

AL JOLSON'S LATEST PICTURE BOOKED FOR INDIANA SCREEN

'The Singing Kid,' Starting Friday, Is to Bring Array of Film, Stage Favorites

Cab Calloway and Orchestra Top List of Supporting Actors; Star of Production Raises Walnuts Between Jobs on Hollywood Lot.

BY JOHN W. THOMPSON
Al Jolson's latest picture, "The Singing Kid," is to open Friday at the Indiana, it was announced today.
In the film with Jolson are Cab Calloway and his band, Sybil Jason, the Yacht Club Boys, Edward Everett Horton, Allen Jenkins, Lyle Talbot, Claire Dodd and Al's new leading lady, Beverly Roberts.
When Al, one of the busiest men in the show business, has time off, he operates a nut ranch.

The ranch is located in Encino, Cal., where Al built a lovely home for Ruby Keeler, his wife, and their baby son. Soon after Al came to town, Encino residents elected him mayor.
The nuts Al raises on his big farm are walnuts. There are oranges, flowers and vegetables, too, but most of them are given away. The nuts are the only thing commercialized. They are wrapped in "Mammy" signature wrappers, sold everywhere.

Wife Is His Check
In his spare time Al also writes lyrics for songs. These he usually gives away. Those he sells, he receives royalty, and if Ruby doesn't watch him he is likely to give that away, too. But don't get the idea Al is a dyed-in-the-wool philanthropist.

He makes money, plenty of it, Warner Brothers, who employ him, say he is one of the toughest customers when it comes to salary bargaining.

The Jolson home is furnished elaborately. There is the usual Hollywood swimming pool and golf course. But the place is Ruby's domain and Al doesn't interfere with the routine except when the baby is concerned. One of his worst traits, according to Mrs. Jolson, is that of awakening their son too early in the morning. As soon as Ruby can get him away from the nursery, the two play their daily round of golf.

It is Al's prime ambition to beat 80 on a fast course. He has come near to the mark, but never beaten it. He also wants to be a movie producer, with his own unit. He's supervisor at Warner Brothers now and from the looks of things he'll be a producer before he breaks that 80.

Horses His Weakness
If there is a race meet anywhere around, Al and Ruby probably will be found there. Horses are one of Al's weaknesses. If the tracks aren't open, then the couple may be found at a football or baseball game or a tennis match. Both are fond of sports.

In the evenings, the Jolsons usually take in a prize fight or go on a "postman's holiday" to a show. Al chews gum, smokes many cigars but never drinks. He refuses to be left alone anywhere, has spells of moodiness. He never laughs at a joke, but if it's funny enough he'll burst out.

His set at Warner Brothers is one of the few where visitors always are welcome. He likes to have people around when he's singing or acting.

Film Folk to Honor Rogers Week in May Is to Be Set Aside for Memorial.

Times Special
NEW YORK, April 6.—Will Rogers memorial week is to be observed in May by motion picture theaters throughout the country in honor of the beloved screen philosopher, according to plans announced by Will H. Hays, president of Motion Picture Producers and Distributors.

All persons in and out of theater professions are urged to participate in the program, which will mark presentation of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital at Saranac Lake in the Adirondacks. The hospital, formerly known as the N. V. A. Sanitarium and Lodge, has been presented to the Will Rogers Memorial Commission.

It is to be dedicated to the service of those of Rogers' profession who are ill and in need. Both the commission and many of Rogers' friends believe that it is the type of memorial which would have been most pleasing to him.

Fund to Be Raised
Raising of money for use in maintenance of the hospital and for the general use of the commission is among the purposes of the May services, it was announced at the time of the acceptance of the hospital.

No part of the money raised in the original campaign by the commission will be used in connection with the support of the hospital. Funds obtained from the memorial program, however, are to be used at the hospital and in the general aid to handicapped children.

Maj. L. E. Thompson, president of a vaudeville circuit, is to be chairman of the campaign committee. Members of the memorial commission, the motion picture industry at large and intimate friends of Rogers are to assist.

Actor to Attempt Dangerous Swim

Times Special
HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—Erik Rhodes, who swam the 10 miles from Santa Monica to Malibu last summer, plans to attempt to swim the dangerous 15-mile stretch of the Salton Sea in Imperial Valley this month.

This treacherous, brackish body of water never has been crossed by a swimmer. Lying 250 feet below sea level, the choppy waves whipped by desert winds and the bitter nature of the water make it one of the world's severest swimming tests. The last man to attempt the feat gave up after nine hours in the water.

The actor, wearing special goggles, hopes to make the swim in 10 or 12 hours.

Norma Shearer and Leslie Howard in 'Romeo and Juliet' Roles



All Hollywood Signs Indicate Spring Is Back in Film Capital

Mary Pickford Has New Gardening Gloves, Toby Wing Changes Boy Friends and Sports Fans Warm Up.

BY PAUL HARRISON
HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—(NEA)—It's spring in flickertown. Producers who haven't been on speaking terms are lunching together again. Song writers are peering through open windows and making madly again. Rhymes about birds and bees and blossoms. Mary Pickford has bought a new pair of gardening gloves.

It's spring in Hollywood, and the studio fashion designers are unrolling bolts of light, bright fabrics. Warner Baxter swears he's taking sulphur and molasses.
You can detect a note of honest sympathy in the voices of casting office telephone girls as they drone: "Nothing today, sorry... nothing today... sorry, nothing today."

Shops for Trout Files
Fred MacMurray is shopping for the latest things in trout flies, leaders and reels. Rochelle Hudson is refurbishing her house again, and Louis Hayward is taking swimming lessons.

Joel McCrea has bought a hundred head of cattle for his ranch; and big, rough-and-ready, broken-nosed Victor McLaglen is budding the roses in his garden.

It's spring in Hollywood, and the poppies have popped out all over the hills. Lewis Stone, Sir Guy Standing, James Cagney, Preston Foster and Stan Laurel—the yachting fans—are conning nautical magazines and ordering paint and canvas.

Mary Boland, Ann Dvorak and Jeanette MacDonald are having their swimming pools reconed.

Bathing Suits Scanty
Shop windows are bright, with scanty items identified as the season's newest bathing suits. Frances Sage already is nursing a case of sunburn.

Claire Trevor pursues the last vestige of winter in a tour of the Western national parks. Merle Oberon is learning how to flick a Royal Coachman across a trout pool.

That new, big car with the top turned down belongs to Herbert Marshall. Katie Hepburn is trying to get her golf game back into the 70s. Eric Rhodes motors far into the hills each day, shopping for a ranch. Jim Williams, who draws "Out Our Way," has fled the city in a fit of fidgets for his snug little 30,000-acre cow yard in Arizona.

And Jack Oakie Marries
It must be spring; Jack Oakie got married. Bing Crosby and Dixie Lee are bossing the pruning and planting on their Rancho Santa Fe. Fat old gophers and their innumerable progeny are digging up the garden planted by W. C. Fields.

Here is the first official portrait of Norma Shearer and Leslie Howard as they appear in the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." It was taken by Hurrell, special photographer for this picture. The film is to climax Loew's "spring parade," coming here soon. It will mark the first appearance of Norma Shearer in almost a year and the last time Mr. Howard will be seen on the screen for several months.

Janet Gaynor Spares No Tears When Script Calls for Weeping in Her Role

Demure Star of 'Small Town Girl,' Opening Friday at Loew's, Reveals She Thinks of Sad Things to Make Her Emotion Genuine.

To most Hollywood actresses, the command to weep before the camera means for them to appear, as nearly as possible, to be weeping. To little Janet Gaynor, whose latest film, "Small Town Girl," is to open Friday at Loew's, such a command calls for more than acting.

Noticing Miss Gaynor's apparently real tears in a scene from the picture, Robert Taylor, her leading man in the film, asked her if she really felt emotion when she cries for movies.

"Well, yes and no," Janet replied.
"I have a whole series of sad things to think about when I want to cry," she confessed. "Sometimes I think about a situation in a novel I've read; the sadder the crying should be the sadder situation I try to think about."

Remembers Her Dog
"If that doesn't work, I think about my stepfather Jonesy, whom I loved dearly and who died just after I made 'Seventh Heaven.' Sometimes I think about a little puppy I had that was killed by an automobile."

"But what about the action taking place in the scene? Don't these other things take your mind off your immediate work?" Mr. Taylor asked her.

Janet smiled, scooted back among the pillows on her dressing room couch.
"Once in a while that's the case. If the scene is exceptionally emotional, often I am swept away with my own tragic situation and I cry without even trying. But it's the duty of an actress to be able to weep at all times. So sometimes I have to be able to turn on the tears whether I feel like it or not."

Must Save Emotion
"The hardest lesson I had to learn in pictures was the trick of conserving emotion," Miss Gaynor said, "for an emotional actress lives through more trying scenes in a week than the average woman experiences in a lifetime."

"A long time ago I made a picture called 'The Johnstown Flood.' It was my first big screen chance and I was desperately eager for success. So I threw myself into every scene with all the emotion I could muster. The result was a nervous breakdown before the picture was finished."

Often one may find Janet coiled up on her dressing room couch, occupied with her thoughts. Few have the courage to disturb her, but it is a safe guess that she ruminates over her long, hard quest in search of Hollywood laurels.

Started as Imitator
Her mental scene probably shifts to an old-fashioned house in Philadelphia where a little, dark-eyed girl with long curls answered to the name of Lollie and went through a series of imitations for her mother's friends.

"The child is a born actress," the whisperers said.
From there Janet's thoughts take her to Chicago and Florida, where her imitations won her many friends and admirers. They took to Chicago where, during the World War, she and her sister, Helen, gave recitations for the men in the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Her big hit at these performances was a piece called "Kaiser Bill," which inevitably brought call for an encore.

San Francisco was next, with its high school and a job in a shoe store where she first worked as a stock girl, later promoted to making out the pay roll.

Through all these years, Jonesy, her stepfather, constantly encouraged and advised the little star in her theatrical ventures. The fact that he died at the height of her success is one of her greatest sorrows.

Next came Hollywood. Helen and

manager of the English theater." A bribe induced a theater attendant to put his name up in the marquee of a theater. He took photographs of it and sent them to managers.

Offers Were Plentiful
With \$100, one tailored English suit, and a stick he booked passage for New York in steerage. On arrival he found a flood of offers.

He took one and landed a part in "The Roof."
He met an old friend, Margaret Kies, who hadn't been able to get in a producer's office either. He told her what he'd done. She tried it and as Margaret Lindsay she made the grade.

Cummings has the principal role in "So Red the Rose." Now he's in "Forgotten Faces" and soon is to be in "Three Cheers for Love."

European Demanded
So he went to the American Academy of Dramatic Art, but on graduating he couldn't even get into a producer's office. They wanted European juveniles.

The hoax! He went to Europe, toured Scotland for a month, studied Englishmen and aped them before a mirror. Then he wrote letters to New York producers, announcing the arrival of "Blade Stanhope Conway, young actor, author,

the answers: (1) Signatures for bank checks; (2) Vince Barnett; (3) Arthur Treacher; (4) Shot of Eiffel Tower; (5) Sour grapes.

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Actors Devise Mental Tests

Hollywood Colony Residents Face Quiz.

Times Special
HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—An intelligence test has been devised for Hollywood by Joan Bennett and Cary Grant.

A test submitted to a San Francisco judge, in which he received a mental rating of 12 years, suggested it. Their test, however, is a list of five questions strictly gags, and is for persons who are supposed to know their way around in the film colony. Walter Wanger and Raoul Walsh rated highest.

This is the test: (1) What's the difference between a signature and an autograph? (2) If somebody delivered an elephant to your house as an anonymous gift, whom would you blame? (3) Two feet make a yard. (4) No Parisian locale is complete without it. (5) What is the significance of the words "gone Hollywood?"

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