

The Mail Ego

By Terrence O'Flaherty

"I know that more movies are made in Hollywood than any place else. But what country comes in second?"

Hollywood isn't even near the top. Hong Kong made more movies last year. Second is India, then Japan, and fourth is the U.S. Hong Kong made 20 productions in 1966; India 280; Japan 220 and the U.S. about 160, mostly Hollywood.

"What has become of Chuck Connors? We miss him on ' Rifleman ' and ' Branded. ' Maybe he has gone back to baseball?"

He is starting to shoot his new TV series, "Cowboy in Africa," which will open this fall on ABC-TV. Connors lays a champion rodeo cowboy who is hired to capture wild game in Kenya. He rings along his Indian sidekick, which prompted Bill Cosby to comment: "Wouldn't you know it! They have a legitimate opportunity to have a Negro sidekick on a series and what happens? They make him an American Indian!"

"I got so bored with Phyllis Diller on her show but now that's off the air I find that I miss it. Has she gone or good?"

Not Diller! She's today's insinkable Molly Brown. NBC is romancing her right now for a variety series to start next winter.

"What are the ages of the ' Smokey Brothers '?"

Keeping track of those kids like wrestling an octopus, even their manager doesn't know for sure. And every

time he gets it straightened out, another brother shows up.

"I'm disgusted with these television documentaries on the hippies and the pleasure seekers. They are grossly distorted views of the lives of a small minority whose ideas of 'pleasure' seem to consist solely of sex and drugs. If, as the experts assure us, only 25 per cent of the American people have ever been in an airplane, I believe I am justified in assuming that a considerably smaller percentage have seen a topless show, smoked marijuana, taken LSD, belonged to a rowdy motorcycle bunch or rolled with a blonde on a tiger skin rug.

"Isn't it time to show the vast majority of us who find pleasure in bowling, sailing, football or gardening? The real trouble with all the people shown in these documentaries is that they are bored — bored with life, bored with themselves and bored with a developing history they don't understand and are too intellectually indolent to cope with. What's the cause of this flood of stuff?"

Television, like the nation's press, is obsessed with the idiot fringe and neither medium can be excused for not labelling it as such.

"When does the new Julie Christie movie about the maddening crowd open up?"

You're close. It's titled after the Thomas Hardy novel on which it is based: "Far From the Madding Crowd," and will open in New York October 18. It will show in the rest of the country later in the year.

Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

Bartenders Compete at Hilton.

Yup, it's that time again when the California Bartenders Guild members once again get their respective and talented heads together to find out just who is "the craziest mixed-up kid" in the business among our Southland mixologists. This was their 19th annual meet.

It was a fun packed evening nite before last at the Beverly-Hilton Hotel for the greatest majority of visitors but it was serious and concentrated business for the 100-odd bartenders that participated in the competition to determine which of the new mixed drinks would be the most acceptable to the general public.

Festivities began at about 3 in the afternoon with all entries starting their first heat and working on through the evening to the finals, climaxed with an elaborate dinner-dance. Remember, all drinks must be shaken — not run off "on the mixer or blender.

And when all the heats had cooled and the smoke had cleared away there were still four stalwarts left standing. In first place it was J. "Popo" Galsini of the Kona Kal, who entered his Saturn Cocktail to walk off with all the marbles.

Bill Bryan of Wally Bortello's Velvet Turtle crowded "Popo" and came in second with his My Dianne Cocktail.

Third place money was picked up by John Rettino of the Blarney Castle with The Robin Cocktail and in fourth spot was Jose Yanco of the China Trader with his Golden Trader Cocktail.

Bob Koen of the Velvet Turtle, Kenny Decker formerly with the Hunting Horn and now at The Kettle in Anaheim, and Roy Charon with Interstate Host were all semi-finalists in the Cocktail Run-offs.

It was a goodly crowd and a happy bunch of warriors. And WHOOOOSH, what a party!!! The thought crossed our mind during the evening; bet bartenders knock each other down to work that party every year! You should have seen those "toke cups" . . . and not one of them jingled . . . just that happy rustling sound that only paper can make!

The Bartenders Guild is not a "Guild" per se. Rather it's an organization of bartenders FOR bartenders that originally formed in England and has since spread to many other countries throughout the world. Thereby upgrading one of the oldest and one of the most upstanding professions known, contrary to the opinion from some corners. Y'know, you can't please all the people all the time. . . .

The Guild which represents most of the finest hotels and restaurants in California, is the only group in the United States which is a member of the International Bartenders Association.



WARRIORS ALL . . . Or should that be 'worriers'? Shown at the recent Bartenders Guild Competition at the Beverly-Hilton, are (seated) Mr. and Mrs. Bob Koen and (standing) Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bryan, both from The Velvet Turtle. Bill came in second in the 72-man competitive run-off.

The winner of this meet will represent The Guild and the U.S. at the IBA competition in Spain this November along with 19 other countries. The Guild and its members have truly done much to improve the image of America as ambassadors of good will in their contact with representatives of other countries.

So you consider yourself a gourmet, do you! Okay, here's a spot to satisfy your longings and beliefs! It's The Marquis down there on the Sunset Strip and Master Chef Pietro Giordano turns out some of the most superb epicurean delights to ever tempt your taste buds.

Working from 36 entrees, Chef Giordano presents, for example, such gastronomical mouth-waterers as Caciucco San Remo, a unique sort of a bouillabaisse of shell fish, white fish and cognac, plus the exquisite Chicken Romana at \$4.50. It's sauteed in garlic, butter, rosemary and vinegar and is served with artichoke hearts.

Suggested with your dinner might be the Aldo Salad — hearts of palm, mixed greens, Belgian endive, tomatoes, avocados and black and green olives.

Now to get into the pastas — 18 of them — such as Rigatoni with Sausage, Cannelloni

al la Milanese, Spaghetti Tezzarini and their famous Fettucini.

The Marquis is on a 7-nite-a-week operation and dinner is served 'til one in the a.m. Currently it's the Sam Ray Trio entertaining nite in the Oak Barrel Bar.

Here, indeed, is an exciting spot for your challenge. Try it!

Not only does Bill Fremont present a wide selection of beef and seafood dishes, at his Matador Restaurant in West Los Angeles, he has also gained an enviable reputation for the excellence of his veal dishes.

Among these will be found the Escalope Terner Castella at \$3.95, Filete de Ternera Vasca and Ternerita Mallorquina, the latter two at \$3.75 each.

It is truly spoken (By whom? By the patrons of The Matador! That's by whom!) that you'll never go wrong for either cuisine or entertainment when you visit The Matador, not to mention the authentic atmosphere of old Spain.

Heard from general manager Joseph Salyers for the L.A. Philharmonic Orchestra Symphonies Under the Stars recently and he says that the season ticket sales has been extended to June 1 for the 1967 season. The extension also applies to season ticket plans for the Saturday nite "Pops" events and the Friday Family Specials of jazz, country-western, folk-rock, old standards and music in the Latin mood. This's all at the Hollywood Bowl, y'know and the season starts July 4th. But you still have 'til June 1st to get your tickets for the season so move a little.

Opening nite it will be soloist Van Cliburn at the piano with conducting chores under taken by Eugene Jochum.

Say, you know that special deal Sam Falla has going for you over there at his San Franciscan Restaurant in Torrance? The buck ninety-five offering of Prime Rib or Charbroiled Top Sirloin? Well that Prime Rib is of the CHOICE variety, y'know! It's on the menu daily from 5 'til 10.

That doesn't mean, of course, that Sam doesn't open 'til five! He's open every day by noon so you hungry lunch-bunch can partake of your midday repast without too much sweat. (Ooops! Sorry! Perspiration!)

If you're in the mood for the exotica bit, plus a whole bunch of fun and friendly people, you can't miss when you hit Rose and Louis Song's Tea House. Ron and Ronnie can put together some of the most delectable of exotic

Polynesian cocktails you'll ever sample back there in the Tea House of the August Moon cocktail lounge. "That's where the action is," too, by the way.

And on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nites back there when you get Tosh and his crowd giving pianogal Gale Stoddard a hard time, you know there's fun to be had. However, not many ever give that "Manila Bombshell" a hard time.

Meanwhile, the nice quiet family-style dining goes on out front just as always with the truly great Cantonese food offered at the Tea House.

To spot the Tea House, just keep your eye peeled to the left as you travel toward Pacific Coast Highway on Crenshaw and you'll see the big new sign. Millions of parking at the Tea House, too, so don't be a stranger. Especially now that the baseball season's here when Ronnie's forever whipping up a Bus Party for either Anaheim or Dodger Stadium. Let's make it!

Tickets On Sale For 'Oz'

Tickets are on sale at El Camino College for the Children's Theater production of "Land of Oz."

Performances are scheduled June 2 at 7:30 p.m., June 3 at 10:30 a.m., and 1:30 and 3:30 p.m., and June 4 at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Directed by Dr. Howard Banks of the theater arts department, the play is especially for children. General admission is 75 cents. There are no reserved seats.

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