

TV CANDIDS

by
Terrence O'Flaherty

It isn't easy to dispose of a body—even on television.

The news has come through that Terry Moore is being dropped from "Empire" to make room for more action. The family aspect of the New Mexico ranch and its owners will be played down—and out—and with it goes the blonde whose acting reputation was established by wearing a white fur bathing suit while entertaining the GIs in Korea.

William Dozier, production chief of the studios where "Empire" is filmed, explained the removal of Miss Moore with this curious statement: "The show's appeal seems to be diminished by the appearance of women..."

She will be seen on the series for the last time next month, at which time she will be replaced (along with Anne Seymour) by Charles Bronson, as the foreman of the big Garrett Ranch, and Warren Vanders, as a ranch hand.

This brings up the question of how best to dispose of a television heroine in the script. Will Miss Moore simply wander off into the scenery like Aimee Semple McPherson or will the ranch be sold and the former owners move into a condominium?

The case of Terry Moore set me to thinking of fictional means to remove other characters from the television programs should the occasion arise.

Last season there was talk of dropping Vince Edwards from the "Ben Casey" series if his salary demands weren't met. Perhaps Doctor Ben could have been promoted to the board of directors of the hospital—because, as everyone knows, they're always out of town. Of course, the case of "Ben Casey" is unique because the star has the title role and they're stuck with the name.

The radio soap operas solved the problem in several ways—divorce, violent death, or retirement. A friend of mine who was writing the scripts for one of the most dreary of all the daytime serials was delighted to hear that an actor he hated was leaving the show. He devised the most blood-chilling accidents in radio history to dispose of the character the actor played.

It isn't often that a writer gets this kind of opportunity, but he was horrified to learn the fan mail kept coming.

And if actor Lorne Green decided to leave "Bonanza" how would the script writer dispose of Ben Cartwright of the Ponderosa Ranch? A possible solution would be to marry him to Terry Moore of the Garrett Ranch. On "Bonanza" they could say he moved to New Mexico; on "Empire" they could say Miss Moore was now living on the Ponderosa.

There is talk that George Maharis of "Route 66" may take a different route and drop out next year, leaving Martin Milner with a full hour and an empty Chevrolet.

If Robert Stack ever left "The Untouchables" the script writers could always have him rubbed-out in a back alley by a beer baron.

How would you get rid of Dorothy Kilgallen, say, on "What's My Line?" Actually there have been many suggestions for this—all feasible.

Real death has robbed several shows of their stars. Substitutions are easier to make in some cases than in others. When "Wagon Train's" Ward Bond died they got a new wagon master. Barton Yarborough, the co-star of "Dragnet," died just as the series was starting on its road to fame. He was replaced by Ben Alexander.

The public never complains about such changes because the fan's actual death is understandable while a fake death never is.

Local Teacher Receives Post

Jackson E. Eckstein, of 5531 Michelle Drive, has been appointed assistant to George M. Winder, recently named manpower training supervisor of the Los Angeles City Schools, a newly created post.

A business education teacher at Gardena Senior High School and a student counselor at Gardena Adult School, Eckstein has taught at Gardena High

since 1953 and is active in numerous adult education organizations.

The new office will be in charge of a \$60,000 pilot program for training clerk typists, machine operators and electronic assemblers. Financed with federal funds, the program is being conducted in cooperation with the State Department of Employment.

Joe Penick Heads Boy Scout Drive

It is a rare person whose life has not in one way or another been touched by the Boy Scouts of America. Your Johnny or Jimmy, or your neighbor's Tom and Bill, are familiar figures to you in their snappy scout uniforms.

The Los Angeles Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, has kicked off its sustaining membership program which will enable volunteers to continue the work of the scout movement in our community and to extend its services so that the proven values and beliefs of scouting may be brought to more boys.

IT COSTS \$5,100 per year to keep a boy in Juvenile Hall, according to the California Youth Authority. With much less money, the same boy can enjoy an outdoor program of fun and adventure under trained and qualified leadership through scouting.

Heading scouting's special sustaining membership program in this area are Joe Penick of 3700 W. 190th, district finance chairman; and Ted Bruinsma, 420 S. Gaffey, San Pedro, special enrollments chairman.

Friends of scouting will soon

be called upon to do their best to put the drive for funds over the top. Those who realize the great and indispensable service scouting is doing for our community will want to make their contribution to maintain and extend this work, so important in developing our youth and enriching our community.

SINCE the Boy Scouts of America were founded in 1910, more than 33,000,000 American boys and adult leaders have been influenced by scouting.

Today there is a total of three and a quarter million boys enrolled in the scouting program. There are one and one quarter million adults of good character, volunteering their services as leaders in many capacities.

In the Los Angeles Area Council, nearly 50,000 boys enjoy the scouting program. But scouting is not confined only to this country. There is a world-wide brotherhood of scouts in 60 nations with a membership in excess of 6,360,000 members.

Scouting offers the Cub

Scout program for the boy 8 through 10, the Boy Scout program for the boy 11 through 13 and the Explorer program for the boy over 14.

THROUGH participation in scouting, the boy may develop into balanced manhood of the highest type. Through hiking and camping experiences, he develops physical fitness and the ability to care for himself under rugged conditions.

He learns a variety of crafts and skills which increase his resourcefulness, initiative, and self-confidence.

In the patrol and troop where the boys work together and elect their own leaders, he learns cooperation and dem-

ocratic thinking and living not abstractly but through first-hand experience.

Throughout the scouting program, whether he is learning the skill of knot tying or signaling, or how to give first aid, he is constantly being imbued with the high ideals of scouting.

The Boy Scout learns, along with his practical achievements, to work and play together with his mates. Through group life he learns universal law—love of nature, reverence for God, and the joy of serving others.

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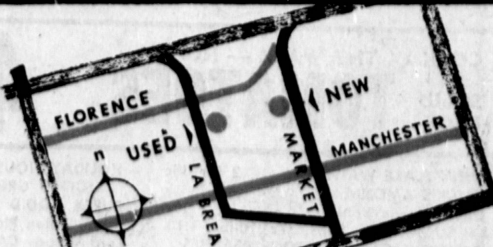
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