



Behind The Scenes During the Making of the Best of Comedies—Here's what the camera behind the cameras and microphones caught during the filming of "You Can't Take It With You," which should top the 'Best 10' and which comes to the Grand screen Friday.

Director Frank Capra Tells How He Picks Perfect Casts

By Frank Capra

(Academy Award Winner, President of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and Director of "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," "Lost Horizon" and "You Can't Take It With You.")

I've been asked, what makes a star? My observations of the big stars who have come under my direction convince me that the greatest asset an aspiring screen actor can have is the ability to express natural characteristics of sincerity. The best person to play a Chinaman is a Chinaman. The best actor to play a grouchy old man is a grouchy old man. The less a man or woman has to make over his own personality to portray a character on the screen, the better are the chances of an outstanding performance. In the final analysis, I believe that good casting makes stars.

A good example of a star who scored success by living the part is that of Gary Cooper in "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town." Gary Cooper was Mr. Deeds. Without his complete understanding of the inner psychology of the character Gary could never have conveyed the splendid conviction to his audiences that he did.

Can't Fool Camera

You cannot fool a motion picture camera. Natural behavior shows through labored histrionics like gold through dross.

Let's take a look at the case of Clark Gable. I had never met Gable before he walked into the studio to make "It Happened One Night." The Gable I saw was not the Gable of the screen. It was apparent that the real Clark had not been photographed. Perhaps he had been so keenly aware of his screen reputation that he had tightened up before the camera. His flair for light comedy and his great personal charm had been missed. The Gable I saw was a more likeable fellow. He was unaffected, easy and humble. It was a person quite different from the aggressive physical specimen we had seen up to that time.

His performance in "It Happened One Night" won him the award of the Motion Picture Academy for the

best acting performance of the year. The truth of the matter is that he wasn't acting at all.

I attribute no small measure of whatever success my pictures have had to perfect casting. The cases of Cooper and Gable are examples of my argument. Every actor is best when he is expressing himself in the type to which he is born.

That is why, after long deliberation and tests of every actor who was suggested as a possibility for the part, I selected Lionel Barrymore to play Grandpa Vanderhof in "You Can't Take It With You."

Mr. Deeds' Grandfather

For "You Can't Take It With You" I had to find a man who was really Grandpa—inside. After reading Robert Riskin's screenplay I suddenly realized just whom we should look for—the grandfather of Mr. Deeds. We persuaded Mr. Barrymore to be tested for the part, and as soon as he stepped before the camera I knew that Grandpa had been found.

Frank Capra's production of "You Can't Take It With You" is showing locally at the Grand theatre. Supporting Arthur, Barrymore, Stewart and Arnold is a strong cast of favorites including Mischa Auer, Ann Miller, Spring Byington, Mary Forbes, H. B. Warner, Halliwell Hobbes and Donald Meek.



Principals in Frank Capra's "You Can't Take It With You," which opens today at the Grand Theatre, are Jean Arthur, Lionel Barrymore, James Stewart and Edward Arnold. George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart wrote the original Pulitzer Prize play, which Robert Riskin adapted to the screen for Columbia.



LIONEL BARRYMORE
in his most lovable role as Grandpa Vanderhof, who quit work—for fun!

JAMES STEWART
as Tony Kirby, the rich man's son who'd rather be a poor girl's husband!

JEAN ARTHUR
more adorable than ever as Alice Sycamore, who's crazy about the boss' son!

EDWARD ARNOLD
as Wall St. Tycoon Kirby... who learns the best things in life are free!



MISCHA AUER
furious as Boris Kolenkhov, Russian dancing teacher...!



SPRING BYINGTON
delicious as Penny Sycamore... who'd love to be a writer!



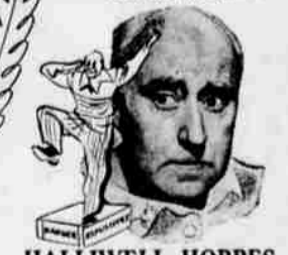
H. B. WARNER
powerful as Ramsey, paying the price of fighting Wealth!



ANN MILLER
utterly charming as Essie Carmichael... who dances for joy!



DONALD MEEK
excruciating as Mr. Poppins, inventor of very gay gadgets!



HALLIWELL HOBBS
imitable as that iceman, Mr. DePinna, who just stayed on!

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MISCHA AUER • ANN MILLER
SPRING BYINGTON • SAMUEL S. HINDS
DONALD MEEK • H. B. WARNER

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