

Wednesday, December 18, 1957

DAILY AMERICAN

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Espresso And Sympathy

by Guy Elmes

CHARACTERS

(ANOTHER LAY ABOUT ANCIENT ROME)

A MAN WHO COULD BE BENJIMINO HUR.
DAN'L: A friend of the imagination.
ANOTHER MAN: Only better dressed. He's inclined to talk like Variety's last guest.
KARSTING KOUCH: The heavy in the piece.
THE GOOD HUMOR MAN: Lately involved in a scandal with Miss Dampé Blanche.
THE PAN-ALI: A disk jockey from Siam.
T. REEDER: An epidemiologist who can see the future in his cups and suffers accordingly.
A ROSE NOISE: A piacera.
OTHER SPECIALIZED TALENT, if and when required.
Translator's Note: The announcement that "Ben Hur" is to be remade in Rome didn't stop the poker game down at Jerry's.

ACT ONE

ROME. The Colosseum in smog, FAO by moonlight, or any other play-pen offering an atmosphere of refinement. At Curran's Up a pride of mixed-up Marines wander on stage and down to be directed to The One and Only, The Original Arabian Nights. Nobody can tell them so they wander off again. Enter Dan'l in company with another Man. They play chess on the clavi-chord. It sounds like Amateur Night but they're fooling you.

ANOTHER MAN (aside): Pix Bix Boff B.O.
DAN'L: Cut the blue stuff!
ANOTHER MAN (aside): Sticks Nix Hick Pix!
DAN'L: I said cut the blue stuff!
To cover up they begin whistling "Campari-soda is a girl's best friend." A Man Who Could Be Benjimin Hur enters. He could be anybody. His voice is low. In fact he's low altogether.

A MAN WHO COULD BE BENJIMINO HUR: Hey, you with the head! Which way to Espresso Gulch?

DAN'L: Just tail any carrozza!

A MAN WHO COULD BE BENJIMINO HUR: Thanks, Chuck! (He calls everybody Chuck. Get to the bottom of anything and you'll find a reason.)

DAN'L (with a flourish): Prego!

A MAN WHO COULD BE BENJIMINO HUR: Huh?

DAN'L: I said Prego!

A MAN WHO COULD BE BENJIMINO HUR: Nobody asked you to pray! I was going anyway!

He exits sulkily. Dan'l looks at Another Man. A Rude Noise (OFF). They both shrug and count their small change.

ANOTHER MAN: (Ad. Lib. to cover boredom): Heard any good lays lately?
Dan'l doesn't answer. He can't be sleeping. Probably dreaming. About Oberammergau for sure.

(End of First Act)

INTERVAL for Trippa alla Romana, Funghi Trifolati, or cold tea, according to taste.

ACT TWO

ROME. Espresso Gulch: like almost any gulch you can imagine. Only for more chairs, and tables. And coffee cups. And bits and pieces. **BRING UP THEME MUSIC** (based on "There's an awful lot of phones, planning movies outside Doney's"). A moth-eaten marble tablet is dusted down. An inscription is revealed.

BEN HUR

1924-1927

In fond memory of Sam'l Goldwyn, Carey Wilson, Beas Meredith, Fred Niblo, Ramon Novarro, May McCavoy, Kathleen Key, Carmel Myers, Betty Bronson, Francis X. Bushman, Twelve Thousand Horses, Ten Thousand Extras, Five Thousand Chariots, A Six Million Dollar Budget and Twenty-Seven Nervous Breakdowns. It couldn't have happened to nicer people.

Enter Karsting Kouch, The Good Humor Man, Tyn-Pan-Ali and T. Reeder, together with a Bunch of Free-Loaders who think there's going to be a Press O'ry in honor of Frankie Laine, Mario Lanza, Victor McLaglen or somebody guy, brash and informative like Miss Jayne Mansfield's ironmonger.

ALL (raggedly): O, that this too too solid flesh would...

They trail off as a chariot drives up and a Man Who Could Be Benjimin Hur alights. (The next bit is chanted, dirge-like.)

A MAN WHO COULD BE BENJIMINO HUR (With feeling): All over again!

OTHERS (Feigning surprise): Not again!

A MAN WHO COULD BE BENJIMINO HUR: Not again!

TYN-PAN-ALI (Wonderingly): Perhaps they got it wrong last time...

OTHERS (Corking him): And it took them THIRTY YEARS to notice it!

WHAT'S GOING ON IN ROME

MUSIC

TEATRO ARGENTINA — Santa Cecilia Orchestra Concert; Carlo Maria Giulini, conductor; violinist: Bronislav Gimpel, works of Brahms, Lalo, Schumann; this afternoon at 5:30.

EXHIBITS

NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART, 131 Via delle Belle Arti — Masterpieces of Modern Art from the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum of New York. Hours: 9:30-4 weekdays; 9:30-120 Sundays.

PALAZZO DELLE ESPOSIZIONI, Via Nazionale — German Art from 1905 to Today. Hours: 10-1, 4-8, daily. Through the end of January.

PALAZZO VENEZIA — English Silver, 1660-1830. Hours: 9-1, 4-8, daily. Through Jan. 12.

PALAZZO BRASCHI, 10 Piazza S. Pancrazio — "From the Villa Ludovisi to the Piazza Barberini," exhibit of old Rome. Hours: 10-1, 4-8, daily. Through Friday.

OBELISCO GALLERY, 146 Via Sistina — Paintings by Greek artist Nikos Kessellou. Hours: 11-8-20.

ROME-NEW YORK ART FOUNDATION, 20 Piazza San Bartolomeo, Isola Tiberina — New Trends in Italian Art. Hours: 10:30-1, 4:30-8.

ALBERTI GALLERY, 61/b Via Margutta — Paintings by Titina De Filippo. Last day.

SAGITTARIUS GALLERY, 22/b Via Lario — Paintings by Paolo Barbieri.

SELETA GALLERY, 2 Via di Propaganda — Paintings by Georges Mathieu.

LA MEDUSA, 124 Via del Babuino — Paintings of Paris.

APPIA ANTICA, 20 Via Appia Antica — Abstracts by Bruno Caraceni; daily through Dec. 20 at 10 a.m.-12 noon and 4-8 p.m.

AL FERRO DI CAVALLI, 67 Via di Ripetta — Photographs of Japan by Fosco Maraini. Opening today at 5.

SAN MARCO GALLERY, 61 Via del Babuino — "Pastiglie," by Edda Ranzano Mandolati. Through Dec. 24.

SCHNEIDER GALLERY, 10 Rampa Minguzzi — Gallery selection of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture. Through Dec. 31.

FILMS

In French:
FIAMMETTA THEATRE, 3 Via S. Nicolo da Tolentino — "Une Parisienne" with Brigitte Bardot and Charles Boyer. Today at 5:30, 7:45, 10 p.m. Tel. 470.464.

In English:
ARCADALEO THEATRE, Palazzo di Vetro, Via XX Settembre — "The Strange One," with Ben Gazzara and Julie Wilson. Today at 6, 8, 10 p.m. Tel. 470.470.

In Italian:
ADRIANO, Piazza Cavour — "Spionaggio a Tokio" (also at the Galleria).

AMERICA, Via Natale del Grande — "La Metecra Infernale" (also at the Aragon, New York, Imperiale, Moggi).

BARBERINI, Piazza Barberini — "Una Partenza".

EUROPA, 10 Corso d'Italia — "Questa Notte o Mai".

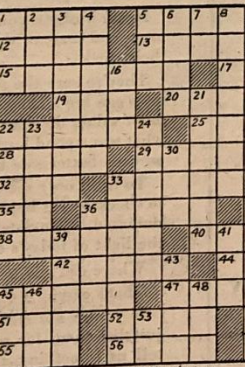
FIAMMA, Via Bissolati — "The Ten Commandments".

QUATTRO FONTANE, Via Quattro Fontane — "Around the World in 80 Days".

RIVOLI, 2 Via Lombardia — "Mariti in Gita".

Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- Hebrew liquid measure
 - Warmth
 - Corded fabric
 - Palestine seaport
 - Solemn promise
 - Affirmative vote
 - Poorer
 - Dog's name
 - Past container
 - Avalanche
 - Hidden
 - Episodes
 - Native metals
 - Skin disease
- DOWN**
- Pronoun
 - Espouse
 - Married women
 - Seat in church
 - English letter
 - Eating car
 - Receptacle
 - Classification
 - Trapped
 - Meaning
 - Macaw
 - Wooden
 - Corrupted
 - Of us
 - Brooks
 - Large volume
 - Affirmative
 - Low gaiter
 - Killed



PAR TIME 23 MIN.

ALAS	DUOS	PRY
PATH	ELIA	ROE
AREA	VEAL	ETA
PRO LANCER		
REVEALS	DEE	
AVE	IVAN	ENOS
FEN	DENIM	TUE
TRET	DENE	OSE
CROC	RETORTS	
CLAMOR	TEA	
HOT	TOPE	SIDE
ARE	TORE	IDOL
RED	AMEN	SEEM

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

- DOWN**
- Prohibit
 - Iota
 - Regaled
 - Electric particle
 - Lyrics
 - Prying implements
 - Let down
 - Boxing ring
 - Personal possessions
 - Used a riddle
 - I have: contr.
 - Conquerors
 - Sunshade
 - Eat sparingly
 - Jeweler's weights
 - Former Russian rulers
 - Grab
 - Girl's name
 - Bashful
 - Regret
 - Superlative ending
 - Scotch uncle
 - Night moisture
 - At bat

Shopping Guide

AND SERVICES

ROME

Antique Shop

ANTIQUARIA GALLERY, 141, Corso V. Emanuele. Tel. 551.867, in the famous Palazzo Massimo. Carefully selected authentic antiques.

Baths and Massages

TURKISH BATHS, Via Pol (Fontana Trevi). Tel. 62.623. Massages, sun lamp, Kellogg baths. Atomizer Scottish shower. Supersonic vibrator.

Beauty Parlors

"DUBOST" CARLO, 133, Via Veneto (1st floor). Tel. 463.389. Hair Stylist. Beauty Parlor. Chiropract.

Cameras - Films

PANDINOGLIO, 35, Via Capo le Case. Developing and printing. Cameras and films. Optical supplies.

Dry Cleaning & Laundry

AMERICAN LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING, 6, Via Porta Pinciana. Tel. 487.368. Door-to-door service.

Fabrics

"ARISTON ALCORSO", 170, Via DEL CORSO. SILKS & FINEST FABRICS - PRINTED SILK HANDKERCHIEFS - CHILDREN'S & LADIES' APPAREL.

Gift Shops

SAVELLI, 107, Via del Tritone (near Piazza Barberini). Silver and gold souvenirs. Cameos. Cases for "Zippos" lighters, gifts.

Hats

GALLIENI, 7, Largo Chigi (near Piazza Colonna). Borsalino and Gallienni hats for men and women.

High Fashion

ROCKY MATERA, 16, Via Boncompagni. Tel. 485.598. High fashion French models.

TOMASSINI

91, Via Prati and 88, Via del Tritone. Large selection of silk exclusive Italian, French and British woolen material for lady and men. Ladies wear ready made.

Laces and Linens

T. TREVISAN, 84, Via S. Claudio. Venetian laces, table linen, dollies, lace collars, finest lingerie. All work handmade.

Ladies' and Men's Wear

OLD ENGLAND, 80, Via San Nicolo da Tolentino (in front of Cinema

Fiammetta). Princesses, raincoats, topcoats, suits, dresses, sweaters.

Leather Goods

CERESA & RAMPONE, 120-90-62, Via del Tritone (near Piazza Barberini). Luggage, handbags, souvenirs, gifts.

Music, Radio and Records

DE SANTIS, 133, Via del Corso (next to Piazza cinema). Everything in music. Records, music, musical instruments.

Shoes

SAMO, 189, Via Veneto. Tel. 487.345. High class shoes. Handmade - Latest styles.

WALK-OVER - 122, Via del Tritone. Tel. 460.516. Walk-Over and Bally's shoes. All sizes and widths.

Sportswear

GIUSTI, 91/94, Fontana di Trevi. Tel. 670.726. Wool and suede jackets. Button-down collar shirts. Shoes. Winter sport clothing.

Stationery

PINEIDER FRANCESCO, 68, Via due Macelli. Waiting cards and printing. Xmas cards.

Shirtmaker

KING, 150, Largo Santa Susanna. Italy's only readymade shirts in 5 sleeve lengths. Made to order in 24 hours.

Tablecloths

SERMONETA, 93, Via Prati. Fineest handmade tablecloths. A store of reputation.

Watches, Sales and Service

BANDIERA & BEDETTI. Since 1882 at 26, Via Teatro Marcello. Rolex, Tudor and Jupiter Agents. Watch repair and sale.

FLORENCE

Dining Out

BUCA DI S. RUFFULO, Piazza dell'Olio. Tel. 22.595. XV Century typical restaurant. Manager Cav. Lelli. Specialty: "Bistecca alla Fiorentina." "Stumps all'Americana." Fine music every evening.

"13 GORBI" - The new Lovenbrun Restaurant. 13, Via del Porcellino. Tel. 298.769. Hungarian Specialties. Piano Concert - Open until Midnight.

THE LITTLE BAR, Piazza Antinori. Snack - American Bar. Open till late. (Singer Mario Perrone back from successful Capri tour).

