

Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

Do Your Own Thing

Just as the current hit musical says! Simply because society says you must do certain things, and in a certain way, it doesn't necessarily follow that you should knuckle under to these dictates.

For example, maybe "everyone else" is going to Perino's or Chasenes for dinner! Does that mean you must also go there? No way! If you feel like going to Gertie Greasy Spoon and have a hamburger rather than Pheasant under glass—then you go right ahead and have a ball!

The same thing holds true regarding this wine business. All the best gourmet books and authorities say you must have a certain wine with a particular entrée. Not so! If you like and prefer a red wine then go ahead and have it, whether you're dining on steak, chicken, or seafood. If it hits your taste buds just right then that's the wine for you. So there, too!

You'll find a lot of restaurateurs in the Southland who might disagree with this theory but so what! Do your own thing!

Owner-host of the Mador Restaurant, Bill Fremont might be a dissenter along these lines although it's doubtful. He's got an offering over there in West Los Angeles right now during these warm evenings that originated in Andalusia, the

hottest province of Spain—and a most cooling repast.

Goes like this; cold gazpacho soup, pepper steak a la Citana and washed down with the cooling beverage, Sangria.

Gazpacho is a blend of raw vegetables while the pepper steak is a 14-ounce charcoal broiled eastern prime New York sirloin. The fat is trimmed off and it's then topped with green pepper, mushrooms, and onions sautéed in dry sherry. Sound good? It is!

And in case you didn't know, Sangria is fresh fruit marinated in red Spanish table wine, brandy and soda water, and then served ice cold.

Enjoying some of these delicacies recently were Bette Davis, Rita Hayworth, Fess Parker, Cary Grant, Jimmy Dean, and Harry James. See? All come!

Say, y'know a nice cooling spot in the Southland to which to repair following a hot day of toil? On board the S. S. Princess Louise at Terminal Island, that's where!

Spent a most enjoyable couple of hours down there on one of our hottest days last week and relaxing is the word for it.

It seems every time you visit "the boat" (Spence Van Winkle checked us on that last week, too! Seems a boat is anything small enough to

be carried on a ship!) they've added something else to make your "cruise" just that much more enjoyable.

For instance, just outside the main bar and up forward owner Jerry Sutton has now placed the intimate piano bar in a spot that before was a complete waste of space. It originally was on the boat deck just above where it missed a lot of play, catching only the overflow from below.

Ran into newly appointed public relations executive Jack Blanck up in the main lounge that evening and he's got some startling ideas coming up for The Princess. Co-owners-hosts Sutton and Mike Morrell along with manager Dick Fox have set up quarters right on board for Jack so that he'll be on hand for anything that might occur. In other words "where the happening is."

Meanwhile of course, Bob, Bill, and George are still doing the honors at the big main bar for your mixing delights, and lovelies like Pretty Nancy, Pert Roz, Legs Jane, Pixie Dixie, the two blondkins Dawn and Zonia, and "Rip" Van Winkle's daughter, Fran, carry out the duties of carrying out the drinks to you and yours.

That was a grand affair they held on board these couple weeks back in honor of just about everybody. It was Sam Yorty Nite and the dinner that Chef de Cuisine, Paul Peron whipped up was nothing short of sensational. A true gourmet's delight. A strictly Continental menu.

It's music nite in the Harbor View Room by Scott Allen and in the Captain's Ballroom it was Gloria Bryant.

Cheesy-wheezy, a guy sure



SEXY - SAXEY—Above is one of the finest valve gals in the business. She's Ivy Black, appearing every weekend with The Playmates at the San Franciscan Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge.



PRETTY IS AS PRETTY DOES . . . And is this not a pretty duo? They are, left, Sammi Fo and Candy Johnson, appearing with the Buddy Fo Revue at Hop Louie's Latitude 20 in Torrance.

has to keep on his toes these days to stay with all the new groups coming up! Let's look for a second at the current entertainment at the International Hotel in the Trophy Lounge it's the Childhood's End Trio! Now what on earth is that!

One can only assume that these lads have just arrived at the tender age "of age" by their title. We've not as yet heard them but knowing the penchant The International has for good entertainment we can only guess that they're a top group.

Originally from Texas, the Childhood's End Trio play on the progressive side and have developed a unique blend of modern vocal and instrumental music that is rapidly becoming their trademark.

They're really not Texans, though, two coming from Louisiana and the other from Massachusetts. Tobias Henderson Jr. plays lead guitar and handles vocals, William Thomas Brow Jr. (Woosh, such high-fallutin' names!) does the electric guitar and bass, while William Darryl Welch is the drummer and is known as "Hatchet." (Ah-h-h, that takes the sting out of all those impressive sounding names!)

Then over in the Penthouse Lounge they're presenting the Jeff Jefferson Trio with a new sound of blues-rock for entertainment and dancing. Here, too, is music of tomorrow today!

Jeff is on tenor sax and flute, Edgar Ennis makes with the drums, and holding up the vocal chores is local boy Billy Stafford, while on piano it's C. R. Hunter. (Hey, wait a minute! That's FOUR!)

The International Hotel's Penthouse Restaurant and Hunt Room adjacent to the Lounge offer the opportunity for an unusually fine evening of dining, dancing and entertainment.

To be sure, Petroff may not sound just like the type of name to feature barbecued foods but then, why not. Must they stick with such things as goulash and all stuff like that there just 'cause the name is Petroff? Now y'see? Pete and Anne Petroff even are "doing their own thing" and have been for more than 20 years over there on Hawthorne Boulevard in Inglewood under the name of BBQ Pete's Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge and a thriving "thing" it is, too.

You can't get much better than the fine BBQ goodies that come out of BBQ Pete's. They feature such mouth-watering delights as ribs,

chicken, short ribs, steaks, fish, yes and even spaghetti and pizza, not to mention excellent Mexican dishes for your approval.

Adding to all this is the warm and friendly cocktail lounge where many friends meet regularly and in the event you don't happen to know anyone at the bar when you come in, it'll be a short time before you'll know everyone there. It's that kind of friendly spot.

So get the BBQ Pete Restaurant habit and live a little.

Been to France lately? Or even partaken of any true French food? Well now you can rectify all that if you haven't just by visiting one of Los Angeles' oldest and most authentic French restaurants—Robaire's at 348 S. La Brea where not only is the cuisine Parisian but the motif as well providing the unusual in distinctive dining.

20th Century Fox studios is currently shooting a film, "Justine," on location in Tunisia, and prior to their departure Robert Robaire invited the cast and crew to sample the national dish of Tunisia. A little goodie known as Cous Cous.

Now here's one that takes a full day's preparation and consists of wheat hearts, meats, and vegetables, and

Curtain Going Up

CHAPEL THEATRE—"Curse You, Jack Dalton," by Wilbur Braun, directed by Jim Vogl. Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 p.m., Sundays, 8 p.m. Aug. 16 through Sept. 14. 2222 Lomita Blvd. 373-3636

SHOWCASE THEATRE—"Stop the World, I Want to Get Off," musical comedy directed by Roland Petell. Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 p.m., through Aug. 17. 13752 S. Prairie Ave. 672-5420.

LONG BEACH COMMUNITY PLAYERS—"The Happiest Millionaire," comedy by Kyle Crichton, directed by Bertrand Tanswell, Thursdays, 7:45 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 p.m. through Sept. 7. 5021 E. Anaheim St. Long Beach, 438-0536

KENTWOOD PLAYERS—"The Odd Couple," comedy by Neil Simon, directed by Paul Kaufman. Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 p.m., Sundays, 8 p.m., through Aug. 17. 8301 S. Hindry Ave., Westchester, 645-5156.



is served only on the last Wednesday of the month at Robaire's. Or, of course, should you have a party of 20 or more persons and would like something just a little special, Robaire's will come through.

Just what "last Wednesday in the month" means we couldn't say but there must be a reason. Maybe it has something to do with a tradition in Tunisia. Who knows.

Anyway, Robaire is open. Tuesday through Sunday for dinner and banquets. Call 931-1246 for reservations, is a suggestion.

Well, Len Pucci finally made it to Canton after all this time and all his talk! Only difference, this is Canton, Ohio—not Can-ton, China!

Yes, old Len went back to Ohio as the West Coast rep-

resentative for the Hall of Fame. And there's nothing infamous about that!

Stopped by Pucci's Wall Street West one day last week and Mike Pucci was giving us the word. He also gave us the word on "The Happening" over there in the Union Bank Building on Hawthorne Boulevard in Torrance.

This deal is strictly for the ladies, however, but you guys shouldn't mind. Should attract a lot of the fairer sex to the spot. It's a cocktail hour thing, Monday through Friday from five 'til seven when the gals get by for a half a buck a pop, no matter what they order. How's that grab you!

But the businessman's luncheon there from 11 to 3 is something to talk about. Try it one noon soon. Really excellent and is becoming most popular.

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KMPC's Ira Cook says: "Simply Great!—Don't Miss It!"
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