

Starring

Tom Ewell Plans Rest

Important Actors In 'Court Jester'

BY HEDDA HOPPER
Hollywood Columnist

HOLLYWOOD—Tom Ewell isn't turning his back on Hollywood when he returns to Broadway and "The Seven-Year Itch" on completion of this picture out here. He has been signed to make more films under the Charles Feldman-Billy Wilder setup. And he will do one picture a year for 20th Century-Fox. This might be "The Sheriff of Fractured Jaw" which Sam Engel is producing. It's the story of a mild gun salesman mistaken for a bad man in a western town during the wild and woolly days, and drafted as the law. Tom would be a riot. He's been besieged with offers on all sides but will take a month's rest on completion of "Seven-Year Itch" before returning to the footlights.

Betty Caulfield—sister of Joan—makes her screen debut in "A Man Called Peter," playing the role of a college girl who gets stage fright in an oratorical contest. Betty is well known on Broadway she followed her sister in "Kiss and Tell" and has been with the Alfred Lunts. She's been out of circulation since her marriage four years ago to Carl Vitor, an airlines pilot, devoting herself to domestic duties and to her two small daughters.

Jean Galus Weight

"The authentic British touch comes to 'The Court Jester' with Cecil Parker and James Robertson Justice who are being imported by Panama and Frank for the Danny Kaye film. Parker, who is known for his work in Alec Guinness pictures, plays the king, Roderick I, to whom Danny is jester. Justice is cast as the "gruesome Sir Griswold." Kaye will provide the laughs and Glynis Johns the glamor. Margaret Hayes flew in from New York to test for the role of the schoolteacher in "The Blackboard Jungle."

Jean Simmons, arriving in England to a big welcome after an absence of four years, said, "Happiness is fattening—I put on two pounds in Hollywood." She told the press her first year in our town was terrible: "I had no friends, I lost weight through sheer misery, and was forced to make some awful pictures. Jimmy (husband Stewart Granger), too, was finding it hard to settle down. But Hollywood likes him a whole lot better now."

John Huston seems the only happy one on the "Moby Dick" set, which will be the most expensive picture made in Great Britain—to date. It's cost more than \$4,000,000. In an interview recently John said, chuckling, "Brother, have I got problems! But the studio's been very nice. After all, it's only a matter of an odd million dollars or so."

FOX THEATERS ELECT

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Elmer C. Rhoden, 61, president of Fox Midwest Theaters in Kansas City, Mo., Thursday was elected president of National Theaters, Inc., succeeding the late Charles P. Skouras as head of the nationwide theater chain.

Brides-to-Be, Ex-Wives Mingle at Movie Fetes

BY SHEILAH GRAHAM
North American Newspaper Alliance

HOLLYWOOD—Debbie Reynolds gave a pink chemise to Pier Angeli and a blue one to Jane Powell at the Helen Rose shower for the brides-to-be...



Sheilah Graham

Marilyn Maxwell and fiancee Jerry Davis are off to Palm Springs for a week, full of plans for their marriage November 21. Add strange encounters: Nora Eddington Flynn Haymes entering Ciro's with Hal Stanley to see Joel Gray's act just as Hal's ex-wife, Kay Starr, was leaving. All nodded most politely.

Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh have a date for Thanksgiving in New York. Both expect to finish their respective pictures in time. Janet's on the last lap of "My Sister Eileen." Tony is winding up "The Purple Mask."

Bob Hope, a big hit in Liverpool prior to his London opening, kept calm when they told him there was a suburb close by named "Crosby." "Hasn't it been condemned?" Bob asked with a straight face. Between shows Bob played a golf match for his favorite Boysland charity with famed British golfer Henry Cotton.

Jean Simmons, in London, described Robert Mitchum as "an intellectual," and revealed that master Bob writes poetry! Of Victor Mature, her costar in "The Robe" and "The Egyptian," she said, "He's a jovial type who doesn't take himself too seriously." And about "Desiree" costar Marlon Brando: "There isn't any doubt that he's the finest young actor in the world. I didn't notice any moodiness or odd little ways. He struck me as a perfectly normal young man. Why, he even likes football."

Gina Meets Queen

Gina Lollobrigida is living. In the same week she met President Eisenhower in Washington and young Queen Elizabeth at a command performance in London. But little Carol Haney is still spinning after meeting the gracious queen mother back stage in New York.

Madge Meredith is set as Audie Murphy's sister in "To Hell and Back." She also had a part with him in "Tumbleweed." So the movie career for the girl who was pardoned after serving part of a prison term is progressing.

So is the theater school run by Dan O'Herlihy—he was the newest and best of the screen Robinson Crusoes. His Hollywood repertory theater has six teachers and 80 pupils, which include a bartender, a truck driver and a waiter.

Marilyn Late Again

Why doesn't Paramount give Maria English the same kind of build-up Columbia is giving Kim Novak? I watched Maria walk into the Paramount cafe Monday and there wasn't a man who didn't stop eating to stare. She's a Monroeish type.

Which reminds me, Marilyn was two hours late for work the other day and it was kind of funny to watch Director Billy Wilder, the cast and crew, waiting outside the sound stage of "The Seven Year Itch" just itching to get rolling.

WIN praise as a host!

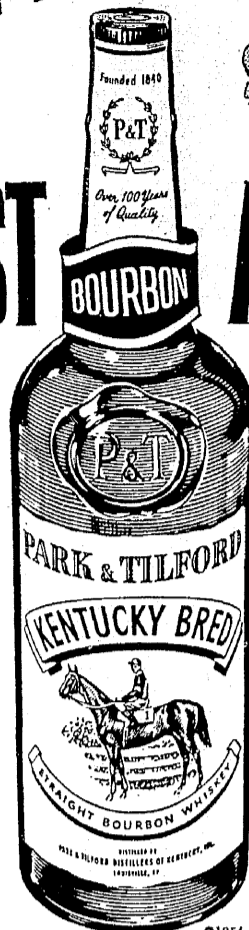
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Billy Graham in 'SOULS IN CONFLICT'



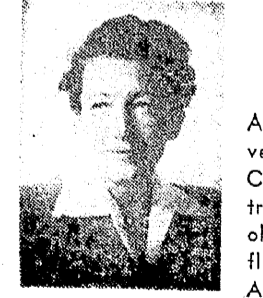
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Players Slate Annual Variety

Academy Players will present their fourth annual production of "music and Words," a variety program, this Friday and Saturday nights at 8 o'clock in Concordia college gymnasium, Northeast 27th avenue and Highland street.

The program includes musical acts, one-act plays, readings, clowns and novelty acts. Rodger Venske will serve as master of ceremonies.

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