying to be a comedienne on TV and just be my own sourpuss self." Yes, Dorothy had a wicked sense of humor about herself. I'll miss that female leprechaun.

Aside to M. Jones of Elkins Park, Pa., and Jeanette Weiss of Linden, N.J.: An actor's religion is personal, private and no concern of yours or mine. This is a column, not a theological seminar, so ask me something else about Lorne Greene and Ryan O'Neal and I'll try to come up with the answers.

Dear Mike: I would like to know about Elvis Presley please. — Edith Aaron, Houston, Texas.

Dear Edith: WHAT about Elvis?

Listen, you Ratfink: Don't you realize you're nothing but a phony name-dropper with that column of yours — and that if you weren't writing it those other phonies out there in Phonytown wouldn't even give you the time of day? — Frank Kirkwood, St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Frank: Why do you have to come along and bust my pretty bubble on the first non-smoggy day we've had all month? I will cling, despite your claim, to the thought that they would not only tell me what time it was (if I inquired politely) but might even volunteer it — like if I were waiting for a jail sentence or something like that.

Dear Mike: Could you tell me if the part of Tom in Walt Disney's "Babes in Toyland" was played by Tony Sands? — Cindy Loud, Wellesley, Mass.

Dear Cindy: You're half right. It was Tommy Sands.

Dear Sir: How is it that an intelligent, personable, and multi-talented star like Steve Allen gets a throw rearward? — Benjamin Rodwogin, Rabbi, Temple Emmanuel, Chelsea, Mass.

Dear Dr. Rodwogin: If you're referring to the fact that Steve isn't as big a TV star as he was, sometimes stars get that kind of treatment for reasons that have nothing to do with their talents. Steve was hired by one sponsor to be a comic. He decided he would rather deliver social messages to his viewers. That is entirely commendable. But that isn't what he was hired to do.

Sir: Is Uncle Fester on "The Addams Family" really bald? — Dianne Olans, Natick, Mass.

Dear Dianne: He is bald on top but not on the sides nor in back.

My Dear Sir: According to another columnist, Omar Sharif is searching for a psychiatrist to treat him on a tramp steamer coming from Spain to the U.S. Perhaps he'd be willing to consider a female psychiatrist who has had experience with male patients. Would you be kind enough to ask him to entertain this notion or inform me how I might relay this suggestion for his consideration? — Dorothy Nyce, M.D., San Jose, Calif.

Dear Dr. Nyce: That other columnist had it wrong. Omar doesn't need a psychiatrist, he needs a good part in a movie.

Dear Mike: Can you tell me if the story of Kirk Douglas' Late Show movie, "Young Man with a Horn," was true life or fiction? — Mrs. A. Ghiselli, Fremont, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Ghiselli: It was inspired by the life of Bix Beiderbecke, the great jazz star who died in 1931 but whose memory is still evergreen with jazz buffs everywhere.

Dear Mr. C.: It is true that Doris Day has become a complete recluse and attends no parties? — David Bryant, Dover, N.H.

Dear David: It's a myth. I have interviewed her twice on the set of "The Glass Bottom Boat" and find her to be her old completely charming, outgoing self. No working actor or actress could become a recluse, not in this day and age. That sort of thing went out with Greta Garbo.

(Mike Connolly will try to answer your questions in his column. He gives no personal replies by mail.)

Four Spartans Attend Annual Science Meeting

Four South High students attended the fifth annual Junior Science Symposium at the California Museum of Science and Industry.

Selected to represent the Spartans at the symposium were Mark Abramson, James Cordes, Gary Jung, and Elizabeth Harding. Frederick Dwight, science instructor at South, accompanied the quartet.

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