

Janet Blair to Star In Musical Comedy

"Around the World with Nellie Bly," an original musical comedy starring Janet Blair in the title role, will be colorcast on NBC at 9 tonight. Cornel Wilde will have the top supporting role.

The book for the show is based on the real-life story of Nellie Bly, the world's first "bigtime woman

newspaper reporter," and top byline columnist on the New York World in the 1890s. Specifically, the storyline is based on the crowning stunt of Nellie's spectacular career—her effort to circle the globe alone in less time than novelist Jules Verne set forth in the era's best-seller, "Around the World in Eighty Days."

Author of the teleplay is Sig Herzog, who wrote the Broadway version of the hit musical, "Bloomer Girl."

Cornel Wilde has been cast as reporter Steve Roberts, Nellie's chief rival on the World's chief competitor, the New York Sun.

Twenty-one character players—in some cases known better by faces than names—have been signed for vignette bits in "Around the World With Nellie Bly."

With each listing approximately 100 motion picture credits, the 21 players are Jerome Cowan, Addison Richards, Jack La Rue, Patsy Kelly, Sig Ruman, John Qualen, Lyle Talbot, William Bakewell, Eddie Quillan, Margaret Dumont, Esther Dale, Jimmy Conlin, Iris Adrian, Pierre Watkins, John Harmon, Irving Bacon, Almira Sessions, Dick Elliott, Tom Kennedy, Gandy Sutton and Ralph Sanford.

10:30 A.M., CBS-TV—A Trio in Trouble," first program of

of the noted woman photographer's bout with Parkinson's disease. The cast also will include Ell Wallach, Dana Elcar, Martin Rudy and Paul Stevens.

9 P.M., CBS-TV—Thelma Ritter will have the role of a childless woman after 20 years of marriage, in "Sarah's Marriage," on the GE Theater. Featured in the cast will be Jackie 'Chogan, Marion Ross and James Gregory.

9:30 P.M., CBS-TV—Steve McQueen, TV star of Wanted—Dead or Alive, and his wife, actress Neile Adams, will make their first appearance together on television when they co-star with Peter Lorre in "Man From the South," the chilling story of an unusual wager, on the Alfred Hitchcock program.

10 P.M., CBS-TV—Veteran comedian Edward Everett Horton will join George Gobel in a belated New Year's celebration on the Gobel show.

10 P.M., NBC-TV—John Ericson, as an ex-baseball pitcher who lost his arm in Korea saving the lives of two men, stars in "The Grenade" on the Loretta Young show.



Janet Blair, as newswoman Nellie Bly, decides Arab sheik (Cornel Wilde) looks like her New York boy friend (also Cornel Wilde). Scene is from the musical comedy, "Around the World With Nellie Bly." It will be televised on NBC at 9 tonight.

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