

HOLLYWOOD

Some earth shaking things hit Hollywood this month—I mean like, would you believe an earthquake?

Funny thing, just a little while ago I got a letter from Janet Brook in Racine, Wis. asking what plans everyone here had made in case an earthquake did come. At the time I didn't pay much attention to her letter, but when the quake did hit, at 6 a.m. on February 9, her letter came back to my mind.

In answer to your question Janet—none of us really had thought too much about it until it happened. I mean, we'd all read a lot about this enormous quake that was supposed to hit, but there's not much you can do to prepare for a quake other than move to another area. So we sat and waited and it finally hit.

However, it really wasn't as bad as everyone had anticipated. Sure, a lot of people were killed and a lot of buildings destroyed or damaged, but considering there are over eight million people in the Los Angeles area, the damage was relatively light.

As for the Hollywood area itself, there was very little damage. I got on the phone a few days after the quake to find out how everyone had fared and here's what I found.

David Cassidy was home when it hit and he had a few pictures fall off the wall and a couple of dishes and glasses in the kitchen fell and broke, but there was no real damage to his new home and neither he nor Sam nor the dogs were hurt—just a little shook up.

Bobby Sherman was also at home in his Hollywood apartment but suffered no damage at all. He was more concerned about his folks, who were a lot closer to the center of the quake than he was. But I talked to **Mrs. Sherman** and she said they had a little broken glass, including a broken light fixture but no one was hurt.

Mrs. Sherman had her hands full, though with a couple of very frightened dogs—both her dog **Silly** and **Bobby's** manager's dog, **Dummy**.

She was more inconvenienced by the muddy water coming through her water faucets. Like many of us, she boiled water before using it and bought bottled water for several days until the water supply cleared up.

Most of the rest of your faves out here, including the **Osmonds**, the **Cowbills**, **Rick Ely** and **Michael Cole**, were generally shook up but unhurt. A lot of dishes were broken and a lot of pets were terrified, but basically all is well out here.

As for the studios here—Paramount and MGM both reported some damage, but nothing that can't be repaired. And at Screen Gems a sprinkler system was set off watering down one set and some of the older building showed some sign of stress, but again, nothing that can't be repaired.

One of the harder hit was **Karen Valentine** and her husband, **Mac**. The chimney of their lovely little home collapsed, but luckily it fell out of the house and not into it. They had a lot of dirt in the living room and some broken glass in the kitchen, but the worst came about a week later when it rained and they still had a hole in the living room where the chimney used to be.

But still, in comparison to others they were lucky. They weren't hurt and their house is still standing, though they are considering moving soon.

Another worry for **Karen** and all of the cast and crew of "Room 222" is where they will shoot the outside shots for the show next season. They've been using Los Angeles High School for all the exteriors, but it was badly damaged by the quake and has been closed indefinitely. L.A. High students are now attending Fairfax High on half day sessions.

The show will probably either shoot the exteriors on the same lot where they do the interiors or else use another high school, but either way, Walt Whitman High School will probably look a little different next Fall.

As for me—I had a couple of terrified cats on my hands but there's very little damage to the house and we're all hanging in there as usual.

Basically Hollywood survived the day the earth shook. And we've all learned a lot about what to do next time.

Wow, you'd think an earthquake would slow things down a bit around here, but there seems to have been an extra amount of marriage, divorces and births in our fair town.