



Hollywood Cavalcade

Directed by Lyle W. Nash

THE PLAYERS . . . John Conte directs his TV-radio-hotel interests from his home in Palm Springs . . . Last I heard was that Ella Raines was living in happy retirement in a small Colorado city . . . Joel McCrea will be on screen by the time you read this. He never retired; just refused all the trashy scripts offered him . . . Contact Harry Watson, 4111-B, W. Olive Ave., Burbank, Calif., 91505, if you want to know about the six Watson brothers who once were in films . . . Julie Benson, the nurse, friend, companion and confidant of Mabel Normand, still lives in Southern California . . . LeRoy Prinz, 80, dance director and choreographer for over 100 films, is active today in the world of advertising . . . Unconfirmed address: Anna Sten (Frenks) was reported as living in New York City at 166 E. 61st. Street.

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ROSE R. of Texas writes: "I called on Lew Ayres this summer at his home at 231 Rockingham Road, Los Angeles, 90049, and found him more cordial than ever. He was pleased and happy to meet me. He seems to like the fans. He has not retired from acting. Will do any good script or part but is not much pleased with a lot of today's film making."

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STU GREEN, a wonderful friend who started me in TO (via his great Bombarde years ago) writes: "About Paramount News . . . Boris Morros, former Paramount Studio music chief, said the one mark he left was the Paramount News theme . . . He said it was not original with him as he had lifted it as one of main themes from Puccini's Tosca and put in it in march tempo . . . Later I paid particular attention to the PN theme and lo, right in the middle was the tune that once heralded the start of a news-reel . . . Boris told me about this when we were in Vienna in the early '50s. Best wishes."

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PURELY PERSONAL: Election of Gaylord Carter to the Hall of Fame as Theatre Organist of the Year was wonderful. To me it is sorta like including Wagner, Verdi, Lehar, Bizet, Mozart, Offenbach, Strauss, Bach, Liszt and Brahms as among the top ten musical talents of all time. I'm biased but Gaylord's theatre organ artistry is the greatest. All in the Hall of Fame merit their selection but this memo is because I have been fortunate to know GC for many years. Among the young artists of today there's sure to be another Carter or Crawford or Leibert

or Lew White. Only thing is that most of them will never enjoy living in the Roaring 20's and Throbbing 30's.

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SELECTED SHORTS . . . Court records valued the Harold Lloyd estate at \$5.4 million . . . Eddie Quillan has been in films for 50 years and is ready for more action any time . . . In 1970 a Hollywood producer said he would remake *Greed* the 1924 epic but nothing came of his plans . . . Horace Heidt said Guy Lombardo gave him his desire to have a musical career . . . Louis Armstrong, also, said his favorite musical makers were the Lombardos . . . A recent feature story said Ronald Colman never played a drunk on the screen. Don't believe it. Colman played several parts in which he was slightly drunk.

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IN 10 years the readership of TO is constantly changing and growing. I can tell by the questions that come to HC. Readership is by no means restricted to the Geritol army. Recent questions include such as: "Tell me where Natacha Rambova, Valentino's second wife, is." She passed on in June in 1966 . . . "Tell me it is untrue that Katharine Hepburn once made a film with Bob Hope." Sorry, but in 1956 MGM released the Iron Petticoat with Katie and Bob . . . "Was there ever a silent player who portrayed himself much like John Wayne does today?" The first name what comes to mind is Wallace Beery. Fellow actors (some of whom did not love him) said he was playing himself all the time. But remember Beery had a great (or greater) career after sound.

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MOST fan magazines in the 20's and into the 30's used artist portraits for covers. Now a reader wants to know if any such artists are around. He had in mind Earl Christie, Don Reed, Georgia Warren, Frederick Duncan, Hal Phylfe, Tempest Inman, Charles Sheldon, Livingston Geer, W. Haskell Coffin, A. Cheney Johnston, Rolf Armstrong, Marland Stone and Leo Seilke, Jr. Any information will be shared.

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THE END . . . Actual filming on The Last Tycoon has started. The F. Scott Fitzgerald novel is presumed to have been inspired by MGM genius Irving Thalberg . . . Before Paramount bought the studios on Marathon/Melrose, etc., they were called the Brunton Studios . . . Questions, contributions, etc. are welcome at Box 113, Pasadena, Calif. 91102. □