

# Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic



## Fabulous Las Vegulous

To numerate individually the many wonderful shows being currently presented at the desert fun-spot would well nigh take this whole page but a couple of the stand-outs that comes to mind at the present time are The Riviera Hotel and the Hotel Tropicana out there on that glittering Strip.

Oh sure, the shows are always good in Las Vegas (or nearly always) but during the past few days we caught some beauties.

Let's take a look, for example, at the fare offered at The Tropicana. Now as you know, that Folies Bergere is ALWAYS great entertainment. Sure it's a little nude but so what! It's always in rare good taste. (or should that be "bare" good taste?) And loaded with talent. Spectacular is just about the only word for this extravaganza which, incidentally, is coming into its 1967 home stretch, the new one to get under way along about the last of the year for the kick-off of the 1968 Folies. So you still have a few weeks left for a truly enjoyable hour and a half of sheer entertainment.

Then, moving over to the Blue Room thru the joint efforts of Blue Room entertainment director Maynard Sloate and publicity director Brigham Townsend, (an old friend from Hollywood) we caught up with still another great piece of entertaining music.

It was opening nite for Jane Russell, Connie Haines and Beryl Davis. That's combining England, the Deep South and the San Fernando Valley, all wrapped up in one beautifully decorated package of



**LASHING OUT . . .** Always had the idea that "Someone Else" invented eyelashes, but Inga Berg, shown above at The Marquis with owner Fred Rosenberg, is known as the "eyelash inventor" and looking into those beautiful orbs one has to believe it! The Marquis has recently opened four new banquet rooms and are now available for all these holiday get-togethers you're planning, so keep the Marquis in mind. You can't go wrong with this Sunset Strip dinery.

weeks ago. He puts on a fine mess of music. Publicity director Tony Zoppi's accolades weren't exaggerated when he praised the talents of Mr. Lopez.

Then, as always, Donna Jean Young's innocent-type nonsense was highly enjoyable with her ribbing of her home-town of East McKeeverport, or however it is she spells it . . . if she does. This one's got kind of a little country girl attitude with material to match but all presented in big-time style. She has some wonderful lines and even more wonderful delivery but to thoroughly enjoy her is to see her.

Vic Damone? Well now, come on! You know Vic's always good and incidentally, he follows Trini into the main room in the next couple weeks. Just who takes over the Lounge spot we can't say at the moment but you know, it'll be good, as always, at The Riviera. Manager Dick Chappell should have a winner here!

So you swing on over to the Sahara for charming Donald O'Connor and June Allyson, then there's Tony Bennett at the Car Wash (Caesars Palace, y'ding-a-ling!) and just so many more we lost track. Meanwhile we found time to drop a buck here and there as well as eat high off the hog in that fantastic town in the middle of nowhere. GO!

Not too far away there's still another fun spot by the name of the Pacific Lounge. Cal Chun has a swingin' room over there on Rodeo Road at La Cienega for either food or fun. It's tropical as the name would imply and the offerings on Cal's menu carry out the same idea. In name, anyway.

Entertainment, too, is in the "Islands flavor" with the newly installed Richard Kaubi Trio holding down that end of the room nite. Then owner-host Cal himself renders his own special style of piano noodling at the drop of a hat. In fact, he'll even drop the hat!

The Pacific Lounge is open daily from noon 'til closing at 2 in the ayem, serving delicious luncheons and dinners and delightful cocktails. Join the gang down there some nite or day, soon.

There are a lot of interesting little nooks and rooms for you to explore at the Hacienda International Hotel in El Segundo.

For instance the Plantation Room for one is open every day for that International Noon Buffet. There are Gourmet Steaks and Seafood Dinners just a waiter's throw away for you leisurely diners. Or, if you're a man on the run, this, too, is a feature here. That's an every day thing except Sundays, but then, who's in a hurry on Sunday! If you hurry to get home you'll only have to cut the grass anyway so why break than he did when he was doing the same great stuff for Jack Ruby in Dallas at ten bucks a nite a few short years back, as we mentioned cuppla

away when the hotel was first built. This one also assures you of good room service if you happen to be staying at the Hacienda International Hotel for any length of time, be it long or short.

So keep in mind that Dinner Buffet for the whole family. It's truly a gourmet's delight featuring hot entrees, salads, coldcuts, cheeses, relishes, desserts, just about anything you could wish. Beverage is also included with the Dinner Buffet, Monday thru Saturday from 6 in the evening 'til 9.

The price is right, too. The kids pay only two bucks while the older "kids" come up with a dollar and a half more. Now what could be fairer than that?!

There's always free validated self-parking available at the Hacienda.

There's a fairly new and authentic spot in the South Bay area along the line of Mexican food and entertainment known as El Dorado Restaurant on South Artesia in Redondo Beach.

The atmosphere and food are a compliment to each other for either luncheon or dinner, Monday thru Friday from 11:30 ayem 'til 2 the following ayem.

Entertainment is "Mariachi Folklorico" with true Mexican flavor. Featured with the entertainment at El Dorado are the Hernandez Brothers, Pepe and Vicente, who kind of "double in strings," if you know what we mean. This duo truly gets around the area and without even half trying.

Anyway, make it by El Dorado first chance you get and visit that downstairs room. Located at 1969 Artesia Blvd. El Dorado is easy to find, right there at Aviation.

Have you ever visited the Victorian Trophy Lounge at the International Hotel? If you haven't, you're in for a treat.

Pianist Tommy Carrough's Trio is the popular group currently appearing at this attractive Hotel Spot, every nite but Sundays for entertainment and dancing.

You all, no doubt, are "hip" to the Carrough talents, having appeared on NBC's TV Wink Martindale Show as well as having recorded for albums under Gold Cup and Nap labels.

Not only has Tommy appeared in many major European cities, having recently returned from this junkie, but he's well known in clubs from New York to Mexico and Alaska.

The Victorian Trophy Lounge provides a handsome setting for talented Tommy Carrough's modern rhythms as well as Stan Seitzer's delightful piano interludes during the Cocktail Hour when hot hors d'oeuvres are served. Present yourself one evening soon, huh?

Well are you or are you not, acquainted with the paintings of famed European post-impressionist LeCocque? If you're not you may be introduced to some of his fine work one of these days up until Nov. 2 with Egg Dumplings, chilled



**LES AMIS D'ESCOFFIER . . .** Shown above, flanked by regional director for the American Academy of Chefs, Frank Forster on his left, and General Manager Patrick O'Daly, is Executive Chef of the famous Manhattan Beach hotel-restaurant, Kris Erlandsen. Kris was awarded the Gold Medal for Professional Culinary achievements recently in the Manhattan Room of the Pen and Quill with 200 members of the Les Amis D'Escoffier Society in attendance.

simply by taking a short walk over to the Sunset Strip for a visit to the Top of the Marquis Gallery in the banquet room of the famous Marquis Restaurant.

LeCocque's paintings are in the private collections of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Mrs. John F. Kennedy, Prince Dado Ruspoli of Rome, the Marquis Gaby Bianchi, also of Roma and other prominent collectors all over the world. He's the winner of the 1966 Gold Medal presented by the Societe des Arts, Lettres, in Paris, y'know.

Anyway, even if you're not interested in art, it's a cinch you're interested in good food. Else why would you be reading this?

There now y'see? Just what we've been telling you all along. They come from all over to visit The Matador Restaurant in West Los Angeles. This time it was Mexico's most popular film star (or at least one of the most popular) Cantinflas, who recently enjoyed dinner and a Flamenco floor show.

The last time Cantinflas visited this west side cafe he hired the entire Flamenco revue for a part in his movie "Around The World in 80 Days."

This time, however, he took pity on owner Bill Fremont and didn't hire them, otherwise, Bill'd be left without a floor show for two whole weeks.

Let's face it! That's not a bad deal Bob Mummy has for you over there at his Wray's Restaurant in Gardena. You can face the food, too!

For example, on Sunday they're presenting a special Family Dinner for a dollar twenty-nine that includes Old Fashioned Stewed Chicken with Egg Dumplings, chilled

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comic Jackie Gayle, and warm up the house he does. And would you believe, that guy's on there for a solid half hour, and take it from here, that ain't easy with his kind of staff and especially doing two-a-nite and three on week-ends. A different routine for each show? Wow! Like, forget it! Would give a normal guy ulcers but it doesn't seem to bother Gayle. He thrives on it!

This one's in to the Blue Room for just a three week stand so hurry, hurry!

And then slithering back on down the Strip to The Riviera (and slithering it was! Never ride with one of those Vegas Cabys?) it was Trini Lopez and Donna Jean Young in the main room and Vic Damone in the lounge for still more hours of entertainment.

Trini struts his stuff in Lopez fashion and it's a bet from this corner he's enjoying it a whole lot more than he did when he was doing the same great stuff for Jack Ruby in Dallas at ten bucks a nite a few short years back, as we mentioned cuppla

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