

v's lady plumber

# Jane Withers: I'LL BE BACK!



**CHILD STAR:**  
Jane (right) with  
Shirley Temple.



**ALL GROWN  
UP:** Jane  
made almost  
50 films.

## 'Josephine' hospitalized for months after horrible fall

**J**OSEPHINE the Plumber is repairing a broken joint! Perky Jane Withers is in the hospital, nursing a broken shoulder after falling outside the famed Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles — and she wants ENQUIRER readers to know she's determined to bounce back and return to work.

"I had a terrible fall, I broke my shoulder and it's very painful," revealed the 78-year-old former child star in an exclusive interview.

"I was waiting to go into the theater, and two little boys were boxing and fighting on the sidewalk. They kept hitting each other and running around, and then they ran straight toward me. I tried to move away from them, and that's when I fell.

"I've been in the Motion Picture & Television Hospital for more than two months — and the doctors don't even know when I'll be able to go home.

"Funny . . . I was here when they broke ground for this hospital back in the 50s. Little did I know I'd be staying here one day."

**BETTER THAN ANY  
OTHER LEADING  
CLEANSER!** One of  
Jane's famous  
ads for Comet.



### LONG CAREER

The multitalented actress, who began her career in the 1930s opposite fellow child star Shirley Temple, has graced the screen in nearly 50 movies. In recent years, she did the voice of Laverne the gargoyle in Disney's "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" and its sequel, as well as Clarabelle the cow in the Mickey Mouse TV series.

But she's perhaps best known to TV audiences as the plumber Josephine on the long-running series of Comet commercials.

The upbeat entertainer is keeping busy. A renowned collector of paper dolls, she's working on a new "Jane Withers Paper Doll," which will feature her favorite costumes from her more than half-century film career.

### 'PRIDE AND JOY'

While stuck in the hospital, she gets a special visitor three times a week — her precious dog Poppy, which she calls "my pride and joy."

"I've been so blessed all my life, and I deeply appreciate everything I've been given — the most extraordinary parents in the world, a marvelous career, five children, five grown grandchildren, and two great-grandsons," says Jane, who



**JANE  
WAS  
SPRY** while  
out in  
Beverly  
Hills  
last  
year.



**TODAY** Jane is convalescing at the Motion Picture & Television Hospital in Woodland Hills, Calif.

refuses to let adversity get her down.

"Even being here in the hospital, I've met so many nice people — plus I've run into a lot of old actor friends who are here! God works in mysterious ways, and I've always been fortunate enough to know how to make every situation a positive one."

The beloved star — who's made remarkable comebacks from a stroke, a leg infection and lupus — concluded:

"I have a good, positive attitude, and I never waver in my faith. My life's been one miracle after another."  
— ROBIN MIZRAHI