

THE VOICE OF BROADWAY

Belli Planning a Bombshell at Ruby Trial

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evan
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

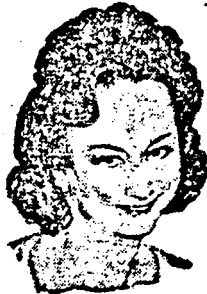
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By DOROTHY KILGALLEN

Jottings in Pencil

SPECTATORS AND PRESS at the Jack Ruby trial in Dallas may expect forensic fireworks when the State offers medical testimony to prove the corpus delicti. Melvin Belli and Joe Tonahill, co-counsel for the defendant, will attempt to show that Lee Harvey Oswald did not die as a result of the single bullet pumped into him by Ruby, but because of "bunkled" surgery during which he allegedly suffered a fatal embolism . . . Helen Hayes, First Lady of the Theatre, is in the mood to change her mind about starring in "The White House," the play about a series of First Ladies. The producers are said to be busily seeking a replacement so that the show can open on schedule this Spring—~~with~~ Julie Harris being mentioned as the most



likely choice. Originally, the Helen Hayes premiere (for a charity) was to have been graced by ex-President and Mrs. Eisenhower, ex-President and Mrs. Truman, and possibly Jacqueline Kennedy.

Joe Campanella, who was Judy Holliday's leading man in "Hot Spot," will walk down the aisle in May with singer Jill Bartholomew . . . Danny Kaye and Gwen Verdon are conferring about teaming for a one-man one-woman show this Summer . . . Members of the "Funny Girl" cast are taking shots since costume designer Irene Sharaff came down with hepatitis . . . Mitzl Gaynor has received a personal invitation from President Johnson to headline the May 26 rally in Washington, which will officially kick off his campaign for re-election.



THE NEWS FROM TORONTO: Elizabeth Taylor was presented with a birthday cake by the "Hamlet" cast, the pastry lovingly inscribed "Happy Birthday, Mascot and Den Mother." In appropriate fashion, Liz cut the cake expertly with Richard Burton's "Hamlet" sword . . . An important musical heading for Broadway is having serious money problems. In polite terms, it's "under-financed" . . . Stuart Ostrow, producer-director of the Meredith Willson

- The Washington Post and Times Herald
- The Washington Daily News
- The Evening Star
- New York Herald Tribune
- New York Journal-American
- New York Mirror
- New York Daily News
- New York Post
- The New York Times
- The Worker
- The New Leader
- The Wall Street Journal
- The National Observer
- People's World
- Date

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Yes!

show "Hera's Love," turned down an offer to produce and direct "Zenda" for Broadway.

Wills Mays may be making news outside the sports sections in the near future. A national bus outfit has been huddling with the "Say Hey Kid" about heading a network of "sports clinics" for young America, come next Autumn . . . Lois DeFee, the Amazonian star of one of the 1939-1940 World's Fair exhibits, is recuperating at her home in North Miami after her recent hospital ordeal. She's now 30 pounds—and several thousands of dollars—lighter.

★
FROM THIS COLUMN of Jan. 17: "If Melvin Belli, attorney for Jack Ruby, can't get a change of venue, he'll rent a home in Dallas for the duration of the trial."

From a New York morning paper, datelined Dallas, Feb. 28 (Special): "Jack Ruby's chief defense lawyer, Melvin Belli, said today he will rent a house here for the duration of Ruby's murder trial."

So what's so special?

★
GREENWICH VILLAGE remains typically Village. A movie house there is playing "Beat the Devil," but its

marquee doesn't bill Humphrey Bogart, Gina Lollobrigida or any of the actors. It merely reads "Truman Capote" . . . If Bing Crosby does the projected half hour TV series next season, it's a good bet that Kathy Grant (Mrs. Bing) will make frequent guest appearances . . . Ingrid Bergman's entrance at the Regency dining room for lunch indicated extra-sensory perception on her part. She strolled in looking lovely in a chic beige suit—the perfect costume to wear against the beige, brown and gold decor. Ingrid and husband Lars Schmidt expect to be in New York for two weeks, then they'll head for California for a brief visit.

An undercover revolt is brewing among the performers who belong to the Actors' Studio. They feel that the Strasbergs, and other brass, are involved with too much "commercial stuff" and too little that is experimental, also that they're hiring actors outside the Studio rather than their own disciples . . . Joe Levine, who was blessed with five Oscar nominations for Federico Fellini's "8½," just closed a long-distance deal to release the next Fellini masterpiece. No word on the title; it won't have one until the director finishes it and decides what it's all about.