

Dateline Chicago



By Virginia Kay

ONE OF THE HOLLYWOOD greats of the 1930s, more recently a TV series star, slated to arrive here in a Broadway comedy hit this fall, has the show's backers worried. He has been missing performances in another city due to "exhaustion"—too many performances. And the question is: What's causing the "exhaustion?"

● **"ODD COUPLE" STAR Dick Benjamin**, who has just been tapped for his first Broadway role, must be the happiest man in town. Tremendously talented, he has spent his entire career up to this point as a road company star. At a recent lunch he spoke about his urge to make it on Broadway — and now he will. Anyone who has seen him act can't doubt that. . . . **Edward Albee**, who writes those fierce, fierce plays, personally arranges all the flowers in his new Greenwich Village house, plays the harpsichord, keeps five cats and a white Pekingese dog, instructs his housekeeper in the finer points of cooking, keeps the tiny castle from "Tiny Alice" in his garage and has a cork-lined living room. (Who's Afraid of Marcel Proust?)



EDWARD
ALBEE

● **STAFF MEMBERS** of the Gary Post-Tribune were informed of the sale of their paper to the Ridder Publications only minutes before the public was informed Monday. "It was the best kept secret around here since the atom bomb," said one staffer.

● **ROBERT Q. LEWIS** and Marvin Miller have been signed for "Catch Me If You Can," at Ivanhoe Theater, opening Sept. 27. . . . A local paper, in a story on the death of Judge Fred W. Slater, reported: "Among those paying tribute to Judge Slater was Judge Augustine Bowe of Municipal Court, representing the city and the bench. . . ." It must have been a difficult trip for Judge Bowe, who died last February. . . . The newest fashion flash is a silver foil evening dress, which "Waste Paper Boutique" will sell for \$9 and will be "strong enough to withstand an evening of the Watasi". . . . School board member **Cyrus Hall Adams III** has kind words to say about Ben Willis on WIND's "The Willis Years," Wednesday night, marking the end of the stormy Willis reign.