

Assignment TV

By **TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY**

"Don't put your daughters on the stage, Mrs. Worthington," warned Noel Coward many years ago. "She's a bit of an ugly duckling, you must honestly confess, and the width of her seat would surely defeat her chances of success."

If that was true in 1931, it is more than ever true today when an actress may spend a sizable part of her time performing in the raw. Actors Equity — ever alert to the pitfalls of such a situation — has drawn up some rules which tell its members when to keep their clothes on, when to take them off, and how to behave

while trying to make up their minds.

These guidelines apply only to the stage but whatever happens in the theater is a forecast of things to come on television so we might as well get a head start and consider two of them now.

"NO SEX acts shall be required of any performer at an audition" says rule 3-C, making the casting couch an obsolete piece of furniture. Nudity at auditions may be permitted only when there is a guarantee that all persons present are directly associated with the

production AND when an official Equity observer is in attendance.

Two thoughts come to mind immediately: recent auditions sure must have been lively — and how do you get a job as official Equity observer? Presumably you don't have to audition for it in the nude.

Even though these new rules apply only to official auditions and do not preclude unofficial auditions when the other members of the production are not present, this sort of news could have a catastrophic effect on the widespread public belief that overnight stardom is often achieved by staying overnight.

MANY YEARS ago I discussed this important factor with a TV actress who knows the backstage ropes and how to scramble over — and under — them. I asked if the casting of

lesser known performers by the age old system of personal scoring is practiced in television.

"I'd never say the custom is obsolete," she replied. "But in most cases TV production moves so fast there's no time for anything more than a business-like audition . . . Yet, I'd hate to be up against an actress who knows the producer better than I do!"

Then she thought a moment and said: "Real talent always outweighs everything else."

"THAT'S what I'm referring to," I said.

"I mean real ACTING talent," she replied.

That comment has made me suspicious every time I have seen some particularly bad acting by a pretty unknown in a smaller role. At least, there is some consolation in the thought that the producer is winning also.

Pueblo Fiesta Plans Begin to Take Shape

Operation Pueblo, a fiesta in all the true Mexican tradition, is being planned for Saturday October 11. The "Pueblo" was one of the original settlements that later grew and became a part of Torrance.

There is a certain lore to that area that should not be lost. Therefore the fiesta was devised in order to "Enhance the Torrance Spanish American tradition of the Pueblo community," stated Torrance City Councilman Ken Miller.

In addition, the fiesta will provide a means by which funds can be gained to enhance the Pueblo. The end result will foster better community relations, people to people.

BEING A Community activity, help with the fiesta is being furnished by virtually every segment of the city. Coordinators of the affair will be City Councilmen Ken Miller and Dr. Donald E. Wilson; Bob Flora of the Marile Estates Homeowners Association; and Ruben Ordaz, president of the Pueblo Community Club and the author of the idea.

To help kick off the event, a Folklorica will be held at El Camino College the Friday night before the fiesta, October 10, at 8:30 p.m. Admission to the Folklorica will be \$1 and the ticket will entitle its holder to be eligible for the door prize which will be presented at the fiesta.

Graduate Students Nominated

Five Torrance girls attending California State College Long Beach's graduate school have been nominated for the Phi Delta Gamma national honorary society for graduate women.

They were nominated by departments in which they are candidates for masters degrees, and are selected on the basis of scholarship, character, and promise of success as professional women.

They are Susan Yee, 21808 Nicole Ave.; Nancy Salisbury, 25815 Matfield Drive; Phyllis Closs, 7639 E. Fostoria St.; Vera Yoshil, 4219 W. 178th St.; Marybeth Porter, 20530 Anza Ave.; and Helen Iren, 23910 La-deen Ave.

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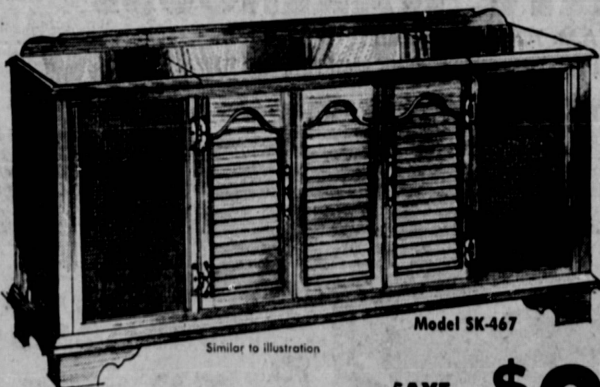
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