

# Pert Laura Bergt Captivates Los Angeles Folks During Fair

Laura Bergt was such a success, as was the Century City Alaska Travel and Trade Fair in Los Angeles, recently, that some people forgot to ask her her age or whether she was married.

Los Angeles Harald-Examiner staff writer Monica Reeves said of Laura:

"... And what a diplomat she is. In town promoting the Alaska Trade Fair, set for March 7 through 15 at the Century Plaza, Laura is a mobile Chamber of Commerce for her home state."

Outside of helping to attract 25,000 people per day through the Alaska section of the Fair, Laura was on demand by such shows as Donald O'Connor Television Program, Ed Nelson show, and Jackie Joseph's Prize Movie Show.

Laura said of Jackie: "Right after meeting her, she asked one of the stage producers to run down the hallway where they were about to shoot 'The Dating Game' to try to get me on it," said Laura.

"I asked her how many children she had. She said two ages 3 and 4. I told her my youngest was 4 years. So she yelled out, 'Hold it! Cancel the 'Dating Game!'" She didn't realize I was married and had four children. I teased her—said she was a pretty poor sport about that—cancelling the Dating Game."

"I was," she continued," on Donald O'Connor's show for one hour where we both wore parkas. Eskimo kissed and talked about Tlingit totem pole, King Island and Anaktuvuk masks, my ulu, (Eskimo woman's knife—editor), Eskimo Yo-yo. I gave him a yo-yo lesson on the show. He was an eager pupil and did relatively well."

When Laura was on Ed Nelson's Show, American Broadcasting Company, and which will be nationally televised, as will Donald O'Connor's Show, Laura and Ed Nelson performed a skit.

"He and I opened the scene wearing parkas with falling snow just returning from a date (supposedly) and he said, 'Mumiak, may I kiss you good night?'" Laura related.

"I said yes, and we rubbed noses—twice. Mumiak is my Eskimo name. Everyone in the studio thought it was funny. I refused to wash my nose for a while."

Laura said that Karen Thomas, 11 year old King Island



LAURA BERGT

cutie, was blanket tossed outside the studios which was also televised; that King Islanders did two dances; Larry Beck recited Robert Service; that there was the normal six-minute recipe session that Nelson has on every show.

"... But this time he was cooking heavenly smelling sourdough pancakes and reindeer sausage which Nelson and I gladly sampled," Laura said.

She said Helen and Chester Seveck of Kotzebue and Point Hope were interviewed on the show wearing their beautiful squirrel skin parkas and which were described in detail.

"They did a beautiful job in their interview," Laura pointed out.

She said the show was a half hour long—all on Alaska.

One day Claire Banks, Anchorage Chamber of Commerce manager, spotted Jack Benny in a Century Plaza restaurant and had a waitress tell Benny that she, Helen and Chester were from Alaska. Benny promptly invited them to his table.

Laura said they saw a lot of former Alaskans some of whom travelled 200 miles to see them after seeing them on television and in the papers. There were 35 booths and 150 Alaskans at the Fair.

She said Sylvester Ayek of King Island put on some wonderful performances and demonstrations of Eskimo games every day.

"All in all, it was a very worthwhile fair and George Sul-

livan, mayor of Anchorage, the Alaska Business Council, Alaska Airlines, Western Airlines, Chilkat Dancers, King Island Dancers, Chester and Helen Seveck, Sylvester Ayek, Larry Beck and Wien Consolidated, are to be commended for such a wonderfully successful fair!

"Not forgetting, of course, all the interested Alaskans who had booths," Laura concluded.

## Pollock in Town Hall Meeting

Congressman Howard W. Pollock will arrive in Fairbanks for a two day stay on Monday morning, April 7. That evening he will participate in a Town Hall meeting, at the USO Lounge on First Avenue, beginning at 8:00 p.m.

The public is urged to attend and take this opportunity to speak out on the many issues that are of concern.

During Pollock's stay in Fairbanks, he will be available for private talks, in the office of Senator Ted Stevens, 201 Federal Building.

Anyone wishing to make an appointment with Alaska's Congressman during these "Constituents' Days" may do so by calling 452-2226.

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## Koosh-Da-Ka Sequel—Chuck Keen Planning Another Production

Chuck Keen, who is now experiencing the rewards of a sparkling success of his production, "Jonico and the Kush-Da-Ka," is already champing at the bit to start another full length production.

Although Chuck Keen is still undecided as to what he would title the new movie, he said he has been thinking of calling it, "Jonico of the North."

"The picture will have about 30 minutes of Arctic scenes in it," Keen told Tundra Times in Anchorage last weekend. "I would like to start shooting some of those scenes in about six weeks."

He said he was thinking of contracting with a Fairbanks photographer who "is a fine photographer" to start the work.

"I am thinking of employing the same boy who starred in the Koosh-Da-Ka," said Keen.

The boy, 12 year old Tony Williams of Haines, supplied hair-raising thrills for the audiences in the Koosh-Da-Ka with the background of some of the most spectacular scenes in the State of Alaska.

Keen said Koosh-Da-Ka has been doing exceptionally well everywhere it has been shown in Alaska and the Lower 48. He has made arrangements for it to be shown in Chicago, Denver, and later on in Hawaii.

Keen said he was still working on the plot of his next movie.

The illusion that times that were are better than those that are, has probably pervaded all ages.

—GREELEY

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