

Nothing Quiet In Show Business As Summer Goes On

By DICK KLEINER
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NEW YORK (NEA)—Polly Bergen is looking for another dramatic part, and has been for some months.

She's afraid people will think of her Emmy victory (for "The Helen Morgan Story") as a fluke, and that she doesn't want. So she wants to do another one. But it isn't easy to find a good part, especially in her position.

Anybody got any ideas?
"If Bob Hope had to do a show every week," says Johnny Carson, "he'd be washed up inside of 13 weeks."

This is part of Johnny's philosophy that "weekly comedy kills you." He should know; his old Jell-O show, which was well liked by the fans and the critics, failed after one run. Now he's the MC of the every-afternoon ABC-TV quiz, "Do You Trust Your Wife?" and he's a happy man.

"People feel sorry for you when you have an afternoon show," says Carson. "They think you're buried. But you've got 10 million people watching and they're more loyal than a nighttime audience."

Johnny, one of show business' most likable persons, takes his comedy seriously. He figures that he has to face up to the reality that TV, at the moment, just isn't ripe for good comedy.

"I'm not being unhappy about it. Just facing cold facts," he says. "This is no time for comedy—or, rather, for comedians. Look, George Gobel is just as funny as he ever was, but people get tired of 'I'll be a dirty bird.'"

Carson protects himself by doing other things—he pinch-hit for Tom Ewell in the Broadway play, "Tunnel Of Love," for two months, he works clubs, he took over for one week while Jack Paar vacationed. Since he isn't a stylized comedian (like Gobel or Wally Cox) he can even take straight acting jobs.

Of course, even though he's happy with his daytime spot, he'd like a big nighttime show.

"But it has to be right for me," he says.

What would be right for him? "I don't know."

That, you see, is what makes TV a tough spot for comics.

Phil Silvers' big disappointment is that he'd like to do a guest spot with Dinah Shore, but it's not allowed because of the difference in networks.

Why particularly with Dinah? "We're old buddies," says Phil. "When she was a bachelor girl in the old days, she ran what I used to call 'Shore's Home For Homeless Girls.' He'd take in any girl with no place to go. Kitty Kallen was one."

"And I was the man they invited for dinner. So I'd usually get stuck with taking them all out afterwards. We used to have quite a ball."

The gridiron lost quite a player when Robert Loggia quit football for acting. That's the word from Jim Lee Howell, the great pro coach, who used to coach Wagner College teams when Loggia played there.

"He was a real good player," Howell says.

Later, Loggia transferred to the University of Missouri and studied journalism some before he devoted himself to acting.

He's doing right well, lately. He had the secondary lead to John Kerr and Barbara Bel Geddes in Playhouse 90's "Rumors of Evening," and more to come.

Somebody had the bright idea to team Hermione Gingold and Dizzy Dean in a film series of "Min and Bill." They asked Hermione and she said fine. They asked Dizzy and he said, "Why, shore, podner."

Then the producer figured it would be a smart idea for Hermione and Dizzy to meet. So he arranged a rendezvous, and the two showed up.

And, says the producer, they talked for 15 minutes without ever once understanding what the other one said.

The project has been dropped.



BOY SCIENTIST — Jonathan Orvitz, the 12-year-old boy who sent the U.S. government a plan to outspatnik the Russians and then rocket a man into space for two weeks, works on some rocket plans at his home in Kew Gardens, N.Y. Roy Johnson, director of the Defense Department's Research Projects Agency, said the ideas advanced by young Jonathan had "all the elements of a workable system."

Here Are The Dangerous Situations In Farm Life

Here are the 21 dangerous practices we saw in the pictures appearing on Page 7. Did you find them all?

Photograph A: (1) A barnyard with any kind of livestock is no place for children to play. (2) Many children, just like this one, are drowned each year in water tanks, farm ponds, and streams. (3) Farmer is leading the bull without a staff, using only a rope snapped into the nose ring. (4) With his back to the animal, farmer would have little warning should the bull suddenly become mad. (5) Ax with cracked handle is unsafe for use anywhere. Here it leans dangerously against the water tank. (6) Manure forks with lines up and lying on the ground threaten injury to both people and animals.

Photograph B: (1) Unsupervised swimming in deep and treacherous gravel pits or quarries is very dangerous. (2) No light or reflector on bicycle. (3) Careless handling of firearm by boy on abandoned pier. (4) With two boys and one bicycle, it is fair to assume that the bicycle, built for one, carried both boys to the swimming hole.

Photograph C: (1) Every Monday and sometimes in between,

someone comes in close contact with electricity by screwing out the bulb and connecting the washing machine to the drop cord in the basement of this house. (2) Sooner or later, using a stand like this, instead of a stepladder, is certain to bring a fall. (3) Light wires are wrapped around nails and water pipe overhead. (4) Glass jars, overshoes, and other items on the cellar steps are sure to cause a tumble for someone. (5) There are better places for the little girl to play with her toys than on the cellar steps. (6) Handrails on steps will keep you from taking a bad fall someday.

Photograph D: (1) Farmer is refueling tractor with engine running. Fuel spilled on a hot manifold could cause a fire. (2) Smoking while refueling your tractor is a sure invitation to a disastrous explosion and fire. (3) Uncovered power take-off can catch sleeve or pants leg. (4) Children and pets should not play near machinery, especially mowers in the hayfield. (5) Driver's loose sleeve could catch in tractor engine or power take-off. Remember your farm equipment dealer has the new "Tips for Safe Tractor Operation" booklet. Ask him today for your free copy.

Douglas Fir Study Under Way At State College In Search For Better Trees

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—A program of basic research on variations in Douglas fir grown in different sections of the Northwest has been launched at Oregon State College with the long-range objective being development of better fir trees for the future.

Douglas fir was simply Douglas fir 50 years ago but that is no longer true, Dr. Helge Irgens-Moller, forest geneticist and research leader, points out. Today, it is recognized that there are great variations within the species and that seed from one region may not be suited for use in another depending on climate, and other environmental factors.

Looking ahead, forest geneticists see tremendous potential for improvement of trees, he continued. Rate of survival, growth rate, and wood quality all can likely be made better by applying the principles of plant breeding that have brought such spectacular advances in farm crops, Irgens-Moller believes.

Before such a program of "applied research" can get underway, however, a vast amount of basic research must be done on Douglas fir and other species, he said. The new OSC study on variation in Douglas fir is designed to provide some of that information, Irgens-Moller continued.

The project is supported by a \$12,400 three-year grant from the National Science Foundation.

It will involve collection of seeds from individual trees throughout the entire growth range of Douglas fir, including Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, California, and Colorado. Special attention will be given to variations in growing conditions—north and south slopes, high and low elevations, coastal and continental habitats, etc.

Collection areas will be sought near weather stations so that climatic data will be available. Samples of plants from each source will be planted in the college's McDonald forest, giving OSC the largest single collection of Douglas fir types for later breeding work.

Seeds from all collection areas will be planted also in the greenhouse and plants will be exposed to various periods of light to note differences between the types in their responses. Future studies may reveal certain correlations between the response to light and other characteristics affecting survival and growth, Irgens-Moller explained.

Forest genetics work is getting wide emphasis throughout the na-

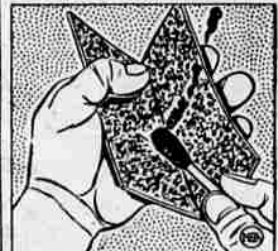
tion and world, he noted. Considerable work has been done with Southern pine and European countries with their intensive forestry methods have been concentrating on developing better trees for decades. The day when the good trees are cut and the poor ones left to serve as re-seeders will soon be gone forever, Irgens-Moller points out. Emphasis today is on quality.

Special "seed orchards" that are used as the source of high quality tree seed are finding increasing use, Irgens-Moller said, and will be an essential part of forestry of the future.

Irgens - Moller, originally from Denmark, started work on the project two years ago as part of his doctor's degree study program. That work was financed by two \$4,000 grants from the Forest Genetics Research Foundation. His research is in cooperation with U.S. forest service research staff members located on the OSC campus.

The population of Egypt is about 17 million.

Matter of FACT



The first practical matches were made in 1827 by John Walker, a druggist, in England. They were sputtering, explosive splints of wood tipped with a mixture of antimony sulphide, potassium chlorate, gum arabic and starch. They were drawn between folds of paper covered with ground glass to light them.

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Million Vets In Line For Loans

SACRAMENTO (UPI) — State Treasurer A. Ronald Button estimates that about one million veterans in California are eligible for veterans home and farm loans.

The loans are available only to ex-servicemen who were born in California or who were residents of the state at the time they entered the service. Veterans who served during World War I and World War II and those in service during the Korean conflict between June 27, 1950, and January 31, 1953 are eligible.

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