

Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

Dear Mike: Is it true that the Julie Andrews-Tony Walton marriage is breaking up? —Angela L. Canfield, Wichita Falls, Tex.

Dear Angela: Neither will discuss the subject. But she continues to live and work here while Tony lives and works in London. I'll tell you something else — she was supposed to shoot "Star," the life story of Gertrude Lawrence, in England but has talked the studio into shooting all of it here.

Sir: I think it was disgusting that Hedy Lamarr got out from under her shoplifting rap so easily. WHY—because she had the money to hire a smart lawyer? — Marie Rousset, Baton Rouge, La.

Dear Marie: Go fight City Hall — and the jury of Hedy's peers who found her innocent beyond the shadow of a doubt.

Dear Mike: Who was Julie Christie's escort in the audience on the night of the Academy Awards? Did he do his acting without any rehearsals? How did he know when the camera was to be on him? Why did he wear his hair almost as long as hers? Why didn't he get an Oscar for his performance too? And who didn't use the two vacant seats in the first row center? —Harry Linkebarger, Bakersfield.

Dear Harry: That was no actor, that was her "Mod" boy friend, art instructor Don Bessant, from London. He knew about the cameras because the Civic Auditorium was studded with monitors. One Oscar is enough for that family, if and when they ever get married—considering how Julie's salary has soared since she won it. The two seats were mine. I got trapped in all the backstage shenanigans and couldn't get out front.

Dear Mike: My wife and I will be in Hollywood for one week this summer. Where would we go to see stars like Liz Montgomery, Ursula Andress, and Barbara Eden? —Johnny Hernandez, La Grange, Tex.

Dear Johnny: The Daisv, the Other Place, P.J.'s, Whisky a GoGo, the Brown Derby, the Trip, It's Boss, the Hullabaloo, Cococant

Grove, Polo Lounge of the Beverly Hills Hotel, Oak Room of the Beverly-Wilshire, and Monseigneur Room of the Beverly Hilton. Wear lightweight clothing and carry a heavy bankroll.

Dear Mr. C.: I will be coming out to your swinging town on my vacation in July. I would like to meet a man with lots of money and, maybe, marry him. Any suggestions? — Gay Emerson, Chicago.

Dear Gay: Money isn't everything. Jewels, furs, and expensive cars are important too. See my answer to Johnny Hernandez.

Sir: Why the delay in burying Billy Rose? His body has been in a receiving vault since his death last Feb. 9. Don't his survivors realize this is against the precepts of the Jewish faith? — Dave Elkins, Brooklyn.

Dear Dave: They realize it, all right, but their hands are tied until they receive a decision from Surrogate Court of New York on their request to bury him in a \$48,188 plot in Westchester Hills, Ardsley, N.Y. "Billy lived like a king," says his sister, Polly Rose Gottlieb, "and my sister Miriam and I want him to rest like one, but the executors of the estate think that's too much to pay for the plot." It's really not too much. Polly and Miriam are arguing, since Billy's blue-chip estate totals upwards of \$50,000,000.

Dear Mike: Will you please give your readers the military classification of George Hamilton? I understand he recently turned 26. How did he meet Lynda Bird Johnson and how did he become an actor? — Amanda Lyra Higgins, Tomball, Tex.

Dear Amanda Lyra: George was given an Army draft deferment because he is the sole support of his mother. He will be 27 on Aug. 12 this year. He met Lynda Bird at a White House party when he was the escort of her friend, Charlotte Ford. He got into acting because he figured there was money in it.

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

Law in Action

If someone owes you no duty to look out for your care, he is not responsible for your injury. When sued such a defendant can ask the court to dismiss the case.

For example in a recent case, Mike Mopper cleaned a cafe at night. Sometimes his wife would help him. They often took along their four year old girl.

Mike filled up a bucket of hot water and set it down to clean the restaurant floor. He did not know that health rules required the water for dishwashing purposes to be scalding hot. When his little girl fell in the bucket she was badly burned.

Mike sued the cafe for maintaining the water at such a high temperature. But the judge dismissed the case since the cafe owed no legal duty to the child. The father, himself, was responsible for the bucket of hot water. Even if the cafe had a duty to warn workers of the hot water, the owner couldn't have foreseen that Mike would use the hot water without diluting it with cold water. As a result the owner had no duty to prevent the injury.

IN ANOTHER case a service station sold gasoline in an open bucket, in violation of the city ordinance. The buyers used the gas to burn down a bar. Some patrons were badly burned as a result. The judge jailed the arsonists.

The patrons tried to sue the service station owners for selling the gasoline, but the court ruled that they owed no legal duty to the patrons. They could not foresee nor

prevent such a criminal act, even though they did break the law by selling the gas in an open can. The illegal act was not the cause of the injury.

In other cases, the parties may agree in advance to release another from any liability, and the court will enforce such an agreement in some cases.

Thus a tenant agreed with his landlord to keep the apartment and furnishings in good repair. After several months use, the wall bed did not work well. The tenant complained about it to the landlord but did nothing himself to fix it. One day the bed crashed down and injured the tenant.

DOES THE tenant have a valid claim against the landlord? No, in his lease the tenant had assumed the duty of keeping the apartment in good repair.

Some contracts waiving responsibility will not be enforced. A parking lot owner cannot make parkers agree never to sue even when he is to blame.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.

The Old Timer



"Give a boy enough rope and he'll bring home a stray dog on the end of it."

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