

Seriously ill: Floyd Blair      University of Notre Dame      Sunday Sermon: For Whom & For  
in St. Joseph's Hospital;      Religious Bulletin      What To Pray: Fr. Gallagher  
Ill: grdfthr of Fred & John      October 21, 1949      (7&9); Fr. Boyle (8,10:10,11:10)  
Carideo(H); frnd of Terry  
Armstrong('49)      Heigh-Ho, Hollywood!

Too many busybodies are editorializing on the Hollywood marriage muddles. So we have a recent A.P. dispatch carrying the torch for filmdom's incomparable incorrigibles.

After posing the query: "Why so many Hollywood divorces?" the reporter proceeds to have the dandies and lovelies out there answer the question. Their defense of the marital aberrations of their fellows would be comical were the subject not so tragic.

"I've been married eighteen years! And look at the Jean Hersholts, the Irene Dunnes and the Harold Lloyds! How can anyone say there is so much divorce out here with so many long-range marriages like these!" (So many long-range marriages!!!). Thus spoke one siren who has skyrocketed to fame within the past year.

Thank God for the Hersholts, the Lloyds and the Dunnes--and the many others who have not run to the divorce courts because there was onion in the soup or because hubby played the saxophone, or listened to hill-billy records or wore two-toned shoes----or because God was impudent enough to place a child between them and their careers!!

We daresay that an impartial survey of the entire film colony would prove that the Hersholts and the Lloyds and Dunnes are outnumbered three to one by the two, three and four-timers. And we challenge Hollywood to prove the contrary!

"I don't think there are many more divorces in Hollywood than anywhere else. I've been all over the country and I have found just as much shady stuff going on. It's just that out here in filmland everything that happens gets published."....This from a character (screen) who has just finished a jail term for shady stuff!!

His thinking is as confused as that of the man who says there is polio in Boston and New York and Ypsilanti, so why is everyone getting so excited about polio in Hollywood? The fact remains that polio is still an evil to be avoided; and making a mockery of God's marriage laws is no less an evil whether it be in Boston or New York or Ypsilanti or Hollywood.

Why DO decent people editorialize on Hollywood's scandalous divorce epidemics?

1. Because film folk are forever insisting upon the parading of their private lives before their cinema public. That's why they hire press agents. And the more they insist upon such publicity the more right the public has to censure them for the scandal they give, whether the scandal be public or otherwise.
2. Because by a sad coincidence too many Hollywood productions appear to be the real life stories of those very performers who in their pictures present to the world a matter-of-course picture of divorce and re-mating as though they were the accepted and approved thing today.
3. Because of a famous Latin proverb that has come down through the centuries: "Corruptio Optimi Pessima!!...freely translated, it means "the corruption of the best is the worst possible." In other words, the higher a person's station or reputation in a given field, the greater is his responsibility to the public who assists him to that pinnacle---the greater his fall if he does fall--and the greater is the scandal following therefrom. Shakespeare put it this way in a sonnet: "...  
 "For fairest things grow foulest by foul deeds; ...  
 Lillies that fester smell worse than weeds". (94-13)

Prayers:  
(deceased): father of Michael Geraghty(Ly); Father Cousins; mother of John H. Brennan (ex '20) father of Ray (29) Phil(33) Ed(Ex-34) Angsten; friend of Bob Murphy (How).