

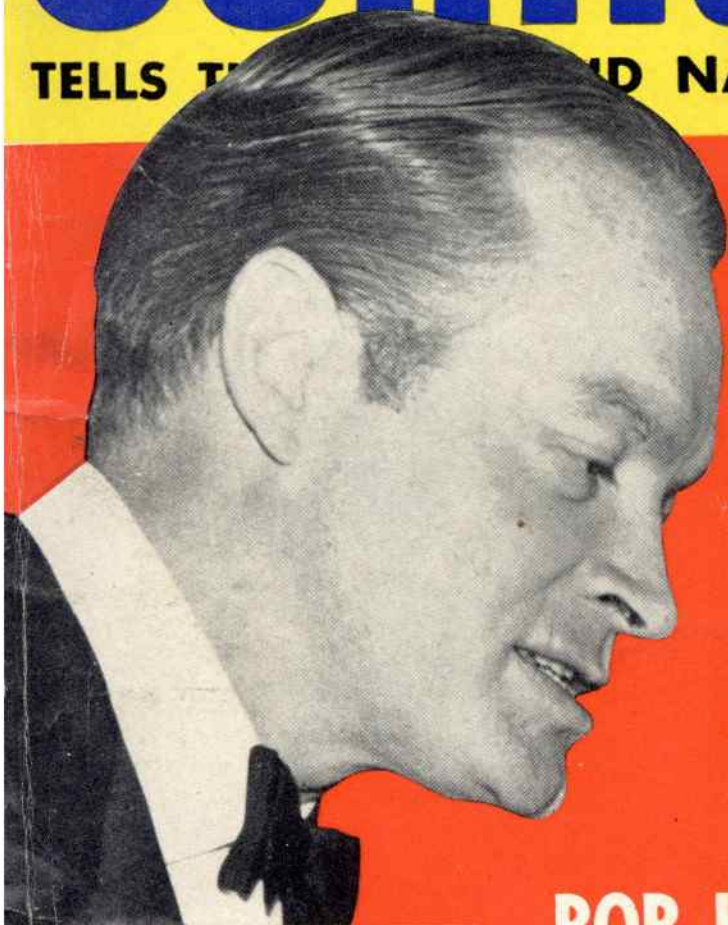
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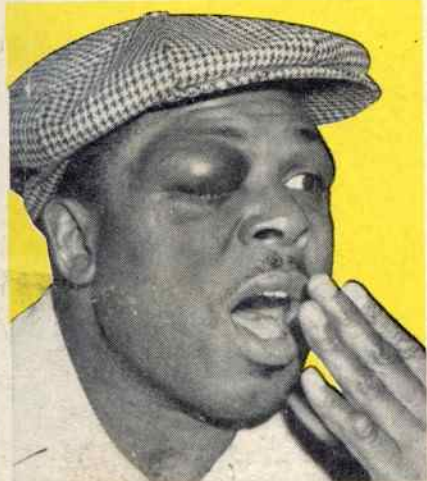
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July 25¢

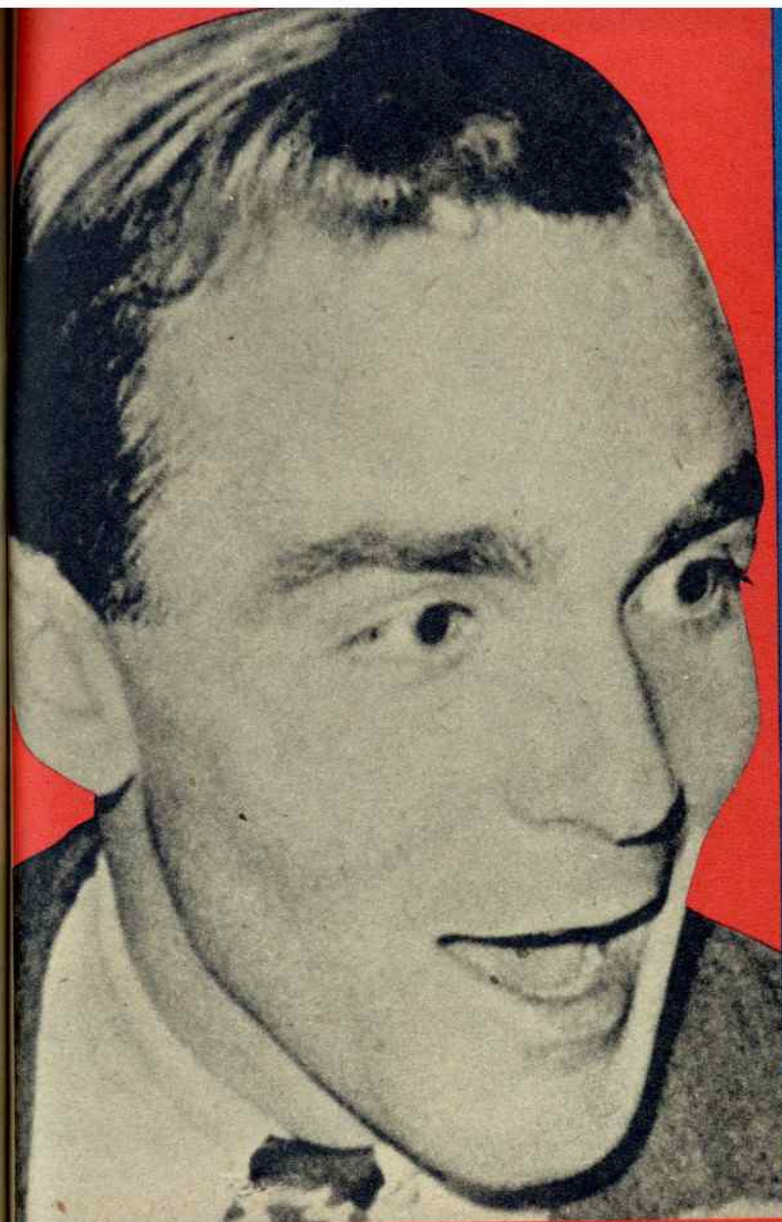


WHEN HUBBY MICHAEL WILDING CAUGHT
LIZ TAYLOR AND VIC MATURE IN ROOM 106

BOB HOPE
and that
naughty
BLONDE



THE LOWDOWN: HOW
CHAMP ARCHIE MOORE
TRAINS ON BABES!



VANDERBILT HEIR PETER HOWARD



PRINCESS ZINA RACHEVSKY

When the Princess was shocked by
THE VANDERBILT HEIR'S
LAVENDER HI-JINKS!

TURN THE PAGE

It was the old story of
boy meets girl, but with
Mrs. George Vanderbilt's
gay son Peter, it turned
out to be the fairy tale
of the social season...

Vanderbilt Heir (continued)

By HEWITT VAN HORN

ONE NIGHT IN ROME in 1953, a handsome young member of the exclusive Vanderbilt clan with international fame as a Romeo left his suite at the American Palace Hotel and tiptoed across the hall to another apartment. Once inside, he felt his way to the darkened bedroom and then slipped quietly into one of the twin beds.

But a moment later there was pandemonium. With a roar of surprise, the blond Vanderbilt heir, Peter Howard, sat bolt upright in the bed and snapped on a light. He stared incredulously for a moment at Princess Zina Rachevsky, the delectable dish beside him. Then he leaped out of bed covered only by confusion and almost collided with a dark-haired Adonis who'd been slumbering in a twin bed across the room.

Zina Was More Flattered Than Flustered

It could have been a delicate situation, for Peter was Zina's ex-fiance and the other chap was her new lover, Liam Barker. But instead of belting the intruder, Liam only laughed at Peter, who backed awkwardly out of the room burbling about there being some mistake.

When the Vanderbilt heir had exited, Zina was shocked but admitted to Liam that she was more flattered than flustered at Peter's boldness since he had never, she said, gone beyond the hand-holding stage during their engagement the previous Spring. But before Zina the Femme Fatale could preen her pretty feathers further, Liam let her have it with a few facts that were queerer than fiction.

In Peter's case, he said, it was all a matter of which twin bed held the Tony. Peter had really hoped to share a pillow with Liam, but since Liam and Zina had switched



While Peter held

sacks that night, the Vanderbilt clan's gay deceiver had found curves where he had expected to find Liam.

Then Liam told Zina a little fairy tale about Peter that made the whole episode as clear as Kinsey.

It all began, Liam told her, when Peter arrived in Rome a few weeks before as a roaming correspondent for *Harper's Bazaar*. He had headed like a moth for his old flame, Zina, much to the disappointment of Roman dolls who'd heard that George Vanderbilt's impressionable stepson was in that interesting condition known as "between engagements."

Peter lost no time in establishing himself in the American Palace Hotel. He took a suite across the hall from the luxurious quarters where Zina, half-Russian heiress to Strauss banking millions, was playing hostess to Liam, her handsome American paramour.

The trio didn't become a triangle immediately. Liam, a temporarily unemployed TV actor, looked on Peter at first as \$40,000,000 worth of competition. But Zina put him at ease by explaining that her relationship with



hands with Zina — he had his eye on Liam.

Peter always had been on a brother-sister basis, since the youth was too callow to cuddle.

After a few weeks of innocent fun with his playmates, Peter suggested a flying trip across the Mediterranean to Tunisia to catch the appearance of his sepia friend Hazel Scott at the Tunis Municipal Theatre. Zina bowed out, but she suggested that Liam keep Peter company on the jaunt. Liam agreed to go when Peter assured him it would be an all-expenses-paid vacation.

Peter Issued a Persuasive Ultimatum

The fun-bent pair shepherded Hazel Scott around Tunis' late-hour spots for several nights when her chores at the keyboard were finished, and then decided to go cultural by visiting El D'Jem, where ruins of one of the largest Roman coliseums in the world is located.

Peter hired a car, and he and Liam set off with a thermos of martinis for what they had planned as a short trip. The radiator of their car was fractured by an angry ram from a Bedouin flock, however, and they

limped into El D'Jem for a three-day wait for repairs.

In the small room they were forced to share in an Arab hotel, Peter proved he didn't make all his passes at lasses. Liam didn't go for Peter's brand of Post Office, and for two days he managed to stay ahead of the game. On their last day in El D'Jem, Peter coyly requested his companion to pose for nude photographs but Liam refused to bare even for the birdie. While Liam parried for time, the Vanderbilt heir began to sulk, and then to drink.

That night, as they walked in the shadows of the coliseum's broken arcades, Peter tipsily issued an ultimatum to Liam that was devilishly persuasive—surrender or get back to civilization the best way you know how! Liam, who was without funds, pictured himself mashing across the miles of steaming desert between El D'Jem and Tunis and quickly decided that virtue wouldn't stand in the way of making the trip in the comfort of Peter's car. He surrendered.

While they were driving (Continued on page 52)

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thought — until execution night, Thursday, August 19, 1937, in the Sing Sing death chamber. At 11 p.m. he was asking the quavering Major Green if he had anything to say before the electrode was fastened to his calf with the slit-trouser-leg and the death hood drawn down over his head. As he told the story several days after the execution to his wife, his household staff and Frenchy De Mange, who was a guest at the house, Warden Lawes was shocked.

There on the exposed area of skin was a livid scar — unquestionably question mark-shaped! But Major Green died in terror, having expressed remorse for his crime, and Lawes decided that the question mark thing was a product of coincidence or of his imagination.

These were the facts, Frenchy De Mange pointed out, that really set the Warden up for the crusher the day his wife was slain. When her pitifully crushed body was found, the first thing that caught Lawes' eye among her innumerable wounds and contusions was the symbol that was to haunt the remainder of his days—a cut on Mrs. Lawes' right leg in the form of a question mark!

Finally, said De Mange, there was the Ossining bartender who told him that the embalmer who had prepared Mrs. Lawes' body for burial argued vehemently that she must have been murdered. Her body had been beaten, the embalmer said, and he thought it likely that she was unconscious when her body was hurled over the bridge railing. In no other way, he felt, could she have landed limp enough to survive a 125-foot fall for so many hours.

Dozens of undersized junkies with missing portions of one finger or another have been seized and terrorized by angry underworld sleuths seeking Mrs. Lawes' killer. But none has turned up with the first joint missing from the first and second fingers of the left hand.

Although Frenchy is dead now and Owney Madden is an ailing man living in a kind of exile, the hunt goes on. If the slayer is ever found, the underworld believes he'll turn out to be a psychopathic, junk-crazed killer. Who else but a hopeless hophead would exact vengeance on an innocent woman, months after the murderer he wanted to rescue was sent to his death in the electric chair? ▲▲▲

**A VANDERBILT
HEIR'S LAVENDER
HI-JINKS**

Continued from page 39



back to Tunis, Liam plotted to tune Peter in on another wave length. He suggested a visit to one of the exotic city's erotic houses where Arab girls can be persuaded for a price to dispense with their veils, and to his surprise, Peter fell in with the idea.

Peter Didn't Fancy the Fancy Girl

The public harem Liam chose was one favored by the French Foreign Legion. Liam sought out the house's rarest jewel and told her he had brought a friend who was as rich as King Farouk, but not as experienced. The houri needed no further encouragement to sparkle especially for Peter. But the Vanderbilt heir had seen someone loitering outside who interested him more—a strapping legionnaire.

The next day Liam and Peter returned to Rome and settled down again at the American Palace. Liam felt safe again with Zina around for protection, but he soon learned never to overestimate the power of a woman in keeping Peter in line. The payoff

came the night Peter climbed into the wrong bed.

Peter might have taken his blushes elsewhere on that occasion, but he stood his ground and proved he was a gentleman, in spite of all indications otherwise. The offer he made Liam and Zina the next day in the way of apology was really one for the funny books. Now hear this!

A Permanent Triangle Suggested

Peter said he was willing to marry Zina without asking her to give up Liam. In fact, he offered Liam a permanent job as best man in their household, with unrestricted privileges. On top of that, Peter said he would accept any love children Zina might have by Liam as his own offspring.

It was the oddest proposal of the year and probably the most generous. But Zina, and particularly Liam, who didn't fancy standing in for the French legionnaire the rest of his life, weren't buying. Instead they pulled up stakes for Paris, leaving

(Continued on page 54)

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Peter with plenty of literary material, but all of it too bizarre for Bazaar.

When Zina and Liam finally made it legal the following June, Peter wasn't around to make their wedding party a threesome. He had gone-a-courting again back in New York. This time he wasn't taking any chances with gender, for he'd picked a belle who could pass for a beau as well. "It" was Christine Jorgensen,

the Copenhagen model convertible. Peter seemed set on an engagement, but Christine gave him the brushoff after he complained about her beard.

According to late reports, Peter has already forgotten Christine and is combing Central Africa with the senior Vanderbilts for bigger and wilder game. Knowing Peter the way we do, it seems only fair to warn the Mau Maus that Mrs. Vanderbilt's boy has a fast way with a buck. ▲▲▲

WHY TOMMY DORSEY WENT ON THE WAGON

Continued from page 35



she would — plastered as usual.

He didn't seem so loaded, though, that he was unwilling to listen to good advice and he followed Edythe willingly to his station wagon when she recommended that the best thing for him was a good night's sleep. Once more, the boys in the band heaved sighs of relief as they saw Tommy stumble off to the parking lot — only to gasp in amazement when he suddenly turned on the bantam singer and beat her to the ground. Bending over her, the berserk Dorsey kept up the drubbing until Edythe slumped unconscious on the gravel.

Scared Dorsey Took Her to Hospital

It was over as quickly as it had begun. Dorsey straightened up to stare in disbelief at what he'd done. Picking the singer's limp form from the ground, he carefully placed her in the station wagon and drove wildly to Mountinside Hospital in Montclair, N. J., followed by a car full of horrified bandmen.

As she long ago told it to friends, Edythe came out of her coma to find herself on an operating table where internes were patching up her punch-swollen eyes, lacerated mouth and black and blue face.

Hours later, the still dazed singer was brought back out to the car, where the remorseful Dorsey waited. Taking her on his lap, he begged her — with tears streaming down his face — to forgive him, vowing he and John Barleycorn were parting for good, as of that night.

It was a nice try, but it didn't last long. Only a year later, Edythe was given an emergency summons to Hollywood, where Dorsey was making a picture for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Tommy was off again.

Flying to the rescue, she alternately coaxed and browbeat the "Sentimental Gentleman" into sobriety — for a while. Things were going so well, in fact, that Edythe didn't hesitate to accept when she and Dorsey were invited to a New Year's Eve party at Judy Garland's house.

They made one mistake, though, stopping at another celebration on the way to Judy's place. It was at the first party that Tommy ditched all his good intentions and got high as a C-note... so much so, that as they drove up the driveway to the Garland home, Edythe told Tommy to skip the bar for the rest of the night.

The advice was almost fatal — for Edythe. Letting her out of the car, Dorsey pounced on her in his old caveman style, again beating her to the ground and slugging her all but senseless.

Staggered Into Judy's Home

Edythe had better luck this time, however. Struggling to her feet, she staggered into Judy's house, covered with mud and blood. Dorsey watched her go, then turned on his heel and stalked off into the night. It was Judy Garland herself who took the weeping Edythe into a powder room and helped patch up the damage. Edythe spent New Year's Day in Santa Monica hospital, being X-rayed and further repaired.

That was the last Edythe has seen of Tommy, unless she joined the millions who watched him on his TV Stage Show program. If she did, she'll be interested to know he's still a drinker. But his favorite beverage now is the one that also sponsors him — coffee! ▲▲▲



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TELLS THE FACTS AND NAMES THE NAMES

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