

OUT OUR WAY



THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW

OUR BOARDING HOUSE with MAJOR HOOPLE



Big Climax Hooples

TELEVISION IN REVIEW

'Debasers' serviceable, but found watered down

By Fred Danzig UPI Staff Writer

NEW YORK (UPI)—I'll let you in on a secret. Every now and then, a letter from a reader will arrive. While I don't like to pin labels on my public, the fact is that most of my mail is labelable.

There are those which urge me to join a crusade. They write, "Bring back Pinky Lee," or "More shows for Brink Lee and Hunt Lee." On that last one, I'm not sure if they're saluting a pair of newscasters or a couple of laundrymen.

Other letter-writers will take the trouble to advise me that they are unable to share my views about, say, "Sing Along with Mitch." A certain degree of hostility toward me sometimes creeps into these notes. Others write that I must be kind to "The Price is Right" because Bill Cullen had polio as a child.

As for the majority of the letters, ahem, only my natural modesty prevents me from summarizing the contents. Kaff, kaff.

And then there are the "second chance" letters from producers of TV shows that were belted the first time around. Generally, they say, "Dear Sir: Granted we got off to a poor start with our new series, 'Frontier Backwoodsman,' but we have improved considerably since then and may we suggest that you take another look next week..."

Of course, I always accept these "second chance" invitations. I accept them even when they're

not mailed because, let's face it, that's my job. Besides, I'm always hoping the show will be good when I switch the clean screen on.

All this is by way of introduction to "Cain's Hundred." The letter from the producer's office arrived last Friday. It touted me on "The Debasers," Tuesday night's episode on this full-hour NBC-TV series.

The story, by S. S. Schweitzer, made a stab at gauging the effect of corruption on character, as the letter said it would. Neville Brand made it all too cut-and-dried in the role of a mighty industrialist who peddled pornographic literature on the side and employed a public relations expert to gold-plate his public image.

But after some wildly irresponsible and overwrought behavior by good guys and bad guys alike early in the show, things simmered down to a heart-to-heart morality play that was serviceable but watered down.

Anyhow, what makes this "second chance" story so different is that it turned out to be right. "The Debasers" was a big improvement over the earliest episodes in "Cain's Hundred." Can it be that now they know where they want to go?

I watch "The Dick Powell Show" even without the postal reminders. Tuesday night Peter Falk and Inger Stevens co-starred in "Price of Tomorrow," an hour that was filled with the gusty steam of life. It had credibility and compassion and managed to generate a high degree of excitement along the way.

And the hour had some thoroughly delightful performances. Falk portrayed a tough little truck driver with a heart of gold. He employed simple, human tones and gestures to build the part into a strong, palpable characterization. And Miss Stevens won my heart with her job as a hold-on, now-hitch-hiking immigrant who was a widow and an expectant mother.

The Channel Swim: A two-hour motion picture becomes part of ABC-TV's Sunday night schedule beginning April 8. Fifteen feature-length films from the United Artists catalogue, including "Witness for the Prosecution," "Marty," "The Pride and the Passion," will be presented during a 24-week period. Reports indicate the new series may replace ABC-TV's "Bus Stop" and "Adventures in Paradise," but a final decision hasn't been made.

Joseph Schildkraut will portray an ailing pathologist in "The Stepping Stone," now being prepared for future airing in NBC-TV's "Dr. Kildare" series.

A special about the FBI is being produced by Warner Bros. for presentation on ABC-TV and subsequent release overseas as a motion picture. Filming starts later this month.

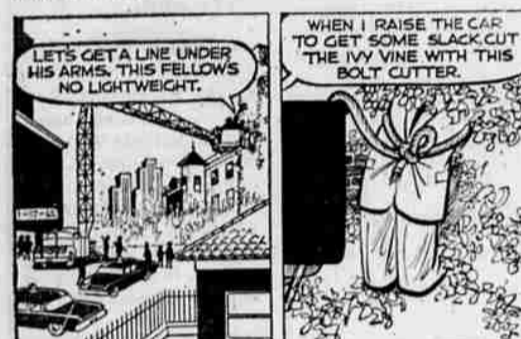


"But you CAN'T break that date for Saturday, Jimmy! It's already in my diary... in ink!"

STEVE CANYON



DICK TRACY



LAL ABNER



REX MORGAN, M.D.



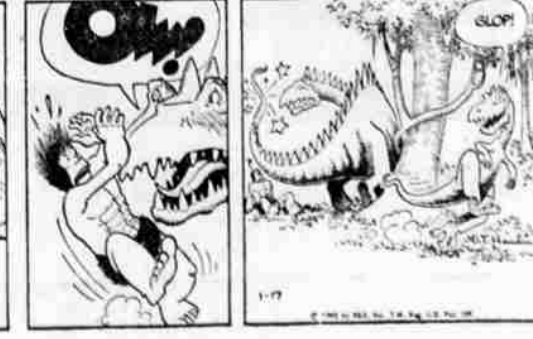
CAPTAIN EASY



MARY WORTH



ALLEY OOP



KBND 1110K 5000 Watts. TONIGHT'S PROGRAM: 4:00-4:05 Hank Weaver News, 4:10-4:15 Paul Harvey News, 4:15-4:20 Music Time, 4:20-4:25 Alex Dreier News, 4:30-4:35 News, 7:00-7:05 K-Bend Musical Patrol, 7:05-7:10 Standard Music News, 7:10-7:15 Alex Dreier Good News, 7:15-7:20 This Evening's Favorites, 7:20-7:25 Over the Sports File, 7:25-7:30 This Evening's Favorites, news, 7:30-7:35 Standard Music News, 10:00-10:05

DAILY TV LOG table with columns for 6 KOIN TV, 12 KPTV, 8 KGW TV. Rows for Wednesday and Thursday with program listings.

French may cut back on Algerian civil rights

ALGIERS (UPI)—French officials today considered curtailing civil rights in Algeria to halt the vicious fighting between Moslem and European groups.

Officials said terror attacks by both sides killed at least 17 persons Monday and wounded 40 more.

Moslem fanatics seeking independence and right-wing European members of the Secret Army Organization (OAS), which is determined to keep Algeria French, have stepped up the eight-year-old guerrilla war since the first of the year.

Officials estimated the casualty toll since Jan. 1 at 252 killed and 324 wounded.

Many of Monday's casualties were incurred during a rain-drenched, hour-long battle in the port city of Oran.

Officials said Moslem extremists opened fire from apartment balconies on French soldiers patrolling the intersection of the European waterfront quarter and the city's Moslem casbah. Machine guns and hand grenades killed an undetermined number on both sides.

Monday night high French officials warned they might be forced to "limit the exercise of public liberties" to stop the terrorism.

In an official statement, the regional inspector-general here, the prefect of Algiers, the commander of the territorial region and the Algiers army corps called on Europeans and Moslems to stop the assassinations.

Kennedy wants boost in limit on U.S. debt

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Kennedy will ask Congress for a quick \$2 billion hike in the national debt limit to help the government pay its current bills, according to the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

And before Congress goes home this year, Sen. Harry F. Byrd, D-Va., said, Kennedy wants another \$8 billion increase in the ceiling through June 30, 1963.

If Congress passes both requests, it would bring the debt limit to a record \$308 billion.

The national debt on Jan. 11 was \$295.6 billion, only \$2.2 billion below the present ceiling.

Byrd made the announcement as Kennedy prepared to send Congress Thursday his budget for the 1963 fiscal year, which starts July 1.

The budget was expected to call for \$92.6 billion in spending — a peacetime record — and show a surplus of \$400 million.

Both Byrd and Senate Republican leader Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois said they would back Kennedy's request for an immediate \$2 billion hike in the debt limit, but they said the longer-range \$8 billion increase required thorough study.

Even if the government finished fiscal 1963 in the black it would need an increase in the debt ceiling.

The Treasury usually has to borrow money to meet obligations when tax collections are light in the summer and fall. It likes to have a \$3 billion cushion between the debt and the ceiling, and this cushion sank to a few hundred million dollars for several days last month.

HITS ADOPTION RACKET

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A high federal official Monday urged a greater effort to stop the "black market" traffic in illegitimate babies. Mrs. Katherine B. Oettinger, head of the Children's Bureau of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, said that, for example, a recent study in California showed lawyers and doctors conspired to arrange 263 such adoptions for fees as high as \$7,500.

PLANS FLORIDA STAY

BOSTON (UPI)—King Saud of Saudi Arabia and his entourage will leave next Tuesday for Palm Beach, Fla., where he will continue his recuperation. The king recently underwent two eye operations and abdominal surgery at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital here. He came to Boston last Nov. 22.



Paulena Carter, pianist, is shown with Standard School Broadcast conductor Carmen Dragon at a recent recording session. Both will perform on the School Broadcast musical and travel series titled "MUSIC — Passport to the World." The programs are heard Thursday at 11:00 A.M. on Radio Station KRCCO.

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