

# Most Major Movie Stars Have Humble Beginnings

By BOB THOMAS  
AP Motion Picture Writer  
HOLLYWOOD (AP) — What manner of men are the 12 famous stars who are now the kingpins of the movie world?

The majority come from the heartland of America. They were born in such places as Winterset, Iowa (John Wayne), O'Fallon, Ill. (William Holden) and Indiana, Pa. (James Stewart). Only two came from a metropolis: New Yorkers Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis.

Just one was a foreigner: Cary Grant, born Archibald Leach in Bristol, England.

Most of them came from humble beginnings. Gregory Peck's and Wayne's fathers were druggists, Curtis' a barber, Frank Sinatra's a boxer and Clark Gable's an oil field worker.

All the stars came up the hard way. Before they clicked as actors, Lancaster was an acrobat, Grant a stiltwalker, Gable a lumberjack and Kirk Douglas a bellhop.

So you think that America worships youth? Then it may surprise you to learn that the average age of the dozen most successful film stars is 47.

Only Marlon Brando (34) and Curtis (33) are under 40. Three of the dozen are over 50: Grant (54), Gable and Gary Cooper (both 57).

What about their physical characteristics? Handsomeness in men is a matter of divided opinion. But I would hazard that of the 12, only Curtis might be classed as a pretty boy. The others have good looks with rugged rather than classical features.

They run rather slim and rangy. Sinatra, Brando and Curtis are 5 feet 10, but all of the others are 6 feet or over. Top man is Wayne at 6 feet 4 and a solid 210 pounds. Most of the others manage to keep in the 160- to 180-pound bracket through rigorous exercise and diet.

They are not necessarily the most honored actors in films. Only half of them have won Academy Awards.

Their records would seem to belie the claim that Hollywood is a shaky place for marriage. Half of the golden dozen have been married only once.

They are all pros. They average almost 19 years of experience in films, and most of them had some experience on the stage before coming to Hollywood. (Exceptions: Wayne, Cooper). Cooper has the most film experience—32 years.

Beyond the statistics, what are the qualities that have made them kings of the film world?

All are strong personalities with plenty of drive. Don't let Stewart's draw and Cooper's "yup" fool you. They have worked hard to get to the top of the heap. Now they've got to work even harder. There are plenty of young stars eager to take their places.

Basically, they are thoroughly masculine types. They seldom play weak characters; when they do, the result is usually a failure. But manliness is not enough. They must also effect a communication with the audience, and they do that through the emotions.

"The main thing we do is give people an emotional experience," explains James Stewart. "If we don't get it into a picture, it's usually a flop. If we do get it, the picture has a chance of being successful."

# Report Given By Tax Group

PORTLAND (AP) — A state joint legislative Interim Committee, meeting in Portland Sunday, suggested three ways to increase state tax money without increasing income tax rates.

The group, polishing a report it will submit at the next session of the Oregon Legislature, suggested:

- Elimination of the deduction for federal income taxes.
- Elimination of personal exemptions and substitution of dollar tax credits after the income tax is computed.
- Requirement that self-employed persons file estimates of income and pay taxes quarterly.

State Sen. Walter J. Pearson (D-Portland), chairman of the committee, said that he was not making the proposals as suggestions only—not as recommendations—because the committee did not want to recommend taxes that may not be necessary.

The final report by the committee will be filed Oct. 15 and a supplementary report will follow in November, Pearson said.

The report will contain no suggestions for capital gains provisions, revising forest fee and yield taxes, a sales tax, ad valorem tax procedures, corporation tax exemptions for some lodges and veterans organizations or tax exemption on cemeteries operated for profit.

These were among taxes suggested for consideration by various members of the committee.

State Sen. Philip B. Lowry (R-Medford) attempted unsuccessfully to obtain a 1959-1961 budget estimate for John Richardson, director of the Department of Finance and Administration.

Richardson said it was up to the governor to draw up the budget.

Pearson and Rep. Clarence Barton (D-Coquille) estimated the budget would be between 300 and 305 million dollars. The current budget is 292 million dollars.

# Defense Preps For Slay Case

MACON, Ga. (AP) — The defense prepared to present its case today at the start of the second week of Annette Donovan Lyles' trial on a murder charge in the arsenic death of her 9-year-old daughter Marvina Elaine Lyles.

The 33-year-old former restaurant owner is being tried on that specific charge. She has also been indicted in the deaths of her two husbands, Ben F. Lyles Jr. and Joe Neal Gabbert, and her mother-in-law Mrs. Julia Young Lyles.

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PORTLAND (AP) — The Corps of Engineers will call for bids by next June on Northwest construction projects valued at about 70 million dollars.

Several of the contracts involve dam projects which already have been started. Three of the jobs will cost more than 10 million dollars each.

One project calls for construction of a spillway dam, navigation lock and fish ladder at the John Day on the Columbia River.

Construction of a navigation lock, a fishway and 2½ spillway bays also will be called for on the Snake River's Ice Harbor Dam.

Power intake works will be constructed at the Cougar Dam on Oregon's McKenzie River.

Bids on the John Day project will be opened in June, those on Ice Harbor about April 1 and Cougar in February.

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# "DENNIS THE MENACE"



"I SURE HOPE YOU DON'T STIR UP INJUN TROUBLE WITH ALL THOSE SMOKE SIGNALS!"

# Air Force Moon Shot Boss Says New Try Due Shortly

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — The Air Force is eager to try again to rocket an instrument package into orbit around the moon.

The boss of the Air Force Ballistic Missile Division said so 84-pound Pioneer was plunging back to earth from its historic journey 79,120 miles into outer space.

Maj. Gen. Bernard A. Schriever also told a news conference. "I am confident that an orbit around the moon can be achieved in the not too distant future," Schriever said he thought Pioneer's epic thrust into space had greatly boosted prospects of early manned space travel.

Heretofore, it was believed that harmful radiation increased the farther man went into space.

But Pioneer's tiny radio beamed indications that radiation is thickest in a 5,000 to 6,000-band, then tapers off.

Asked when the Air Force will launch the last of its three authorized moon probes—the first blew up on takeoff in August—Gen. Schriever said: "I'm not free to tell you, but I can assure you we're not going to waste any time."

Pioneer, a top-shaped package containing instruments reporting internal temperature, micrometeorite impacts and other data, was hurled into space on a three-stage rocket early last Saturday from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Literally miles of electronic tape information were recorded by tracking stations in England, Hawaii, Singapore and Florida, said Dr. Ruben F. Mettler, senior adviser on the project. Many weeks must be spent analyzing them before a technical report can be published.

Pioneer has indicated this about radiation, he said: "It appears that at 10,000 miles altitude, radiation begins to diminish. At 60,000 miles it is one sixth what it is at 10,000."

The heavy band of radiation measures two or three roentgens per hour, Mettler said, and "one could not spend more than a few minutes in it unshielded."

Conclusions can't yet be drawn from Pioneer's radiation reports, he said, except that a capsule to carry a man through the heavy band for "any appreciable time, say 15 or 20 minutes," must be carefully designed.

# Falling Snag Traps Hunter

SALEM (AP) — H.E. Wells, Portland, said he suffered nothing more than cuts and bruises when hit by a falling snag half a day while hunting deer 12 miles south of the Central Oregon town of Sisters.

He told friends that the accident happened last Monday.

Wells said he was asleep in the woods, while hunting alone, when the snag fell across his legs. He said he snapped off a limb and dug his way out, getting free 12 hours after the accident.

Wells required no hospital care and resumed hunting the rest of the week.

He is an engineer in the University of Oregon Medical School's refrigeration plant.

# Car On Exhibit Causes Accident

RIDGEFIELD, N.J. (AP) — The local Lions Club put a badly smashed auto on display along the highway as part of the group's "Slow Down and Live" campaign.

Two cars slowed down to have a look. A third didn't. The result was a three-car collision. No one was hurt, but all three cars were damaged.

One of the drivers, Daniel Kelly of North Bergen, is a member of the Studebaker-Packard Safety Advisory Committee. He was on his way home from Kentucky, where he had been arranging a similar "Slow Down and Live" campaign.

# Church Gathers Religious Strays

DALLAS (AP) — "Western Sunday" concluded a weeklong roundup of religious strays at the Hampton Place Church of God.

Members of the congregation, clad in cowboy garb, heard the Rev. C. C. Funk preach his morning sermon as usual. Then they adjourned to a city park for a big picnic.

Mrs. W. W. Stogner claimed an \$11 bill—11 ones pasted together—as her prize for roping the biggest number of wayward worshippers. She gave it back to the church.

# Salem Imposes Ban On Russian

SALEM (AP) — A ban on Russians traveling to Salem will prevent Soviet violinist Igor Besrodni, 28, from appearing in a Willamette University concert here.

"We know nothing about why Salem should be barred to Russians," said Willamette President G.H. Smith, who added that Besrodni had been booked through New York impresario Sol Hurok.

# Demos Acquire Whopping Lead

PORTLAND (AP) — Democrats have acquired a whopping lead of 34,995 in Multnomah County voter registration.

Registrar John Weldon said there are 156,201 registered Democrats and 121,206 Republicans.

In 1956, Democrats held a 29,724 lead.

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# Government Jails Rebels

KARACHI, Pakistan. (AP) — Dozens of political leaders, including three former Cabinet ministers and three top leaders of the left-wing National Awami Party have been jailed by Pakistan's revolutionary two-man government.

The arrests were described as a crackdown against corruption.

Arrested Sunday were Hamidul Haq Chowdry, former foreign and finance minister; Abdul Mansoor Ahmed, former commerce minister; and Abdul Khaleque, former works minister. Chowdry was in the Cabinet of ex-Premier Mohammed Ali, and the other two in the government of H. S. Suhrawardy.

The arrest of Maulana Abdul Hamid Bhashani in East Pakistan also completed the roundup of top leaders of NAP. Khan Abdul Chafar Khan, the 75-year-old bearded Moslem known as the "Frontier Gandhi," and Ghulam Mohammed Syed of NAP were seized previously.

Bhashani, who visited President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic last summer, had advocated Nasser-like policies for Pakistan. Khan has agitated for an independent border state for Pushtu-speaking peoples, and Syed wanted autonomy for the Sind district.

President Iskander Mirza and Gen. Mohammed Ayub Khan have been ruling under martial law since last Tuesday.

# Social Season To Be Short

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 1958-59 White House social season will be shorter than ever—just five formal state dinners.

A special science-military dinner was held last winter after the Russians launched their Sputniks and appeals were voiced for a stepup in America's scientific tempo.

There was no explanation for why the scientists were dropped. The military also was omitted from the dinner list.

This year's social season will begin a month earlier with a Dec. 11 dinner honoring the Supreme Court. Dinners for diplomats will be held Dec. 17 and 18. The program will be rounded out with a Jan. 28 dinner for the vice president and one the following night for the speaker of the House.

The dinners are attended by some 80 guests. However, after-dinner musicales will swell the number to 150 to 200.

# UNCOVER ANCIENT TOOLS

AMMAN, Jordan (UPI) — Workmen digging a canal at East Ghor in northern Jordan have uncovered stone tools and mud looms dating back to the Bronze Age, more than 3,000 years before Christ, the government said today.

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