Ann Marsters in the Movies: Marie Wilson Tires of 'Dumbbell' Roles

Blond Comedienne Wants New Types to Portray

BY ANN MARSTERS

[illegible]

Marie Plaintively Tries for Laughs

[illegible]

Ann Marsters in Theaters

[illegible]

Her Eyes Are as Sincere as a Baby's

[illegible]

and I thought, 'Gee, this is wonderful. They like me.' But I found out later that they were laughing because I was so terrible. Nobody could hear me beyond the first row, and I was acting all wrong for a stage audience.

"When I read the criticisms, I cried. They all said how awful I was, and one of them said I had a nice torso, but that was all."

She's Game and Works for Success

Marie tried very hard to improve. She practiced and practiced her lines and action, and by the time she reached New York, she was doing a great deal better.

"Every one," she said, "was so wonderful to me in New York. I met a lot of people, and I was so surprised at the way they treated me. All the men seemed to like me, and I went out on quite a few dates.

"You see, I'd never had much experience before. But now that I've had it, I feel like a different person."

"In what way do you feel like a different person, Marie?" I asked.

"Well," she said, earnestly, "I feel that I've learned an awful lot about people and about acting. I feel ready for different kind of roles, now, and I don't want to go on playing dumbells."

She isn't sure just what type of role she would like, but she supposes that she should continue to be a comedienne.

"Comediennes are more in demand than just plain leading ladies," she said, wisely. "Still, I don't want to do the same kind of comedy all the time."

Marie Just 24; Native Californian

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All Nervous as They Wait Nod for Jobs

[illegible]

stood in line, waiting for approval.

Griffith made a few suggestions to a couple of individuals—one man's suit was too light, another's was too dark. But on the whole they were acceptable, and they smiled with relief.

Directors and producers hardly ever smile at extras, for extras are considered of little more importance than the inanimate furnishings of a movie set.

But Griffith smiled at them. He even nodded—which only goes to prove that he's an unusually human kind of person.

(Tomorrow Ann visits the set of "Santa Fe Trail" and talks with Raymond Massey and Errol Flynn.)

Marie Wilson, cute little blond movie comedienne, who made a hit with "pretty but dumb" roles and the fact that she has an attractive figure, is tired of being used in such roles and such pictures (as the one at left), she told Ann Marsters on the set of "Virginia." The lovely actress still has trouble getting a laugh when she tells a funny story, however.

Tokyo Cool In Talk With U. S.

BY LARRY SMITH,
International News Service Staff Correspondent.

TOKYO, Oct. 3.—Hinting at the possibility of a Russo-Japanese non-aggression pact late this month, Japan's foreign office spokesman turned a cold shoulder today toward suggestions that commission study prospects for peaceful settlement of friction between Tokyo and Washington.

Reported proposals from the United States for creation of a commission to investigate chances for improvement of strained United States-Japanese relations are not timely, the spokesman said.

He declared that recognition by the United States of the "new order" in East Asia must supersede any negotiations or overtures. The spokesman described this as a "fundamental basis" of Japanese policy.

The suggestion, however, was described by the spokesman as an "interesting" revelation of the "trend in the United States following the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo pact." But he said the suggestion was not official and apparently was not in accordance with the policies of the Roosevelt administration and Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

Furthermore, said the spokesman, such a move would be impractical at present because the present status of Japanese-American relations is based upon the "goading policy of the United States" as exemplified in the embargo on exports of scrap iron and steel.

With regard to Russia, the spokesman asserted that any negotiations for a Russo-Japanese nonaggression pact must await the arrival in Moscow of Nippon's new ambassador to Russia, Yoshitsugu Takekawa, who is due to reach the Soviet capital October 23.

Show U. S. Might to Latin Experts

LANGLEY FIELD, Va., Oct. 3.—(By International News Service)—Military experts from nine Latin-American nations got their initial view of United States air might today when 200 planes greeted them at Langley Field—their first stop on an inspection tour of this country's defenses.

Saluted by a 17-gun round, the visiting experts witnessed an exhibition by the army's latest bombers and the newest pursuit ships. Among the ships displayed for the first time was the B-15, said to be "the last word" in bombing might—and the fastest and most powerful airplane of its type ever constructed.

The Latin-Americans were taken next to Fort Monroe to inspect the latest United States long range artillery and anti-aircraft equipment.

STUDENT DIES IN RIVER.

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Oct. 3.—(AP)—Robert Elliott, 17, high school senior, drowned last night after his car plunged into the Missouri River five miles east.

200 Rescue Two Trapped by Blast

BOONVILLE, Ind., Oct. 3.—(AP)—Two men, trapped by an explosion in a coal mine here, were rescued last night by 200 volunteer workers after spending two hours in the smoke-filled shaft. The two men—Oscar Decker, 40, owner of the mine, and Wavy Daugherty, 42, an employe—were rushed to an Evansville hospital. With the mine cage wrecked, the rescuers were lowered into the shaft in a barrel. They were able to work for only short periods because of the smoke and fumes from the explosion.

SLAIN IN ACTOR'S HOME.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 3.—(AP)—A Negro maid in the home of Actor Alan Hale was shot to death yesterday by a man identified by Police Capt. Harry Doyle as her estranged husband, who then killed himself. Hale was not at home.

ASHTON STEVENS

Ryley Cooper and Wells, Orson and Kane

CIRCUS FOLK THE world over are mourning the suicide of Courtney Ryley Cooper, who was their friend, fan and celebrator. Cooper loved the circus as fiercely as he hated crime. He knew both circus and crime from the inside, having at one time served the sawdust arena as press agent and at another time paid the penalty of breaking the law. That experience made him the hot-blooded enemy of calculated, cold-blooded crime.

ASHTON STEVENS.

I used to meet Ryley Cooper here at the Cliff Dwellers, usually with the late Karl Harriman, first of the magazine editors to buy Cooper's seasoned circus and crook stories. Cooper told me what the visiting H. G. Wells had written in one of his books for the admiring editor.

It was when the autograph-hunting editor handed the novelist some half-dozen volumes of his own works that Mr. Wells wrote in the sixth: "To Mr. Karl Harriman, who is rapidly becoming an old friend."

* * *

Weeks

ONE NEWSPAPER tells me this is Courtesy Week, during which I am supposed to lift my hat to the polite traffic cop who smiles at my error in crossing a red light. Another newspaper informs me it is Printing Week, during which I am supposed to pay homage to the memory of Gutenberg, who, about 500 years ago, threw 1,000 copyists out of work by inventing movable types.

These Weeks are so numerous that I sometimes miss one. I didn't give the recent Dog Week a wag until its final day, when my habitually ceremonious wire-haired, Extra, amazingly jumped up on the arm of my chair and tried to kiss me, the big sissy.

"He's only trying to tell you it's Dog Week," apologized my nephew, the pup's co-proprietor.

* * *

No Ham

I HAVE BEEN CONNECTED with printing since the turn of the century, and I have never lost my respect for printers ink. I can forgive typographical errors, but gratuitous errors of fact hurt me deep.

When I see my young friend Robert Pollak making a ham out of my old friend Minnie Maddern Fisk, by way of attesting the superior naturalness of the actresses of 1940—saying, "In the early 1900's Mrs. Fisk used to steal scenes by hiding part of the cast behind her negligee"—well, then I feel like writing Bob an indignant letter in defense of the woman who may be said to have invented what he believes to be modern playacting.

In fact, the foregoing sentence is that very letter.

* * *

Kane

WIRE AND POST tell me Whitford Kane is starring in Boston in "Boyd's Shop," the play written for him by St. John Ervine, who, toiling inconspicuously in London's home guard, fancies this may be his last contribution to dramatic literature.

Kane might have been a star years ago had he not thought more of the Stage than of himself. He has "made" more actors and actresses in my time than any other man in America. Most of his old Goodman Theater disciples are now names with a Broadway address. He reared a delightful comedian in the Goodman's Hiram Sherman, who rang a perfect bell when Orson Welles staged "The Shoemaker's Holiday."

Orson, too, learned a lot from Whitford, including the humor that is to be discovered in some of the solemnest lines of Shakespeare. As for instance, when Orson wired from Hollywood: "Merry Christmas, Whit! How all occasions do inform against me to spur your deep revenge. Love."

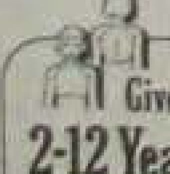
And Whit leisurely wired back: "Happy New Year, Orson! There is a special providence that marks the fall of a sparrow. Love."

* * *

Safety

I HAVE ONLY JUST learned why that jitterbugs' heaven in the subway of Hotel Sherman is called The Panther Room, when Ernest Byfield decorated it with leopard skins and was prepared to name the place accordingly.

His friend, Quin Ryan, warned Byfield: "A radio announcer is sure to slur his 'd' some night and be heard working out of your Leper Room."



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