

Assignment TV

By TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY

Recently, under the influence of Jack LaLanne, my mother decided to build up her muscles and quicken her mind through a combination of exercise, wheat germ, and the power of suggestion. The fact that she is 83 years old was no deterrent.

It all grew out of my father's suggestion that LaLanne had a better-formed bosom than hers. An off-hand remark like that can send a wave of determination through a woman of any age or condition. So mother sat down before the television set every morning and did what Jack told her to.

Unfortunately she did what he told her not to do. That is, to go at it too fast. But my

mother is a woman who is very receptive to messages of inspiration from the outside. Particularly when they come from a man with a better looking quarter deck than hers.

THIS NEW activity was not viewed with alarm by the rest of the family. It was just one of those phases a girl goes through in the process of growing up. At various periods she has been a runaway debutante, a vegetarian, a Christian Scientist, a Presbyterian, the winner of a Charleston contest at the Coconut Grove and one of the Ten Oldest Living Pi Beta Phi Drop-outs from the University of California at Berkeley.

She's crazy about Dean Martin and she became addicted to "Peyton Place," but managed to shake the habit last month. Obviously there was nothing left but to try out for Mr. America.

During the LaLanne TV exercise periods he cautions viewers by saying "Beginners stop here," but anyone in her 80s resents being called a beginner at anything. As a consequence, the next morning she was so stiff and sore she had to be lifted from her bed in one piece, like a sitting Buddha.

PEOPLE MUSIC: Anyone who has wandered into his friendly neighborhood movie theater recently is well aware that Hollywood has hit the hay. This summer, television also will come from the direction of the barn but the hay will be in the music instead of the seat of the pants. Stand by, folks, for country music, city-made. It's irresistible.

The men behind your TV screen are betting that the public is growing tired of acid rock and several new shows are the result. Their confidence is based on something many viewers discovered long ago: there is no substitute for a good melody. Glen Campbell proved that country music can provide it successfully without going all the way to Nashville. He calls it "People Music."

But two of the summer's biggest entries DO come from Grand Ole Opry Country. The other week Johnny Cash began his ABC series which was at first cautiously described by Screen Gems Studio as "a variety series with a contemporary flavor." Today they aren't afraid to call it "country music." Last week the corn really hit the fan with the debut of CBS's "Hee Haw" — a country music and comedy series hosted by Roy Clark and Buck Owens — backed by the Buckaroos — with guests like Minnie Pearl, Charley Pride, and Loretta Lynn.

A list of the regular performers on "Hee Haw" reads like Tennessee Ernie Ford's guest book: Archie Campbell, Sheb Wooley, Grandpa Jones, Gordie Tapp, Stringbean, Junior Samples, "Lulu," and Jeannine Riley, formerly of "Petticoat Junction." Even if you never heard of any of them, could they belong to anyone but country music-makers?

UNDERNEATH the coveralls and despite the ease with which they play, they are highly skilled performers, their music is truly American, and it fills anyone within earshot with a warm glow of contentment. They're the sort of tunes that have relaxed the Nation's hard-working rural population for three generations.

They could be doing the same thing for today's up-tight city folks. God knows we need it.

Veteran Leaders Chosen

Robert L. Colvin has been installed as commander of the General Rosecrans Post 3261, Veterans of Foreign Wars in Gardena.

Other officers who will serve with him include Louis Mieze Jr., senior vice commander; Tom Zahne, junior vice commander; Lee Isom, quartermaster; James Dambrell, chaplain; Juan Gonzales, adjutant; Ray Treval, judge advocate; Louis Neiz Sr., Surgeon; Jim Skelly, three-year trustee; and Dana Murphy, service officer.

Born in Okmulgee, Okla., on Feb. 24, 1925, Commander Colvin now lives in Carson. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1942, and served with the U.S. Naval Armed Guard as gunner aboard merchant ships.

Colvin received the American Asiatic-Pacific, European-African - Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and received his Naval discharge in 1945.

Commander Colvin enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1948, served three years in Japan with the occupation forces and was discharged in 1953.

A member of Gardena VFW since 1964, Colvin served as quartermaster before becoming commander. He works in Torrance as a jig and fixture builder.

Development Committee Plans 'Carson Image'

Need for focusing civic, business, industrial, and general community interest on the "Outer Image" and "Inner Image" was spotlighted at the initial meeting of the Community Development Committee of the Greater Carson-Dominguez Chamber of Commerce.

R. L. Sprague is chairman of the Chamber committee. Members of his group include John Leahy, Glen Irvin, Charles Del Curto Jr., Allen Harris, and Lance Ireland.

As to the "Outer Image" of Carson, discussion of a region-

shopping center highlighted the meeting. Landscaping of freeway entryways, cleaning up of the unsightly auto wrecking yards, and placement of freeway signs at the core of the city were other topics discussed.

In discussing the "Inner Image" for the county's 77th city, emphasis was placed on the need for a major first class motel - coffee shop - restaurant combination; a first class restaurant with facilities to handle major banquets; and other necessary commercial

community and tourist-attracting facilities.

The Community Development Committee also heard Councilman H. Rick Clark's city-wide "Hire a Youth" summer program. "We certainly would welcome a little more cooperation from business and industry," the councilman said.

The councilman also asked the Carson-Dominguez Chamber committee to work with him in establishing an all-embracing Carson Youth Center.

BE A Summer Santa for a man on the front lines in VIETNAM

Personal gifts are being collected through July 4 for shipment to Vietnam. Suggested gifts: Ballpoint pens, medicated talcum powder, Wash 'N Dri towelettes, first aid kits, foam insoles for combat shoes, foot spray, hand lotion in plastic bottles, combs, writing paper, Kool Aid, Pillsbury Punch, instant iced tea, canned #303 fruits.

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