

MARKET PLACE

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\$500.00 MONTHLY. Home Addressing. Send Stamped, Self-Addressed envelope. Davis, Box 6992-WG, Phoenix, Ariz. 85005

HOMEWORKERS: Make Money Addressing—Homotyping. (Instructions) S.S.A.E. Global, Box X18580, Denver, Colo. 80218

\$75.00 THOUSAND, Home Addressing! Longhand, Typewriter. Information, send stamped, self-addressed envelope. Brewster, Box 1348-YZ, Clearwater, Florida 33517.

HOMEWORKERS! \$100.00 weekly addressing for firms. Begin immediately. Details—send stamped, addressed envelope. Hamilton, Box 272-2P5, Brooklyn, New York 11235.

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SONGPOEMS WANTED. Top composer with publisher contacts. Share royalties. Midsouth, 10623W Westland, Jackson, Mississippi 39209.

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PERSONAL—MISCELLANEOUS

\$3,000 POETRY CONTEST. Details for stamp. Petry, 210 Fifth, New York City, New York.

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I can really talk to David and get sound advice. Younger, he used to see Jack and me just as his parents. But maturity lets him see us as individuals who had a whole set of biases and orientations before we met each other." It's a fairly well-known fact by now that David played no small part in helping Jack and Shirley through a difficult period in their marriage recently when a twenty-four hour separation looked like it might turn into a divorce—ending a fourteen-year marriage that had produced three children, Patrick, Ryan and Shaun.

Even David's three stepbrothers have taken him as an example to emulate. The three little boys already have the acting bug, and would like to be able to get on TV with Shirley the way David has. But because the children are fairly surrounded by show business people, Shirley would

FRANK SINATRA

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source implied that a primary consideration in Frank's exit from the business at this time might be ill health. And several suggestions have been made as to the nature of the illness. Frank is reportedly suffering from what the medics term "Dupuytren's contracture," which has been described as "a shortening and distortion of muscular tissue in the fingers and palm." Frank had surgery performed last June, and had to wear his arm in a sling for some time. Close friends, though, say the arm is still very painful for Frank—so painful, in fact, that he was forced to withdraw from a role in a flick called *Death Right* because the role would have demanded physical exertion.

Mahoney attempted to counteract rumors with this retort, "He said there's nothing wrong with his hand, and he's even playing golf now . . . He sounds fantastic for a man out of work." But the rumors continue to gather momentum. When Frank dropped out of a projected flick, *Dirty Harry*, and the role was given to a younger man, Clint Eastwood, the rumor mill had it that Sinatra might have suffered a stroke, and that it was being carefully concealed by the entourage of friends and family that surrounds the man with the golden voice. Sinatra's injured hand was suddenly being discussed as partial paralysis resulting from a stroke. The reports may have been premature, but they certainly contained a great deal of food for thought. Had, indeed, at this most active time in his life, the "Chairman of the Board" been leveled to the ground by one swift and fateful blow?

Other sources chose to ignore the theory that Frank was stricken by ill health, and see Frank's retirement, instead, as a clearcut act of will power on the singer's part—a desire to retire from the limelight with all his glories and victories untarnished. Like the boxer who elects to retire undefeated, rather than being smashed to the canvas by a younger opponent's blow, Frank, these sources

prefer that they have normal childhoods—without all the added strain of assuming adult responsibilities with all the adult tensions. And she points out how hard David has worked and that he finished school before embarking on a career. "I love him like my own children," Shirley confides about David. "I just hope my three boys grow up to be as marvelous as he is!" And that's apparently what many young people are feeling about David. He seems to inspire the feeling, "Gee, I wish I were like him," and that feeling creates teen idols, and in this case a very special teen idol—one who cares desperately about the problem of drugs, war, involvement, the direction of today's youth, in short, a teen idol who is not only into his career, but into living and into caring about his many fans, who have chosen him to be the object of their adoration.

held, wanted to go out in a blaze of glory. His voice in recent years has not been as mellow or as steady as he might have liked, and perhaps rather than wait for age to take its toll on the crooner's life blood, Frank decided to get out of the rat race, to spend his later years with those he loves, reminiscing about his complex and action-filled life, but also living very much in the present for his children.

And Frank will have more material than most to reminisce about. Frank's early years in Hoboken, New Jersey, were undistinguished, and provided not even the slightest hint that one day Francis Albert Sinatra would become a velvet-voiced sensation. His formal education ended in 1931 when, at age fifteen, Frank dropped out of Demarest High School in his sophomore year. His singing ambitions gained public recognition when he and three friends teamed up as "The Hoboken Four" and won first prize on Major Bowes' Amateur Hour. When Frank went it on his own during the Big Band era, Tommy Dorsey and Harry James, two of the most famous bandleaders of the 1940's, had the pleasure of his company.

Frank managed to adjust to changes in what the public wanted to hear with little if any difficulty. The big bands went out, and Frank became a solo vocalist, winning the bobbysoxers' hearts with his dreamy blue eyes and soft, sexy voice. But as with all performers, Frank was headed for some downs in his career, too. And in 1952 he was at a low point, in both his personal and professional lives. His marriage to "Nancy with the laughing face" was in serious trouble; he owed back taxes; and his career didn't seem to hold any opportunities for making enough money to foot Uncle Sam's bill. Then it happened. Columbia was casting for *From Here To Eternity*, and Frank knew that he could and indeed *had* to play the role of Private Maggio. "I knew," he recalls, "that if a picture was ever made (of the book), I was the only actor to play Private Maggio, the funny and sour Italo-American. I knew Maggio. I went to high school with him in Hoboken. I was beaten up with him. I might have been Maggio." Frank was tested and *won* the role—and an Academy award in 1954 for his brilliant portrayal of the character.