

Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

The Long Hot Summer

And from the weather we're having at the moment (this is Sunday, y'know as this is being typed) it's begun already. Then, on the other hand, by the middle of the week we'll probably all be freezing with a late front from the east.

But whether it be hot or cold, it's always a good time to dine out at just about any of the Southland restaurants appearing on these pages from time to time and one of the really attractive ones that comes to mind is the Pen and Quill in Manhattan Beach.

For example, that boneless filet topped with crab legs and shrimp sounds most exciting. And making it even more exciting is the price attached to same. You get the whole thing including the marquetry sauce au gratin, iced relish tray, salad, choice of potatoes, vegetable, rolls and butter with the whole enchilada going off for four and a quarter.

Talked with some dine-outers one night last week and they couldn't say enough nice things about the cuisine at the Pen and Quill. They did mention that the service was a wee bit lacking but you've got a remember, those days do have a habit of coming along in any business, restaurant or otherwise. Perhaps due to illness on short notice, they may have been working short-handed or any one of several reasons. The fact remains, the food is excellent at the P & Q and usually the service is the same. Another beautiful part of lunching or dining at the Pen and Quill is the parking. There's always ample.

Well, Ulie Tett, otherwise known as "Mr. T" is just about in the middle of his current booking aboard the S.S. Princess Louise at Berth 236 of Terminal Island and you still have about three weeks left to catch him. Mr. T. and his trio set the lounge record at the Princess Louise during their last "gig" there in December. They play Tuesday thru Saturday from 9 in the evening plus dancing on weekends under a no cover-no minimum policy. And the food on board is wonderful, too, for either lunch or dinner.

To give you a rough idea of the acceptance the authentic Spanish cuisine and colorful Flamenco entertainment has on the general public at

Bill Fremont's Matador Restaurant, here's a list of some of the notables who've found their way to the West Pico dinner house.

For example there was Harry James one night. Also recently Mel Blanc dropped in for some exquisite foods-of-Spain. Lana Turner was on hand as was Patty Duke and singers Tommy Leonetti and Ed Ames.

Actor Paul Burke has "discovered" the Matador as well. So if it's good enough for them it should be good enough for even you and you and you. Truly a comfortable, friendly and unique dine-outery.

Hey, how about that Al Geiberger? You know him? He was a recent winner of the CBS Invitational \$50,000 golf tournament.

Well, according to Santa Barbara Inn president, Alex Shustin, Mr. Geiberger made a trek clear up to Santa Barbara recently and what did he order in the beautiful restaurant of The Inn? A peanut butter and jelly sandwich! That's what he ordered! Under glass, if you please!

But do you think that stymied the good people of The Inn? Not for a moment and the waiter didn't even bat an eye. He brought the tasty morsel just as ordered. (Now come to think of it, that sounds pretty good. Please excuse us for a moment to excuse for a moment while we go fix a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.)

So that's the kind of folk you meet at the Santa Barbara Inn. Just good people like all of us. Also t'e kind of people who serve you are merely human, too, so hie ye on up there for a day or a weekend and relax in the sun.

It's still Mitzi Gaynor and will be thru June 10 at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, with her zany impersonations, a solid smash according to all reports. She's in the Versail-

les Room and loaded with talent. Her mimicry of Shirley Temple'll put you away, where she does a torrid strip with twirling tassels — the works! Very funny gal!

Meanwhile, over in the Starlite Theatre it's Sheeky Green with Lafalda and Lou, a booking that'll carry thru June 11 so give it a hurry-up trip and catch these fine acts before they close.

One of the most delightful gal entertainers any where around our Southland can be found at Nick Cicciarelli's Jet Room Lounge on La Cienega at Centinela. She's Ruthie Thomas and to say she's wonderful with her piano-bar capering wouldn't be telling the whole story.

This little gal doesn't employ gimmicks or jim cracks to put her own particular talents across. She's just "Ruthie" and as warm and friendly as an old pal that you might have known for years.

The kind of talent she has is attested to by crowds that follow her wherever she is appearing and the Jet Room is no exception. She just sits there and "bes Ruthie," chatting and singing with her many friends and fans.

Ruthie goes in for the sing-a-longs, if that's the feel of the house, or if not and people are feeling a little lazy, she cuts out on her own and regales them from 9 o'clock at night 'til 1:30 in the ayem, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nites.

You'll love this little gal as all who've heard her do.

Just barely touched on Sam Failla's new attraction last week at the San Franciscan in Torrance but when we say versatile, he's all of that!

Herb Eberle and his drummer Jim Williamson put out some of the greatest sounds you'll hear around the Southland these days—or nites—as it were.



"LEONG" ON MUSIC . . . And the Don Leong Group are very long on music in their initial appearance on the Mainland when they bring their Hawaiian Revue to Hop Louie's Latitude 20 Restaurant Tuesday, June 4. Above, left to right it's John Lonsaga, Wilmar Kihoi, Leslie Boynton and, seated, Don Leong. Two featured vocalists are Pat Awana and Liz Damon.

Think, if you can, of one guy playing such widely diversified instruments as the cornet, the trombone, piano, vibes and accordion — and sometimes all at the same time! Well at least it sounds that way when you listen to this great duo.

And these two aren't only club entertainers. Jeffery Records, for instance, has a new long-play-stereo which is named "The Many Happenings of Herb" and they're speaking of no one else but Herb Eberle doing such great numbers as "Lara's Theme" which is from "Dr. Zhivago," "The Impossible Dream," "By The Time I Get To Phoenix," "Sailor," "Goin' Out Of My Head," just to name-drop a few of the solid things this guy does.

The Herb Eberle Duo is rapidly becoming a big favorite at the San Francisco Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge. He not only gets 'em in but he holds 'em, too! And this is no mean trick in this day of high competition. Catch them down there nites. Just how long Herb and Jim are booked in with Sam is hard to say at the moment but let's hope they stay for a while. Sam's high on them, anyway!

Are you a bull-fight buff? Well here's your chance to pamper yourself a little and at the same time enjoy a wonderful trip for the day. There's a bus scheduled

DINE OUT
TONIGHT

(and loading fast) to leave the Red Onion Restaurant on Hawthorne Blvd. in Torrance Sunday, June 23. It'll leave at 10 in the morning and won't return 'til 12 midnight. There'll be "set-ups" provided plus snacks.

You start things off with a 9 a.m. breakfast at the Red Onion (well of course you can get bacon and eggs! It isn't all enchiladas, y'know!) then to your bus ride to the arena in Tijuana and your reserved seat (shady side).

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