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THOMAS M. PAYOR, Editor

Who's Where

Martin Ritt back from Tucson
location scouting for "Hombre."

Martin Rackin back from Ha-
waii after a bout with the flu and
off Monday on nine-city "Stage-
coach" promo tour.

Arthur P. Jacobs to N.Y. for
20th-Fox homeoffice confabs on
"Doctor Dolittle."

Abel Green, editor of VARIETY,
back to his N.Y. desk following
survey of Hollywood pix-tv and
Las Vegas showbiz.

Helen Rose back from three-
week national promo tour for
MGM's "Made In Paris."

James Henaghan here from
Europe to conclude screenplay of
"The Siege Of Madrid" for Bryan
Foy.

Hugh O'Brian returns from a
week's p.a. for "Ten Little In-
dians."

Bernard Schwartz, Schenck En-
terprises prexy, to Mexico City to
oversee windup of "The Rage,"
Columbia release.

Ken Berry to Detroit pa. at
Boy Scout Jamboree.

Steve Shagan, associate producer
for Sy Weintraub, to Europe for
production confabs.

E. Jay Krause in from San
Francisco to start work on the
"Road To Lebanon" NBC special.

'Siren' For Spaak
Rome, Feb. 3. — Success in Italo
keys of latest Catherine Spaak
starrer, "Mademoiselle de Maupin,"

reduced by Silvio Clementelli for S oily Films, has prompted Clemen-
telli to a rapid follow-up. Next on
Miss Spaak's slate is "The Siren/'
to be directed by Franco Rossi,
with Clementelli producing, prob-
ably via an Italo-American pre-
production deal producer is cur-
rently mulling.
In contras t to "Maupin,"
"Siren" will be a modem tale
about the amorous adventures of
a mermaid. "Maupin," which was
directed by Mauro Bolognini and
which co-features Tomas Milian
and Robert Hossein, was shot in
Rome and Yugoslavia.

GOOD MORNING: Alfred Hitchcock has few tears for filmmakers complaining about treatment given their chef d'oeuvres by that crassly commercial medium — television. Who should know better than Hitch, who has played both sides of the film fence? "It's simply a case of knowing what deal you make," he pleasantly pontificated. "Make your deal first — then, complain — if you can." Hitchcock will unwind another of his prize pix, "Rope" to home screens, following the recent two-showing "Rear Window" pact . . . Although he has no plans for future tv series, he's anxiously looking for more feature material and deplores — as only he can — the lack of available completed screenplays by top writers. They dont write on "spec," Hitch notes, as top play-wrights. "They could name their own price," A.H. quickly concedes, "and deserve to — without any changes to be made" ... He also regrets too many film writers today believe plot is out of fashion. "Plot in a short story and a movie is the most important thing. The motion picture is like a short story — it's the only medium you expect to see in continuity without a break. You have to consider the endurance of the human bladder. It is a challenge to keep the audience from going to the toilet" ... As for newly-created gimmix in pix, Hitch laughs, "It would be like a writer saying 'I'm going to use new words.' We must use the words we have — but in better prose" . . . However, it's no secret Hitch has constantly added technical as well as artistic inno-vations, such as the lighting in "Tom Curtain." He also has scenes with no dialog at all . . . "Yes," he smiled, "I have my own kind of kookie pictures." Among those planned ahead is J. M. Barrie's "Mary Rose," a "charming ghost story." And next will be "R-R-R-R-R," which Bob Hawkins is now translating from the colloquial Italian into filmable English. Although coin classification is limited to four "R's," Hitch sez he's added one for crix. "They can use it as 'Rotten,' or 'Ridiculous'." $ * *
We wouldn't have believed it unless we saw it: Adam West and Burt Ward ("Batman" and "Robin" to the uninitiated), in one of their first public appearances since the show's takeoff, were "attacked" by a horde of deliriously-happy autograph-seeking fans — adult, female — at the 20th-Fox, Bristol-Myers bash. The occasion kicked off the local test of 10 spex to be KTLA-aired, Four-Star-produced. Fox-TV, sponsored in several shows by B-M, hosted on a stage "Cleopatra"-designed by Jerry Wonderlik . . . Luckily, West and Ward changed from costumes to civvies. We believe the gals would have taken souvenirs directly off their backs (I); the excitement equalled the squeals, yells exhibited by teen and sub-teenagers to the Beatles . . . Bill Self, Fox-TV production boss, seated at our table, observed, "And to think I came close to turning down Bill Dozier's idea for this series!" . . . Milton Berle inked Adam West to join him on the Feb. 20 "Palace" taping session. Show will include Martha Raye and Henny Youngman. This group should classify as the ultimate in "High Camp" . . . It's Berle's third "Palace." He's talking a fall, weekly, variety show with ABC. Although Mil tie is under pact to NBC until 1981, he took a 40% cut in the $100,000 annual spread-out salary to accept other net offers. They include: "Holiday On Ice" in London-Paris, Sammy Davis Jr., Skelton and Link-letter guestings . . . Howard Morris moves over, after thesping with Jerry Lewis in "Way (2) Out," to direct a coupla "Batman" segs.
* * *

Judd Bernard is the latest press agent to depart the ranks and join the corps of producers. Hell launch his career at Metro with an Elvis Presley starrer in June . . . Bill Hopper is back at work in "Perry Mason," and concurs with his late mother's private funeral wishes. "She would have hated a 'Hollywood circus'" . . . Dennis Day's pneu-monia-bound at St. Vincent's — he was to have guested as a leprechaun in "Bewitched," followed by a "Gidget" . . . Stan Meyer's home from Cedars surgery — no complications . . . Irene Bakley's in General Hospital for tests . . . Show must go on: Tony Martin attends his father's funeral, wings to Florida and the Fontainebleau bow Tuesday . . . Didja notice Bing Crosby's letter to Time mag this week, wherein he "corrects" their comments re Frisco's reception to wife Kathryn and dotter Mary Frances in "Peter Pan." Bully, Bing . . . "McHale's Navy" producer, Si Rose, is penning a seg in which the PT-73 crashes on a reef, but the crew builds a new boat outta the wreck. Any similarity between this and "Flight Of The Phoenix" in which Ernie Borgnine costars, sounds intentional . . . Marty Ingels guesting on an "Addams Family" — first time back with "Dickens-Fenster" partner John Astin. Carolyn Jones didnt move a muscle while the duo lens-fenced again . . . Miss J. takes in the fresh air circuit during hiatus time chirping in "Oliver" at Warren, Ohio, "High Spirits" at the Valley Music Theatre
. . . Ann-Margret winged to the Flamingo, caught Bobby Darin's act Wednesday p.m., reported to RCA yesterday a.m. to wax "Black Magic" for "The Swinger." A M and B.D. are alumni of the George Bums college of nitery knowledge.

Lazarus Urfe

Exhibs Retur

To The Basic J
Dallas, Feb. 3.—National Sen
Service exec veepee Paul N. L
arus yesterday urged exhibs
"return" to showbiz "basics," me*
ing selling the public from
screen, the lobby, the masgi
plus broadcast and print bwbs
Lazarus spoke at the 14th
nual meet of Texas Drive-In Thj
tre Owners Assn. Session featu
product pitches by major distri
Breakfast session was hosted
NSS.

MGM Releasing

'Vampire Killer
New York, Feb. 3. — "Th f
pire Killers," the first of four p
ductions scheduled under the ter
of director Roman Polanski's
producer Gene Gutowski's pact w
Filmways, will be released
Metro. Announcement was ma

by Robert H. O'Brien, prexy
MGM, and Martin Ransohoff, Fib
ways production chief.
'*The Vampire Killers" will
Feb. 21 in the Italian Tyrol. Int
iors will be filmed in London

Rodman Plots Dream
Howard Rodman has been
signed by Warner Bros, to sci
"An American Dream," which
star David Janssen and An
Dickinson. One of several pix
William Conrad's schedule, it is
be directed by Robert Gist
duced by Stan Margulies.

Doodles Back In Town
Doodles Weaver has r^r n
after 11 months of doing a lo<
teleshow in Frisco and has sign
with Rob Brandies agency.

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