

BARNEY GLAZER'S HOLLYWOOD



Hollywood, Calif. — Linda Harris, who plays Helen in "Flower Drum Song" at the Thunderbird Hotel, Las Vegas, also understudies leading lady Arlene Fontana. When Arlene suffered a badly infected throat recently, Linda not only was tendered the thrill of being lead lady for the evening but she also had the excellent fortune to enjoy the longest odds that Vegas could possibly offer anyone.

Her parents were visiting from Chicago on that very day and were able to catch the one-shot performance for the thrill of their lifetime.

Doubtful Joey

When Joey Bishop was recently named along with Kirk Douglas as the "two best dressed actors in Hollywood," Bishop accepted but asked the judges suspiciously: "I

TV prints endure only one-tenth as long. The comparison must thus be exposed as ridiculous. Golden then said that movies copy the worst features of TV. The opposite is true. It is television that duplicated the cheap westerns, gangster films, and then exceeded film-drama's violence, and of late has even emphasized sex.

Anyone who knows Hollywood, which can not be one of Golden's talents if he makes such misstatements, knows that the movies did not copy the following from television: "Ben-Hur," "Guns of Navarone," "Pocketful of Miracles," "A Majority of One," "Flower Drum Song," or "West Side Story."

Then, Golden claims that nowadays only Hollywood attends movie openings in formal dress. You readers can deny that erroneous claim because gala film premieres, mostly benefits for worthy causes, are being staged regularly in most of your key cities.

Golden then goes on to make much of the population shift to sub-

urbs knocking out downtown theatre attendance, but he overlooks the growing trend to build theatres in suburban shopping projects. Also, he completely overlooks the advance of drive-in theatres, now numbering over 5,000 with seating capacity equal to 10,000 average hardtops.

Figures for the foregoing are furnished by Don Carle Gillette, editor of the Hollywood Reporter, who admits that movies have felt the impact of free TV but points out that theatre attendance has been

making a steady rebound the past few years.

Today, with an average of close to 45 million customers each week, the movies still draw more patrons than all other paid amusements.

Apparently, the only thing Harry Golden has proved is that he is completely misinformed about the Hollywood situation.

Basic Power

When power lines were downed in Los Angeles during a recent windstorm, Mrs. Connie Brener walked into a ladies' powder room, and guess what was being used for an emergency lighting system — yahrzeit candles. . . . Milly Picon is never out of employment for one very good reason. Producers everywhere know that she has a tremendously loyal fan following from her Yiddish theatre public.

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Pebbles and Pearls

by Janet Shaffer



At an open forum held recently, as part of the Jewish Teachers' Conference, the subject "the Parent's Role in Jewish Education" was discussed. It was discussed by teachers. The audience was comprised mainly of teachers. Parents (except those who were also teachers) were in the minority.

What makes parents stay away in droves? I am one who is prone to shaking my finger at apathetic parents whenever the occasion arises. However, I feel the need to investigate this matter with a view to inquiring into the situation from the absentee parent's side.

Most parents are weary of being regarded as not-too-bright-citizens. That old chestnut about parents not requiring any special training for parenthood is brought forth from the fire on every convenient occasion. The truth is — never have parents been better educated! Sometimes, parents get the feeling that teachers and administrators would rather not be bothered with us . . . that we are welcomed only on special "parent" days, when only "nice clichés" and kind words, clothed in appreciative murmurs are required of us. Teachers resent criticism. So do parents. It is equally bad practice for parents to speak in derogatory terms about the school or the teacher as it is for the teachers to indicate that parents are disinterested, do not practice Jewish customs and traditions, spend their

time in idle ways, etc. It is precisely this kind of generalization which serves to separate parents and teachers, home and school, rather than to bring them together to work in harmony for the good of our children.

What did the panel have to tell us? Was it new, arresting, informative, interesting? The first speaker offered a well prepared paper on kindergarten practices in the day schools. She tied the whole thing up neatly with home relationships. She told us nothing new that was not contained in a thousand pamphlets on mental health, family life, and any number of Child Psychologists' syndicated columns. Dr. Spock or any other acknowledged authority would not argue with the information contained. However, the speaker knew her subject well and her material was excellent (although no innovations were introduced) and young parents of "kindergartners" might have been happily influenced. There weren't very many in evidence. The material was lost on the other teachers and elderly people present.

Next to be discussed was Homework. The speaker built up a case for abolishing homework, particularly the parental side of it. The usual parent caricatures (semi-idiot style) were drawn. Then he decided that homework was necessary. He then delved into an area concerning motivation. The method-

origin). He also had a great deal of homework to do because the Israeli system, he informed us, was greatly dependent upon work done at home by the student. He also stated that in Israel it was necessary for both parents to be employed to maintain living standards, and parents were seldom at home to supervise children's activities. But, this contributed to the independent spirit of the youth.

Some of the questions that ran through my mind at this point could create public mischief, if they were voiced. So I did not ask about delinquency conditions in Israel, and whether homework accomplished better results than school hours. I have some reasonable doubts on that score.

Most frustrating of all, when the questions began to fly, the hour was noted and the meeting brought to an end. I had hoped to learn if the teachers in conference had considered the use of a language laboratory which is now being introduced into the Manitoba high school sys-

tem. It is being highly praised for new language studies. I wanted to know if their deliberations on motivation had brought out something new in teaching methodology, or in ease of learning processes. But nothing of this nature was revealed.

In order that parents and teachers may reach a better understanding, parents had better make it clear that we are concerned. **How** why do we send our children at all. We should also make it clear that while we are usually prejudiced in favor of our children, we are willing to put forth any effort required to keep them at school and learning. Above all, when our children come home to us, accomplished in the skills which our teachers have taught them, and the children are anxious to go back for more . . . then we will indeed sing their praises in the streets!

Just a post-script here to parents. It is very lonesome at meetings which deal with your children's education. Please join me, and the faithful few, in the future.

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