

By GENE MILLER
Herald Staff Writer

Larry King is alive and well and living in Miami. But not too happily.

"The inactivity is driving me bananas," he said Thursday.

King, considered by some to be Florida's most talented radio and TV interviewer, is a statistic. He belongs within the Department of Labor's 5.5 per cent tabulation on unemployment.

KING DEPARTED the salaried world of electronic media last December, making the news instead of reporting it.

Financier Louis Wolfson, the richest man in the history of America to go to jail, accused King of a rip-off involving Jim Garrison, the maverick New Orleans prosecutor.

WTVJ, the TV station, and radio station WIOD collectively unplugged King about the time he was arrested under a \$1,000 grand larceny charge.

Although a judge later dismissed the charge because of the statute of limitations had run out, King found himself described in the public prints as a "compulsive spender" and a "compulsive borrower" and he has remained off the air.

Since then, said King, he has made three trips to California and three trips to Chicago and "might accept a California offer." "But I'd rather stay here."

He is now waiting for galley proofs from Doubleday & Company, Inc. for a book on a collection of interviews, "The Quarterbacks," the 16 best who ever lived.

"IT READS like Playboy," King says — Q. and A., question and answer.

President Nixon, King says, indirectly gave him an idea for another book.

With the tenth anniversary of the assassination of John F. Kennedy next year, King wants to write a book on how the news struck famous people.

Nixon, he said, once told him how he had been in Dallas that same day as an attorney for Pepsi Cola.

Thursday King made it to Calder Race Track. He emceed a "gag film" for private use of the track's Turf Club. He also managed to find the \$2 win window — where he is not altogether a stranger.