



RULING THE ROOST... Mama Rose, played by Kristal Kruse (center), is the domineering mother of stripper Gypsy Rose Lee in the musical production "Gypsy," currently on stage at Chapel Theatre. Other cast members shown above are (from left) Dave Cobourn, Angie; Kay Tracy, Gypsy; Jeff O'Donnell; Kristal Kruse, Mama Rose; Connie Bearden, June; and Dave Burket, Yonkers. Sell-out crowds prompted theater directors to extend the engagement through June 14. Tickets may be obtained by calling the box office.

# 'Gypsy' Musical Involves 'Ugly Duckling' Syndrome

By popular demand, the musical "Gypsy" has been extended through June 14 at Chapel Theatre, 2222 Lomita Blvd. Tickets for Friday and Saturday night showings are still available at the box office.

Directed by Fred West, the story of "Gypsy" revolves around the transformation of an ugly duckling into the famous strip-tease artist Gypsy Rose Lee. The ambitious production requires 17 scene changes and many hand-designed and hand-painted background scenery flats.

Kay Tracy of Hawthorne portrays Gypsy, a cocoon who turns into a butterfly as she escapes the clutches of her domineering mother. Mama Rose is played by Kristal Kruse of Inglewood.

MURRAY RUBIN of Torrance takes the role of Herbie, the long-suffering, faithful agent who doubles as Mama

Rose's intended husband until he and his ulcer can no longer put up with Mama's interference in her daughters' lives. Chris Hamilton and Connie

Bearden alternate in the role of June and Marty Lair presents a song-and-dance number as Tulsa. Joan Kilstofte and Kathy Kotellos play

## Youth Music Festival Features Area Teens

Southwest Youth Symphony under the baton of Robert Williams will participate in the 10th annual Youth Orchestra Festival at Santa Monica Civic Auditorium Saturday at 8 p.m. Admission is free.

The festival, presented by the L.A. County Youth Symphony Council, brings together members of the Burbank Youth Symphony, Compton Civic Youth Orchestra, Meremblem Pioneer Orchestra, Southwest Youth Symphony, and Whittier Youth Symphony to perform as a combined orchestra of 350 young musicians.

Donald Marino of Torrance, teacher at Ridgcrest School in Palos Verdes Peninsula, is the assistant conductor of the 65 member Southwest Youth Symphony.

The orchestra draws its members from all parts of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn's district. Area young people who rehearse regularly at Crozier Jr. High in Inglewood are bassoon: Francis Clough, Torrance; French horn: Donald Tsusaki, Redondo Beach; percussion: Dore Fingerhut, Palos Verdes Peninsula; trombone: Douglas Bravo, Lawndale; trumpet: Jim Szolosi, Palos Verdes Estates; Violin: Betty Byrns, Greg Datig, Michael Kandaloff, Lynn Scott, and Mark Konishi, Paul Lange, Joy Moulton, Valerie and Valincent Reyes, and Laura Sanchez, all of Gardena, and Susan Wareing of Torrance.

Baby Louise and Baby June. Highlight of the show is a "strip" routine presented by Rita Liedags, Rene Gaileran, JoAnne Lorber and Charlene Thomson.

production manager; Larry Schouten, stage manager; Dan Wilgues, assistant; Joy Humble and Gloria Borland, prop managers; Marily Brame, set and costume designs; Gary Mansour, set construction director; Enola Burket and Beth Kuckert, seamstresses; David Bean, special effects; George and Zora Bingham, lighting; and Natalie Moreno, assistant choreographer.

OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN THE SHOW ARE Ric Brame, choreographer; Craig Preston, pianist; Dave Johnson and Wayne panier, drummers, and Dan Green, bass. More are Betty Schroeder,

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# Europe Passing Through Its Fifth Money Crisis

By REYNOLDS KNIGHT  
A wobbling French franc? A nervous British pound? A strengthening West German mark? What do these mean to you?

Europe has just been passing through its fifth international currency crisis in a year and a half. The resignation of French President Charles de Gaulle set off the latest tremors.

The departure of De Gaulle, a stubborn defender of the franc, convinced many traders in foreign currency that the franc would weaken and the West German mark would be officially raised in value. German economic strength versus shakiness in the French and British economies led to that conclusion. The result: about \$2 billion in francs, pounds and other currencies were exchanged for marks. There would have been a windfall profit for traders had the mark been raised in value. To Americans, this would have meant price increases for Volkswagens and other German products such as electrical goods, optics, cameras, etc.

BUT THE German cabinet decided to keep the mark at its value of about 25 cents. The U.S. dollar rode through the crisis calmly. Paradoxically, the dollar is losing purchasing power at home because of inflation — but abroad it remains strong, acceptable everywhere, because it can still be exchanged for gold at \$35 an ounce on demand of foreign governments and their central banks.

Frederic O. Hess, board chairman of the SUELAS Corporation of America, Dre-

sher, Pa., has called for approval in principle of an international patent treaty in 1970 and ultimate implementation of protective agreements on a worldwide basis.

As chairman of the Patents Committee of the National Association of Manufacturers, Mrs. Hess recently told industry leaders in New York that support for a Patent Cooperation Treaty had increased rapidly since a conference on the subject in Geneva last December and that an agreement on a draft of the proposed agreement may be presented to a planned full diplomatic conference next year for approval and eventual ratification.

IDEALLY, HESS pointed out, a world patent system would be the most desirable solution to the many problems involved, so that a patent on an invention issued by a single authority would be recognized world-wide. "But all participants in the deliberation and discussions of patent cooperation agree that this ideal is not attainable at this time or in the foreseeable future," he added.

"As an objective, it has been extensively argued," he said, "but even if the different national laws could be harmonized within reasonable time — an impractical concept under present political conditions — an international patent cannot come into existence until some basic harmonization of form, and above all, harmonization of the views about patentability and search practices, is accomplished."

Such harmonization is the immediate goal of the proposed Patent Cooperation

Treaty, in the opinion of Mr. Hess who, as the head of one of the world's foremost precision heating engineering firms, personally holds more than 100 patents.

ABOUT \$50 MILLION in securities were lost or stolen last year, a jump over the \$37 million for each of the previous two years; so insurance companies are charging more for embezzlement insurance. One company submitted 27,000 pounds of paper in its proposal competing for the contracts in a new U.S. destroyer program.

Americans are changing their buying habits. They're spending more on their cars, more on eating out and more for consumer goods sold in stores offering a general line of merchandise. This pattern of changing habits emerged from a study of U.S. retail sales between 1959 and 1968, a study made by Meinhard-Commercial Corporation, a subsidiary of C.I.T. Financial Corporation, one of the nation's largest financial and industrial institutions, with assets in excess of \$3.7 billion.

For every \$100 of the nearly \$340 billion in U.S. retail sales in 1968, the combined share spent on automobiles, eating out and general merchandise came to \$41.15, the study showed. The figure for this was \$36.68 in 1959. The money spent in stores rose from \$11.44 to \$14.49 per \$100 of sales; on automobiles, from \$18.44 to \$19.22; and in eating and drinking places, from \$6.80 to \$7.44.

Meinhard-Commercial is keenly interested in economic reports such as retail sales because the company provides manufacturing and selling many consumer products.

tomation study group foresees brokers sitting in private offices, trading with one another via consoles linked with a computer. Unless more people start using Zip codes the mechanized mail-sorting system of the post office may never take effect. We're far behind in using the codes.

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## Bureau Seeking Helpers

Junior and senior high school students in the South Bay-Harbor area are invited to attend an orientation meeting at an orientation meeting for summer volunteers. The Youth Volunteer Program is co-sponsored by the Volunteer Bureau and the American Red Cross. It will be held on Wednesday, May 28 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Red Cross Service Center, 1499 W. First St., San Pedro.

The orientation session will give students the opportunity to learn about volunteer openings at convalescent homes, the County Health Department, Headstart, retarded children's facilities, etc. There will also be discussion of group projects such as outings for Headstart children and painting teen centers.

Of particular interest is the Special Olympics for Retarded Children at the Los Angeles Coliseum on July 25, 26, and 27 sponsored by the Kennedy Foundation and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

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