

# TV Cameras Rough on Helen Hayes; Turkish Actor Signs for Oriental Heavy Role

BY WALTER AMES

Never have television cameras been so critical of a famous personage as they were during last Friday night's telecast of the Playhouse of Stars offering, "Not a Chance." And the victim of the piercing lenses was that grand actress, Helen Hayes.

The show was one of the finest dramas to come out of the East and definitely highlighted the advantages of bringing such shows to the West Coast "live" via the microwave as against the very unsatisfactory kinnles of the past.

I don't know the reason for the scenes in which Miss Hayes seemed to age at least 20 years between sequences. Maybe it was bad lighting. Everyone knows she isn't a young woman any more but some of the shots placed her in such an unfavorable position, agewise, that it detracted from the story line of having handsome David Niven fall madly in love with her, even at the expense of passing up a gorgeous French gal.



Aram Katcher

The play had all the atmosphere of a fine Hollywood film and the way film clips were inserted into the action was masterful. But the lighting on Miss Hayes almost ruined the effect. I thought Edward Andrews, who played an Edward Everett Hortonish bachelor in the play, stole the show.

Aram Katcher, who twice won the Turkish Scimitar Award, their version of our own Oscar, has been signed to play Oriental heavy roles in "Voyage of the Scarlet Queen," TV series to be produced by William Laya for Allegro Productions. This won't be a new experience for the actor who is a combination of Peter Lorre and Charles Boyer. He has just completed a featured role in one of the Boston Blackie TV film series.

During one scene in which Aram plays Dominique, a killer who attacks his victims with a blowgun, he was injured in a scuffle with Kent Taylor, playing the title role of Boston Blackie. Even though he is only 30 years of age, Aram is celebrating his 25th year as an actor. He started in show business at the age of 5 by dancing the Charleston.

★

★

Queen Elizabeth's speech from Windsor, Can., next Monday will be seen on the West Coast, NBC officials decided late yesterday. It is due to reach here at 7:45 a.m., but KNBH (4) personnel were undecided whether to release it at that time or kinescope the program for showing later in the day.

KLAC's (13) business staff has delved into some figures to determine how the estimated 1,084,350 sets in operation in Southern California in July, 1951, are divided by counties. Los Angeles led with 913,000 sets, followed by San Diego, 79,000; Orange, 29,500; San Bernardino, 29,250; Riverside, 14,700; Ventura, 13,000; Santa Barbara, 3700, and Kern County, 2200.

Bob Crosby and his singing partner, Gisele MacKenzie, are planning to honor all the country's doughnut dunkers and the National Donut Association by singing the new Carroll Carroll-Dick Manning novelty song, "Keep Your Eye on the Donut," tonight at 9:45, KNX. It's the doughnutmakers' official theme song.

**TV TIDBITS**—Herman Hover of Ciro's joins forces with Paul Coates to uphold the masculine side of the argument on Bachelor's Haven tonight at 8:30, KTSN (2). Mrs. Sheila MacRae, Gordon's wife, and Zsa Zsa Gabor fight the losing feminine battle . . . The Ezzard Charles-Rex Layne fight comes in on

the microwave tonight at 7, KTSN (2) . . . Pianist Maurice Zam and Howard Shoup, the designer, join with Billie Burke today at 4, KTTV (11) . . . Bruce Cabot is starred in "The Driven Snow" tonight at 10:30, KECA (7) . . . Miriam Hopkins and Ed Wynn are guest stars on Kate Smith's evening show tonight at 8, KNBH (4) . . . Today could find the World Series ending on KNBH (4), KHJ (9) and KFMB (8) at 9:45 . . . Artie (Mr. Kitzel) Auerbach's leave of absence as a photographer from New York has been renewed for the 16th year . . . Dude Martin spotlights the comedy dance duo, Ames and Arno, on his KTTV (11) show tonight at 8:45 . . . Roy Shudt will re-create the Western Harness Association races on KWKW nightly at 8:30 . . . KMPC's bouncing disc jockey, Johnny Grant, has been chosen as emcee of the seventh annual Southern California Broadcasters Association whingding at Oakmont Country Club, Oct. 29 . . . KTLA's (5) Frosty Frolics show at 8 tonight presents a salute to the seasons . . . Dr. Arnold Pike, TV director of the California Teachers Association, visits KTSN's (2) California Living show today at 4 p.m. . . Wallace R. Parnell, author-producer of "Beaustone Affair," guests with Kay Mulvey tonight at 6:15, KTTV (11) . . . Coy Watson trains his camera on Sonny Tufts, Elyse Knox and Mack Sennett for tonight's Hollywood Reel, KTLA (5), at 7:15 . . . William Gargan's new radio show, Barrie Crane, Confidential Investigator, is set for 7 p.m., KFI, tonight . . . "Knickerbocker Holiday" is KTTV's (11) major feature offering tonight at 7.