

Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

Now Let's Settle Down

With the storm of the election over and down with for this term, now we can all settle down to some serious thoughts of good food, fun, and profit, not to mention the coming holiday season.

And for starters, how about that deal they've got waiting for you over at the **Pen and Quill Restaurant** in Manhattan Beach!

It's the chateaubriand dinner for two and comes beautifully served with that good old bubbly. Don't know where you could match such a buy as this anywhere in town 'cause it'll run you only 6.95. Now that's for the both of you — not only for one person, so cash in on this deal before these good people come back into their right minds.

You've got dancing and entertainment at the **Pen and Quill** and this chateaubriand thing is served seven days a week.

Speaking of the coming season would include, of course, Thanksgiving which falls this year on the 28th and over at **Bill Fremant's Matador Restaurant** on West Pico Boulevard, the delicious national drink of Spain — Sangria — will be served as part of the traditional Thanksgiving feast.

This may seem a little advanced to you but when you stop to think about it, Thanksgiving's only a couple of weeks away and you might like to make some plans in advance.

So there's to be the regular turkey bit, naturally, with appetizer, choice of soup or salad, dessert and beverage, plus of course the tasty Sangria, and the whole thing goes off at a neat four and a quarter. The doors will open at four in the afternoon on "turkey day."

Have you caught the Carol Lawrence bit up in Vegas yet? Have high hopes of catching it sometime this week ("would you believe" this one's on vacation? Sort of!) but from here can't tell for sure.

Anyway, this chick is a talent to end 'em all as you well know. Then you add the piano artistry of Peter Nero and the result has got to be one of the most entertaining evenings one would wish to spend in Las Vegas, or anywhere for that matter. It's a two-a-night thing in the **Riviera Hotel's Versailles Room**.

Then it's "Holiday Fiesta" time again down the line at the **Hotel Tropicana** where Marlene Dietrich will be doing a one-a-night—but nuts! That won't start until Dec. 5 so that let's us out.

However, should you be making plans for about that time you might keep this date in mind. Should be a swinger 'cause as you know, that Dietrich Dish has talent she hasn't used yet.

Meanwhile, in the **Blue Room** there's **Louis Nye**, **Helen O'Connell**, and the **Si Zentner** ork through Thursday, with **Pete Fountain** picking up Friday so that should be a couple of goodies to catch.

Then of course, there's al-



APPOINTEE . . . President Ben Brown of that Laguna Restaurant at 31106 S. Coast Hwy., recently appointed Roy L. Moss, above, manager of this newest luxury dinner house. Moss is well known in Europe, the Far East, as well as in Southern California.

ways the **Follies Bergere** and that never misses!

Now then, back home again and at the magnificent **Harborlight Restaurant** in San Pedro, there's to be a regular old fashioned New England Thanksgiving dinner served from 1 o'clock on Thanksgiving Day.

This'll include a choice of turkey or glazed sugar-cured ham with raisin sauce. There'll be soup or salad, smashed taters or sweet ones, whichever is your choice, giblet gravy, homemade bread, dessert, and beverage and all for \$3.75 per each. It'll be two and a quarter for the kids.

Really should call 831-0211 for this one, though, for reservations.

Then down Laguna Beach way at the new and grand **Ben Brown's**, they'll also be featuring the special Thanksgiving dinner offering when you may enjoy the finest homemade breads and roast turkey.

Of course Chef Andre'll prepare his special tossed salad, French cut beans, choice of fluffy whipped or candied sweets served with country style gravy.

And in the dessert department it'll be hot mince pie, pumpkin or apple pie, plus a beverage and all for four seventy-five for the oldsters and two dollars less for the youngsters.

Here again, you should

make your reservations in advance and keep in mind that the dining room will be open from 11 in the ayem.

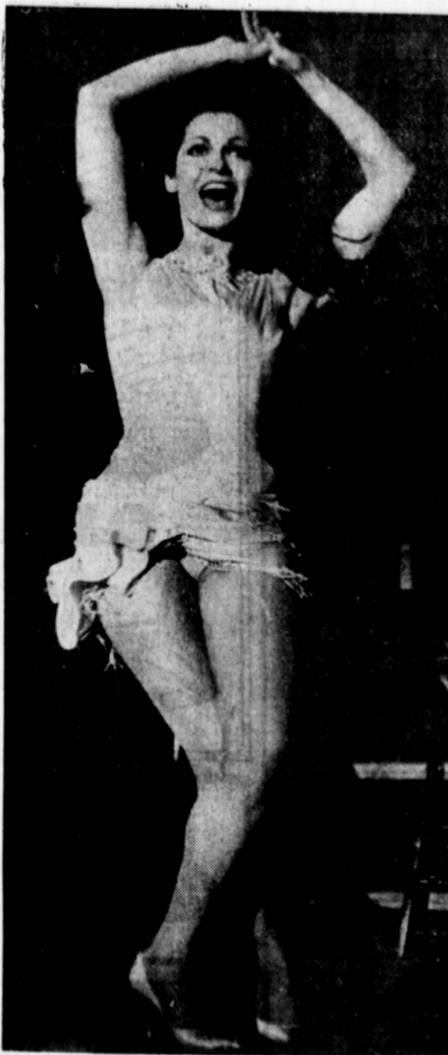
How's this take hold? It doesn't seem possible that **Millie Riera's Seafood Grotto** at 1700 Esplanade in Redondo Beach has been in operation since along about 1946, but it has.

But when you stop and think about the brand of food that Millie puts out down there, it's small wonder. Ever tried her luncheon seafood salad? (Fantastical!) Millie's late husband started **The Grotto** along with his charming wife helping out as hostess back in '46 (well of course this department remembers! Think we are kids?) and she's still the hostess with the mostest.

They had some fat years as well as lean ones but they still maintained the identity of **The Seafood Grotto**.

It's a warm, friendly, and family-like atmosphere at Millie's with about two dozen truly different seafood dishes, most of them being imported from Old World recipes handed down by the Riera family for centuries upon centuries.

One of the big favorites here is the **Cioppino** in its three versions which is made of lobster and crab, as well as abalone, swordfish, and sea bass.



FANCY FOOTS . . . She's Carol Lawrence displaying dancing form, among other type form as she headlines at the **Riviera Hotel** in Las Vegas. She appears nightly along with pianist **Peter Nero**.

Then of course, if you're a steak or Italian food lover, these, too, are available at **Millie's Seafood Grotto**.

Open daily for luncheon, cocktails, and dinner, Millie's also features musical entertainment on weekends. Call 375-1483 for reservations.

Are you the kind of guy or gal that thrives on "the good treatment" when you go out to a restaurant or cocktail lounge?

In this case — gut just the spot for you! From the moment you first walk into this smart stylishly decorated spot you are made to feel welcome with warm and friendly greetings from all connected with the room.

The red carpet treatment is essential for the employees that grace this attractively designed emporium of good foods and delightful cocktails.

All good things come to your intimately arranged table or, if you prefer, a warm, cozy booth, "away from the crowd," so to speak.

Add to all this the libation of your choice is written discreetly on a small pad promptly brought to your cuddly "home-away-from-home" type booth set back in an obscure corner of the huge and warmly lighted tea house, if you will!

The exciting and courteous waitresses (two), to



FROM ALL OVER . . . That's it. They come from all over to visit and dine at the **Santa Barbara Inn**. Shown above is **Lloyd Nolan**, seated with the lovely wife, **Gloria**, of owner-president **Alex Shustin**.

slight murmur of gratitude for your having entered this Charangrula of the beach cities.

Never is there a slurring word or tone from the dulcet throats of these two completely enchanting and vivacious young girls as one often receives at some of our so-called more elite spots in the Southland.

Loaded with Old World charm combined with present day culture, the dominant edifice looms large and grand in the still nite air of **Wilmington**, bringing with it an aura of mystery and adventure . . . as your approach **The Nuthouse** on "B" Street.

Make no mistake about it, here now is the ultimate in culinary artistry, from the lowly peanut at 20 cents a bag, and then scaling the heights in culinary heights of aristocracy appealing to the most discriminating of gourmets.

So if you haven't already visited this house of charm, by all means put **The Nuthouse** on your "must see" list and make it at your earliest convenience.

Another advance notice regarding the Thanksgiving Day bit comes from **Santa Barbara** where the **Sky Room** of the **Santa Barbara Inn** will be the scene on that day for the traditional feast that always goes with turkey day.

There'll be roast young tom turkey with all the trimmings. Or if you choose, baked sugar-cured ham with prune and raisin sauce, along with a champagne cocktail.

Or perhaps you're a prime rib man (or woman) and in this case you, too, will be satisfied. It's roast prime rib of Eastern beef, au jus, or broiled filet mignon, under glass, no less, and

served with fresh mushroom sauce in addition to whipped potatoes, candied sweets or baked, a wide assortment of hot rolls and butter and a choice of dessert and beverage. Now you can't go too far wrong with a menu like that!

Dinners will begin at 11 o'clock in the morning so nail down your reservations at the **Santa Barbara Inn**.

Incidentally, **Ray Winchell**, formerly of **Lawreys**, has been recently appointed catering director at this lovely **Inn By The Sea**.

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