



**It Happened Last Night—
Raft's Passion
Is for Clothes**

**Movie Star Wears His Own
Suits Even Before Camera**

By Earl Wilson

NEW YORK, Feb. 25—George Raft stood there in his tailored white silk shorts. At the waist of the shorts was a small religious medal.

"My mother gave me this medal," he said.

I have seen about everything, but this was the first I'd seen a glamour man ordering shorts. George, in his hotel suite, was saying to Al Martin, the 5th Ave. shirt-maker:

"I think these are a little too long."

IT MADE ME realize how careless I am about my lingerie. "You are pretty choosey about your undies?" I said.

"I love anything about a man's accessories," George said.

"That's the word—accessories," George said.

"I don't smoke. I don't go to night clubs. I must have some weakness of some kind. I guess min's clothes," George explained.

"YOU SHOULD see his house," spoke up Marty Rachin, the Hollywood writer who'd come in with him. "It's like a clothing store. Glass cases that have his suits in. He's got 200 pairs of silk socks he never wore because they're the wrong size."

George belted up his pants and said to Al Martin that some men are wearing monogrammed socks. Not he.

He guessed maybe he had 50 suits, but he supplies his own for pictures. I asked about the rumor that he's retiring from the movies.

"This year completes my 20th year in pictures," George said, walking around the room bare-chested.

"Just making pictures, that's a young man's business. I've had my fling. Unless I got in

Earl's Pearls

Eddie Davis wishes Congress would cut the amusement tax, before the public cuts out the amusement.

Jerry (Big Story) Robinson maintains that no matter what Dior says about shortening dresses, his wife's going to wear hers longer—three years longer.

a good big hit picture. I'd rather go into some other field of it. Produce, or even direct. Youth must supplant age."

"YOU NEVER talked age before," I said.

"No, but it's coming up there," he said, fingering some new ties and some new shirts.

"But your agent says you're not retiring," I said.

"Sure, this year they'll make \$60,000 commission. That's not a bad touch. I've got four pictures this year already . . . so far."

"FOR A GUY that's going to retire, he's got more jobs," said Mr. Rachin.

"A guy like Bogart," said George. "He got one big picture and went good from then on. I think if I can get in one big picture . . ."

He's got "Red Light" and "Ball Bond" coming up; they may do it.

"I hope those cracks Rudy Vallee made about you stinkin' as an actor didn't affect you," I said.

"Oh, no, I've said that so long myself," said George.

"It's funny," Mr. Rachin said.

"but George has come to me and said, 'These lines you wrote are so good, you ought to give them to somebody good to say. Not to me. You know I'm not an actor.'"

George was running his fingers over some linen handkerchiefs, \$50 a dozen.

"I just like to wear clothes," he said. "You take social things, now I know nothing about lunch. I've never eaten lunch in my life. But clothes, that's different. Now I've never used makeup on the screen."

Remember

This is Brotherhood Week.

A B'way bartender was talking about a certain tightwad personality and commented, "Was he drunk last night? He was so tight he bought a drink." . . . That's Earl, brother.

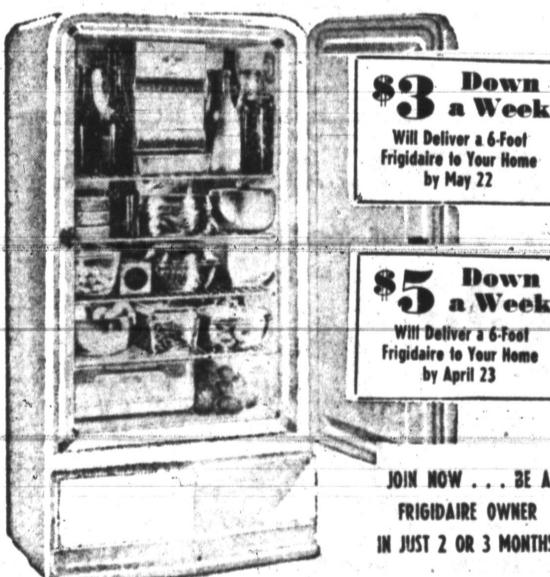
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