



Directed by
Lyle W. Nash

LONGSHOTS . . . Charlie Chaplin plans to produce a film, tentatively titled "The Freak," starring three of his children . . . Betty Bronson (1338 La Solano Dr., Altadena, 91001, Calif.) made a personal appearance at a recent N.Y. Museum of Modern Art for a screening of her 1925 "Peter Pan." . . . Because her mother worshipped Norma Talmadge, Marilyn Monroe was named Norma Jean. MM was baptized in Dec. 1926 by Aimee Semple McPherson at Angelus Temple, LA. . . . The 54-year-old "Birth of a Nation" controversy flares again. Lawsuit filed in N.Y. courts asks decision on who-owns-what in matter of copyright. Film epic could land in public domain by 1971.

OUR GANG'S Joe Cobb (now 53) lives at 3744 Clarrington Ave., Culver City, Calif., 90230. He is gracious and happy to hear from fans of long ago.

QUESTION: "A radio show MC said four women had a great influence on Hollywood from 1917 until 1966. I missed their names. What four women did he mean?" Answer: The MC could have named screenplay writer Frances Marion, actress Zasu Pitts, actress Marie Dressler and columnist-actress Hedda Hopper. The four were devoted friends and ever helping each other. They proved that enduring true friendships can thrive even in Hollywood.

CHOICE reading is "Norma Jean—Biography of Marilyn Monroe" by Fred Lawrence Guiles (McGraw-Hill). Best definitive book on MM yet written. Intimate data superbly researched and handled. MM was not a suicide. For MM fans this is must reading.

WHO IS WHERE . . . Funnyman Clyde Cooke was last reported living in Carpinteria, Calif. . . . Billie Rhodes, who played in the first Christie comedy in 1916, lives in North Hollywood, Calif. . . . Famed English director of silent films George Pearson was 94 in

May . . . Philadelphia businessman George Robert Macfarland, who claims to be the original "Spanky" of Our Gang, says an imposter is on the loose . . . Wm. Collier, Jr. in 1968 could be reached at 2261 Jackson St., San Francisco, Calif.

YOUR August 1919 "Photoplay" says that the "Q" in Anna Q. Nilsson's name stood for Querentia.

"THE COMIC" may be on your movie screens when you read this. Dick Van Dyke and Mickey Rooney star in the sad story of the rise and fall of a silent film comic. Preview audience found it cold, rather unfunny. Rooney is great. Historians will claim story has a dash of Arbuckle, Stan Laurel, Keaton, Chase and Langdon.

THIS Hollywood Wallace Beery legend has a "green tinge" to it. He kept ample currency on hand. In his wardrobe of scores of suits, coats, top coats, etc., he sewed a few hundred dollar bills. After Beery's death, his clothing went to charity outfits. The rugged old character actor helped the poor whether he knew it or not.

GILBERT Roland was among the 34 people who attended the quiet funeral for Natalie Talmadge in Hollywood.

ACTING styles in some India films is of the 1920 vogue such as Douglas Fairbanks preferred. "Three Musketeers" wowed 1969 audiences when shown recently in the land of teeming people.

CLOSEUPS . . . Kay Francis left a big bundle when she died . . . Spencer Tracy believed Lionel Barrymore the best actor ever in films . . . Author Bob Thomas (he did "Thalberg") is finishing a biography of David O. Selznick . . . Mitchell Rhein, a movie extra for 50 years, has worked with director Norman Taurog on 261 productions dating back to 1919 . . . Basil Rathbone, contrary to reports, did make at least one silent picture—"The Masked Bride", MGM, 1925.

CONTRIBUTIONS, comments and corrections are welcomed to P.O. Box 113, Pasadena, 91102, California.

The headline on page 7 of the Feb. 1969 issue is in error. Shirley Hannum presented a full scale concert for RTOS. She plays intermissions at the Lansdowne theatre, Lansdowne, Pa.



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EDDIE DUNSTEDTER PLAYS REQUESTS (on the 4/15 Robert Morton Organ in the Carl Greer Inn), Dunstedter label No. 33766. Available by mail; send check or MO for \$6.00 to Eddie Dunstedter, c/o Carl Greer Inn, 2600 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, Calif. 95608.

For several years Eddie Dunstedter has been accumulating requests, both solicited and unsolicited. This platter, which also launches his own label, takes care of the first batch. What can one say of Eddie's music other than "magnificent!" He plays with the same sparkle and verve which earned him the distinction of being one of the three major label recording organists of the '20s (the others: Lew White, Jesse Crawford). If one may have reservations about an instrument installed in subterranean chambers and subdued for restaurant background music—forget them. Engineer Bill Robinson placed his microphones directly in the tone chutes for a presence which sometimes includes the "bump" of combination action and the "chuff" of tremulants. Robinson has successfully captured the Dunstedter charisma in grooves, and this time it's Eddie playing solo (no sidemen, as often required when he made major brand records). The stereo effect is there but not overdone.

One of the wonders of a Dunstedter arrangement is its timelessness. Tunes he played as spotlight solos in the Minnesota theatre in Minneapolis (circa 1929) sound as fresh 40 years later. But the only concessions to that distant past heard on this recording are his oft-requested radio theme, "Open Your