

Lucille Ball Is Going Back To Her 'Well-Cushioned' Rut

Hollywood — (AP) — At a time when more and more movie stars are free-lancing, Lucille Ball says to heck with that business. She's getting tied up to a studio contract again.

"Yes, I'm going back to a nice, well-cushioned rut," she told me on the set of "Lover Come Back." "I signed with MGM again." Lucille left the Culver City menagerie when her contract expired several months ago and did some free-lancing. I asked her why she is returning to her old haunt.

"More money, for one thing," she admitted. "Besides, I don't trust myself. How should I know what's good for me?—I'm only an actress. Many times I have thought that a story is great and then it turns out to be a stinker. I need to have some studio brains to watch out for me."

Also, the Jamestown, N. Y., red-head added, she likes to be surrounded by friendly faces. "I know all the people at MGM and like them," she said. "When I go somewhere else, I have to meet so many more people. An actress meets enough people without changing jobs all the time."

With five pictures completed but unreleased, Lucille plans to take a six-month vacation starting in May. She'll go to New York with her bandleader-husband, Desi Arnaz, and hopes to start her own radio show. Then she'll return to her well-padded Culver City rut, at a reported

salary increase of \$1,000 a week. At those prices, I could stand a rut—any old rut.