

Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

January: A Big Dining Month

And that's the truth. In case you didn't know, this is Colorado Beef Month as well as Merry Meals With Kids Month and right there you've got two good reasons to go out for dinner.

So since it's set up for the kids why not a spot that boasts family style dining and what better place to suggest than The Tea House at 25318 Crenshaw Blvd. right here in Torrance? It's just a block off Pacific Coast Highway on the right hand-side of the street as you travel toward the San Diego Freeway. Is that clear enough?

Here is truly the Cantonese cuisine superb and dinners start at \$1.85, all served in a delightful atmosphere that's sure to please old and young alike.

The exotic Polynesian cocktails are something else again (not recommended for the youngsters, however), and Ronnie and Ron can turn them out with the dexterity of the true mixologists they are. Now in the event you wish to make the Tea House scene later on in the evening after the kiddies are all snug in their trundle beds, and it just happens to be a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday night, you'll find entertainment in the intimate cocktail lounge.

This is a "food-to-go" operation, too if you so desire with millions of parking spaces both front and back of The Tea House.

And since it's National Beef Month let's try **Filippone's** at 4525 Calle Mayor, also in Torrance where the prime rib is hard to top (unless, of course, you want to top it with your favorite sauce—but then again, why spoil the true flavor of good beef?). Or perhaps you're in the mood for lobster. In this case, Sam can whip some of that up, too, and done just the way you like it.

Filippone's is open every day from 10 in the ayem except Sunday, when they fling open the doors at 4 in the afternoon. Ample banquet facilities are available over there, too, but better give 'em a call for reservation purposes. It's FR 8-2777.

Still another excellent beef, chop, and fish house in our general area would be the

Golden Hull Restaurant at the far end of Fisherman's Wharf in Redondo Beach.

This is Al Hase and Jim Scoufos' beautiful dinery where you dine over-looking the beautiful blue Pacific and where you may watch the antics of both the big water craft as well as the small as they cavort around King Harbor.

There's a new deal at **The Hull** now, y'know. Just wheel on into the huge parking area, either bottom or top deck, whichever is available and Al and Jim will validate your parking for you. That should be an added incentive for you to visit this beautifully appointed and tastefully decorated dine-outery for either luncheon or dinner—or both, for that matter.

They've got a swinging cocktail hour going for you down there, too, where you may enjoy your favorite beverage for just a half-a-buck (as long as it's from the well, you guys!) an day-mixmaster, Roland, does a masterful job in the concoction department.

For a fast change of pace it's **The Red Onion**, on Silver Spur Road in Peninsula Center where you may enjoy some of the finest Sonora style Mexican food you've ever had. And you can make it just as hot or mild as you like. It's up to you.

Entertainment is furnished here by the highly talented Hernandez Brothers, Arturo and Vicente, who play and sing your requests 'all they're coming out your ears—and GOOD, too.

Here, too, is a swinging cocktail hour that swings from toodleseven.

Here's a bit that you may or may not have known, but the tribal inspiration that so effectively transposed the former Fish Shanty in Torrance into the **Smith Bros. Indian Village Restaurant** is also extended to the maidens who serve luncheon and dinner guests.

Authentic redskin names are bestowed upon each waitress. But all maidens as

signed to the Pocahontas appetizer cart are christened—you guessed it, "Pocahontas!"

Waitresses on-duty names and their translations include "Wahoo" (Elm Tree), "Winetka" (Beautiful Place), "Mi-He-Wi" (Sun Woman), "Wabun" (Evening Star), "Wenonah" (Mother of Hiawatha), "Chelan" (Deep Water) and "Ponemah" (Land of the Hereafter).

It might be well to mention here that the **Indian Village** banquet facilities are almost limitless for luncheon or dinner meetings, dinner dances, bridge luncheons and wedding receptions. Just about any type meeting can be most comfortably accommodated at the **Indian Village Restaurant**; irrespective if you have a group of 20 or 200, they'll still be taken care of.

You're in for quite a week at the **Radium Drive-In Theatre**, should you be in the mood for the flickers. Laurence Olivier and Carol Lynley co-star in "Bunny Lake Is Missing" with the companion feature "Up From The Beach" with Cliff Robertson and Red Buttons to get things off to a flying start today (Wednesday). The bill runs through Saturday. Then comes some adventures of the flesh, the sword, and the soul in "The War Lord" starring Charlton Heston and Richard Boone. Rosemary Forsyth and Maurice Evans are also in this one. On the same billing for Sunday through Tuesday is "The Naked Brigade" with Shirley Eaton and Ken Scott. Now don't ask what that's all about, but the flyers say "naked courage, naked heroism, and naked hope" . . . so that can cover a multitude of sins . . . however, this is highly doubtful. Don't let the words throw you. In the first place, **The Radium** doesn't go in for the "adult only" type shows. So go have a

ball.

Say, here's an idea! Why not make an evening of it? Start things off one of these dinner spots with a fine steak dinner at **Speer's Tack Room** in Peninsula Center for \$2.10 and then swing on down the hill and catch one of those billings we just mentioned.

The Tack Room is open daily, y'know, Tuesday through Saturday from 11 in the ayem for delicious luncheons and their cocktail "round-up-time" starts at four and runs 'til six. All regular drinks (that means, from the well) go for 50c a copy. And then on Friday and Saturday nites it's the Don Holmes Trio for your

entertainment and enjoyment.

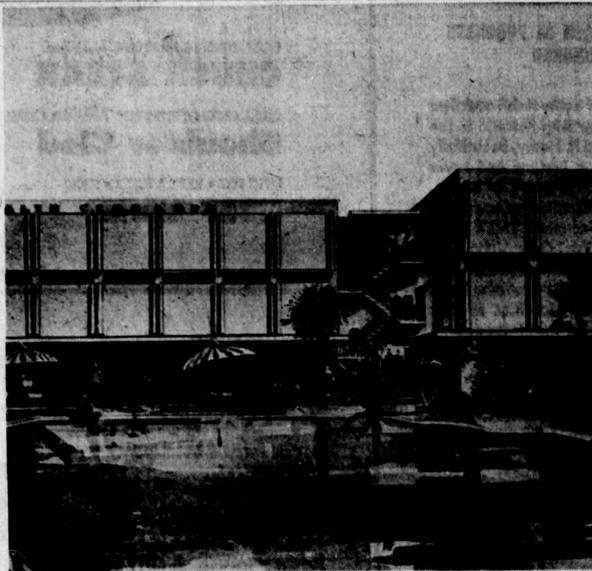
Well "thar she blows!" Yes, it's a new spot in our area and you guessed it—it's the **Whale House** and just about as authentic as nautical nails, bowsprits, varnish, spit and polish would allow it to be.

At the present writing Ron Walton's "ironing out" the rough places prior to nothing his grand opening down there at 115 West Sepulveda Blvd. in Torrance.

—Recalling back it does seem that this site used to be some kind of chicken house (No, not where they roost—where they're EATEN!) but any



FROM LABOR TO REFRESHMENT . . . Blind entertainer at The Tea House on Crenshaw, Benny Nawabi accepts a "small" libation from Betty Sakai during "coffee break" at this popular Torrance spot. You can catch Benny and his wonderful talent plus his wonderful outlook on life any Thursday, Friday or Saturday nite from 7 P.M. on.



FOR HEALTH'S SAKE . . . The International Hotel Health Club and Spa will be an exciting new attraction for weary travelers needing a place to loosen up, unwind and relax after a long confining trip. It also promises to be an oasis for local executives looking for a place to work out that offers notable quality and exceptional comfort. Samuel E. Hart and associates, architects rendering accompanying photo shows the way the new building of the Club will face the beautiful Olympic-size pool directly behind the hotel. It will boast a locker room, sauna, whirlpool, Roman bath, rock steam, massage, relaxation and shower rooms on the first floor. The second will have the gym, game, billiard, TV room and juice bar. On the roof will be handball and squash courts. Groundbreaking ceremonies are slated for late in February with the grand opening scheduled for some time in July. Responsible for the concept of modern, plush hotels adjacent to major airports, the International is always among the first to step forward with new and exciting ideas. According to management at the hotel, widespread interest has already been stirred up in membership.

similarity to the former spot is purely coincidental because these new guys have turned this huge spot into one of the most charming and excitingly different rooms we've seen in some time.

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Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

Dear Mike: Now that her husband has divorced Leslie Caron on grounds that she committed adultery with Warren Beatty, when is Beatty going to marry her?—Renee Benjamin, Tempe, Ariz.

Dear Renee: The thrill is gone. After all that, plus their plans to co-star in "Promise Her Anything," Leslie is now solo-starring in that one and Warren is off on his own doing "Kaleidoscope."

Dear Mr. C.: How many more "James Bond" thrillers will Sean Connery make and how old is he?—Margaret Taylor, Alamo, Calif.

Dear Margaret: None if he can help it. They've made him a millionaire but he's sick of 'em and I'm sick of hearing him say it, especially when I consider how many ditchdiggers there are who wish they were in his spot. He was born Aug. 25, 1930.

Dear Sir: There was a dog on a recent "Hollywood Palace" show, doing an act. In the closeups his eyes were half-closed and he looked like he was doped. I know he's supposed to have been trained to look "dopey" because it was a comedy act, but this dog looked sick. I have had dogs all my life and can always tell by their eyes how they feel—it's a dead giveaway. Is there any way that you could settle my feelings about this?—Mrs. L. J. Cullen, San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Cullen: The dog, his trainer and the entire act have gone off on tour but the ABC-TV brass says the dog was not doped, to their knowledge, and that they wouldn't allow the act on the air if he were.

Dear Mike: I see where Rosalind Russell is going to play the part of the great French courtesier, Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel. How can she whee! she isn't French? And I suppose the picture will be full of the same kind of different dialects we hear in pictures like "Doctor Zhivago"—Omar Sharif (Arabic), Julie Christie (English), Rod Steiger (American) and so forth. WHEN will Hollywood get wise to itself and quit foisting phonies on us?—Jeanette Salzman, Crosswell, Mich.

Dear Jeanette: It's not a picture, it's a stage musical with lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner and music by Andre Previn. I think Roz will be magnificent because she ages from 30 to Coco's present age, 84. Don't forget she plays a nun in "The Trouble with Angels" and an evil old harridan in "Oh Dad, Poor Dad," both to be released soon. Besides, her husband, Freddie Brisson, is the producer.

Dear Mikey-pie: What is that doll Michael Parks doing now that Universal has suspended him from refusing to do a modern role after he played Adam in "The Bible"?—Dorothea L. Chivers, Farmington, Conn.

Dear Dorothea-Pie: He's studying architecture and claims he doesn't care if he never acts again.

Dear Mike: I see where Jayne Mansfield and Mamie Van Doren are making another movie together. I'll be wide-eyed waiting for your answer to this: will it be in wide-screen?—Jack Rhoten, Concordia, Kans.

Dear Jack: Of course it will. And, in case they have trouble squeezing into the same scenes together, Arthur Pierce, producer of "The Girls From Outer Space," is having them wardrobe in plastic peck-a-bow space suits. He says the flimsy outfits will also give the girls more space to wiggle around in while in outer space.

Dear Mike: I know you're always refusing to give out addresses but PLEASE break the rule and give me the address of Roy Thines, the dreamboat who stars in "Long Hot Summer." I have a very special, personal reason for wanting it, and I know Roy would want me to have it. Please?—Ursula Hartnett, Wytheville, Va.

Dear Ursula: The rule is unbreakable (and that goes for all you other readers). He gets all his mail at Fox-TV Studio in Beverly Hills, Calif., although you just might catch him at the hospital he entered last week because of an acute virus infection. It's public information because it was in the local press so here it is: **Doctor's Hospital, Beverly Hills.**

ROADIUM
Jan. 12-13-14-15
"Bunny Lake Is Missing"
Plus
"Up From The Beach"
Jan. 16-17-18
"The War Lord"
Plus
"The Naked Brigade"
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