



Hollywood Cavalcade

Directed by Lyle W. Nash

REAL NEWS . . . George Raft, who was a top Paramount star in 1932 when Mae West came to Hollywood, will probably have a part in her new film now in production . . . Mickey Rooney, 56, has returned to live in Never-Never land, after about 10 years in Florida and elsewhere. He's very busy with TV, films and personal appearances . . . Henry Wilcoxon, 71, now in his 44th year of Hollywood toil, keeps busy with films and TV. Lives quietly in Burbank, CA . . . Peggy Ann Garner, selling autos for the past few years, is returning to the TV screen this summer . . . Italian movie director Lena Wertmuller is the first woman nominated for a director Oscar in 49 years of awards . . . Little people, sometimes called dwarfs, were much in vogue in silent film days. Now they are working in film and TV in growing numbers.

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FILM FAME is fleeting. The gossip column of a filmland trade paper contained 42 names in one edition in 1962. Fifteen years later only seven of those names were column grist . . . In the Philippines there is a bamboo organ with 950 reeds (pipes) that still plays after 156 years. I wonder if the U.S. has an organ still working after 100 years? . . . Samuel Goldwyn, Jr. will make his movies from great stories — the same as his father did, starting in 1917.

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ALFRED HITCHCOCK SAYS: "I usually go for a mediocre book. I don't believe great literature makes good films. I go for the basic idea and work from there."

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WHO IS WHERE . . . Write Pat Boone, 9255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles 90069 . . . Dale Evans may still get fan mail at the Apple Valley Inn, P.O. Box 5, Apple Valley, Calif. 92307 . . . Vera Zorina, who made some American films as a prima ballerina, is now artistic director of the Norwegian Opera in Oslo . . . Will Rogers and James B. Rogers, both live in Southern California . . . Will does film and TV roles when something interesting comes his way . . . Bobs (Rev.) Watson, now waiting a new assignment, loves to hear from fans and friends: 2217 Berkely Ave., Los Angeles 90026.

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BETTE DAVIS SPEAKS: "I have no humility about my awards. They represent years of hard work, fighting for what I thought I deserved and sweat and blood."

NEWSREEL SHORTS . . . May Allison was last contacted at 2 Bratenakl, Bratenakl, Ohio . . . The old Long Island Paramount studios, opened in 1920, are in use again. Last time a film feature was shot there was in 1938 . . . The Silent Movie is going strong after 35 years . . . Charlie Chaplin is greatest draw of all time . . . Pioneer Art Director Ben Carra, 93, is writing his memoirs . . . Last Tycoon left this critic underwhelmed.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION . . . Irving Thalberg in rejecting *Gone With the Wind* noted: "No Civil War picture ever made a nickel." His estate has benefited handsomely from GWTW profits, though . . . Connie Haines was recently reported living in the Sacramento, Calif. country . . . Critics are praising a new book by George Eells which is the story of Loretta Young, Ginger Rogers, Ruth Etting, Miriam Hopkins, Kay Francis and Irene Bentley. Title is *Ginger, Loretta and Irene — Who?* . . . Hollywood Costume Design by David Chierichetti is choice reading. Presently the author says design work is pretty slim and somewhat like used wallpaper.

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CLOSE-UP . . . A Hollywood personality of many moons who worked with Mabel Normand says that Shirley MacLaine and Debbie Reynolds have the same vitality, charm, wit, believably, zest and beauty as did the star of the silents . . . Unforgettable movie moments: Jeanne Crain walking down the staircase in *A Letter to Three Wives*.

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QUESTIONS: Frank Parker, a reader reminds us, sang for some time on the Jack Benny show. So he did . . . See the 1959 issue of *American Heritage* for an excellent illustrated article on the use of song slides, pipe organs and silent films . . . Try reaching Gene Reynolds via the Directors Guild of America, 7950 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles 90046 . . . It was Ed Connor of NYC who claimed he saw 648 films in 1960 — 216 of them on television. Record was seeing six in one day . . . Average length of films screened for 1976 and 1977 Oscars was 119 minutes.

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COMENTS, questions and contributions to HC are welcome at Box 113, Pasadena, Calif. 91102.