

Hollywood Scene

By ERSKINE JOHNSON

HOLLYWOOD, (NEA)—Behind the Screen: Love-making, 1925 style is back and Hollywood's got it along with television.

Producer Edward Small is still denying that Eleanor Parker plays

silent film queen Agnes Ayres in "Valentino," but in one of the picture's big sequences there's a love scene between Eleanor and Tony Dexter, as the Oomph Boy, in a sheik's tent. Richard Carlson plays a pioneer movie director.

"It's love-making in the 1925 style," Carlson told me, "and I keep yelling instructions at them and hamming it up."

The Valentino set is closed tighter than Ft. Knox, with even the press barred. It's Carlson's idea that Producer Small has closed the set to help Dexter, a ringer for Valentino, fill the toughest assignment in screen history. He says: "It's incredible to watch Dexter. He has to be accepted by every Valentino fan and I believe he will be."

The romance between Ted Brisken, Betty Hutton's ex, and Fran Keegan of "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" is hotter than the weather. Jean Hersholt says "D r. Christian" will be on TV within two years.

There's also a video series on the griddle for Van Heflin. CBS WANTS HIM TO PLAY A TOUGH EDITOR OF A METROPOLITAN PAPER FOR A WEEKLY SHOW. Mickey Rooney is wearing a worried look. His wife, Martha Vickers, is under doctor's care for an internal ailment.

M-BOMB MAKES HIT

Mae Murray's comeback in a dance act at the Macambo last month, has brought her offers of



THE JUNIORS GO TO SEA—Southern California junior yachtsmen practice for the 15th annual "Flight of the Snowbirds," their own regatta in Greater Newport Harbor, Cal.

tours to England and Australia, plus a U. S. night club tour. She says:

"There are so many offers I think, 'What is this? I guess I'm just the M-Bomb.'" Howard da Silva's opinion on actors who leave Hollywood for Broadway: "It's a good thing. Actors are migratory workers. No

Road To Riches Begins With Debt, Tycoon Says

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The road to wealth can be paved with debts. H. J. Crawford of Emlenton, Pa., wealthy financier and oil promoter testifying yesterday at a power commission hearing, said he is 83½ years old and "On Jan. 1, two years ago, I got out of debt for the first time since I was 12."

"Every young man who has pride in himself ought to buy something, and get into debt. He'd spend the money for something else, anyway. That's how I did it."

actor has the right to sink his roots down in Hollywood for good. . . . Walter O'Keefe's "Double or Nothing" film may be picked up by Paramount for Betty Hutton.

The Stanley Kramer organization was puzzled when an agent called to ask if they were doing a re-make of a picture in which Kay Francis and Ronald Colman once costarred. The title was "Cynara"—NOT "Cyrano de Bergerac."

"The Cherry Orchard" opened at a Hollywood little theater and all the studio talent scouts were invited to scan the talent. Next day 20th Century Fox signed Jack Kelly for a role in "Call Me Mister." Kelly wasn't in the play. He's the manager of the theater!

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years in order to be near the grave of her husband. Theodora's agent describes it:

"A sort of Western Barretts of Wimpole Street." Howard da Silva's opinion on actors who leave Hollywood for Broadway: "It's a good thing. Actors are migratory workers. No

"Hollywood Leg Man," a behind-the-scenes account of gossip-gathering in movietown, hits the book stalls in August. Author Jaik

Rosenstein says that the list of personalities to get the barbecue treatment is too long to mention. But he admits that Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall get turned over the hot charcoal.

Jack Paar's explanation of his three years at RKO during which he played only one minor role: "I was always too young for old parts and too old for young parts. It was very confusing. I didn't know which way to grow."

The Ritter Finger
First time Joe Mankiewicz interviewed Thelma Ritter for her beer-guzzling role in "Letter to Three Wives," she had a cut finger and was wearing a bandage. The bandage necessitated Thelma keeping the finger pointed skyward and finally the distracted Joe interrupted their talk with:

"Tell me, Thelma, did you have that finger wrapped as a gift?" Mary McCarty, here with "Miss Liberty," will do the Rosalind Russell role in the TV series of "My Sister Eileen." . . . Johnny Mack Brown's daughter, Jane Harriet, mixed an acting career for the role of sketch artist for a California fashion magazine.

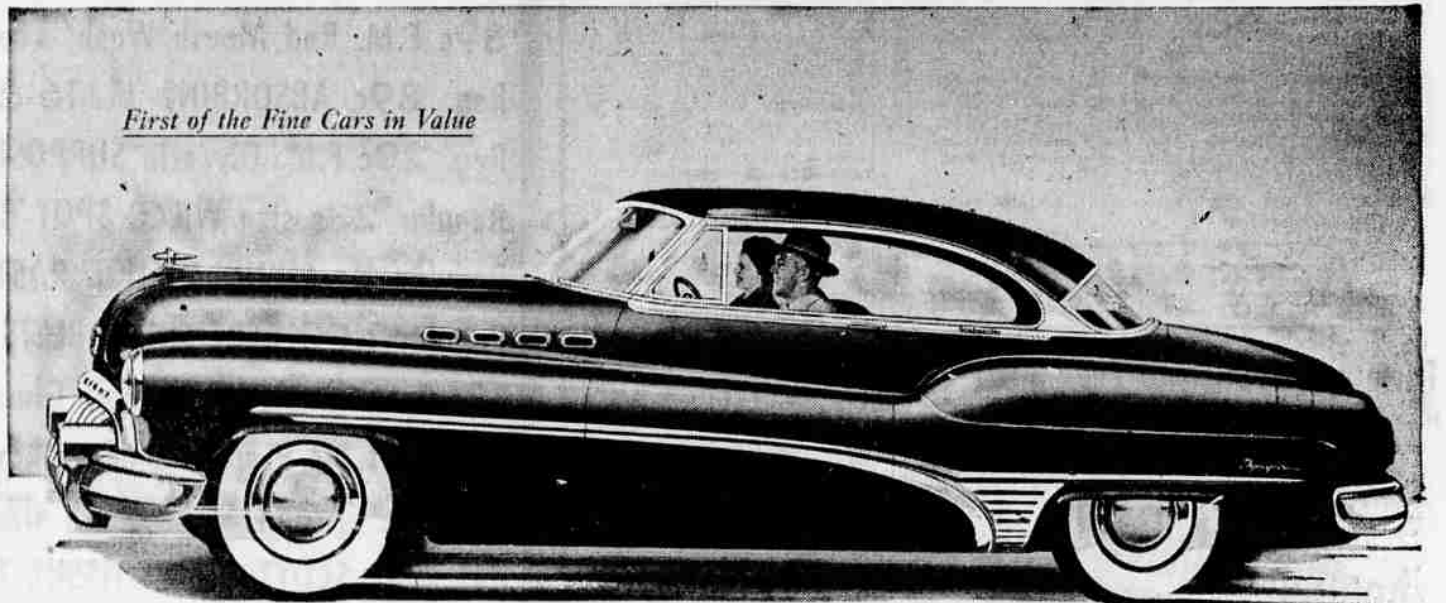
Olivia de Havilland and Director Hugo Freygnese are huddling on a screenplay tagged "Frenchie McCormick." It was written by actress-singer Theodora Lynch and concerns a woman who lived in a deserted ghost town for 20

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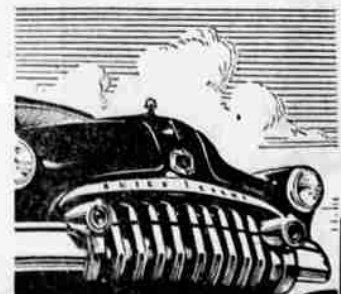
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