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SEEN AND HEARD AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN

Italian Film Stars Take Sides In Election

Italy's movie and opera stars have chosen up sides for the coming June 7 election. **Ingrid Bergman**, who became an Italian citizen with her marriage to director **Roberto Rossellini**, told a Bologna paper, according to UP, she was following the straight and narrow path down the middle-of-the-road. **Rossellini** said he was voting for the center as well.

Others indicating a preference for the Christian Democratic center coalition were **Silvana Mangano**, the star of "Bitter Rice"; buxon **Silvana Pampanini**; **Amedeo Nazzari**, called Italy's Ronald Coleman; and former Hollywood leading man **Rossano Brazzi**.

Sitting out in left field are **Anna Magnani**; Shelley Winters' leading-man husband **Vittorio Gassman**; beautiful **Gina Lollobrigida**; **Lea Padovani**; and tenor **Ferruccio Tagliavini**.

Italy's two top comics, **Totò** and **Aldo Fabrizi**, both told the Bologna Giornale dell'Emilia they would vote right.

Cultural Note

American artist **Beverly Pepper**, who has gained much fame since she dropped her advertising agency illustrator's brush and concentrated on higher art, has been signally honored by the Roman Cultural Circle. **Mrs. Pepper** is the only American to be included in the current shows sponsored by the Circle at the Zodiaco and Obelisco galleries. The works of 26 artists are on display, and in addition to **Mrs. Pepper**, the other names include: **Picasso, Toulouse-Lautrec, Ivan Mosca, Scipione, Tosi, Scordia, Mafai** to list a few. Her work is at the Zodiaco, Via Romagna 18, while the Obelisco gallery is at Via Sistina 146.

Buzzing Around

Teddy has the welcoming committee making like a bear. The gentlemen from the Società Doram Albas yesterday turned up at Ciampino to welcome home from Tunis Italian singer **Teddy Reno**. But all they saw was maestro **Lelio Luttazzi**, **Teddy's** traveling companion. The maestro informed the group that the singer had alighted from the plane at Palermo with a lady and never returned. **Reno** is scheduled to begin Doram Albas-produced musical film here with blonde Italian showgirl **Siena Giusti** . . . French actress **Gaby Andre** arrived here yesterday via TWA with a babe in arms, her two-month-old daughter **Carol**. **Miss Andre**, who is staying at the Excelsior, said she had come to town to make three as yet unnamed movies. On the same plane with the French actress was movie producer-director writer **Jean Cocteau**.

In Our Midst

Lana Turner drove her Jaguar to Naples for start of work on "The Flame and The Flesh," shooting on which is scheduled to start June 1 in the port city. **Carlos Thompson**,



GABY ANDRE

just signed to an MGM contract, heads that way today. **Pier Angeli** will go to Naples on Friday. Producer **Joe Pasternack** and director **Richard Brooks** will be at the Excelsior. Location shots will be made in Naples and Positano for about 11 days. The company then returns to London studios . . . **Walter (and Mrs.) Sortster** of Philadelphia, Columbia films, arrived here by Pan Am plane . . . same line brought in **Larry Burtchell**, assistant traffic manager Pan American Atlantic division, passing through to Beirut . . . **Amicus Most**, ex-ECA industry bureau chief, has returned for a two-week stay in Rome with wife and family.

Here And There

When **Elbert K. Carroll** of Raleigh, N. C., makes up his mind to do something, he does it. **Carroll** paid his own expenses to Italy to enlist in the Army with the U.S. Forces in Austria. He was sworn in last week at Leghorn. "I like the Army and want to make it my career," the 38-year-old Tarheel told 7617 USFA Post authorities as he signed the dotted line . . . Naples Mostra Oltremare (the exhibition of the work of Italians throughout the world) will open for its second season June 20, Campi Flegrei officials announced yesterday. The exposition is located on the famous fair grounds which became a U.S. Army hospital center and rest camp in World War II . . . one of Italy's great violinists, **Arcangelo Corelli**, also a noted composer of the 16th Century, will be honored with a new stamp to be issued by the Government on May 30 . . . screen writer **Harry Kurnitz** is regaling the folks back home with the following Rome anecdote: While in the Eternal City, he was approached by a producer who said: "All I ask is five minutes of your time." "How can you make a movie deal in five minutes," Kurnitz asked. The producer excused himself, saying he wished to consult his partner. He returned and said, "Give me the five minutes. If anything comes out of it, we'd like an option on another five minutes" . . . **Jessamyn West**, author of "Friendly Persuasion" and various short stories and stage plays, left Wednesday by plane for New York to complete arrangements for a Broadway play authored by her . . . there was a shining gathering last night at Composer **Gale Kubik's** with American writers **Irwin Shaw, Jessamyn West, Hortense Kalischer, William Styron, Theodore Roethke,** Italy's **Moravia** and **Savelli**, and a few of the local American colony . . .

Memorial Day

New SHAPE commander **Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther** is flying to Italy to join with **Ambassador Clare Boothe Luce** in leading Memorial Day services at the Anzio-Nettuno war cemetery on Saturday.

The ceremonies, sponsored every year by the Italian Government to honor some 8,000 American dead buried there, will have Italian Defense Minister **Randolfo Pacciardi** and **Gen. Gruenther** as principal speaker. **Gruenther** served as chief of staff of the U.S. 5th Army during the Italian campaign.

Before attending the Nettuno ceremonies, **Ambassador Luce** will pay her first visit to Italy's industrial north today and tomorrow. She will be accompanied by her husband **Henry Luce**, editor-in-chief of Time, Inc., and members of her staff. The **Ambassador** will attend an American Chamber of Commerce for Italy banquet in Milan today and will be a guest at a dinner given by the Propellor Club of Genoa, an American businessmen's group, on Friday.

Lonely Hearts?

The following communication arrived in yesterday's mail

Dear Sir:

I am very grateful if you will kindly publish my name, address and hobbies in your great and widely circulated English newspaper for finding pen friends in Italy.

I am a Chinese male of 18 years old. My address is 12 Ying Fai Terrace, Second floor, Hong Kong. My favorite hobbies are collecting photos, tickets and stamps. I love to read, like films and music too. I am very happy and proud to correspond with your readers between the ages of 16 and 20. English must be used.

I hope I shall have many letters which are kindly sent to me by your readers who wish to write with a friend from the Pearl of the East, Hong Kong.

I am very sorry for troubling you.

With best wishes

D. Wing.

ROAMIN' FORUM

By Betty Harold

There's a rumor in Paris that the night life in Rome leaves something to be desired. It just goes to show that it all depends on your vantage point. From mine it looks real wild. After the long winter's hibernation, the joint is jumping all night long. Piazza del Popolo, Via Veneto, Via Sistina, Piazza Colonna, they're all pleasantly well populated and animated until two, three, four in the morning.

The nice thing about Roman night life is that it's easy on the purse. A hundred lire for a coffee, a couple of hundred lire for an ice cream and you get a ringside seat at a cafe, as much conversation and entertainment as you and the rest of the table can ante up. As for the floor show, the girls passing by, summer breezes stirring their skirts, the picking out of names and faces to be attached to photos, the greeting of old and new acquaintances adds up to one as exciting as most I've seen in night clubs, if not more so.



HAROLD

Piazza del Popolo is among the quieter spots, with Rosati's and Canova's closing up and pulling in their tables at one in the morning. Until that hour though, it's the cultural hangout, Rome being so small you get your celebrities dished up en masse if you know where to go. Those who like to see the writers and artists—the Italian film directors and writers—watch them from ringside seats at Rosati's or a table dominating the entrance at Canova.

It's hardly news that the Via Veneto beat is the glamour circuit—visiting stage and screen stars, the important American entertainers and personalities and the Italians who prefer to be seen in their company. What is new is that life is almost as animated in front of Strega's at 2 o'clock in the morning these warm nights as at eight o'clock in the evening. Strega and Doney stay open till two or three in the morning. When the bars themselves close, many people stay on at the outdoor tables, their own conversation evidently enough to satisfy their thirst.

More material souls traipse down to the Notturno, the all-night cafe at Largo del Tritone, where they can drink their coffee or brandy along with the professional night owls, women and men who live off the streets and the rackets.

Somewhat more respectable and a good deal more expensive is the other Roman all-night bar, the American Club on Via Sistina, which sports a notice "Admission for members only," but which nevertheless admits all foreigners automatically. Despite the euphemism of the word club, it's just a cafe with tables, a jukebox for dancing, and a steady trade in hamburgers, coffee and drinks all night long.

A relatively inexpensive but highly active floor show is offered by the political discussions in the Galleria at Piazza Colonna. Although Caffe Berardo was closed by then, the groups were still knotted in discussion when I passed there at 3 a.m. the other morning.

All this night life requires strenuous training, ergo the increasing rigidity and length of the siesta hour. Last year about this time, this column was writing advice on how to utilize the siesta hour for useful accomplishments. Now that things are wide awake at 3 a.m. I've come to the conclusion that the Romans have something.

The best thing to do in siesta time is to sleep.

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ON THE SCREEN

Hope-full Night

By DINO NARDI

There is quite a bit of fighting in *Off Limits;* but what Paramount really presents in this picture is a battle of wits and personalities. In one corner, a completely uninhibited Mickey Rooney; in the opposite corner, a Bob Hope at his sneering best; in the middle, the hilarious effects of routine but well milked causes—such as the ups and downs of the boxing business.

THE NEW MOVIE

OFF LIMITS (in English); a Paramount release; produced by Harry Tugent; directed by George Marshall; with Bob Hope, Mickey Rooney, Marilyn Maxwell and Eddie Mayeoff. At the Fiammetta Theater.

A twist of circumstances has thrown the two brilliant performers in the Army—in the MPs. Mickey on to the road of championship. There are at least half a dozen scraps in the ring, and that many more off it, before the inevitable championship bout, refereed by Jack Dempsey himself.

But before bringing victory and glory to the MPs, they cause that branch of the service undendurable headaches and even shame through many riotous situations that are as funny as only Bob Hope can make them.

What the picture lacks in originality it makes up in laughs and chuckles. George Marshall has aided it considerably by imparting to it a brisk pace and otherwise coordinating its rhythm with the inimitable comedian's timing. His deftness, too, has prevented a bit of romance injected into the proceedings from becoming a sore thumb. If *Off Limits* proves anything at all it proves that Bob

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