

Herb Caen

Baghdad-by-the-Sea

Pocketful of Notes:
MAYSON LINX has taken an option on the Southwest corner of Geary and Mason for a luxury hotel—and Architect Gardner Dailey is already at work on the plans... A movie price war is raging but heavy along Fillmore St. Ed Levin started it by cutting the tariff at his American Theatre to 30 cents—whereupon the rival New Fillmore dropped its prices from 60 cents to 25. Levin considers the move a success... Louis cents, and where it will end, who knows?... San Francisco, a great above town? "won't have much to show on Geary St. after 'Plain and Fancy' checks out of the curtain end of this week. Nothing looked into the Curran or Geary for at least eight weeks, after which "Can-Can" MIGHT come in.

THE GAMBLEERS are lifting their ugly heads again St. of Market—especially upstairs in the 700 block on Howard... Memo to Stanford officials: Football pool gamblers are invading your campus for the first time, talking the kids especially around (formerly houses) into betting on the Big Game. Inasmuch as football players live in those houses, it adds up to a murky picture... Ever hear how Harold Robinson, Atty. Gen. Pat Brown's chief law enforcer, closed up nasty Watsonville without making an arrest? He drove into the town in his shiny State car, parked in front of all the suspected houses of prostitution, took photographs, made sure he was seen, and drove away. Vain. The town closed up all by itself!

BIGGEST GASP at the opening of "Anniversary Waltz" at the Alhambra Mon. night was Star Hugh MacLennan's own opening at the second act. Most embarrassing thing that can happen to an actor, they say—and only Co-Star Marjorie Lord's valiant ad libbing (a fly girl, that) saved the night. Oddly enough, same thing happened to Russell Nye in "Under Trap" here, but for in the audience seemed to notice his faltering performance... Frivolous. Sammy Davis Jr., who opened at the Front last night, is sold out sold through the weekend... Foster's, the cafeteria people, are moving in more and more heavily at Ocean Beach. They already operate the Cliff House, Bean Pot, Fish Shop and Surf Club—and now they're taking over the H. Shop and the Playland-at-the-Beach eatery.

FAVORITE pastime among the ether fans (fans?) picking possible successors to Coach Ed Strader... Sudden thought: Gov. Christopher is the first majority Mayor—that is, the first Mayor to get more votes than all other candidates combined—in two decades. Impresario Sol Hinek, who brought the Sadler's Wells Ballet to town, keeps griping about "the musical situation" in S. F., but why? The ballet grossed about \$128,000 at the Opera House, only \$10,000 less than capacity... Which reminds me: Roma Nijinsky, widow of the greatest male ballet dancer of them all, will be back at Sadler's Wells to see Star Michael Somes. "I wish to thank you," said Mme. Nijinsky. "You carried my husband in London three years ago. Some, a ballerina at Nijinsky's funeral, died later. "I almost said 'It was a pleasure' to Mme. Nijinsky, but I caught myself just in time!"

DEMOCRATIC CONGR. Claire Eagle of Red Bluff and Booth Conr. J. Archer Younger of S'Maten, who battled bitterly over the recent Herb-Hetchy water crisis are invited again—but in a different way. Eagle has just applied for membership in the Commonwealth Club here. His sponsor, Younger. Proving that something I don't know quite what, is thicker than Herb-Hetchy water... The fanciest collection of jet airplanes you ever did see is currently parked out at S. F. airport. Flown in, of course, by oil-rich delegates to the American Petroleum Institute convention. And how about the mink coats on their wives and/or gal friends? Wooley... Add crazy people: the five guys who went swimming, during Sunday's downpour, in the outdoor heated swimming pool at 595 Vallejo. Almost caught their death of whiskey afterward.

WESTERN UNION must've added a Frenchman to its staff. On Monday, Howard Skinner, the opera-sympathy boss here, sent a wire containing a four-letter French word to Maestro Piero Menotti—a running gag that's been going on for years—and this time, for the first time, WU refused it... Bill Stone, director of the Sacramento-Yolo Port, rolls to Washington regularly with Cong. John H. Moss on Fort business, and it would like to make up a job about a rolling stone gathering Moss, wrycome to it... The mamba craze is definitely duking here—surprised—and so on Fri, the Mambo switches from the Latin stiff to rhythm and blues, via Chris Powell and his Blue Flames. Aides, of mamba of mine. It didn't amount to much anyway, despite the best efforts of Dancing Master Gregg Moore.

HUGH CODDING, the headling young F'Boes buller, has bought himself two airplanes—a jet-activated Cessna 310 and a Cessna 180—and having no place to put 'em, he's bought the Santa Rosa Airport. Which is now called the Coddling Airport... Item for sale on the Stanford Union bulletin board: "If Cadillac, \$15. Minus engine. Has only been rolled once—alright." Deal!

A THREE came into Bob Bryant's TBH-Bob at Post and Taylor Sun, night and made off with the wheel receipts—\$2,400. While the cops were there, taking fingerprints and stuff, a funky called Bryant to the phone. "For you, Bob," he said. "It's the Fire Trap I'm in!" Goodbye, what now, wondered Bryant, picking up the phone to hear: "Mr. Bryant? Congratulations. You won the television set given away at the Fireman's Ball!"

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closet shop, third floor

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