

Lionel Barrymore Started in Career As Reluctant Actor

Editor's note: The curtain fell Monday night on one of the most colorful celebrities of show business. In a three-part series, United Press Correspondent Aline Mosby recounts anecdotes from the life of Lionel Barrymore. Today: The reluctant star.

By ALINE MOSBY
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood — (U.P.) — One of Lionel Barrymore's theater notices that he cherished with glee during his colorful life read:

"One performance actually stands out more hideously than the rest. A deplorable young actor appeared only once in a figment of a role but enacted it so balefully the audience was terrified lest he come back on the stage."

Barrymore was fond of repeating this review because, despite his success as one of the greatest names in show business, he never wanted to be an actor.

He made his living on the stage and in films for 50 years only because he failed at painting. His illustrious theatrical parents and grandparents dragged him onto the stage although, he recently said, "The theater was

not in my blood and I never considered myself cut out for it."

Matter of Course

"My grandmother handed me my fate as a matter of course, like juice before breakfast," he often lamented. "I would become an actor. I was in the position of the son of a great athlete who is naturally expected to be an athlete, too."

For his first important stage role at 18, in "The Rivals" with his grandmother, Mrs. John Drew, "I crept on the stage in an apathy of embarrassment and muttered my words like an automaton that needed the oil can."

His grandmother politely fired him by eliminating his scene from the play. Since then, the scene has usually been eliminated from "The Rivals."

Lionel reluctantly became resigned to the family profession. A famous actress wangled him Broadway roles by demanding of producers, "What are you going to do about Lionel?" It appeared as if he had not only failed at his first love — painting — but that "I couldn't even make my way in the family trade, which I didn't even want."

Urged To Resume Painting
His first wife, Doris Rankin, urged him to try painting again in Paris. The young man took off on money borrowed from Ethel.

"I rejoiced because I had broken loose from the stage at long last," he recently recalled. "I knew I had acted for the last time."

But Barrymore gave up art in despair after five years. In 1909 he sought out the late movie director, D. A. Griffith, and said he was hungry and needed a job. Griffith told him to report back in a dress suit and Lionel began his 25 years as a great character actor in films.

But despite his acclaim he mused recently in his autobiography:

"I am hopeful that somehow I may find my correct métier. I have not succeeded or achieved in any of the three branches (music, art, acting) into which I thrust myself. Persons with one talent are perhaps luckier than some of us who are dealt three-of-a-kind but can't make up our minds whether to stand pat or draw for a fullhouse."

"Mostly, I have bluffed."

Steel Production Boom To Continue

New York — (U.P.) — Iron Age said today the "spectacular" rise in steel production, which has buried the clerical staffs of some steel firms "under an avalanche of paper works," shows no signs of leveling off.

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SHINGLE MILL DESTROYED

Elma, Wash. — (U.P.) — The Gordon Shingle Mill near here was destroyed by fire yesterday. Owner Rolling Gordon estimated the loss at \$10,000.



SUSPECT — Lt. William Gregory (standing), Reno, Nev., police inspector, questions James A. Call, 29, being held in Reno as a burglary suspect. Early reports on fingerprints indicate that Call may be involved in a Lake Placid, N. Y., slaying of a police officer. Call is also suspected of being an Air Force major who deserted.

Youngdahl's Stand In Lattimore Case Goes Unchallenged

Washington — (U.P.) — The Justice department announced today that it will not challenge in higher courts the refusal of federal Judge Luther W. Youngdahl to disqualify himself from presiding at the forthcoming Owen Lattimore perjury trial.

The government had requested Youngdahl to disqualify himself on grounds he was biased in favor of Lattimore. Youngdahl refused, terming the government's request "scandalous."

The announcement came as U. S. Attorney Leo A. Rover filed papers in Youngdahl's court, opposing a motion by Lattimore's defense lawyers to dismiss a new indictment against the Far Eastern expert.

Lie To Senators Charged
The new indictment charges Lattimore lied when he told Senate investigators in 1952 that he was never a "promoter of Communist interests."

Rover could have appealed to the U. S. Court of Appeals here to overrule Youngdahl. But the brief announcement issued through his office today said the Justice department had decided not to appeal.

That means that Youngdahl, three times Republican governor of Minnesota, will handle the case and act, before the trial begins next month, on the defense motion to dismiss the new indictment.

13 Escape Serious Injury in Accident

Portland — (U.P.) — Thirteen persons escaped serious injury last night in a two-car collision which saw two cars badly damaged, a power pole shorn off and a transformer and high voltage wires explode in "two big flashes of light."

Ten persons are rushed to Emanuel hospital but were released after treatment for minor injuries.

The collision occurred at SE Stark st. and 12th avenue. Robert G. Beede, 36, driver of one of the cars, escaped with rib injuries although he was knocked from his car and dragged more than two blocks by the vehicle when his right foot caught between the brake and accelerator. Seven of eight other passengers in his car, including his wife and two children, were slightly hurt. The second car was driven by David M. Simmons, 26. He and his wife received minor injuries. Two others in this car were unhurt.

Beauty Queen Loses Wig Before Judges

Toronto — (U.P.) — Beulah, an aging blueblood, was selected as beauty queen Tuesday despite the fact she lost her wig before the judges.

Beulah was lined up with other Holstein contestants when a judge gave her tail a friendly pull and the end came off.

The other judges decided the false switch her owner had added only enhanced her natural charm and she was voted one of the three best aged and uddered cows in the lineup.

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All-Out War With Russia Seen Only Co-Existence Alternative

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) took sharp issue today with Sen. William F. Knowland's argument against the idea of co-existence with Russia.

Fulbright said he fully agrees with Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson's statement late yesterday that the only alternative to co-existence is to "look forward to a war."

Wilson's views are a "realistic and accurate description of the facts," said Fulbright, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations committee. "We are co-existing and have been for some years. The alternative is all-out war."

Sweeping Review
Knowland, Republican Senate leader, called for a sweeping review of U. S. foreign and defense policies in a Senate speech Monday. He said a co-existence policy will permit the Russians to "nibble" away at the free world and eventually win the cold war.

The statement put Knowland at odds with the administration. Wilson summed up the major differences bluntly at his weekly news conference when he was asked if he favored co-existence and whether he believes the United States can live in peace with Russia.

"You have to hope that you can, or look forward to a war," the secretary said. "... We're all on the same planet. It must be done."

Before Wilson spoke up, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles had said he could see no need for an overhaul of U. S. policy and the White House merely noted Knowland had a right to his opinions.

Blasphemy
Fulbright deplored the fact that the air has become so "poisoned by McCarthyism" it is "impossible to hold a rational discussion of foreign policy" without being branded either a "war monger or an appeaser."

Co-existence in the eyes of some seems to have taken on a "sinister meaning" that the Communists have been accepted as "friends," he said. Actually, he said, it means that friendship has been found impossible but that the two hostile powers do not want to plunge into all-out war.

Fulbright said that Knowland's logic seems to carry one "inevitably to preventive war," although Knowland insists he is not advocating this.

Chairman Alexander Wiley of the Senate Foreign Relations committee and Leverett Saltonstall of the Senate Armed Serv-

ices committee also were unenthusiastic over Knowland's call for a policy review. They took the position that their committees are constantly reviewing military and foreign policies anyway.

Election Big Headache:

Grand Rapids, Mich. — (U.P.) — To Democratic candidate Robert C. Jakems, the Nov. 2 election was just a series of big headaches.

Jakems' expense report for his unsuccessful race for state representative, listed 59 cents for aspirin on Oct. 24 and another 59 cents Nov. 3 — the day after he was defeated.



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Peress Practices Dentistry, Loses Bulk of Practice

New York — (U.P.) — Dr. Irving Peress, the former Army dentist whose promotion and honorable discharge has been a central issue in Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's fight with the Army, is still practicing dentistry in midtown Manhattan.

He and his wife and their seven and nine-year-old daughters still live in the Queens home whose windows were broken with rocks last spring after Peress claimed fifth amendment immunity when McCarthy asked him about Communism. His wife and younger daughter are under psychiatric treatment, as they were before Peress became a public controversy.

Loses Practice
Peress said today he has lost 60 per cent of his dental practice. He was evicted from his old office and was denied space in four other buildings before he sublet his present office from another dentist. Peress said the dentist told him he had never heard of the case. "I can't believe it," he said. "I can only commend him for his democratic approach and for not caring."

The 37-year-old dentist said he hopes "that at some point the publicity will stop and many of my patients will return."

Teachers Friendly
He said his elder daughter last April had a birthday party to which nobody came. But he said his girls' classmates and teachers are now "friendly and helpful."

Peress said he would welcome an opportunity to answer the question of his political affiliations before a television audience. But he said he did not know what his reaction would be to further congressional questioning.

"I don't think I would give McCarthy a satisfactory answer," he said.

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