



JACK O'BRIAN'S

New York's Voice of Broadway

NEW YORK — Maria Callas suffered still another oi-vay: eye trouble . . . The Troy Donohues (Valerie Allen) ended their two-year run . . . Hollywood meanie Telly Savalas had a small accident in London: walked into the Colony gambling joint; that's the one George Raft fronted until the limeys chased him . . . Big percentage of the London gaming clubs are allegedly run by the U.S. mob. As are the casinos in the Caribbean.

Desert Studios Ltd. in Israel now is ready with a studio and facilities in the Negev to film Westerns for theatres or television . . . Burgess Meredith dined with two attractive young gals at the Green Acres Steak Pub: wife Kaja and daughter Tala, looking more like sisters . . . Here's the kind of husband Fran Jeffrie's mate Dick Quine is: directing "A Talent For Loving." Quine got Fran to work for scale . . . The Steak Pub chain will import a 300-year-old English Royal Coach to lug customers hither and thither.

The charge that television networks dished subliminal propaganda against President-Elect Nixon keeps rearing its liberal-pointed head: such as a television tape CBS recorded well before Election Day which showed Dick Nixon most sympathetically—network ed one week after their man Humphrey lost.

Screen star Susannah York gave her sweetie Danny Apolinar a Picasso and a brace of Buffets for his new Manhattan pad . . . "Tonight" conductor Doc Severinson and Dick Cavett Show bandleader Stan Freeman walked down Broadway commiserating over their musicians-strike-caused unemployment: "At least," shrugged Doc, "you still are with Marlene Dietrich on Broadway." . . . Marlene's second Broadway engagement within a year apparently came just too soon; very little excitement this time for the old sexygenarian.

George Abbott's slightly worried: his 90th production, "The Fig Leaves Are Falling," is his first in more than a half century whose rehearsals are fine, the show, even running about the length it will take on its Nov. 26 Philly premiere.

David Cassidy, who plays a 16-year-old in "The Fig Leaves Are Falling" cast, is the 18-year-old son of Jack Cassidy by his first marriage . . . Pop Cassidy's musical "Maggie Flynn" is struggling desperately to hang on . . . Claudette Colbert's happier now, doing Rome's nightspots with businessman Robert Ellsworth . . . Beatle John Lennon's ex-wife Cynthia is writing a children's book; not for need of cash—John said lata with a lifetime bundle.

Clint Eastwood just took his "Paint Your Wagon" salary and with James Garner bought 375 acres near Carmel, Calif. . . . None of that come up and see my etchings for French producer Jean Toureau—he told Joey Heatherton he'd like to open a Paris discoteck named simply "Joey."

Barry Nelson sings six songs in "Fig Leaves" and is amazed: "Until now I'd never even sung in the shower" . . . Touching scene: Mrs. Babe Ruth at the Pen & Pencil, studying the wall photo of The Babe with Ted Williams, the only picture ever taken of the great ball bangers together in uniform.

Dagmar's back in shape, an eloquent phrase, and opens Nov. 24 at the Mineola Playhouse as *Appassionata Von Climax* in the Al Capp musical "L'il Abner".

Max Asnas of the Stage Delly used to go into Manhattan streets every Christmas Day and furnish food to 500 bums until the word got around: "They wanted me to do it on television and I didn't want the publicity so I quit," said Max . . . Who found many other ways of dispensing help anonymously . . . Max loves to get his name in the paper with his jokes but hides his philanthropy . . . Max says he only needs money in case he doesn't die . . . His philosophy for personal unpublicized handouts is simple: "I can't compete with the big charities that try to help everybody. I can't help everybody, just some people."

Newhouse newspapers' sports columnist Jerry Izenberg has written (for Holt, Rinehart and Winston) a most interesting book, "The Rivals," pairing off rivals in the perspiring arts in

fascinating juxta-position: the old Giants vs. Dodgers, Roger Maris' successful statistical assault on Babe Ruth's 60 home runs without diminishing The Babe's preeminence as the game's definitive batter; Joe Louis vs. Max Schmeling, ending in a Nazi scream as Louis shattered Max' third lumbar vertebra; Jesse Owens vs. Hitler; and like that, all lightly and most, literally fascinating.

"Man of La Mancha" starts its fourth indeed smash hit year next week with a showbiz bash at the very elegant theatrical club, The Players . . . We know a gent whose bride is so young, she never saw the movies now shown on television . . . Mayor and Mary Lindsay went backstage to congratulate the cast of "George M!" after seeing it again: wonder if hizzoner and Mary Lindsay realize that Patti Mariano, playing "Josie" in the musical, in private life has a different real name: Mary Lindsay.

They battle over at the UN but at the New Yorker Hotel

the Israeli soccer team, the Irish Christy Minstrels and the Mexican Rodeo stars—all stayed compatibly on the same floor at the same time.

Nat King Cole's daughter Carol gets her first large role—fourth billing in Columbia's "The Model Shop" movie.

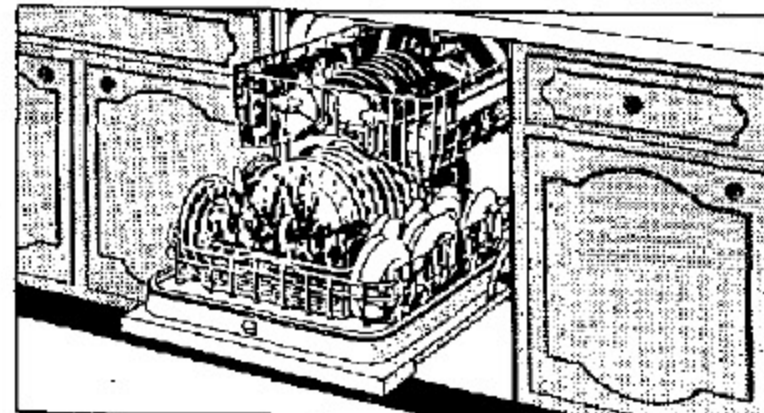
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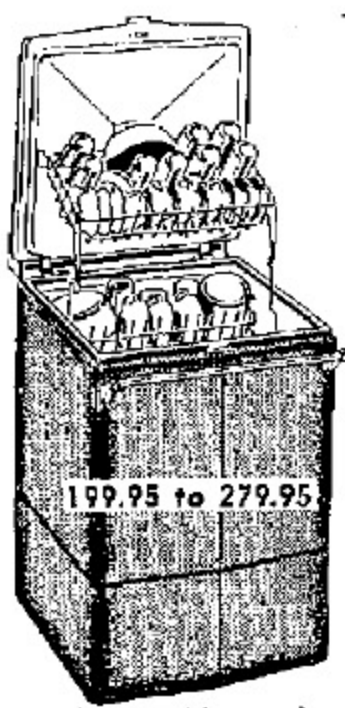
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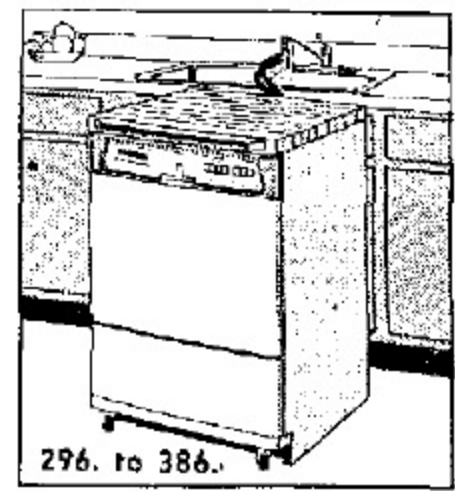
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