

## Lucille Ball Dud When It Comes To Door-to-Door Salesmanship

By BOB THOMAS

Hollywood, Feb. 15 (AP)—What happens when a movie star poses as a door-to-door seller? In Lucille Ball's case, she flopped flatter than a doormat.

The carrot-topped actress will play the title role in "The Fuller Brush Girl." Since realism is the keynote in Hollywood now, she got in training for her part by being a residence retailer of cosmetics. Not only did she meet buyer resistance—she had trouble giving her wares away.

She picked out the area of North Arden street in Los Angeles for her research. I tagged along. Also three studio employes, a photographer, Miss Ball's hairdresser and a studio chauffeur.

Lucille slung her cosmetic kit over her shoulder and strode up to the first house. She rang the doorbell and tapped her foot impatiently. A housewife stuck her head around the door.

"How do you do," said the actress, "I'd like to show the new line of cos—"

"Sorry, I've got some friends I'm entertaining. I don't have time." That ended the interview.

We tried the next house. This time the saleswoman identified herself as a face appeared at a peep hole in the door.

"How do you do, I'm Lucille Ball and I'd like to show you the new line of—"

"Can't see it now," was the answer and the peep hole closed.

"She was stark naked," reported Lucille.

The next three residents failed to answer the doorbell. Lucille decided to try her luck across the street. Still no answers. She went back to the original side.

She finally had some luck with a little old lady with a barking dog. The lady admitted being a sucker for salesmen, adding that had "boxes full of brushes in the basement." She accepted a box of cosmetics and tried to pay for it. "It's free," said Lucille.

The next old lady wasn't as cordial. She looked bored as Lucille made her spiel. "Would you accept this sachet as a gift?" said the actress.

The lady looked at it suspiciously. "This don't obligate me to buy anything, does it?" she asked. Lucille assured her it didn't.

A young housewife appeared at the next door. She apparently recognized the actress and accepted the gift, but had to return to her two young children.

When we finished the doorbell-ringing, Lucille admitted she was rusty.

"I haven't done this since I was a kid," she said. "I used to lead around a blind man who sold toiletries. I was a girl scout

## Spud Scandal Blame Placed

Washington, Feb. 15 (AP)—Everybody except the farmer, says Rep. Horan (R., Wash.), can be blamed for "the high cost and maladministration of the federal price support program for potatoes."

"Why," he said today, "the potato growers have done everything the government asked, and more."

"If you want scapegoats," he told a reporter, "there are plenty. Blame science for ridding potatoes of insects and rotting, for fertilizers which resulted in fabulous yields per acre."

"Blame the reciprocal trade program, through which 12,500,000 bushels from Canada are added to our domestic supply."

"Blame the department of agriculture for delaying a full year before reducing supports after the growers suggested it."

"Blame dieticians, for scaring millions of women out of eating wholesome and nutritious food."

"Blame all the people who pack, store, haul and sell potatoes for the rising costs of every part of the marketing process."

"Blame the folks who refused to add observance of soil conservation practices as a requirement for price support qualification."

"But," he concluded, "don't blame the farmers."

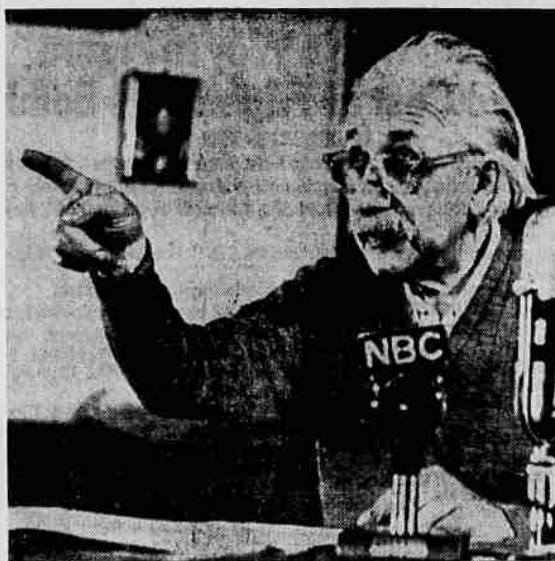
## Ronald Wood Quits Silverton Mortuary

Silverton—Ronald Wood, assistant mortician to Ernest R. Ekman for two years at the Ekman Funeral home, is announcing his resignation from the firm effective on the return of Ekman from San Francisco. Wood has not revealed his future plans, though he has had several offers to consider.

and that was my good deed."

She also added that the north Arden area wasn't the best for selling things. "It's better to get out in the housing projects where the women listen to soap operas and have four kids running around," she said. "There you can really sell."

Anyway, I hope she does better in the picture than she did in real life.



Einstein Sounds Warning Note — Dr. Albert Einstein (above), warned that building the hydrogen bomb makes possible "the radioactive poisoning of the atmosphere and hence annihilation of any life on earth." The noted scientist made his statement in New York, on Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt's first television show. (Acme Telephoto)

## Mishap Results in Blindness; Stayton Woman Courageous

Stayton—A courageous story of how she has overcome great handicaps has been compiled into a little booklet, "Hoppy's Story," by Mrs. Hettie Hopkins, copies of which are being offered for sale in Stayton at the Baldwin and Stangeby dry goods store.

Mrs. Hopkins was severely burned in a fuel oil explosion while preparing supper at her farm home near Stayton, October 27, 1945. Although able to see when the bandages were removed from her head at Christmas time following the accident, severe pains and blurring soon left her in complete darkness as a result of destroyed nerves.

A student at the Oregon Service Center for the Blind in Portland, Mrs. Hopkins has met courageously the handicap of her

blindness and limited use of her hands which were so badly burned in the accident. Braille and typing have been taught Mrs. Hopkins who did all of the typing for her booklet. The booklet sells at \$1 each and there are many people in the area who will be interested in learning her story and what she is doing to rehabilitate herself.

Proceeds from sale of the booklets are to be used toward establishment of a gift shop which Mrs. Hopkins will conduct. If enough money is raised from the booklets, the shop will be hers entirely, and she will not have to pay a percentage to the Blind Center.

## GOP Likened To Bashful Chap

Washington, Feb. 15 (AP)—Rep. Ellsworth (R., Ore.) says the republican party has been a good deal like the bashful chap who winks at his girl in the dark.

"He knows what he is doing," Ellsworth said, "but no one else does."

"It seems to me the only serious failure of the republican party is its inability to get its actions and its philosophy properly and accurately publicized," Ellsworth told a reporter.

Society Will Meet Falls City — The Free Methodist Missionary society will be held at the home of Mrs. Phoebe Ward Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

## Stephen Foster Actually Visited Suwannee River, Natives Claim

Tallahassee, Fla., Feb. 15 (AP)—Inhabitants of the picturesque Suwannee river country in north Florida dispute the denial that Stephen Foster ever saw the river which his immortal song made famous.

Rather, all up and down the you where he stayed in 1852, when, according to the state librarian, W. T. Cash, he is supposed to have stopped at a small hotel run by the Hardee family in the now extinct cotton town of Columbus. That's where the Withlacoochee empties into the Suwannee.

Some will point at other places where he stopped overnight during a two-week tour of the river.

People along the river would rather accept the findings of their state librarian than the denial of the Foster family. Cash is more cautious in his claim than are the folk of the Suwannee country.

He concedes he hasn't proved Foster ever was on the river but declares "there's a 50 per cent chance he was there."

His files contain a letter from Mrs. Albion W. Knight, the widow of an Episcopal bishop, who lives at White Springs on the upper reaches of the river, an antebellum resort of considerable swank. Bishop Knight often spoke of his mother seeing Foster at the Springs, his widow relates.

Another story out of the fabled past leads to the very willow by the stream where Foster is supposed to have meditated.

Like Cash, Mrs. W. A. Sanders of White Springs, a member of Florida's Stephen Foster Memorial commission, has been an indefatigable seeker after the elusive document needed to prove definitely that Foster saw the river. And she tells a story of a trunk full of Foster letters that burned. It might have contained the authentic document.

Considering all the circumstances, she feels it is "perfectly natural that he would have wanted to see the river." She points to a period of wandering in Foster's life which easily could have been the time when so many people on the river say they saw him.

Cash has been told that there

## Dragna Held For Cohen Bomb

Los Angeles, Feb. 15 (AP)—Police early Tuesday rounded up five gang associates of Jack Dragna, named by Gov. Earl Warren's crime commission as Mickey Cohen's top rival for control of the rich southern California rackets.

Dragna, named in the report as a chieftain of the Mafia, secret Sicilian underworld society, also was sought but eight officers of the police intelligence squad had not found him.

Four of the five picked up

today were relatives of Dragna, including his son, Frank Paul, 26. The others were Tom Dragna, 61, a brother; Frank, 28, son of Tom; Louis, 29, another son of Tom, and Guillermo Adamo, 54.

All listed themselves as in the banana and grocery business.

They were booked on suspicion of conspiracy to commit murder in the recent bombing of Cohen's home.

Capt. Lynn White, in charge of the intelligence section, said: "The Dragnas are the top Italian mobsters on the west coast and are in close contact with the Mafia. The entire mob has been under police scrutiny for the past nine months."

## Newspapers War on Rackets

Chicago, Feb. 15 (AP)—The big business of organized crime and the leaders in the various rackets were the targets for the opening blasts Tuesday by newspapers in many of the nation's major cities.

The expose of the shadowy operations of rackets in the United States by newspapers in 14 cities was planned at a three-day meeting here last week by their crime reporters. They exchanged information on the various rackets and organized crime leaders and planned a series of pooled articles.

The stories appeared as federal and local crime law enforcement agents from across the country planned a crime conference in Washington. The meeting today follows the annual closed-door session of the nation's federal district attorneys.

Other newspapers which did not take part in the conference currently are developing a printing searching articles and series on the country's organized crime.

One series is being published by the Hearst newspapers. The Chicago Sun-Times is printing a series based upon investigation by five of its staff members.

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