

# ENTERTAINMENT TRIP AROUND THE WORLD



DICK MCINNES

"A Streetcar Named Desire" is stopping at the Ahmanson Theatre to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the original production and its new passengers are JON VOIGHT and FAYE DUNAWAY. Before the play even opened, everyone knew that Jon would have a hard time overcoming the BRANDO image connected with Kowalaki and that Faye might be too young and pretty to play the tormented Blanche. However, everyone, including the critics, went to see MAR-LON BRANDO and VIVIEN LEIGH and when they didn't see them, such a howl you've never heard. They may be the definitive Stanley and Blanche, but I do have to admire both Jon and Faye for trying something new with the characters. Mind you, I don't say that it always works but she is a super actress who makes an interesting Blanche and Voight made Stanley a bit more human. Good support is given by LEE MCCAIN, EARL HOLLIMAN, PEGGY REA and JEROME GUARDINO, although the last two were just a bit overdone. I feel that the faults in "Streetcar" lay with the director because the basic talent in the cast is there. Lotsa talent in the audience opening night and they rose when Jon very emotionally introduced TENNESSEE WILLIAMS. Among the thespians who trolleyed over to the Sovereign Restaurant for a midnight supper (and it was good) were perennial first nighters, JACK and VICKIE OAKIE, ANN MILLER and HENRY BERGER, ROZ RUSSELL (who introduced JACK LEMMON to a friend saying, "Here's next year's Oscar winner") BOB and ROSEMARIE STACK, CHANIN HALE and LEE GRAHAM, SHIRLEE and HENRY FONDA, DAVID MERRICK, HOPE LANGE and FRANK MC CARTHY, to name a few.

Speaking of Williams, the Friends of the Library at USC gave a terrific luncheon for him the Sunday before the opening. Friends usually give their tributes to luminaries who have gone on to the big stage in the sky, but as you know from reading this month's Playboy, Tennessee is anything but dead. He answered questions from a panel that included LAURENCE HARVEY, KARL MALDEN, L. A. Times Critic DAN SULLIVAN, HEIDI CRANE (Substituting for an ailing SHIRLEY BOOTH) and DR. AEROL ARNOLD. Williams is a charming man who feels that the constant competitiveness often robs the writer of his creativity and that "Cat on Hot Tin Roof" is his best play. He said his latest play, "Out Cry" which opened and closed quickly on Broadway (MICHAEL YORK starred) was only suspended and that he was re-writing it. Loved his comment on the audiences, "About 20% really dug the play, 30% tried to like, and the rest, well, they were openly hostile." Congratulations to STAN MUSGROVE, Friends Prexy for having such a nice

LUNCHEON and inviting the likes of FAYE DUNAWAY, JON VOIGHT, FRANK MC CARTHY and RODDY MC DOWELL to meet a truly charming southern gentleman.

If you are interested in seeing a bravura performance by a fascinating actor in a play that is funny, touching and which gives an incisive look at its main character and his relationships with his ex-wife, his roommate, his fellow teachers and his students, then dash over to the Shubert Theatre to see ALAN BATES as "Butley". Don't expect "Our Miss Brooks" or even "Mr. Novak", Butley is an adult comedy. I saw it two years ago in London and asked Bates afterwards how he can manage to do such an exhausting role for such a long time and he said that he took time off between engagements rather than rush from one country to another and that kept him fresh. Not a bad idea for other actors. Butley's supporting cast is faced with the chore of making an impression to divert one's eyes from Bates. HAYWARD MORSE, as his roommate, is excellent (much is discussed by audiences as to whether they are lovers, but both actors and the author say no), BARBARA LESTER, a fellow teacher, and HOLLAND TAYLOR, his ex-wife, were so perfect and so very British that I was surprised to discover later that they were American. As they say in Blighty, Good Show! JACK LEMMON and his lovely FELICIA hosted a party at Jade West (what fantastic eggrolls) and asked a small group of friends to attend. Small to LEMMON means R. J. and NATALIE WAGNER, GEORGE BURNS and LITA BARON (Bates is renting her house while here), JEAN SIMMONS and RICHARD BROOKS, ZSA ZSA GABOR, ALAN and MARILYN BERGMAN, CLINT KIMBROUGH, GREGORY PECK, CAROL LYNLEY, LEE MARVIN, ELEANOR PARKER, DAVID JANSEN, JEAN STAPLETON, CHRISTINE JORGENSON (who went to school with Barbara Lester when she was Geroge Jorgenson. Now that's some reunion!) DIAHANN CARROLL, DARREN MCGAVIN and KATHIE BROWNE to name a few. And from the Jade West fortune cookie, this will be a good week.

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### MORE SMALL BUSINESS MONEY

BY JACK TELL

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He wants to double the amount of existing loans this fiscal year to \$6 million and double that in succeeding years. The reason Nevada is lagging far behind the national level is because there has been a lack of communication. The small businessman just does not know the money is there for those qualifications. The qualifications are less than bank requirements.

The ban on loans to business with limited gambling (slots in groceries) is expected to be eased.

Mrs. Selma Bartlett, Vice President and General Manager of Bank of



BOB GARRETT

Nevada in Henderson, who was honored as outstanding banker of Nevada, promised to push every S.B.A. loan she possibly could.

Bank of Nevada's president, Alex Sample, said every employee of his bank was deeply honored by the tribute to Mrs. Bartlett, who was cited for her 28 years of outstanding contribution to the small business community of Clark County.

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