

STAR DUST

MOVIE AND RADIO

By VIRGINIA VALE

LOOKS as if Katherine Hepburn might be married by the time you read this. It was reported some time ago that she might wed Leland Hayward, the high-pressure literary agent who sells Hollywood so many stories; the only difficulty was that he had a wife. Now this wife has a divorce, and at the moment Katherine, her companion, and Mr. Hayward are on their way East.

Evidently Ann Harding is through with pictures, at last, and she won't be sorry. She went on making them because it was a chance to make plenty of money and she has a young daughter to support. But she's always preferred the stage. Now, after taking a long vacation to recuperate from the illness brought on by exposure to the lights during her picture work, she may turn to the stage again.

Harry Bannister was most attentive during her illness; possibly this Hollywood-separated marriage will be patched up after Anne leaves California.

That very happy couple, Margaret Churchill and George O'Brien, are separated, but not with their consent. After their return to New York following the death of their baby, he rushed back to California to appear in "A Man's a Man," and she remained in New York to act in a stage play. She made her name on the stage, of course, and it's not unreasonable to suppose that she'd like to keep the theatrical public from forgetting her.

Contradictory stories drift around about Billy Burke. We're told that she looks younger and prettier every moment and is likely to be a star any day. And we're told that she's getting sort of old and jittery and almost drives the rest of the company mad by forgetting her lines, if she has more than a sentence to say at a time.

I'd split the difference and say that she's a delightful actress who ought to go far, even though she's no longer young.

Margaret Sullivan is now Mrs. William Meyler, as you no doubt have seen by your daily paper. That's rather funny, for he's an ace director (and directors, along with the rest of Hollywood, eat and breathe pictures) and she used to feel that the movies were just one way of making a living, and a not very attractive one at that.

Several ex-stars are now going into the agency business in Hollywood, to find jobs for other people if they can't land them for themselves. Carmel Myers is one of these new agents, and Anna Q. Nilsson is another. It's grand business if you can get it—ten per cent or is it more?—of an actor's salary all the time he's working on a part you got for him. Alice Joyce's brother has made a terrific success of it.

Ketti Gallian, a European importation, thought she'd go home after finishing "Marie Gallante." She'd been around the Fox studio quite a while, and the general opinion seemed to be that she was just one more girl from Europe and what of it?

"Marie Gallante" turned out to be a sort of triumph for her, and now she's headed for Hollywood and more pictures.

Apparently Rudy Vallee had a lot of fun picking out that list of the ten most beautiful girls in Hollywood—only he chose twelve!—but the fact that he put Alice Faye at

the head of it sort of discounts all the others.

Of course, he said that Miss Faye was the most beautiful blonde and she used to be a brunette, so perhaps he thought that gave him an allibi. But he's stirred up a storm like the one roused years ago when Lina Basquette was included among the list of Wampas Baby Stars.

There ought to be some excitement on the set when "Wife Versus Secretary" is being made, with William Powell playing opposite both Jean Harlow and Myrna Loy. Myrna's developed into a positive menace in Hollywood these days; she collects a lot of good parts that other girls yearn for and is so attractive that the men are falling for her in shoals.

You'll see Rosamund Pinchot, niece of Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania, society girl and the nun in "The Miracle," in a picture called "The Brave Live On." But, according to some of her friends, you may not see her in many more pictures, whether you like her well enough to make the studio keep working her or not. For, according to those same friends, she's one of those people who get violently enthusiastic about something, work hard at it for a while and then suddenly lose interest in it. They feel that this zeal for the movies is just another of her enthusiasms and that not much will come of it.

Have you heard Marian Chase on NBC Wednesday evenings? She's on for only fifteen minutes and she's grand.

She's the darling of New York's smarter and nicer night clubs. Doesn't look like a night club singer; looks like just an awfully nice girl. And is one of the few singers now on the air who doesn't sound like practically every other singer.

Baby Rose Marie isn't going to be "Baby" any more; she'll be just Rose Marie now—and about time!

ODDS AND ENDS . . . All the Hollywood celebrities visiting New York rush first of all to a performance of Tallulah Bankhead's new play, "Dark Victory." She may not have got along so very well in Hollywood but they can't resist her. Incidentally, it was this same play which Katherine Hepburn was to have done in a summer stock company last summer, but trouble developed and it was called off . . . Nancy Carroll's come-back in "Transatlantic Merry-Go-Round" isn't too good . . . It's claimed that Hollywood made Bill Gargan so big-headed he high-hatted his own father. Gloria Swanson's daughter Gloria appeared in a school play the other day and was her mother proud! . . . If anybody kidnaps Carole Lombard's baby they'll have to dynamite the house to get at him . . . It's said that grown people like Shirley Temple better than children do.

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Old Monte Alban Ball Park May Tell Tales

Will America's football stadiums and baseball diamonds become important aids to understanding our civilization a thousand years or so from now? asks the writer of a bulletin from Science Service. This comes to mind, he says, with the news that archeologists in Mexico have placed the age of a seemingly ageless city by taking note of its ball games.

The city is the famous Monte Alban, today a maze of buried ruins perched on a mountain ridge. Monte Alban gained its widest modern fame when Mexican archeologists entered a tomb there and found a group of prehistoric dignitaries buried in shining golden regalia.

But to the archeologists, whose first question about a place is "How old is it?" Monte Alban remained a mystery. The treasure tomb discovery added to the enigma, for it was "foreign" cache belonging to another culture deposited there for some reason not yet discovered. Dated tombs are being found in Monte Alban, but archeologists cannot yet read Zapotec Indian hieroglyphs, as they can Aztec and Mayan ones. Excavations of three seasons seemed to throw the dead city further and further back in time without a definite clue as to when it was a living metropolis. Now there is a clue. This is a tlachtli, or ball court. Tlachtli was a widespread Indian game played apparently for both sport and religion. Frans Blom, archeologist of Tulane university, has found ball courts in Mayan cities dating from early centuries of the Christian era in Chiapas and Guatemala. The game changed somewhat in the course of ten or fifteen centuries, to judge by the courts in northern Yucatan known to date from a few centuries before America's discovery.

All courts have an H-shaped space to play in. Very old ones of the South had several round altars in the center, and the side walls enclosing the field sloped. Northern courts lost their altars as centuries went by, their side walls became vertical, and big stone rings were placed in them for the ball to go through. The Monte Alban court seems to fall between these types, as its walls still slope and are with out a stone ring, although it had

already lost all but one of its central altars. It is therefore likely that Monte Alban was occupied a thousand years ago.

Illicit Drug Profits

The most profitable business in the world today is the handling of illicit narcotics. The manufacturer of heroin, for instance, makes it for \$25 a pound and sells it to his distributors for \$1,225, which is a profit of 4,800 per cent. The distributors in turn sell it in small quantities to consumers at the rate of \$125,000 a pound, which is a profit for them of more than 10,000 per cent. The cost to the user consequently is one-half million per cent of the manufacturer's cost price.—Collier's Weekly.

America's Riches

It is the feeling of most thoughtful people that the only true wealth we have in the United States are the boys and girls.—Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture.

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