

# End Of Rhett Butler In "Gone With The Wind" A Once-In-A-Lifetime Opportunity For Great Movie Star

(Continued from page one)

had up under the most careful analysis without exhibiting a weakness. That was the trouble. I realized that whoever played Rhett would be up against a stumbling block in this respect. Miss Mitchell had etched Rhett into the minds of millions of people, each of whom knew exactly how Rhett would look and act. It would be impossible to satisfy them all. An actor would be lucky to please even the majority. It wasn't that I didn't want to play Rhett, I did. No actor could entirely resist such a challenge. But the more popular Rhett became, the more I agreed with the gentleman who wrote, "Discretion is the best part of valor."

**Out of My Hands**  
Having read the book enabled me to see clearly what I was in for if I played the part. I decided to say nothing. It became more apparent, anyhow, that it was out of my hands. The public interest in my doing Rhett puzzled me. Long before anyone had seen the picture, I was asked for interviews. When I refused comment, the columnists did for me. My mail doubled and then tripled. I saw myself pictured as Rhett, with sideburns. I don't like sideburns. They itch. It was the only one, apparently, who didn't take it for granted that I was going to play Rhett. It was a funny feeling. I think I know now how a fly must react after being caught in a spider web. It wasn't that I didn't appreciate the compliment the public was paying me. It was simply that Rhett was too big an order. I didn't want any part of him.

To make sure that I hadn't erred in my first impression, I read "Gone" again. It convinced me more than ever that Rhett was too much for any actor to tackle in his right mind. But I couldn't escape him. I looked for every out. I even considered writing Miss Mitchell at one time. I thought it would be great if she would simply issue a statement saying, "I think Clark Gable would be the best possible selection for Rhett Butler." Perhaps after Miss Mitchell sees my Rhett, or rather what I've done to her Rhett, she'll wish she had. It may be of interest as a side-

light that my own sincere choice for Rhett was Ronald Colman. I still think he would have done a fine job of it.

**Rhett a Real Person**  
I found upon investigation that Miss Mitchell, very intelligently, didn't care a hang what Hollywood was going to do with her book. All she wanted was peace and quiet. She wrote a book because it was the thing she liked to do, and having innocently caused more excitement than any author in memory, asked only to be left alone. When I was told this, I immediately felt a sympathetic fellowship with Miss Mitchell. I was sure we would understand one another, for, after all, Rhett has caused more than a little confusion in both our lives. Incidentally, I wanted to ask Miss Mitchell where she met a man like Rhett. I am just guessing, but to me he must have been the real thing, with very little fictional embroidery.

During the months when the casting of "Gone" reached the proportion of a national election, and acrimonious debate was being conducted on every street corner, Rhett became more of a mental hazard than ever. I was still the only one who didn't have anything to say about him. I never did have. For when the time came to get down to business, I was still out on a limb.

I knew what was coming the day David O. Selznick telephoned me. His purchase of the book for a mere \$50,000 had started the riot. Our talk was amicable. I did the sparring and he landed the hard punches. David's idea was to make a separate deal, providing my studio would release me to make the picture. I thought my contract was an ace in the hole. It specified that my services belonged exclusively to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. I told David that, adding on my own that I was not interested in playing Rhett.

**Chance of Lifetime**  
That didn't stop David. Being a friend of long standing and knowing him, I knew that it wouldn't. He pointed out that no actor ever had been offered such a chance. There had never been a more talked of role than Rhett. That was exactly my reason for turning him down. He put his cards on the table. He was

## Greater Buying Power For Farmers' Dollar

Three developments of interest to the American farmer are reported in a review of the natural nitrate industry which has just been published by the Chilean Nitrate Educational Bureau. These developments, affecting the price of natural nitrate, its mechanical condition, and the bags in which it is sold, show, among other things, considerable increase in today's buying power of the farmers' dollar.

Turn back the calendar to 1927. That year new and more economical mining and refining methods went into operation. Price reductions followed. Today the price of natural nitrate of soda is about \$20 per ton less than in 1927.

Mechanical condition has steadily improved. Today farmers everywhere are familiar with the famous natural nitrate pellets which are so easily applied and which resist the hardening and caking to which other nitrogen fertilizers are subject. The improved form of this hundred year old product retains, of course, the natural balance of many plant food elements besides nitrate.

Thirdly, in a large-scale effort to assist in developing new uses for American cotton, natural nitrate of soda was offered in even-weight cotton bags. Today farmers can have their natural nitrate delivered either in cotton or burlap bags, as preferred, at no difference in price.

going to try to get me from M-G-M if he could. We shook hands on it.

I could have put up a fight. I didn't. I am glad now that I didn't. Hollywood always has treated me fairly. I have had no reason to complain about my roles and if the studio thought I should play Rhett, it was not up to me to duck out. I had nothing to do with the negotiations. I learned that I was to play Rhett in the newspapers. As a part of the deal, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer was to release the picture.

That was a weight off my mind. There was no longer anything to argue about. Now I had a job to do and it was up to me to give it all I had. I read and re-read the book until I could visualize Rhett as Miss Mitchell had pictured him. How he reacted to every situation. I memorized many of the revealing lines in the book and it may be of interest to know that most of the dialogue in the script is exactly as Miss Mitchell wrote it.

## News Items From Summit Vicinity

**SUMMIT, April 9.**—Rev. J. W. Church filled his regular appointment at Pattons Ridge Baptist church Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Coy Church and nephew, Edwin Church, spent Saturday night in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carr Church.

Rev. Joe Wilcox and Rev. Noah Beshears attended meeting at Pattons Ridge Saturday and Saturday night.

Misses Ruth Waters and Mae Church spent Sunday with Miss Vetra Church.

Mrs. Fannie Church and daughter, Helen, spent Sunday afternoon in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Coy Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Dempsey Church spent a short while in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grady Church, Sunday.

Messrs. Johnson and Raleigh Church visited Messrs. Silas and Gean Church, Sunday.

Mr. Atris Greene spent a short while in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee J. Church, Sunday.

Miss Hazel Phillips spent a short while with Mrs. Nina Church, Friday.

Mrs. Iner Church and son, Clint, spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dempsey Faw, of Idelwild.

Mr. Marion Church, of this community, and Mr. Herbert Church, of Deep Gap, were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grady Church, Sunday.

Mr. Johnson Church spent Saturday night with Mr. Raleigh Church.

Mr. Clint Church was a visitor in the home of Mr. Fred Blankenship, Saturday.

Miss Helen Church spent Saturday night with Miss Novella Church.

Let the advertising columns of this paper be your shopping guide.

## She Saw That Cast Used The Correct Southern Accent

One little thing she, but- tonhole twisting Southern girls who etide the "r" sound are sometimes accused of avenging Lee's surrender by stealing beaus from Yankee rivals.

But a technical adviser employed on a motion picture laid in

Myrick, of Mason, Georgia, employed to teach Atlanta speech of 75 years ago to the cast of "Gone with the Wind," opens Monday at the Liberty Theatre.

"I don't think many Southern girls really need to be



Vivien Leigh and Hattie McDaniel in "Gone with the Wind"

The Old South today exposed what she called the "Southern accent racket," and told how any Northern girl could invoke if necessary, the specious advantage of an exotic linguistic charm. At the same time the accent expert argued, as a native Georgian, the assumption that a "set-your-man" technique of vine-clinging and buttonhole twisting is confined exclusively to the mockingbird and magnolia country.

The accent expert is Miss Susan

generated radio-vaudeville Southern accent," said Miss Myrick loyally, "and I'm told plenty of buttonholes are twisted by girls who wouldn't know a magnolia from a cotton blossom. Just to demonstrate my low opinion of an accent as a beau catcher I'm willing to tell you here and now just how a girl can learn to talk Southern in one or two easy lessons.

"First of all, soften your 'rs' at don't do it too broadly. Practice saying, 'I can't afford a four-

## "Time Capsule" Describes Tire

New York, April 9.—The tire industry is represented in the "Time Capsule," sunk yesterday at Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. for the benefit of posterity at the 1938 New York World's Fair, with a section of a modern safety tire prepared by the Fisk Rubber Corporation, Chicopee Falls, Mass.

The inscription on the back of the section reads: "In 1939, 100 years after the discovery of the vulcanization of rubber, the latest automobile tire manufactured consisted of a cover or tread of rubber containing a substantial portion of carbon black, supported by multiple layers of cotton cords, insulated from each other by layers of rubber. The tire served as a protector for a firm rubber air container. The tread portion was rendered flexible by the insertion of cross strips of white rubber, providing increased traction."

The "Capsule," buried beneath the site of the Westinghouse building, contains a resume of modern civilization. It is not to be opened for 5000 years. Clues to its location will be mentioned in books placed in libraries throughout the world.

Let the advertising columns of this paper be your shopping guide.

door Ford,' and 'Barbara I admired our car.'

"Speak with the lower jaw relaxed, and remember that in the South one doesn't hurry or worry—much. That will give you the languid, leisurely diction that distinguishes Southern speech. Terminal 'gs' should be suppressed, but not entirely dropped."

Miss Myrick said there is a considerable variety of Southern accents, and a person really ought to know which one she is using.

# WARNING!

Don't put away your winter clothes without a thorough cleaning . . . and if you don't take precautions against moths, next summer your apparel may be . . .



## "Gone With The Wind"

★ ANOTHER WARNING!

Right now, before the hot summer days arrive, have all your summer wearing apparel dry cleaned and pressed, ready for the first impulse to "go places". It will give you new clothes appearance at mere dry cleaning prices. Try it.

SUITS—Dry Cleaned and Pressed . . . . . 49c  
CASH and CARRY—TAX 1c

DRESSES—Dry Cleaned and Pressed . . . . . 49c  
CASH and CARRY—TAX 1c

# Teague's Dry Cleaning

10th Street

North Wilkesboro

NORTH WILKESBORO'S OLDEST AND MOST MODERN DRY CLEANING PLANT

## "Gone With The Wind" . . . A Thrilling Experience For You In One Of Our . . .



Guaranteed QUALITY

At Low PRICES

See the picture "Gone With the Wind" (if you can get a seat) . . . and see the car of your choice on our lot (if you can get here before it is taken at our low price). We've turned the "air hose" on our Used Car Lot and all cars will soon be "Gone With the Wind" at the prices now being quoted. Hurry in for a look, a ride, and a "buy" you had not dreamed of getting! Beware . . . prices may take YOUR car quick!

CHEVROLET Is The Nation's Choice

LIBERAL TRADE-INS —VERY EASY TERMS— YOUR PRESENT CAR OR SMALL DOWN PAYMENT IS SUFFICIENT!

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