

# It Happened Last Night—

## Ingrid Hopes To See Daughter

Star Seems Contented, Is Prettier Than Ever

By Earl Wilson

FIUGGI, Italy, July 20—Ingrid Bergman told me in this cool mountain resort town 45 miles from sun-scorched Rome that she hopes to bring her 12-year-old daughter, Pia, here from Los Angeles to visit her for the rest of the summer.

"Our separation has already been too long. At first I thought it would only be for a couple of months," said Ingrid, who was looking happy, and unusually slender, and well-sunburned.

We were sitting in a little wood alongside the fashionable hotel where she and the baby Roberto ("Little Roberto") have been vacationing with her mother-in-law and other relatives. Her husband commutes daily in his spectacular-looking racing car.

"I HAVE partial custody of Pia," Ingrid said, smoking an American cigarette and keeping an eye on her French bulldog, which Roberto gave her more than a year ago.

"I could see her in America but I wouldn't know where to go in America. There might be demonstrations against me. They might hiss me. That would be bad for Pia. She is at a sensitive age."

"It would be better for her to come here. She could stay till September."

"We're talking about it on the telephone. I've written to her how I live and everything. I've seen her pictures in the papers. I've cut them all out."

Ingrid hopes that her ex-husband, Dr. Peter Lindstrom, of Los Angeles, will bring Pia here, and she fears no great strain coming from such a meeting.

"We must see each other some time," she said. "As parents, we have much to talk about."

INGRID APPEARS to be more contented than she's ever been in the 10 years I've known her on an interviewer-and-interviewee basis. And she's prettier... perhaps because of her figure.

She saw me under a slight protest. First, she told her unexpectedly charming Roberto (tomorrow's column will be about

him) to notify me she didn't want to see me. It was because I'd written a column when the baby was born saying I regretted she'd miscalculated public opinion, and



Ingrid Bergman

that it was rough on Pia. Ingrid remembered this piece.

Roberto suggested that I call her anyway.

She was emphatic over the phone.

"I have stopped being afraid of the press," she said. "You can write what you like."

"When this happened, there was such a wall of hate in America, and so many people raised holy hands to Heaven, that I became very bitter and hard. Maybe that is better in this world."

After a few minutes, she said, "All right, come up. I will talk to you."

# Earl's Pearls . . .

Arthur Godfrey's press agent, Mike Boscia, became a dad for the sixth time, and Arthur wired him, "Congratulations. Stop. Stop."

road, to this town famous for its medicinal waters.

Finally, through the pleasant quiet of the exclusive high-ceilinged hotel in the highest part of the town, came Ingrid—in a blue cotton sun-dress with shoulders bare except for shoulder straps.

She was instantly friendly. "I bawled you out good, didn't I?" she said, laughing. "I felt very proud and strong after."

Then—answering all but one of my questions candidly—she clearly demonstrated that the most publicized romance since the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's is still going along blissfully a year after it hit the front pages.

The question she didn't answer candidly is: Is she "expecting" again?

"If I have 10 more children, I'm not going to tell anybody," she said, and again she laughed as she spoke.

INGRID WILL shortly return to work for the first time since her retirement. She'll merely "dub" in some speeches, in Italian, for the Italian version of "Stromboli."

Elated at occupying a new beach house Roberto has bought her 40 minutes from Rome, Ingrid

said, "He'll drive it in 20 minutes—he flies!"

She's just become an Italian citizen and is getting her Italian passport.

"I'm no longer a Swede—it's hard to believe," she said.

But mostly her talk as she sat there barelegged and wearing the shoes that Americans call "scuffs" was of Roberto and Roberto.

"Roberto's 4 inches longer already than the average for his age—he's going to be long like Mama," she said.

"What do you do with your time?" I asked.

"Make diapers!" Wouldn't she be doing a B-way show?

"They not only want to ban my pictures. They want to ban me from the country. I have letters from people saying they used to hold me up as an example to their children and now their children laugh at them. It seems I have ruined the youth of America."

"I don't care to work now. Roberto can keep me. For years I always rushed from one thing to another."

"Now I've lost my ambition."

"Roberto might like it that way." Deeply contemplative, she said, "Marriage starts when you love somebody. The papers don't matter so much."

"The Vatican has been very helpful. But that is what priests should do when somebody is in trouble."

Ingrid's sense of humor burst out when she told me, "Hollywood is so happy to circulate the rumor that Roberto is broke."

"It says he can't get a job and can't give me anything but love. I don't know whether he's broke. We live well."

"I'd rather be broke with Roberto than have him bend to Hollywood. He has integrity."

SOMETIMES when Roberto does one of his colorful things, Ingrid tells a friend "That's why I love him."

A sample is how Roberto is always putting photographers in jail for chasing her and the baby—although lately they've had peace.

"Italy has a law that you can put a photographer in jail for taking your picture without your permission," Ingrid explained.

"Roberto puts them in the car and drives them off to jail."

"Then he gets to like them so much he doesn't know what to do jumping up from the benches where we sat in the shade, to call it in Italian dog language. The Beautiful Wife asked Ingrid the name of the dog."

Ingrid replied with a smile and quickly added, "I guess that's a bad word now."

There are only five like it in Italy."

For just a moment we reminisced about the interview she gave me in Rome almost a year ago, on her famous return from Stromboli. At that time, her publicist, Joe Steele of Hollywood, was suing papers which were printing rumors that she was going to have a baby.

"I hadn't had any examination and I didn't know," Ingrid said.

"But finally"—and now she laughed again—"I wrote to Joe and said, 'If you see any more of those rumors, don't sue anybody.'"

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