

# STARS by Steve Lewis



■ Sizzling is one thing—fizzling is another. And isn't fizzling the word for what's about to happen to the **MARLO THOMAS-HERB GARDNER** romance? Friends say it's cooled considerably, and that now it's at an action-or-else impasse. Marlo, by the way, is "taking her time deciding what to do next," career-wise, as she puts it, but That Girl should remember the public is fickle—and if Marlo doesn't act fast, she could lose her fans.

■ New York's TONY Awards were a night to remember, if not for one reason, for another! The invitations warned that nobody would be seated after a quarter to eight, even though the telecast didn't begin till nine (and actually later, due to a moon-shot pre-empt). Oddly enough, those who rushed for a seven forty-five arrival found the doors to the theatre hadn't been opened!

When they were, it was see and be seen time—and Tinsel Town's own **ALEXIS SMITH** walked away with the coveted Best Actress In A Musical Role for her **Follies** performance. Now that she's taking the show (or rather the show is going and she's going with it) to the West Coast, she'll be able to spend lots more time with husband **CRAIG STEVENS**, who has missed her during the show's New York run. Maybe when **Follies** comes back to New York, as is planned (and now, with seven Tonys it's almost certain) Craig will come, too.

■ Words of praise for Alexis came from **FRED SILVER**, who's coached most of Broadway's actors-turned-singers . . . Fred, who played such a big role in Alexis' success, praised her at the fabulous party that agent **JAY GARON** threw for the literary set the other night.

Over a hundred and fifty beautiful people turned up, and as always, books and movies competed for attention. **HEDY LAMARR**, in an Indian-inspired gown and dazzling jewelry, looked super. "I don't want to act any more," Hedy confided. "I'm getting ready to write a book about beauty—I have very definite ideas about what makes a woman attractive."

Obviously Hedy's ideas work well . . . and certainly **JOHN DAMON** thought so. The handsome producer-star of **Blue Sextette**, a fabulous movie you mustn't miss when it comes to your area, was Hedy's escort, but he had to vie with tons of admirers just to get close to her at the party. Part of the Lamarr beauty plan, by the way, is no smoking or drinking—Hedy does neither.

■ **JOAN BLONDELL**, who won raves in **The Effect Of**



*Seventy-two's a big year on the political front. The Rob Reiners and Jon Voights are campaigning for McGovern.*



*At Phone Game party for Alma Kessler were Luis Estevez, Jean Raines, Tom Tryon and Marian McCargo Bell & hubby.*



*Does Barbra Streisand date Peter Bogdanovich, Ryan O'Neal, Terry Melcher? Or all three? She's quite a girl!*