

Todd At Peak Of Career Was Show Business' Most Dynamic Personality Today

HOLLYWOOD, Pa. — Mike Todd, whose plane crashed and burned in the mountains of New Mexico Saturday, was at the peak of his career as show business' most dynamic, colorful producer of the day.

Born 50 years ago in Minneapolis, he lost and made millions. After a stint of Broadway successes, he produced a movie "Around The World In 80 Days"—his first picture—that won five Hollywood Oscars last year and has done fabulous business.

He married film star Elizabeth Taylor, his third wife, Feb. 2, 1957. His second wife, actress Joan Blondell, divorced him in 1950. His first died in 1946.

Todd, often described as the modern Barnum and boy wonder producer, did everything on a lavish scale.

Legend On Broadway

On Broadway he was a legend as producer of extravagant tall-girl musicals who was loaded on Monday and broke on Tuesday.

He was known as a spectacular gambler and could drop \$25,000 in one night's gin rummy and a shrewd but erratic showman-promoter who didn't spend \$100,000 where it was possible to spend \$400,000.

A cigar-puffing big operator, he lived up to his 100 suits and \$2,000-a-month personal telephone bill.

But a few years ago he told an interviewer that all that was behind him.

"Give me peace of mind, friendship," he said. "That's important. To do the right thing, I'm sorry for the guys who can't do the right thing."

"There's nothing you can buy that will give you as much satisfaction as making an honest buck."

Don't Be A Sucker

"Like I told my son recently, you trust everybody but don't put yourself in the position where they can make you a sucker."

"Why do I stick to show business? Well, supposing I had \$100,000,000. What could give me more fun—a yacht, 20 dames? Naw, nothing."

"I've never been poor, only broke. Being poor is a frame of mind. Being broke is a temporary situation."

In 1947 he was close to banking more than a million dollars. Since 1937 he had produced nearly a score of shows including "Hot Mikado," "Mexican Hayride," "Something For The Boys" and "Up in Central Park."

The shows had grossed a total of nearly 18 million but in 1947

Million Claimed Spent To School Trujillo's Son; Congressman Miffed

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressmen are put "behind the eight ball" when the dictator of a country receiving U.S. aid reportedly spends a million dollars to send his son to school in America for a year.

Rep. Wayne Hays (D-Ohio) said this recently in referring to Dominican chief Rafael Trujillo at a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing.

In March 5 closed-door testimony made public Thursday, Hays reported a published account that Trujillo's son occupies the whole floor of a Kansas City hotel and uses a fleet of automobiles, a weekend ranchhouse and other luxuries costing an estimated million dollars a year.

Meanwhile the Dominican Republic is earmarked for \$1,000,000 in aid this year, Hays said.

"That is the kind of little things that the newspapers pick up and make a big story out of, and it puts us behind the eight ball," he added.

Rep. Fulton (R-Pa.) joined John O'By, a deputy director of the International Cooperation Administration, in defending the aid use.

Fulton said the Caribbean countries are cooperating on U.S. missile ranges and on anti-submarine efforts and that these nations have built installations helpful in the cold war.

Rocket Powered Sled Travels 2,704 M.P.H.

ALAMOGORDO, N.M. — A rocket powered sled reached a top speed of 2,704 m.p.h. Friday for what the Air Force Missile Development Center said was a world record.

The center said the previous record was 2,580 m.p.h. set at China Lake, Calif., by the Navy.

The fast run was made on the new 35,000-foot monorail track being completed for use in captive missile tests.

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Hope Says Russians Like Rock 'n' Roll, American Clothes

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Comedian Bob Hope Saturday came home from a week's visit to Moscow and reported that the Russians like American clothes, rock 'n' roll music and even humor.

He found them quite touchy on the subject of "American spunk," however, and said they didn't seem to "dig" some of the Hope-type wisecracker.

He termed the visit very interesting and said: "I wouldn't have missed it for anything. It's an amazing picture there. It looked like a casting lot for 'Lost Horizons' or a Charlie Chan picture. There were about 40 different types of people."

"The Russians are interested in American entertainment. They like American humor. They dig most of the jokes. They watch us closely. They are wearing our clothing and they would like to have more."

Hope filmed a television show while in Moscow—the first U.S. entertainer ever to do so. The film—whatever parts of it the Russians don't frown upon—is to be televised in this country April 5.

Hope said Soviet interpreters and a technical crew were assigned to the filming. The technicians who processed the film held it 36 hours and then made "suggestions" as to how it might be used or cut, he said. As for the visit in general, Hope said: "They gave us great treatment all the way."

Pinball Games Which Give Free Games Illegal

SALEM, Ore. — Pinball games which give free games are illegal in Oregon, Atty. Gen. Robert Y. Thornton held Friday in an opinion for Dist. Atty. Eugene C. Venn of Lane County.

Thornton said he reaffirmed an attorney general's opinion of 10 years ago.

A copy of the new opinion was sent to all district attorneys in the state with Thornton's promise to give his full power to any district attorney in enforcing the laws.

Thornton's letter to Venn said: "I concur with the conclusions reached in both prior opinions that pinball games which, upon deposit of a coin, slug, token or other representative of value, award free plays, depending upon chance, are gaming devices and are prohibited by laws of this state."

"As you are aware, our Supreme Court has never passed on this question. However, based upon the decisions of the supreme courts of the several states that have passed on this same question, it is my opinion that these so-called free play machines violate both ORS 167.325 and 167.335."

Pinball games solely for amusement are legal.

3 Roseburg Men Shared War Prison Experience

(Continued from Page 1)

the camp by the Japanese captors. From that day on, the grim work of burying their fellow prisoners nearly ceased for the three men.

The three men sitting around the dinner table offered startling examples of the physical condition which the prisoners reached not long after capture. Brooke's normal weight had been 185 pounds and he had lost about 120. Mattson's weight when he arrived in Japan was exactly 103 pounds. General Beecher weighed 123 pounds.

Taken From Philippines

In 1942 the men were taken from the Philippines. Beecher, who was a lieutenant colonel in the Marines when taken prisoner, was transferred to Korea. Brooke and Mattson, Army men, were taken to Japan to work in coal mines.

It was this assignment that enabled Mattson to learn the exact weight. He said the prisoners were given what was called a "physical examination" to determine whether they were fit to work underground. His weight of 103 pounds convinced the Japanese he was capable of working in the mines and work he did.

The prisoners worked in the mines each day with a production quota to be met before they could emerge. To do this arduous work, the men were given a handful of rice daily. Once in a while there would be a bit of fish but meat was almost entirely lacking. "I can remember exactly how many times I got any meat," Brooke said. "It was three times."

A pleasant recollection was shared by all three as they exchanged information about the food drops made at the prison camps after the Japanese surrender. They dropped everything, the men recalled.

"It's a wonder some of us weren't killed with the good food," one said. They told of their own and others' experiences of becoming violently ill from eating even small amounts of the food parachuted to them. The men would recover and then try it all over again.

The men did not know one another at the time they were prisoners but they left the restaurant good friends with mutual ties—a shared harrowing experience and a healthy respect for the American Red Cross.

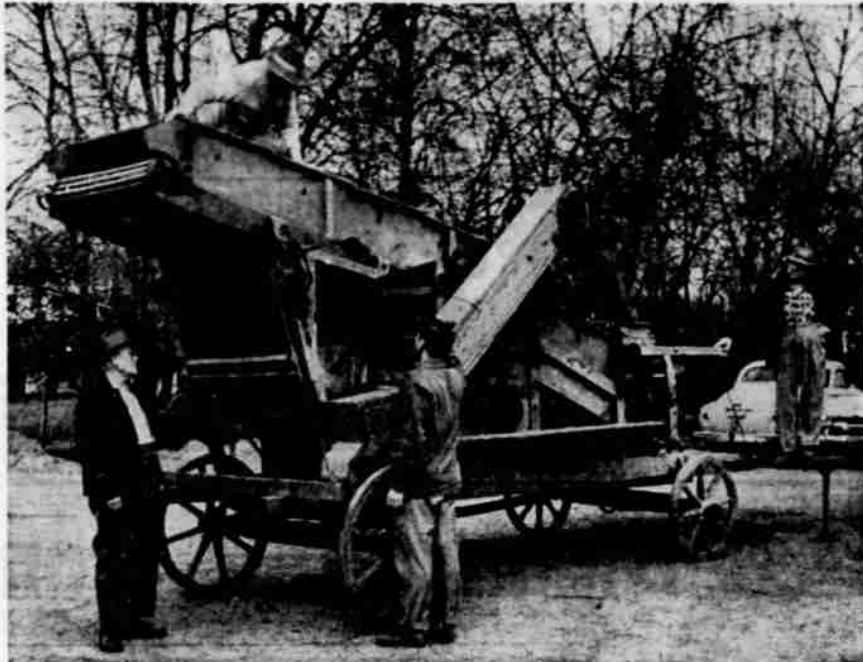
The newspaper earlier had said a device was planted in the 14,000-ton liner Ancon, carrying 109 passengers and crew of 128, but no bomb was found.

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OLD TIMER — Some remnants of the past have an undignified ending, but such will not be the case with this grain separator, which has been donated to the Roseburg Historical Society. The machine, now parked in the city shops, might be located in the new city park. An official of a farm machinery firm is investigating the history of the grain separator and he plans to inform the society of his findings. (Paul Jenkins.)

New Hilton Hotel In Havana Under Heavy Guard

HAVANA, Cuba — The new 24 million dollar Havana Hilton was probably the world's most heavily guarded hotel Saturday.

A tight network of 90 armed police was stationed around the hotel. They guarded every entrance and swarmed through the corridors.

The police kept a sharp watch on the 300 guests of hotel owner Conrad Hilton, including a dozen Hollywood stars to forestall any possible rebel kidnapping or bombing attempts. Some automobiles near the hotel were searched for arms.

A corps of top gambling experts from Las Vegas, Nev., moved in to run the hotel's plush casino. A syndicate headed by Roberto Mendoza, a wealthy Cuban contractor and sugar planter, and Clifford Jones, former Democratic lieutenant governor of Nevada, will pay the Cuban union of gastro-nomic workers one million dollars annually for the privilege. The union owns the 30-story 630-room Hilton-managed hotel, which will be opened to the public Sunday.

Seventy-five per cent of the shares in the oblong gold-and-green casino are owned by Mendoza and another prominent Cuban contractor, Pedro Suarez.

The other 25 per cent is held by Jones. About 5 per cent of that will go to Republican state Sen. Kenneth F. Johnson of Nevada, and 2 per cent to Sidney Orseke, a New York lawyer.

Eisenhower Flies To Georgia For Sunshine, Golf

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Seeking a haven from wintry Washington, President Eisenhower flew here Saturday for a weekend of sunshine and golf.

Augusta's weather was clear and brisk when Eisenhower arrived. When the President left Washington the sun was shining intermittently but the mercury was in the 30s.

Eisenhower was accompanied by William E. Robinson of New York, president of the Coca Cola Co.; Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, President of the American Red Cross; Maj. Gen. Howard M. Snyder, White House physician, and press secretary James C. Hagerty.

Hagerty said Eisenhower decided to "get away from the weather" which forced cancellation of a planned flight to West Point, N.Y., Friday.

Truman And Jack Benny On Benefit Program

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Harry Truman, who used to be the greatest authority in the land, will wield a baton and act as master of ceremonies tonight at a concert organized to get the Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra out of the red.

Appearing with him—as violin soloist—will be comedian Jack Benny.

The former president, a vigorous 75-year-old who can match Benny quip for quip, will conduct the orchestra in the Star Spangled Banner and at least one other number.

He may do more. Truman insists he won't play the piano—a favorite pastime which he does rather well. He and Benny said yesterday they certainly won't play a duet.

Former News Cameraman Held For Bomb Scare

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BIRTHS

Douglas Community Hospital

KNUTSEN — To Mr. and Mrs. Carl M. Knutsen, 1118 NE Walnut, Roseburg, March 11, a daughter, Kerry; weight 8 pounds 3 ounces.

CULLETT — To Mr. and Mrs. John C. Cullett, Rt. 1 Myrtle Creek, March 11, a son, Jessie Dean; weight 5 pounds 8 ounces.

BATES — To Mr. and Mrs. Cecil E. Bates, Rt. 3 Box 1776, Roseburg, March 11, a son, James Edward; weight 7 pounds 4 ounces.

LAMPERT — To Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Lampert, PO Box 61, Glendale, March 11, a daughter, Mary Irene; weight 7 pounds 9 1/2 ounces.

SLABAUGH — To Mr. and Mrs. Alfred M. Slabough, PO Box 240, Dillard, March 11, a son, Henry Perry; weight 6 pounds 8 1/2 ounces.

STONE — To Mr. and Mrs. Roy M. Stone, PO Box 353, Myrtle Creek, March 12, a daughter, Sheila Diane; weight 7 pounds 11 1/2 ounces.

ALLEXANDER — To Mr. and Mrs. Archie R. Alexander, 425 NE Emerald Lane, Roseburg, March 12, a son, William Allison; weight 7 pounds 11 1/2 ounces.

BOAZ — To Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Boaz, 292 Fowler, Roseburg, March 12, a daughter, Diana Jean; weight 6 pounds 3 1/2 ounces.

DENN — To Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie T. Denn, 322 SE Pitzer, Roseburg, March 12, a son, Randy Wayne; weight 9 pounds 2 1/2 ounces.

CANNON — To Mr. and Mrs. George W. Cannon Sr., PO Box 561, Oakland, March 14, a son, George Wiley Jr.; weight 8 pounds 4 ounces.

BEAMER — To Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Beamer, 4057 SW Stella, Roseburg, March 15, a daughter, Rosula Marie; weight 9 pounds 8 1/2 ounces.

BUCHHOLZ — To Mr. and Mrs. Gary G. Buchholz, 5235 SW Dillard Hwy., Roseburg, March 16, a son, Robert Glen; weight 8 pounds 6 1/2 ounces.

SANDERS — To Mr. and Mrs. Eli L. Sanders, Rt. 3 Box 1740, Roseburg, March 19, a son, William LeRon; weight 7 pounds 13 ounces.

SWIFT — To Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Swift, Star Rt. Box 54, Winston, March 19, a daughter, Laurie Jean; weight 8 pounds 7 1/2 ounces.

STEVENSON — To Mr. and Mrs. Clive N. Stevenson, Rt. 4 Box 343, Roseburg, March 20, a daughter, Elizabeth Annie; weight 6 pounds 9 1/2 ounces.

Mrs. Hurd Dies At Local Home

Mrs. Edna Elders Hurd died Friday in her home on Masters Street.

She was born Jan. 6, 1882, at Median City, Tex. She is survived by her husband, Bert; two sons, Claude Elders of Comptche, Calif. and Wesley Elders of Grants Pass, Ore.; one sister, Mrs. Vera Conn of Roseburg.

The body has been removed to the Chapel of the Roses in Roseburg. Funeral services will be announced upon arrival of relatives.

FIRE KILLS SIX

GASPORT, N.Y. — Fire swept through a small frame cottage near this western New York community early Saturday and took the lives of a mother and five of her children.

Trapped in the single bedroom of the three-room, one-story structure were the mother, Mrs. Gladys Burrows, her daughter Josephine, 13, and her sons Joseph, 11, Terry Lee, 7, Ronnie, 6, and Garry Gene, 20 months.

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16 DIE IN FIRE

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ALL CONGREGATIONALISTS

And forward looking people without a church home in Roseburg
YOU ARE INVITED—

To a Potluck supper and meeting with Dr. Paul Davies and members of State Planning committee for new churches.

Monday—March 24—6:15 P.M.
Seventh Day Adventist School — 655 Umpqua St.
For further information: Phone Mrs. H. H. Hughes, OR 3-7991 or Mrs. E. Spearow, OR 2-3778

News Reporter Tells About Riding Around Town Under Gun Of Young Hitchhiker

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A Birmingham News reporter told around under the gun of a young hitchhiker for three hours Friday before talking the youth out of robbing or killing him.

Police reporter Bud Gordon finally persuaded the 15-year-old Birmingham boy to go with him to Gordon's close friend, the Rev. F. E. Jordan, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in nearby Bessemer.

After the reporter and preacher pleaded with the youth for 45 minutes he finally emptied the shells from the pistol and dropped the weapon on the floor. Gordon and Jordan agreed not to reveal the name of the boy, and the reporter drove him home.

Gordon said in a letter to "Bill," the only name used in his news paper account of the holdup, that the boy had a juvenile court record.

Picks Up Youth

Gordon picked up the youth as he was driving home from work. Soon afterwards the boy pulled a pistol.

When Gordon brought out his wallet, he held it so that the boy saw his police press pass.

"You saw the pass and the word 'police' and looked straight at me and said, 'Brother, if you're a cop, you're gonna be dead soon,'" Gordon wrote.

"I explained that the card meant I was a police reporter and that I had seen many boys like you ruin their lives trying to be big men. Remember how I tried to tell you of the seriousness of the crime you were ready to commit?"

"I talked and talked hard and the words came easy. For the first time my very life depended on the effect of the words I said. My throat was dry, my heart pounded, and I felt my palms become moist with sweat."

Don't Know What To Do

"I don't know what I finally said that reached you, Bill, but I remember breathing a sigh of relief when you said, 'Hell, now I don't know what to do. If I shoot you I'm a killer, and if I let you go, you'll run to the cops and I'll go to jail anyhow.'"

After more discussion the boy tucked the pistol into his belt and finally agreed to go to the home of the preacher. From there, Gordon drove him to his own home and let him out.

"I'm glad we decided to return you to your home and not mention the incident to your parents or the police," Gordon wrote. "I recall how you made me a promise when you shot me in the arm, and I recall the fear that rolled down your cheek and the sincere handshake you offered."

"All who read this will know our story, Bill, but only God, Rev. Jordan, you and I will know your real identity as long as you keep your word."

ASTORIA, Ore. — Members of the Oregon Legislative Interim Committee are split over a proposed state sales tax, with the income to go to schools.

Sen. Monroe Sweetland, Milwaukie Democrat, said here Friday the committee should not even consider the proposal, which is being pushed by Sen. Walter Pearson, Portland Democrat who heads the committee.

Pearson, said Sweetland, never should have set up a subcommittee to study the matter, since its assignment is outside the authority given by the Legislature.

But Sen. Philip B. Lowry, Medford Republican, said, "We are going to study the proposal thoroughly, and there will be no brain-washing in advance."

Lowry, who heads the subcommittee, said "some people are interested in gagging" the group.

Rep. Clarence Barton, Coquille Democrat, said that although he opposes such a tax, he does not oppose a study. He said it would show such a levy to be "double taxation on our people. It would be a handicap to industrial development in Oregon."

Pearson contended a new income source is needed because local property taxes now supply 62 per cent of education costs and this is "becoming confiscatory in many instances."

Sweetland said a subcommittee heads for study of a homestead tax which the plan already has a bill to introduce in the next Legislature.

He said it provides that taxes on a homestead owned and occupied by a person 65 or older could be deferred, with interest at 8 per cent to be collected either on death of the owner, or when the property changes ownership.

Clatsop County officials, at a morning session, spoke against a proposed change in the forest fee yield and tax law. The proposal to which they objected would remove the present veto power of county commissions and courts on classification of forest lands.

Red Cross Blood Center Talk Slated On Radio

A recorded talk by Dr. Bernard Pirola, medical director of the regional Red Cross blood center at Portland, will be broadcast on station KRLX Monday at 1:05 p.m. reports Mrs. Walter Brittle, county blood program chairman.

She said the talk is being aired to encourage donations of blood during next week's visits of the bloodmobile at Roseburg March 26 and 27 and at Myrtle Creek March 28.

He discusses new uses of blood, explanation of blood and blood derivatives. The recording also includes a panel discussion by him with two Portland physicians.

WASHINGTON — Some Democrats have jumped Secretary of Agriculture Benson on a new issue—a charge of bookburning.

Senators in both House and Senate accused the Agriculture Department Friday of destroying 2,500 copies of a recent farm census report which one senator said showed "the way this administration's policies have ruined the farmer."

One of the critics used the term "book burning."

The department acknowledged destroying the pamphlets because of what it called "a snafu." But it didn't say how they were destroyed.

"I don't think it's relevant how they were destroyed," said Asst. Secretary of Agriculture Don Paarlberg, who is in charge of farm population publications.

He said the pamphlets were destroyed because they were preliminary "working papers" containing incomplete information.

"A new report which was completely in line with previous reports in earlier years was issued," Paarlberg said. "In the report issued there were no statistical changes from the earlier report."

PLAIN TRUTH

By Glen W. Lundy: Gospel Evangelist

There is a loud clamor today for religious unity. Such unity should be the prayer of every heart that is interested in pleasing God. The framework of compromise upon which religious organizations are attempting to affect this desired unity, is neither sound nor acceptable in God's sight. Unity will come only when men have the intelligence to grasp and the courage to accept the New Testament plan of unity, Eph. 4: 1-6.

While pleading for unity, are the religious organizations of today ready to pay the price? Are they ready to forever lay aside those doctrines they have espoused, which have made them distinct from each other and thus lose their identity as a denomination and become one in Christ's Body (the Church)? Or is it their desire to compromise among themselves and thus retain their peculiar doctrines?

Cooperation among religious people will be attained only when we allow Christ and His doctrines to set the stage for unity. We have no right to ask or to expect God to compromise or come to terms with us; but rather we must come to His terms. There can be no unity until all are ready to lay aside every innovation, tradition, and dogma, and be guided entirely by that which the New Testament binds. Have you the courage and love for the truth sufficient to cause you to measure your belief by the Gospel of Christ, whatever the cost?

We urge you to hear Fred A. Amick, tonight on the subject, "The New and Living Way," then again tomorrow morning and evening. Worship where God's will is respected.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
211 MILITARY — ROSEBURG

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