

Husband's Bizarre Behavior Is Driving Shirley Jones to Drink

Shirley Jones' husband, Marty Ingels, is acting like a crazy man — and Shirley has been driven to drink by his bizarre behavior, insiders say.

They also reveal that Ingels — a producer of TV commercials — has terrorized his staff, cheated stars, outraged advertisers and scandalized Hollywood.

Sadly, they charge that it's gotten so bad that Shirley is barely able to make it through the day. And millions of fans of her new TV show, "Shirley," don't realize that the seemingly bubbly star is really crying on the inside.

"Marty Ingels has driven Shirley to drink," charged an inside source who visited the set and spoke with crew members.

"She pours down vodka so fast that at first the crew thought she was drinking water.

"She starts blurring her lines and by 3 o'clock in the afternoon she's a crying drunk and they have to stop shooting."

Shirley — one of the most beloved performers in Hollywood — is hitting the bottle "because of the pressure Marty's putting on her to sign over her home to him and to let him take her teenage son, Patrick Cassidy, into show business," the source told The ENQUIRER.

"Every day Ingels calls her on the set and they have screaming fights over the phone. The other day she was

'By 3 in the Afternoon She's a Crying Drunk'

shouting, 'Leave Patrick alone. I want him to go to school and make something of himself — I don't want him to be a teenage idol!'

Former staffers say Ingels, who brags about owning seven guns, has even gone so far as to threaten them with violence.

"When I argued with him he told me I'd never walk the face of the earth again," confided one frightened former employee. "He told me he was going to blow up my face. Once I even had to call my attorney because I thought he was going to come over and kill me. The guy is a crazy person."

Said another: "He still owes me a lot of money. He promises he'll make it up to you — but he never does. In-



HITTING THE BOOZE: Shirley drinks because of the pressure that husband Marty Ingels — pictured with her here — puts on her, says an insider. "The man is a maniac," says one producer.

stead, he hires and fires so he won't have to pay."

Though Ingels is only a minor producer of commercials, he has one of the most notorious casting couches in all of Hollywood.

"I was furious to find that I was the victim of a classic casting couch routine," complained one young would-be actress.

"He told me I could have the part in a movie he said he was doing if I

would go to bed with him — I told him to go jump in the lake."

Even established stars are beginning to feel as if they, too, have been dragged over the famous couch.

"Steve Allen, Gary Burghoff and Esther Rolle were all going to sue him over appearances in a TV program for the American Lutheran Church," recalled one insider. "The church paid Ingels \$60,000 — but he only passed on \$30,000 to the stars."

Shocked and hurt by the obvious rip-off attempt, Allen wrote a personal letter to Ingels which read, in part: "Marty, I can't believe that anybody in the industry — and especially a contemporary — would try to nail three peers in a thing like this." The suit was eventually settled out of court.

Ingels' raging tantrums and foul mouth seem to know no bounds. For example, he once alienated the president of the Pillsbury Co. with a vulgar, four-letter blast over the phone, according to a former associate.

People who have worked closely with Ingels are throwing up their hands in despair.

"The man is sick and he's hurting my industry," fumed producer Lloyd Kolmer. "I try to reason with him but he rants and raves and then sends me threats. The man is a maniac!"

When asked by The ENQUIRER about the charges, Ingels replied: "Of course, none of it is true" — but he admitted that he was "flattered" by all the attention.

— JOHN SOUTH



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