



Clark Gable exposed Marilyn to his special brand of charm in a scene from "The Misfits."

Marilyn Monroe (Continued)

business. "I realize it takes more thought to raise a child in show business," Marilyn said, "but it doesn't need to work out badly. Look at Walter Huston's son John (director of 'The Misfits'). No one can complain about how he turned out."

Because of the early hardships she experienced, Marilyn is conscious that she may easily go overboard in the other direction and spoil her child with too much affection and as well as material things. She believes that "you can't give a child too much love," but she knows that you have to be careful how you show it, as with presents.

Marilyn remembers many barren Christmases in foster homes—particularly the time she was living with a family made up entirely of women and girls. On holidays the other girls were given gay red dresses, while hers was a hand-me-down brown one. Another year, other children unwrapped dolls and similar elaborate toys, but Marilyn had to be content with a 10-cent manicure set.

Her concern for selecting the "right" type of gifts was already evident when she was in England to film "The Prince and the Showgirl" over three years ago. To get presents for her stepchildren, she spent two hours in a toy store and tried out most of the toys herself.

REMEMBRANCES of her many foster parents who wielded heavy hands have influenced Marilyn's attitude toward discipline. Since the time when a blow sent her reeling across the room, she has been determined never to spank her child. Discipline will involve the taking away of privileges, but Marilyn will make a special effort to see that she is fair. Too vivid is the memory of her birthday when someone gave her a card and a 50-cent piece.

"Give me that," her foster mother cried out when she saw the money.

"But it's mine," Marilyn protested.

"You dirtied your dress today, so I'll have to take this away as your punishment," the woman came back, and Marilyn could do nothing but watch her 50 cents disappear into the woman's pocket.

Marilyn's child, of course, will not go without anything he needs and will have many "extras." Marilyn remembers when she was about eight years old and wanted a bicycle quite badly. "But it was impossible to get one because I didn't have the money, and there were no jobs, such as baby-sitting, in the neighborhood," she explained.

HER FIRST real job for money came when she was living at the orphanage at the age of nine. She set tables for five cents a month and later washed dishes for 10 cents, but all the money went into a fund to buy "practical" gifts such as pencils and notebooks for the other children at the orphanage.

In addition to her own unhappy childhood, Marilyn has had to face up to mental illness in her family. In 1934, when Marilyn's mother was committed to an institution for the second time, Marilyn learned that both her mother's parents had been in mental hospitals and an uncle had committed suicide. There was one incident that still haunts her above all others.

One day, when she was about eight, Marilyn decided to run around the block just for the fun of it. Some boys stopped her and wanted to know what she was doing, but another said, "Don't bother her. She's just like her mother—crazy."

It was one of the cruel barbs of youth, but it could have affected Marilyn's attitude toward motherhood. Instead, her own determination has eliminated fears that she may someday face similar problems with her own child. It is ironic and sad that much credit for this goes to Arthur Miller.

So now, even in personal tragedy, Marilyn Monroe looks forward hopefully to playing the part that means most to her—mother.

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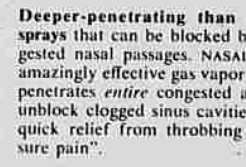


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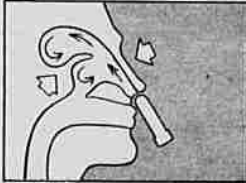
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