

In Hollywood—

## UI Drafting Durbin Remakes

Lois Butler Most Likely Successor

By ERSKINE JOHNSON  
HOLLYWOOD, Mar. 31—Several remakes of Deanna Durbin's early musicals are in the drafting board stage at Universal International with Lois Butler leading the pack in the race to inherit Deanna's warbling crown.

There's a big new career looming for Lois, who starred in "Mickey," now that she's free of an Eagle-Lion contract.

REASON why Yvonne de Carlo won't be docking in New York harbor on schedule is that she's in Spain with bullfighter-poet Mario Cabre. If Ava Gardner can get sonnets out of Mario, so can Yvonne.

BEFORE June Haver agreed to accept an award for having a beautiful pair of gams, on a 10-best list which excluded perennial winner Betty Grable, she checked with Fox executives. June was worried that Betty, also under contract at Fox, would do a bit of knife throwing. The studio gave her its blessing. So did Betty.

THE sneak preview of "Father's Little Dividend," in which Don Taylor again plays Liz Taylor's movie husband, brought him this fan letter:

"Just saw your new movie with Liz. You're so nice and treat her so well. I can't understand the divorce and how you can get into so much trouble."

He wanted to forward it to Nick Hilton, then thought better of it.

GINGER ROGERS' ex-husband, Jack Briggs, is working on a TV station in San Diego. . . . Rosalind Russell hasn't made a movie in a year and a half—her longest absence from the screen.

Rod Cameron's headed for a picture about a deep-sea diver at Republic. . . . Background of the Abbott-Costello TV series of films will be a small town barber-shop.

THE AD LINE cooked up by Warners for "Lightning Strikes Twice" reads:

"Ruth Roman is All Woman. It may be followed by:

"Lassie Is All Dog" in "Sheep of the Hills."

"Francis Is All Mule" in "Francis Goes to the Races."

JUDY HOLLIDA in the film version of Dorothy Parker's "Big Blonde?"

"Judy's the only woman in the world that I want for the part," the witty Dorothy told me. "Judy can be so pathetic."

I asked Dorothy the question literary critics throughout the country are asking: When would she write again?

"When I get through house-breaking our puppy," she smiled. Then she shrugged and amended it. "Actually I am working on a story now."

Reservations for the Propylaeum's buffet supper tomorrow are announced. H. Frederick Wilkie will address the group on "Double Chocolate Marshmallow Sundae for Everyone—with Nuts."

They include Mesdames Frank B. McKibbin, E. E. Christena, John W. Coffey, Mark Dawson, Andrew Hutchison, C. F. Voyles, C. Fred Davis, H. J. Berry, George Weaver, Gustavus B. Taylor, William A. McBride, William J. Hogan, James B. Carr and Edgar J. Ellsworth.

Others are Mesdames Hugh Carpenter, Giles Smith, Purke Nicholas, Le Roy Kahler, John Bibler, Ray Fatout, I. Richards Wagner, J. M. Williams, Charles Weiss, William C. Bartholomew and Roy J. Pile and Miss Evelyn Vick.

Hostesses for Propylaeum Day to be held April 15 will be Mesdames Fred C. Tucker, Albert Uhl, George A. Van Dyke and H. T. Van Landingham.

Mesdames H. A. Van Osdorf, Ralph C. Vonnegut, Charles F. Voyles, E. Everett Voyles, Eldo I. Wagner, I. Richards Wagner, Ernest de Wolfe Wales, Carl Walk, Frank C. Walker and Ross H. Wallace and Miss Vick.

Blackwood on Bridge—

## Mr. Muzzy Could Have Beaten Slam If He Hadn't Doubled

ONE OF THE prime points to consider in making a penalty double is whether the double will drive the opponents into a contract which they can make.

In today's deal Miss Brash made a bid which is typical of her style. When Mr. Dale jump-raised her spade bid she knew she wanted to get to a grand slam. Her proper bid at this point was four clubs, a cue bid showing first round control in that suit.

This call would have invited Mr. Dale to bid four hearts if he had first round control of that suit. Of course Mr. Dale could not have done that.

In fact, on hearing a four club bid from his partner he would have realized there was a terrific duplication of values and he would have returned meekly to four spades. . . . Then Miss Brash would (or should) have been satisfied with a final contract of six spades.

Does Some Figuring

BUT THAT ISN'T Miss Brash's style. "She couldn't wait and barged bravely into a grand slam without checking on anything."

## DATELINE: Hollywood



STOCK RISING . . . Redheaded Rhonda Fleming has had one continuous streak of luck since the day she started with Bing Crosby in "A Connecticut Yankee." She's appeared opposite the top leading males in filmville in some of the choicest roles, the resulting fame of which, as you can see, hasn't turned her pretty head.

What about her famous lines:

"Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses?" "I'd change 'seldom' to 'never' now," Dorothy said. "I know, because I wear glasses. I can't see from me to you."

JOAN CAULFIELD's actress sister, Betty, is giving up her stage career. She's living in Chicago with her hubby, a Navy commander.

GLORIA De HAVEN, who dipped her tresses for an RKO flicker, will be a strawberry blonde again in "Friendly Island." . . . Dorothy Shay is gulping calories to fill out those gowns for a new night club tour. She says: "I lost too much in the right places working with Abbott and Costello."

MARK STEVENS, star of "Target Unknown," is missing from the screen for three reels of the picture yet rates the film one of his best. He told me:

"I'd rather have been missing for eight reels in some of the pictures I've made."

Ironie tag for the song that "retiring" Hedy Lamarr is warbling in Bob Hope's "My Favorite Spy": "Just One Moment More." Just 18 movies more?

CAROLINA COTTON, the western warbler whose yodeling is nationally famous, combines yipees with yodels during riding lessons in preparation for a TV career as a feminine horse opera star. She whispers:

"My ridin' is like my singin'. They may not know what I'm doin' but they'll sure as heck hear me."

CATTY comment of the week, when Farley Granger showed up with Barbara Stanwyck at a Hollywood party:

"He's got to give the fan magazines a new angle on him. How long can they keep running articles by Farley titled 'Why I Adore Shelley Winters?'"

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## Never Too Late To Start Over

"YOU CAN START ALL OVER" . . .

If you have suffered a domestic tragedy, here is sound advice for facing the present and the future.

Marjorie Hillis Roulsen, author of "Live Alone and Like It," has written a series of articles, "You Can Start All Over" for those who have been widowed or divorced or have suffered some other sudden tragic change.

Mrs. Roulsen has written this series from her own experiences.

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## Slight Balk By Modern Godiva

Morals Have Sunk, She Explains

By ROBERT MUSEL

United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, Mar. 31—Morals since medieval times have sunk so low a Lady Godiva can't ride nude through the streets any more without bringing a peeping tom to every window. British Actress Ann Wrigg complained today.

Only one man peeked when the original Lady Godiva rode a white horse through the town of Coventry covered only by her long flaxen hair—and history, which dubbed him peeping tom, says he was stricken blind as punishment.

IN THE Coventry pageant June 23, Miss Wrigg will depict the heroine whose side-saddle ride was her way to shame her cruel husband, the Earl of Mercia, into cutting taxes.

"I don't mind people staring at me," said Miss Wrigg, who has a 36-inch bust, 37 hips and 28 waist and is a curvaceous 126 pounds.

But, she made clear, the lady's not for peeping.

MISS WRIGG's position was that while the authentic flavor of the thing should be retained as much as possible, the men of Coventry just couldn't be trusted today the way they could a couple of centuries back.

"The people are supposed to be thinking of Lady Godiva as a celebrated link with the past," she said sternly, "and not trying to see what I have or have not got on."

SO HER costume won't be too revealing. A pink brassiere and lights under the flowing flaxen wig, maybe. Or a one-piece bathing suit.

Petite Miss Wrigg, who was chosen by Coventry from scores of applicants, including U. S. stripper Sally Rand, half a dozen other Americans, an 11-year-old British girl, and a 51-year-old mother, said she was in it for the ride.

"I volunteered because I'm so fond of horses," she said. "I would do anything to ride. It's my great passion."

B-29 Returns Home For Reconditioning

MARIETTA, Ga., Mar. 31 (UP)—An Air Force B-29, one of many built here during the war, was back today for reconditioning at the plant which has been idle since 1945.

Lockheed Aircraft Corp. officials said the program will begin Monday. The first plane to be modernized was flown from storage in the Southwest to get its radar and electronic equipment and arms.

One of the B-29's turned out here became the Enola Gay, which dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

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## Hoosier Profile By Irving Leibowitz

THE ARMY, in spite of some inconveniences, provides some time to think.

William L. Fortune spent three years in the Coast Artillery. These years gave him the leisure, he says, to ask himself some important questions—about government, his future and where his next buck was coming from.

His decision to enter public life—politics—seemed natural enough. He had shown a keen interest in political science in his undergraduate days at Princeton. Bill wound up his campus career writing a thesis on politics for his bachelor of arts degree.

Since then, he has progressed so far on the Hoosier political scene that he is rapidly becoming known as the "Henry Schricker of the Republican Party."

Like Gov. Schricker, Bill was a small-town newspaper publisher, a state legislator, popular with the voters, a state officeholder and regarded as "vigorously independent" in his thinking.

BILL WAS ELECTED Treasurer of State in the Republican sweep last year. It wasn't as simple as it sounds.

Before Bill received the nomination, he had to defeat one of the strong GOP organization workers, James McShane of Lake County.

At 35, Bill Fortune is one of the youngest men to be elected to a state office. He and his wife, Jane, and their three children, live on a farm near Carmel.

Bill, who looks more like Hollywood's version of a crusading criminal prosecutor than State Treasurer, takes his job and himself seriously. But he's so seriously that he can't come up with some belly laughs.

A newspaper reporter walked into Bill's office last week and found himself confronted with a painting of a stern old mustachioed gentleman hanging over the desk.

"Who's the character?" cracked the brash newspaperman.

"That's no character," laughed Bill. "It's my granddad."

It was an oil painting of Julius Augustus Lemcke, ex-steamboat captain, ex-sheriff of Vanderburgh County and one-time Indiana Treasurer of State.

The same Mr. Lemcke who built the Lemcke Building of Indianapolis.

Bill's other granddad was William Fortune Sr., chairman of the Red Cross here for more than 25 years.

YOUNG BILL FORTUNE started his working career as a newspaperman. He wrote for the Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette and later covered City Hall and state politics for The Indianapolis Times.

Somewhere in his active newspaper career, he found time to court and marry a pretty girl he met on a blind date. She was a former Beauty Queen at Butler University.

Bill introduced her immediately into the world of newspapering.

He took his bride to Chicago for a look at the Windy City and finished the honeymoon in the town of Dunkirk (population 3000) where he had purchased a weekly newspaper, the Dunkirk News.

Disciples of Christ to Pay Tribute To Dr. Alva W. Taylor Monday Night

An elderly man who made colorful history for the Disciples of Christ and a former Indianapolis resident will receive very special tribute at a dinner Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Northwest Christian Church.

At the dinner, friends and long-time associates of Dr. Alva W. Taylor, now of Nashville, Tenn., will honor him as a pioneer social

welfare administrator of the Disciples. Three men who worked with the 79-year-old churchman while here will give talks.

They are: Dr. F. E. Davidson of South Bend, former president of the International Convention of Disciples; Dr. R. Melvin Thompson, pastor of the First Christian Church, New Castle; and Joseph Myers, member of the editorial staff of the Dayton, O., Journal Herald.

The Rev. C. M. Fillmore, Indianapolis, will give the invocation. Dr. James A. Crain, execu-

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