

Melvyn Douglas Prescribes Individuality

By BETTY PAYSON
Special Writer

In the theatre world where spouses are changed as frequently as roles, Melvyn Douglas has been the rare combination of matinee idol and family-man for more than thirty years.

Relaxing during a Northland Playhouse rehearsal break, casually dressed in a dark blue sports shirt and blue slacks, the fifty-seven-year-old actor drank a glass of milk and discussed his family. "Although my wife and our three children are all quite different from each other, we're a close family because we sincerely like and respect each other. Of course there are the minor irritations that occur in any family, but these are overcome by our respect for each other's individuality. I've never tried to dominate the lives of my wife or children," he said. "During the past eight years all of us have been living in the New York city area and spending our summers in Vermont, so that we are able to see a lot of each other."

"OUR OLDEST son, Gregory, is a grown man with a wife and three children of his own. Previously he was a designer for a major textile company. Now he plans to do free-lance painting."

"Peter, our 25-year-old boy is a social worker for the New York City Welfare Department. He, also, is married and recently made me a grandfather for the fourth time."

"Mary Helen, our youngest, is twenty. She's become very enthu-

siastic about the idea of studying the way of life of a new country and is now making plans to live in Israel for a year.

The activities of the Douglas children indicate the respect they have for their parents. Both Douglas and his wife, Helen Gahagan, have been active in political and social work as well as in the theatre. In the late 1930's Helen Gahagan ended her successful acting and singing career to become a Congresswoman for three terms.

A GENUINE interest in people is the key to Douglas's unusual success. He is appearing at Northland Playhouse in the role of a middle-aged father in the comedy "Sweet and Sour."

Despite his 57 years, he must stage make-up to achieve a middle-aged look. The soft-spoken, charming Melvyn Douglas is a personality attractive man.

Library Honors Summer Reading Club Participants

Fifty-eight knights and ladies sat at the reading round table in the Baldwin public library last Thursday. This august assemblage of readers was celebrating the end of the library's summer reading program with a party.

The reading program lasts six weeks and each summer all boys and girls above the second grade are invited to join. This year more boys and girls finished the 12 book requirement than ever before. Why?

Perhaps it was because instead of collecting summer for each book read, goals were set up which each child tried to reach. Last year, each child received a "money" in a paper treasure chest, one piece for each book read. This year, each member was given a paper figure of a knight on a horse.

AFTER READING and reporting to the librarian on four books, a pennant was added to his figure and he moved to the place of a page. After four more books, he page acquired a shield and moved forward as a squire. Four more books, or a total of 12 and he became a knight and moved to the Reading Round Table.

Most boys and girls discovered some new reading interests as a result of reading in various non-fiction fields and the librarians, in listening to oral reports on the books, learned what books were well liked and why.

This year 58 boys and girls read 12 books or more (some became knight twice) as opposed to 42 last year. More children read 12 books this year than any other year.



On Library Staff

Miss Lee Tuttle joins the staff of Baldwin public library early in August. A graduate of the University of Michigan's department of library science, Miss Tuttle has done editorial work and writing at the University of Michigan's TV office and was for several years women's editor at station WJLS in her home city of Lansing.

NEED SOMETHING FOR YOUR HOUSE? Then locate it by reading or using the Classified Ads in The Eccentric each week.

number. Last year most boys and girls read only two books. Almost 100 reading club members attended the traditional party in the library auditorium. Refreshments were served following a candle-light recognition ceremony.

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Supervision Supervisor

Congratulations were in order last week for Lt. Delyle Service, of the Birmingham police department. At the city commission meeting Mayor Carl Ingraham made the official presentation of a plaque denoting the city's third consecutive award for outstanding traffic supervision. Looking on (center) is Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley. Lt. Service directly supervises the staff which handles police traffic supervision activities. The award was made by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, in cooperation with the National Safety Council.

Hills High School Enters Program For Better English

In the classes students will prepare themes which will be evaluated at the university. On his return visit Professor Stevens will discuss the corrected work. He also will discuss ways of improving the school's English program with English teachers.

IN ANNOUNCING the district's participation in the university program, superintendent Eugene L. Johnson said he felt the educational project held special value for Bloomfield Hills students as a large percentage enroll at University of Michigan each year.

Prof. Stevens is scheduled to visit Bloomfield Hills English classes Oct. 2 and Dec. 11.

Stevens has been associated with the university since 1927 and has served as a consultant in English department will visit each high school twice. He will teach demonstration classes.

CORRECTION

In the A&P ad on page 4D the price on "CHUCK ROAST" should be 43c per lb. The price on "BEEF ROAST" should be 55c per lb.

Obituary Notices

Gordon Hess, Sales Manager

Services for Gordon F. Hess, 63, Detroit district sales manager for Republic Steel Corp., were Tuesday from St. James Episcopal church. Burial will take place today in Massillon, Ohio. Arrangements were by Bell Chapel of the William R. Hamilton Co.

Hear Attack Fatal to Woman

Services for Mrs. Herbert (Beatrice L.) Strasser, 59, of 1785 Webster avenue, were Monday from the Manley Bailey funeral home. Burial was in Roseland Park cemetery.

Mrs. Elsie Bartley, 61, of 5684 Putnam, Birmingham, died suddenly Monday at her home. She lived in Birmingham for two years coming from Royal Oak. She was a member of the First Baptist church in Royal Oak.

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Auto Assailants Told: 'Stay Away From Drive-ins'

Four Royal Oak youths and a fifth from Bloomfield township are being held to eat their late night snacks at home for awhile. The five pleaded guilty Friday in Birmingham municipal court to charges of malicious destruction of property. They were ordered to pay \$25 costs each and placed on six months probation.

W. Connelly.

Rosary was Tuesday from the Manley Bailey funeral home. The body was sent to Brooklyn for service and burial.

Mrs. GEORGINE HUGHES, 87, of 1492 Rufner street, died Saturday at her home after a short illness. She was a member of the First Baptist church. Services were Monday from the Manley Bailey funeral home with burial in Greenwood cemetery.

JERRY J. (NICK) NICKLES, waiter at Oakland Hills Country club, died Sunday at Grace hospital. Services and burial will be in Detroit.

Surviving are his wife, Mary E.; two daughters, Mrs. Irene Hamilton and Arbutus Nickles.

MRS. ALMA B. LEESON, 58, of 30472 Brentwood, Southfield, died Sunday at Beaumont hospital after a short illness. She was a member of St. David's Episcopal church, Southfield.

Surviving are her husband, Clark; her mother, Mrs. Harriet Clarke; a sister, Mrs. Frank Semanich and a brother, Ivan.

MRS. MARTY VIVIAN SCHER-MERHORN, 57, of Santa Barbara, Calif., formerly of Birmingham, died Aug. 1. She moved to California in 1953.

Survives two sons, James S., 310 Sheltenham, and Santa Barbara; and William.

Services and burial were in California.

THE INCIDENT occurred July 10 at 2:55 a.m. on Worth near Hunter. The windshield, driver's window and a window frame of the top of 17-year-old Peter W. Paisley of Franklin were smashed. A passenger, 20-year-old Edwin M. Luck, Birmingham, suffered facial scratches.

A car forced the Paisley auto into a key wire, crossing its hood, then two carloads of youths, numbering 10 or 11, swarmed around the vehicle, striking it with pipe.

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