MOVIE COLUMN

Football star attains full actor ratings

By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Twenty years ago a giant Negro was playing superb football for the University of California at Los Angeles. Today, the same Woody Strode is carving out a new career as an actor, and he still is a hard-muscled, flat-bellied giant of a man.

This time he is playing for the John Ford team. The cantankerous director gave Strode his first real dramatic part in The Trial of Sgt. Rutledge. He played the title role as a frontier soldier accused of raping a white woman.

Woody is again working for Ford, this time as a villainous Indian chief menacing James Stewart and Richard Widmark in Two Rode Together.

"Ford browbeats me, but it's great working for him," Woody remarked. "This is a great part for me, the first time I've played an Indian. If I can pull it off, it might open a whole new field for me. If not, it's back to the jungle."

Woody has had a long, hard pull up from the sports jungles and then through the lairs of Tarzan and Ramar. Through it all, he has remained the same as when he played for UCLA.

DEFENCE MINISTER VISITS AIR DIVISION — Honourable Douglas S. Harkness, Minister of National Denfence signs RCAF guest book on his first visit to Number 1 Air Division at Metz, France. Shown with the Minister are left to right, Wing Commander John D. W. Campbell, Officer Commanding 423 Squadron; Group Captain A. B. Searle, Commanding Officer of Number 2 Fighter Wing, Air Marshal F. R. Miller, Chairman of Chiefs of Staff and Air Vice Marshal L. E. Wray, Air Officer Commanding No. 1 Air Division.

Art dealer became dance troupe manager by accidental meeting

By PAQUERETTE VILLENEUVE Canadian Press Correspondent

PARIS (CP)—Barziliana, a troupe of singers and dancers from the South American republic, leaves here soon to perform in Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto before going on a United States tour.

The group of 27, after triumphal performances in Europe, will travel to Canada by ship under the eye of director Miecio Askanasy, Viennese journalist who has lived in Brazil for 25 years.

Askanasy formed the Briziliana troupe somewhat by accident. Originally, the former secretary of writer Stefan Zweig, operated a bookstore at Rio de Janeiro. He started exhibiting paintings in the store, including the first public showing of painting by Vieira de Silva, now in Paris and famous.

Askanasy became interested in Brazilian negro culture and the voodoo cult. He arranged for performances of voodoo songs and chants in his booksotre-gallery after the daily 6 p.m. close of business.

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Triple-threat actress gets Broadway try-out

By WILLIAM GLOVER

NEW YORK (AP) — People often stub a toe—but not like Elizabeth Seal. For her the result was stage stardom.

Slender, dark-haired and dynamic, Miss Seal is a rare import to Broadway from Britain—an established headliner in musical comedy. She made her debut here September 29 in Irma la Douce, a long-running Paris-London hit.

Until she was 15, however, Liz dreamt of quite a different sort of show business career. A child prodigy in ballet, Miss Seal was being developed by experts as a potential great ballerina.

"Then one day walking home I tripped on a sidewalk, a very silly thing for a dancer," she recounts.

'I broke an ankle and the doctors said I'd always limp and would never dance. Well, doctors are always a pessimistic lot, so after some months I went to see a teacher I'd had previously. He told me: " 'If you really want to do something, you will.' "

After a long and painful stint, Miss Seal regained a measure of dancing skill.

Abandoning ballet, she decided at 16 to try dancing in stage shows — and got her first job simply by walking in and asking. Until then, Miss Seal had never seen a musical but that didn't hinder her progress.

"I've been working ever since," she reports of the ensuing 10 years. Her first speaking part was in Pajama Game, then came a dramatic assignment in Camino Real.

"I'm a natural actress," she says. "I know how to do it. Of course, I have learned technique."

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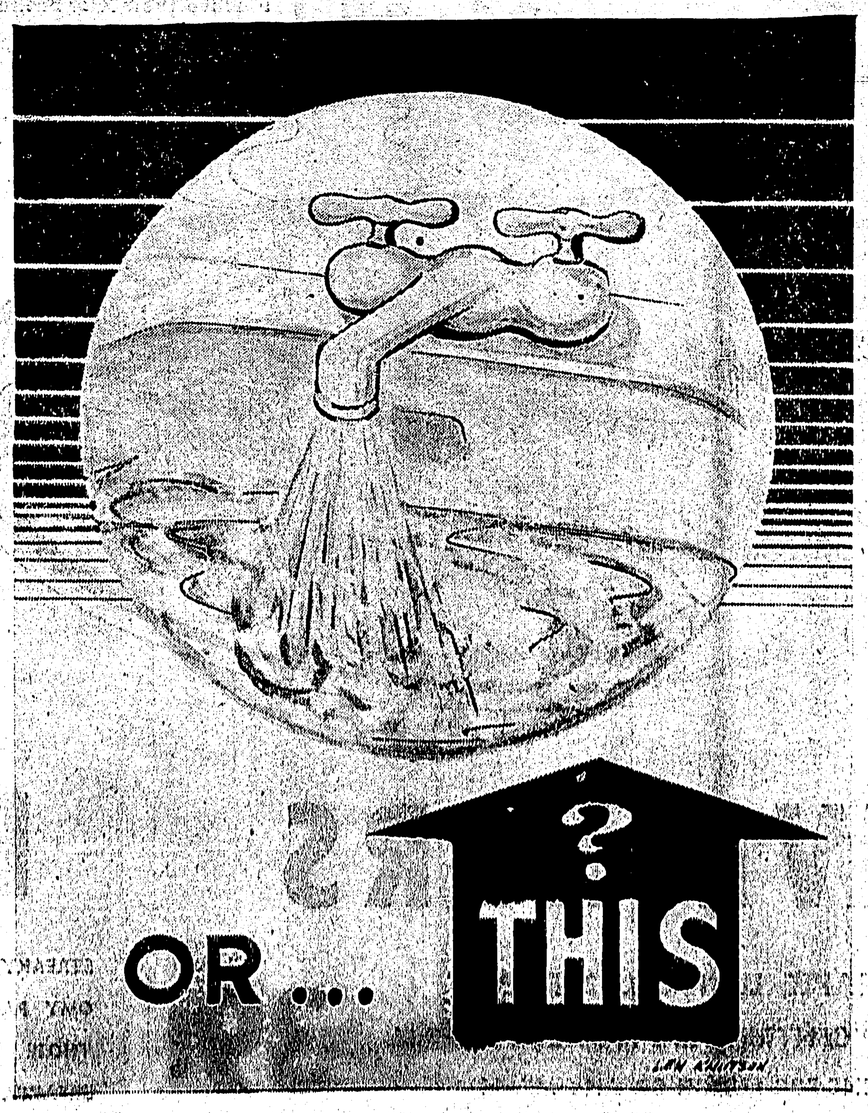

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