

Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

Ship Ahoy at Lobster House

And that's exactly the sensation that sweeps over you as you enter the very authentic *Lobster House* in Redondo's King Harbor - nautical! The deeper you go into the beautiful lay-out of rooms, the more nautical you feel.

They've got "companion-ways" "ladders," "bulk-heads," just everything for the frustrated sea-faring man or woman, including exquisite cuisine, both seafood-wise as well as steak and prime rib dinners served daily from noon on.

Under the able direction of general manager Charlie Bray, Castagnola's Lobster House is truly a delight to both the eye and the palate.

Now at first appearance it might seem to be a little hassle getting to 655 No. Harbor Drive, what with all the extensive construction the city of Redondo has going

down there but perish the thought. Simply go to Beryl Ave. and drive towards the ocean 'til you come to Harbor Drive... and there the sprawling Lobster House looms, big as life and twice as attractive. They come from all over to partake of this extraordinary culinary artistry.

As for example, one night last week it was the scene of a gala get-together of many of the film people, like Nick and Carol Adams along with Margaret O'Brien, Frank and Gigi Gallo (she's Gigi Perreau) and a host of others.

Incidentally, Miss Perreau opens this week with Andy Devine and Will Hutchins for a two-week stand at the Valley Music Theatre in that 5-year hit comedy, "Never Too Late," so this might be a good opportunity for you to catch some really fine entertainment. (No, of course we don't get Annie-Oakleys. Just throw it in for what it was worth!)

So anyway, make the scene soon at Castagnola's Lobster House for a truly great evening of food, fun and frolic. Enjoy pianogal Peggy Webb down there nightly, Tuesday through Sunday when she turns the Sandpiper theme loose as well as tunes like "Yours," etc., etc., etc. and whereas, here's a gal that should learn "All My Tomorrow's." Bet she'd be sensational with that one.

Talk about swingin' cocktail hours - that's a doozy they have down at the Tea House nightly on Crenshaw near Pacific Coast Highway.

You never meet a stranger during this time. Just walk on in and you'll be treated like an old timer. There's Ed, there's Bob, there's Dee, Al, Joan, all a good bunch of swingers and all overseen by the two master-mixologists, Ron and Ronnie. Oh, and of course "C.C." (that's for Cute Connie, the perennial mother. She's already got three girls and a boy and she's no more than a little girl herself. Why Al even has a pool started as to when she'll again have to take some time off!)

Harbor Lite Club Holds Graduation

Graduation trophy winners of two novice Harbor Lite Dog Obedience Club classes were Patricia Whitehead, Manhattan Beach, Irish Setter; Frank Iacona, Miraleste Hills, Doberman Pinscher; Ruth Bendiksen, Hermosa Beach, Irish Setter; Eugene Wieke, Torrance, German Shepherd; Mrs. Patricia Decker, miniature poodle, Palos Verdes Estates; and Dan Taylor, Harbor City, German Shepherd. High scoring junior handler trophy was won by Albert Peacock, 7, Shetland Sheepdog, Rolling Hills.

Judging were Arthur Fanslow and Mrs. Marilyn Apple. Handler and dog were judged by point system, with a perfect score 200 points. Registration of two new novice classes, to start at Peck Park June 15 at 7 p.m. and June 25 at 2 p.m., is open. Marty Lehr is the class instructor.

Dear Mr. C.: Who is going to play the Fatty Arbuckle part in the movie about that scandalous movie actor's life, and WHY would they dig up all that dirt about Virginia Rappe's murder at this late date? — Esther L. Parrish, San Pedro.

Dear Esther: Comedian Jackie Vernon got the part. But it's not a movie, it's a Broadway-bound musical by Harry Essex, with Hal Grossman producing. I'm told they're stressing the fun in Fatty's life, in accordance with the wishes of his widow, Minta Durfee Arbuckle, who is still acting in movies, instead of the tragedy.

Dear Mike: How much money do movie stars make? — Linda Shattuck, South Houston, Tex.

Dear Linda: Liz Taylor makes \$1,000,000 per picture. It depends on the star, and on the deal he makes with the studio. Bill Holden's percentage on "The Bridge on the River Kwai" has already passed the \$3,000,000 mark. Remember Randolph Scott? He's one of the richest stars in Hollywood but never makes movies any more. He's loaded with real estate and various other wise investments. Newcomers, on the other hand, make as little as \$5,000 per picture.

(Mike Connolly will try to answer your questions in his column. He gives no personal replies by mail.)

Dear Mr. C.: I was told that Ben Gazzara has cancer and is fighting for his life. Is there any truth to this rumor? — Mrs. Arnold Greene, Metuchen, N.J.

Dear Mrs. Greene: Don't take the "Run for Your Life" series so seriously. That's the plot for one of the segments.



A GOODLY CROWD WAS THERE... 'Twas a happy, smiling group at a recent party in Castagnola's Lobster House in Redondo Beach. Left to right they are, Margaret O'Brien, Gigi Perreau, E. Frank Gallo, Mrs. Chas. Bray, Bob Allen, Nick and Carol Adams, and General Manager of the Lobster House, Charles E. Bray.

It's really a fun room, though and if you haven't made it, please do soon. You'll have a good time and you won't be alone.

• • •

It's a genuine pleasure to watch a real mechanic at work. That's nite mixomatic Bill down at Sam Filippone's spot on Calle Mayor. The "joint was jumpin'" last Friday evening but Sir William kept up with the pace without missing a stroke, and still carried on a conversation with all and sundry sitting at the bar in the intimate lounge.

And that Helen's something else again, too. Two guys came out from the big party in the back room to order a small libation and Helen just looked at them and said, "I think I have your order here with the others. You're a screwdriver, aren't you? And you — you're a scotch and water?" And y'know what? She was right. The two went away shaking their heads.

But this is when you have people who know their business. Hope Sam realizes what jewels he has in these two — not to mention the rest of the crew at Filippone's. That's why you have Service (with a capital S) at this spot.

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Some guy in New York says, "Eat fish and live longer." He claims heart failure is linked to fats. (so what happens if you get a nice fat fish?)

Anyway, Tom Washburn's doing his part to keep us "over 30" cats from being knocked off with the heart bit. In addition to his regular daily and nite menu at the Fisherman's Haven on Fisherman's Wharf in Redondo Beach, Tom presents some fantastic appetizers right at

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CLOSE HARMONY... It's the International Barbershop Quartet Champions Headline Harmony Show, that's what it is and featured above are the International Champs, The Sidewinders of Riverside, Calif., who will participate in the "Barbershop Blackouts" on May 6 and 7 at Mira Costa High School Auditorium in Manhattan Beach. This is the So. Bay Chapter of SPEBSQSA. L to R above: Jay Wright, bass; Russ Hosier, baritone; Jerry Fairchild, tenor; and Joe Daniels, lead.

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