

Never Too Old to Be Actress: That's This Grandma's Belief

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Hollywood (UPI)—You're never too old to be an actress. That's the contention of Helene De Walt Reynolds who stars in a horse opera Thursday night at the age of 89.

White-haired Grandma Reynolds, a veteran of more than 50 movies and numerous TV shows, has more pep and energy than many an actor student's graduate. Only slightly deaf, the wrinkled older is grumpy because she hasn't been working often enough.

"I've only appeared in three television shows this year," she complained. "And I'm strong enough to work every day."

To prove her point, grandma grabbed me by the arm and twisted until I yelled "uncle."

Navy May Seek Basic Research Spending Boost

Washington (Science Service) — How the Navy's investment in basic scientific research has paid off over the years in significant developments is set forth in a two-volume report prepared for the Secretary of the Navy by Arthur D. Little, Inc.

The report is expected to be used to spearhead a drive for more money with which to bolster Navy research effort in the future.

The Naval Research Advisory committee, after reviewing the report, concluded that the Navy should double its basic research effort "to restore the former relationship of basic research to the total research and development effort."

Twelve years ago, the Navy was allocating 10 per cent of its research and development expenditures to basic research. This compared favorably with expenditures by leading industrial corporations, the report said. But by 1957 10 major corporations devoted an average of 16 per cent of their research and development funds to basic research. The Navy's allocations, meanwhile, had dropped to about 7 per cent.

The Naval Research Advisory committee noted in its conclusions that the Navy can support only a small part of the total research of the nation, but must do enough in each area of interest to "provide effective coupling and judgment for its own needs."

Only researchers having Navy interests at heart "are in a position to appreciate scientific findings of others and the significance of such findings to the Navy," the committee said. It noted that frequently "incidental findings have resulted in a major improvement in weaponry, communications and the like."

The report cites, as one example, Navy financing of basic research into theory of shock waves. This has since come to have significant applications in supersonic airplane flight, rocket nozzles, intercontinental ballistic missiles, underwater explosions and thermonuclear fusion.

"Guess that ought to show you, young fella," she beamed. "I've got enough energy to tackle any part they want to give me. And I'm not typecast, either. I play Indians, Eskimos, South Sea natives and frontier pioneers."

"Course, they're all old women, but they're all different."

Thursday night Miss Reynolds plays a paralyzed deaf mute in CBS-TV's "Dick Powell's Zane Grey Theater," opposite Anne Baxter.

"Now you may not think a role like that would take much acting," she said. "But it's not easy. It all has to be done with the eyes. But I'm a real method actress. When I'm working I concentrate so hard on my role that I actually be-

come the person I'm playing." Despite her years, Grandma Reynolds is spry and bright-eyed.

Although she always wanted to be an actress, granny was sidetracked early in life. She eloped at the age of 21 and widowed at 43, with four children to support. Told she was too old to get a job, she went into business operating a secretarial school in San Francisco.

A Strict Diet In 1926, at the age of 64, she entered the University of California, graduating when she was 70. Since then she has devoted herself to acting.

Perhaps her most memorable role was in "Going My Way," playing Barry Fitzgerald's ancient Irish mother. She credits her longevity to a strict diet—"I never eat foods that have been sprayed."

Will she be around the nation's screens for many more years?

"You bet," Grandma Reynolds sparkled. "Moses lived to be 120, and when I get to be that age I'm taking out after Methuselah's record."



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

Three Great American Birds Are Nearing the End

The final chapter in the life story of three great American birds has an unhappy ending. This sage of sadness contains also some sour notes, pointing up rather graphically man's apathy and "so-what" attitude toward some of the creatures under his domination.

These three great American birds are not alone on the list of the persecuted. There are a host of others but the three are unique inasmuch as they are the biggest, broadest and tallest of American birds. They have taken more than a beating; they have had the book thrown at them.

They are representative of what is about to happen to other creatures that have little chance to survive much longer, and sadly, their passing is needless. With but a little effort they could have been saved.

11-Ft. Wingspread The California condor was the biggest. A bird with an 11-foot wingspread, a majestic creature that once sailed the blue sky, now just about flown into oblivion. In 1934 only half a hundred were known to be alive. Today, in spite of futile and a little-too-late effort, barely half a dozen are alive. Tomorrow, if not later today, they will be gone.

The ivory-billed woodpecker, the largest of the entire family of woodpeckers, was believed to be holding onto a thin thread of existence in isolated regions of the Florida Everglades. A single pair was reported three or four years ago. But they have not been seen or heard now for many months. They can be presumed to be lost forever.

The other of the doomed trio, the whooping crane, tallest of all American wading birds, sadly migrates back and forth across hundreds of miles of inhospitable territory, where hundreds of trigger-happy gunmen shoot first and look afterward. There is only a handful left, a couple dozen at best. Even with the best of luck, they can hardly survive another five years.

Point of No Return During the past couple of decades many creatures have passed the point of no return.

President Seeking To Cure Bronchitis

Augusta, Ga. — (UPI) — President Eisenhower told reporters at his special news conference here Thursday that he was in the South this week to cure symptoms of a bronchitis condition.

He disclosed that the "cold" he contracted three weeks ago actually was bronchitis which has become chronic.

He said that in late September he found himself suffering from an acute cold and, as he put it, a flu attack on top of it. This was why he went to Palm Springs, Calif., and why he has been searching for warm weather since then.

The President seemed to be feeling fine and in excellent spirits Thursday.

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Compact Drafting Progressing Fast

Interstate Compact commission ended a two-day meeting here Wednesday and Executive Secretary John B. Sweat said drafting of a complete compact "is going along rapidly."

Sweat said most delegates from the seven member states were agreeable to the articles in the compact and he is optimistic that it will be ratified when it is presented to the state legislatures.

He said the drafting subcommittee would meet in Seattle Nov. 9 and 10 and it is hoped the compact can be completed at the next session of the full commission Nov. 16 and 17 at Portland.

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TWO POSSIBLE CANDIDATES—Attending the Governor's Conference on Civil Defense in Chicago, Ill., were Governors Edmund G. Brown of Calif. (seated left), Ernest F. Hollings of South Carolina (seated right), Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of N. Y. and Sidney H. Woolner, representing Gov. Williams of Mich. Governor Brown is an announced candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination while Gov. Rockefeller, who kept mum about the upcoming elections, is a likely Republican candidate.

Lumbermen Urge Delay in Roseburg

Roseburg — (UPI) — A delay in plans to rebuild the heart of blast-damaged Roseburg into a model lumber city was recommended Wednesday by a committee of local lumbermen.

The committee said Richard Neutra, well-known California architect who was here last week end, has "excellent and imaginative ideas" for rebuilding the section wrecked Aug. 7.

But it said there were many preliminary problems to solve before a go-ahead is given.

Among the problems are relocation of the Oak st. bridge, a preliminary proposal for re-financing construction, and disposition of property.

The local committee is headed by Ralph DeMoisy, operations manager for the United States Plywood company here.

Porter Appeals To Supreme Court

Washington — (UPI) — The U.S. Supreme court was asked Thursday by Rep. Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) to review the decision of a lower court which ruled against compelling Secretary of State Christian Herter to issue Porter a visa to visit Communist China.

The action by Porter's attorneys bypassed the Court of Appeals. The decision against Porter's bid for a visa was handed down in September by U.S. District Judge Matthew F. McGuire.

Herter's denial of the visa, Porter contends, is an invasion of legislative powers. Judge McGuire ruled that the Oregon congressman was not planning the Red China trip as a member of Congress, but as a private citizen.

LORD NELSON TOO? London — (UPI) — The Daily Telegraph reported Thursday that a British Broadcasting Corp. official telephoned the Admiralty Wednesday, the 154th anniversary of the British naval victory in the Battle of Trafalgar, and requested films of the encounter.

Third Flight Try For X15 Aborted

Edwards AFB, Calif. — (UPI) — A third attempt to fly the X15 experimental rocket ship was "aborted" Thursday after the craft was airborne at 8:10 a.m. p.s.t.

Test pilot Scott Crossfield of North American Aviation sat at the cramped controls of the rocket-powered plane.

But just before he was about to break away from the B52 mother ship, Crossfield signaled that minor technical difficulties would make it impossible for the X15 to fly.

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