



Lend me your Ears

By DAN DOLO

Tiber tidbits: Mike Todd, in town for a few hours yesterday, took the time to phone your reporter that his version of "War and Peace" will definitely be filmed in

MARIA ASQUINO
... joins film colony

Yugoslavia, and then hopped off to Belgrade to prove his point. "I will announce the director when I get back to the Coast," Todd declared, adding that he would make business stops in Paris and London before winging west. "Let's have to more talk about the highly civilized world offering few opportunities for the young men of today, author-columnist Bob Ruark is reported to have sold the motion picture rights to his as yet unpublished new book, "A Thing of Value," for \$300,000. In addition, he will be paid \$50,000 by MGM for his services as technical advisor during the filming of the story about the Mau Mau racial strife in Africa. Doubleday and Co. will publish the book, probably in March. It's a jackpot for the 38-year-old scrivener, who started his widely read column after returning from a hitch with the U.S. Navy during World War II. . . . fiery Spanish actress Maria Asquino has joined Rome's international film colony, along with British actress Diana Graves. . . . and Sarah Churchill, laughter of Sir Winston, is due here any edition to discuss a possible role in an Italian movie. . . . Kurt Unger, head of United Artists Corp. or Italy, is recovering from a severe auto crash. He was returning from Ciampino Airport a few days ago when his car skidded and turned over four times. The car was demolished; Unger escaped with a fractured shoulder and back and a collection of bruises. . . . Isaac Don Levine, noted editor and radio commentator, and his wife check out of the Ambassadors shortly after a brief stay in Rome. . . . the intimacy between chemists goes one way. Knowing that Squibb's Ralph Palma is interested in new formulas, Charles Heidick of Rheims, France, sent some of the first bottles of the 1949 perfume to Rome for Palma to sample, in a professional way, of course. . . . Henry Wells, Chicago Tribune correspondent in Paris, an Eternal City visitor. . . . Marie Dea, the French screen beauty, insists that her dates use her car, because she will not leave her setter, Pom-Pom, at home and he will only stay quiet if left in her car. Love me, love my dog. . . . Dawn Addams gave birth yesterday to an eight-pound, en-suite boy in London. In private life, the British actress is the wife of Prince Vittorio Massimo.

Around Town

Didja know that Benjamin Turin, American dancing partner of Rachel Scotti, currently at La Boite Pigalle, was a sociologist for the American Jewish Congress before he turned to Terepschore. . . . or that Jaida Nadav of the U.S. Embassy was formerly an actor, and still carries an Actors Equity card. . . . he fellow who pleased the customers with virtually all the Cole Por-



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SAYS CLEO:

Beef Better For Curves Than Spaghetti

"Good English roast beef builds better curves than spaghetti." Authority for this shocking statement in spaghetti's homeland is Cleo Rose, 19-year-old English film actress with a 39-inch bust, 24-inch waist and 36-inch hips. Sophia Loren, the Italian star with the most curves, is a 38-inch bust and hips and 24-inch waist. "But my measurements prove that roast beef is healthier than spaghetti," asked the London lass, whose last British film was "One Good Turn," with Norman Wisdom. She also has appeared in "The Outsider," "Radio Cab," and many other films.

Cleo came to a vacation after making a series of American TV films in Paris—but now the agents think she may be the English answer to Lollobrigida.

"I have a weakness for attractive men and I'd heard so much about the Italians I decided to take a look," she admitted.

After a look at Italian women she conceded they do have something—but while English girls' figures may not be any better, they certainly are as good," she loyally insisted.

Italian men proved her point. Cleo was the object of all eyes as she walked down swank Via Veneto in tight leopard-striped slacks, blouse and cowl. When she sat down for a sidewalk cafe coffee under the afternoon sun, Italian girls nearby didn't get a glance.

And Italian food? "I'm English," she said. "Tell the waiter to bring boiled beef and boiled potatoes, please!"

What's Going On In Rome

MUSIC
TEATRO DELL'OPERA - "Prince Igor," by Borodin; Gianandrea Gavazzeni, conductor; tonight at 9. . . . "Madame Butterfly," by Puccini; Angelo Questa, conductor; tomorrow night at 9.
TEATRO ARGENTINA - Symphony Concert; Paul Hindemith, conductor; soloists: Ira Malanuk, mezzo-soprano (works of Haydn, Hindemith); this afternoon at 5:30.

EXHIBITS
PALAZZO VENEZIA, Via del Plebiscito - International preseppe exhibit. Closes Saturday.
SCHNEIDER GALLERY, 10 Rampa Mignanelli - Paintings by Aldo Paganelli. Hours: 11-1, 4:30-5; closed Sundays. Till Jan. 18.
GALLERIA LAURELIANA, 29 Via Sargiana - Lithographs and sketches by Cagli, De Chirico, De Pisis, Fazzini, etc. Till Saturday.

AMERICAN-ENGLISH FILMS
FIAMMETTA THEATRE, 3 Via San Nicola da Tolentino. Telephone 470.464.
ARCOBALENO THEATRE, off Via XXX Settembre. Telephone 470.870.

CLUB MEETINGS
ROTARY CLUB meets every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.; dinner at the Excelsior.
NIGHT CLUBS
GROTTA DEL PICCIONE, 37 Via del Vite. Nightly floor show. Telephone 65.336.

Joe Kirkwood Jr., Sued For Divorce

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11 (AP)—Actress Cathy Downs has charged cruelty in a divorce suit filed in Superior Court against Joe Kirkwood Jr., 32, golf pro turned actor. The pair were married Oct. 8, 1949, in Las Vegas, Nev. They separated last October. Miss Downs, 29, said a community property division has been agreed upon. The suit was filed yesterday.

MISS GERMANY
LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11 (AP)—Actress Renate Hoy, 22, former Miss Germany, has filed suit for \$6,500 damages, charging she was injured when a glass floor collapsed while she posed for publicity pictures.

Named defendants yesterday were the Western Harness Racing Association and the Beverly Hills Club. Miss Hoy said the pictures were being taken while she was a competitor in a beauty contest sponsored by the association to name the "Girl of the Golden West."

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Fashions By Gattinoni Find Great Favor With Americans

"American are darlings," says Fernanda Gattinoni, the Roman designer who is pretty much of a darling herself. "When they first come to me they are friendly, but a little suspicious. After I make them one dress they leave everything up to me. In-

FERNANDA GATTINONI
... after one dress

agine, after that they write me letters saying, 'I need three dresses—one for mornings, one for cocktails and another for evenings.' They don't mention color, material or price! It's a terrible responsibility!"

Gattinoni is a slender exuberant young woman who knows as much about dressing Anglo-Saxons as Latin. She worked for Malruna in London, designing for such best dressed women as the Duchess of Windsor and the Duchess of Kent. In fact, she has spent twenty of her thirty years working in England.

"I went to London to study music and drama. All of a sudden, I found myself designing clothes instead," Gattinoni left a quiet home near Varese in northern Italy as a girl and returned to her own country with a solid reputation as a fine dressmaker.

This season, Gattinoni is participating in the Roman international fashion shows for the first time. Without ever having done any advertising, 60 per cent of her business is already American. But it's a private, intimate trade. "One lady tells another lady that I know how to make dresses,"

She says modestly. "Maybe my clothes are too simple for a show. They still look good two years after I make them." In this simplicity lies the talent of Gattinoni.

She is showing a small collection of their dresses. "I prefer to design for a specific woman, she doesn't like to generalize. 'I want my lady in front of me. I change details continually. If a dress isn't right, I suffer physically.'"

Gattinoni worries sincerely about the clothes she sends even to clients she knows personally. "How can they possibly be perfect without fittings? Even if I know the measurements, how can I be sure? An American client wrote recently that everything I sent was marvelous. I can't believe it!"

Looking very vital with her short, reddish hair, Signora Fernanda is democratic almost to a fault. She thinks of her employees as a family and considers everybody on the same level in her establishment. The elevator boy and the sewing girls claim that Gattinoni works harder than anybody. "She will scrub the floors herself if the charwoman doesn't show up," they say.

"If I come in after nine in the morning, I'm embarrassed. Why should I have special privileges? We all work together," says Fernanda. She's timid about asking her seamstresses to make a dress for herself. If she can order a dress, why shouldn't each one of them have the same right. In fact, she does want her girls to do things for themselves and develop their talents in her service.

Gattinoni insists that fashion is all a matter of personality. She has to see her lady because "I must design a dress that's suited to the face, figure and age of my woman. Otherwise I can make mistakes and they affect my employees."

President Commends Italy Migrant Group

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 (INS)—In a letter commending the activities of the American Committee on Italian Migration on the occasion of its third anniversary, President Eisenhower expressed the hope that the helpfulness of the committee in the work of migration will "stimulate other American organizations to exert similar efforts in a patriotic contribution toward better international relations."

The letter was addressed to Judge Juvenal Marchisio, ACIM national chairman.

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By DAN DOLO

Via Venetopics: A gal who is probably more familiar with the lyrics of "The Star Spangled Banner" than Francis Scott Key is whipping in and out of the Flora

these days, catching up on the sights of Rome. If you haven't already guessed, she's Lucy Monroe who has sung the national anthem in major league ball parks, on television, on the radio, in Madison Square Garden — you take it from there. . . . guest speaker at today's American Club luncheon, at the Grand Hotel at 1 p.m., will be Italian diplomat Manlio Brosio, who heads shortly for Washington as the new Italian ambassador to the United States. . . . Mrs. Norma Gear European representative of the Celanese Corp. of America, due here next Wednesday in time for the opening of Rome's high style showings. She's a great booster of Italian fashion, and has presented many Roman creations in Stateside shows. . . . Joe McCarthy may pop up in Paris about the middle of this month. . . . heartened by the success of its initial dinner-dance, the Military Officers' Wives' Club of Rome will stage a "Cupid's Carnival" ball at the Excelsior on Saturday, Feb. 12, at 9 p.m. Mrs. Thornwell M. Dillard is chairman of the committee, and her assistants include Mrs. Gordon E. Dawson, Mrs. Joseph A. Wolda, Mrs. Fredrick E. Crowther and Mrs. Douglas W. Poage Jr. . . . Leo Coleman, who created the role of "Toby," the mute in Gian-Carlo Menotti's opera, "The Medium," is giving a series of performances of the famous part at the San Carlo Opera House in Naples. . . . Coleman taught Sophia Loren the "mambo" for her forthcoming film, "River Girl." . . . Jan Poleri, wife of David Poleri, popular Italian-American tenor now appearing in Menotti's latest success, "The Saint of Bleecker Street" on Broadway, arrives here Monday with daughter Lisa, who will celebrate her first birthday on Feb. 5 in the city of her nativity. Jan will concentrate on vocal lessons until the return of his husband in the spring. . . . Bill Tamberlin, Den-

ver and Palm Springs oil man, sporting a unique suit which baffles local boulevardiers. It was tailored from a new type of Italian silk in Beverly Hills, and none like it will be seen in these parts until later in the year.

'But Not A Drop'

The postman brings an SOS from "an unwashed American," whose name and address is being withheld at his request.

"Won't you take up the good cause on behalf of the unfortunate mortals who live in the Salaria section of Rome? For months now the water supply has been gradually diminishing to the point of no return. Daily we feel grimmer and grimmer. The fountains play serenely on, breathtaking to behold. And so we feast the eye and bathe not the body. We know that Rome was not built in a day, but in the beginning there was water! Blessed Romans of old. For a nominal fee the baths of Caracalla were at their disposal. And body and soul were tenderly nurtured. O tempora, O mores, O Scelba! Can't something be done about the situation? Rome still in her glory, nourishes our soul but neglects our body."

Let's see what Charlie Fawcett can do about this!

'Sgt. Joe Friday' Takes A Bride

CHICAGO, Jan. 12 (INS) — "Dragnet" star Jack Webb played his biggest role at high noon yesterday when he said, "I do," in a marriage ceremony with beautiful Dorothy Towne in Chicago. Superior Judge Henry L. Burman performed the ceremony in an apartment of the Ambassador East Hotel.

Best man was Richard Breen, a writer who helped Webb create the fictitious detective, Sgt. Joe Friday. Attending the bride was Jacqueline Tomblin of Hollywood.

Reds Desecrate Masaryk's Castle

VIENNA, Jan. 12 (AP) — Czech Communists have removed all furniture from the room at Castle Lany near Prague where the founder of the first Czechoslovak republic, Thomas G. Masaryk, died, the Anti-Communist Free Europe Committee claimed yesterday. "Not even the Nazis during the time of the German occupation dared to commit such a sacrilege," a bulletin of the committee said. Castle Lany was the country home of President Masaryk.

Eden Off On Asia Tour

LONDON, Jan. 12 (AP) — British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden arranged today for a swift tour of four Asian capitals, Singapore and Cairo, in connection with his trip to Bangkok to attend the Manila Pact conference opening Feb. 23.

'Roman Joy' Is Giovanelli Keynote

(This is one of a series of articles on top fashion designers who will present their spring and summer collections to foreign buyers in Rome from Jan. 20-24, under the auspices of SIAM, Sindacato Italiano Alta Moda, Italian High Fashion Syndicate.)

By CELE WOHL

The aristocratic house of Giovannelli-Sclaria is headed by a pair of princesses. The Principessa Lola Giovannelli designs. Her energetic partner, the Principessa Stefanelle Sclaria, is concerned with the business administration. They started together in 1940.

Giovannelli, whose only preparation for an artistic career was a course in ceramics, was recognized as a designer by her friends long before she went into business. At 18, she created a wedding dress for a beautiful sister. The gown was the triumph of the season.

Princess Lola went to work in 1945 to help out a friend who'd lost everything in the war. They opened a tiny shop in Positano. Giovannelli designed only resort clothes and bathing suits in those days.

Her unusual talent was more widely discovered when she did the costumes the actress Marina Bertl wore in a movie filmed at Positano. She joined Sclaria in Rome and they went into a full-scale fashion venture.

Giovannelli, who's half Italian and half Russian, is a lively blonde with green eyes. She always wears some touch of green. "Designing is an absolute passion. My family doesn't want me to work. My mother wants my company, but I can't give up designing."

She goes on. "And my passion doesn't leave me time for anything else. I can never get to the hairdresser. My friends are furious with me because I always arrive at ten for a nine o'clock dinner party. They don't know the effort I've made to get there by ten!"

The Giovannelli-Sclaria spring and summer collection is called "Birillo" in English, "Nine-Pins." The line follows the form of a nine-pin, small and narrow at the



LOLA GIOVANNELLI
... designing, her passion

top, broadening slightly and roundly into the skirt. Sleeves are very close-fitting and waistslines low. That is to say, there is no horizontal interruption until just above the

hip. The actual waist is nipped in properly, but without demarcation.

They will show a great many prints and Giovannelli's predominant color is a beautiful violet-pink she names "Gioia di Roma" (Roman Joy). There will be a lot of the wonderful embroidery that Giovannelli designs herself. "One of the pleasures of working in Italy," she says, "is that our artisans embroider so marvelously. They can execute anything I want."

In addition to the haute couture presentation, Giovannelli-Sclaria will show a boutique collection of lower-priced cottons and linens. In these she displays her special ability at the combination of strong colors. The tones are all bright and gay and she puts vibrant red against brilliant blue or green with remarkable success.

Giovannelli had designed some models she hopes to mass produce in Italy for export. This is her first attempt at in serie production and she's enthusiastic about her plans.

If Giovannelli-Sclaria expands still further, it looks as though Princess Lola will be arriving later and later at her dinner parties.

Italian Shoe Show Features Rainbow Shades, Nail Heels

VIGEVANO, Jan. 12 (AP) — Rainbow colors and higher heels on women's shoes are the big eye-catchers at an international shoe show in this Italian footwear capital.

In fact, the heels are getting so slender and the colors so varied that there is talk of establishing some control.

Designers, manufacturers, retailers, chemical and dye specialists have been invited to attend a follow-up congress, beginning on Jan. 15, whose main theme will be: "Can fashion be controlled?"

Opinion is divided. Some say there are too many colors, too many shapes, too many leathers and skins.

But some retailers are said to be afraid of losing sales if there is a cut in the variety that now is offered.

Meanwhile, visitors to the current show by 350 exhibitors from seven nations are exclaiming with mingled pleasure and consternation at slender, steel-reinforced, four-inch-plus heels on shoes that design to make contact with street or sidewalk on a surface only slightly bigger than a nail head.

Some of the names of the latest styles — "Nail Heel," "Pin Heel," and "Vertigo."

Black and white remain basic colors, together with brown. But on display here are broad ranges of red and pastel greens, pinks, pale blue, mauve, Naples yellow, navy blue and others among them a color called "petroleum."

Italian fashions, among the leaders in shoes, include a range of 25 to 30 colors — something which has a few manufacturers at least, doubt fully scratching their heads.

Quinte of Milan, for example, one of the Italian firms best known for its shoe novelties, is displaying crystal heels and heels covered with mother of pearl, copper of brilliant hue, straw and even imitation pearls. Besides Italy, manufacturers from England, France, Germany, Holland, Spain and Switzerland are putting their best shoes forward in this show.

What's Going On In Rome

MUSIC

TEATRO DELL'OPERA — "Madame Butterfly" by Puccini; Angelo Questa, conductor; tonight at 8. . . . "Prince Igor" by Borodin; Giampaolo Gavazzeni, conductor; Saturday night at 8. . . . TEATRO ARGENTINA — Symphony concert; Fernando Previtali, conductor (works of Pugnani, Dallapiccola); Sunday afternoon at 5:30. . . . SALA ACCADEMICA, 17 Via del Greco. Recital by Suzanne Danco, soprano; Friday afternoon at 5:30. . . . AULA MAGNA, Rome University — Recital by Nikita Magaloff, pianist; Saturday afternoon at 5:30. . . . FORO ITALICO — Symphony concert by the RAI orchestra; Paul Hindemith, conductor (works of Bach, Hindemith); Saturday night at 9:30.

EXHIBITS

PALAZZO VENEZIA, Via del Plebiscito — International prespio exhibit. Closes Saturday. . . . SCHNEIDER GALLERY, 10 Rampa Mignanelli — Paintings by Aldo Paoletti. Hours: 11-1, 4:30-8; closed Sundays. . . . GALLERIA LAURELIANA, 29 Via Sardegna — Lithographs and sketches by Cagli, De Chirico, De Pisis, Fazzini, etc. Till Saturday. . . . SAN MARCO GALLERY, 24 Via del Babuino — Paintings by Giorgio Hina. Till Jan. 21.

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CLUB MEETINGS

AMERICAN CLUB OF ROME — Luncheon meeting; guest speaker: Manlio Brosio, new Italian ambassador to the U.S., today at 1 at the Grand Hotel. Members and guests. . . . ROTARY CLUB meets every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.; dinner at the Excelsior.

CIRCUS

TOGNI CIRCUS, at Via Sannio (San Giovanni), daily at 3:45 and 9. Telephone 779.181.

NIGHT CLUBS

GROTTE DEL PICCIONE, 31 Via della Vite — Nightly floor show. Telephone 65.336. . . . LA BIBLIOTECA, 9 Largo Teatro Valle — Dancing. Two orchestras. Telephone 551.292. . . . KIT-KAT CLUB, 28 Via Liguria — Nightly entertainment. Tel. 457.242. . . . LA BOITE PIGALLE, 77 Via dell'Umbria — Nightly floor show. Telephone 62.274. . . . NIRVANETTA, 27 Via Marconi (Largo Tritone) — Nightly shows. Telephone 681.933. . . . OPEN GATE CLUB, 3 Via San Nicolò da Tolentino — Dancing. Entertainment. Telephone 481.625. . . . RUPE — TARPEA — JICKY CLUB, 13 Via Veneto — Dancing. Entertainment. Telephone 470.481. . . . WHIP CLUB, 73 Via Sistina — Dancing. Telephone 683.212.

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