

Search For Real Scarlett O'Hara

With The Wind" In History

Before Christmas a year ago ten-foot replica of "Gone with the Wind" tied up with a blue...

Spurred young producer Selznick to search for a girl who would play the role of Scarlett O'Hara...

She was not Vivien Leigh, who Selznick had chosen for the role. That would have been...

The girl in the ten-foot replica was just one of the thousands who were brought to the set...

It cost a pretty penny to make the picture. It cost more than Selznick paid for the rights to Margaret Mitchell's best-selling book...

More than nine times the \$10,000 that Selznick had budgeted for the picture, but Selznick feels it is the most successful talent in all Hollywood's history...

Research did not actually uncover Scarlett but it covered the ground thoroughly and paved the way for the actual casting...

Along the way Selznick also made possible the discovery of a number of other girls who were to become favorites...

For the "Gone with the Wind" search for Scarlett was the public's idea, Selznick said. When "Gone with the Wind" became a sudden sensation...

He started sending in unsolicited letters to the casting director. Selznick decided to find out what he had to say...

He openly inquired for suggestions. For nearly a year a staff of girls had to be interviewed, and in answering their questions...

He placed himself in a spot, because this meant the official opening of the picture and Scarlett had to be working on a stage no further away than two weeks...

His associates urged him to sign up one of the many girls he had tested. He had a choice of a number of established players...

Selznick shook his head, saying he had a hunch a Scarlett would show up before actual camera work started...

The producer's associates replied that it was sheer folly to think he could find her in two weeks when he had failed to do so in two years...

Meet Scarlett O'Hara The night of the Atlanta fire scene, the young producer stood watching camera crews record the conflagration when someone touched his shoulder...

It was his brother, Myron, a leading player's agent of Hollywood. "David," said Myron, "I want you to meet Scarlett O'Hara."

Selznick turned believing his brother was "ribbing" him. He faced Vivien Leigh, English actress visiting in Hollywood...



Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable in "Gone with the Wind"



Vivien Leigh

white, and 13,000 feet of Technicolor film.

The fact that the Scarlett O'Hara role is the longest ever created for a picture did not make Selznick's job easier. The fact is shown in the finished production, which contains eighty-five sequences with Miss Leigh appearing in ninety per cent of all scenes.

The picture actually started without a Scarlett. The first big scene was the burning of munition storehouses in Atlanta, re-created on the studio's "back lot" of Forty Acres. Atlanta had to be burned thoroughly at the beginning of the schedule to make room for other big sets. When Selznick gave orders to set a match to Atlanta he knew he was placing himself in a spot...

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Elmer Hendrix Delivers Winning Speech Before Local Rotary Club

The following was written and delivered last Friday by Elmer Hendrix, before the Rotary Club at their weekly luncheon meeting. Young Hendrix prepared the speech for the FFA public speaking contest in which he won out in the local preliminary held at the high school recently. He will go to Sylva on Saturday the 13th to compete in the federated chapters of this section, the winner of which will compete in the district contest in Hendersonville. The district winner will go to the state contest to be held in July.—Ed's note.)

As a young American farmer, a potential voting citizen, I am profoundly interested in the pertinent question, Will our Democratic form of government endure? Macauley, in 1857, wrote, "Your Republic will be fearfully plundered and laid waste by barbarians in the 20th Century as the Roman Empire was in the fifth, with this difference that the Huns and Vandals will have been engendered within your country by your institutions."

Further on in his letter Mr. Macauley prophesies that the democracy will live about 100 years. According to this we have about 15 years to go. Dire peril is knocking from without and boring from within. Will we, the people, let our noble form of government gradually be replaced or snatched from us? America is not ready for socialism or any of the new ideologies. She loves her form of government because this form means liberty for the individual. The ideals of democracy have long been the ideals of the American people. We accept democracy as tradition, a vital part of our thinking—simply take it for granted.

Can democracy meet the challenges of the 20th Century? Can democracy meet the dictators? Does democracy belong only with the expansion of a new country? Thomas Mann says: "Throughout the world it has become precarious to take democracy for granted—even in America."

No question is so important today as to bring before the American people the precarious position of democracy. For political reasons, some believe, that sooner or later we shall be attacked by foreign armies. I seriously doubt this, because first, our geographical position; second, our equipment and wealth; and third, our indomitable spirit and bull-dog tenacity when once we are aroused. The dictators could seriously harm and are injuring us by precipitating this present war. Our country, sooner or later, will very likely become involved on the side of democracies. If we become involved in the war we shall have to give up all pretense of democratic ways of living and transaction of business. After the war was over would democratic ways of life be restored? Nobody knows. Too, the dictators menace democracy by propaganda. The Fascist, the Nazi, and Communist

brother was "ribbing" him. He faced Vivien Leigh, English actress visiting in Hollywood. She had read "Gone with the Wind" and was keenly ambitious to play the role, although she believed she hadn't one chance in a million.

But one in a million is often good enough. Selznick saw in the half French, half Irish actress the counterpart of Scarlett O'Hara, who had the same lineage. When she spoke, her English accent was not unlike the soft speech of the South. Selznick remembered a book Mrs. Mitchell had sent him. It was by Stark Young and one chapter was devoted to the relationship between English and Southern accents.

Selznick said, "Go to the wardrobe department immediately and put on Scarlett's dress. We'll take a test of you tonight." The next day the long search for Scarlett O'Hara had been ended and Miss Leigh was preparing for the greatest adventure of her career.

scorn and hold in contempt our democracy. They claim it is stranded in the desert sands of yesterday.

The enemies of democracy claim, that with the new industrial age, with life no longer predominately rural or agricultural, that the stage is set for a different social and political order. Believers in the new forms of government claim democracy must give way to a better form of social organization, just as democracy replaced earlier and outmoded forms.

We who champion democracy have to admit that starvation in place of plenty, idleness, unemployment when people desire work, are poisons no body politic can long endure. In solving these problems concentration of power must be avoided. Democracy depends upon the participation of free men. The task is hard and staggering, but personally I feel that economic problems of this country can be solved under a democratic form of government. The public officials we send to Washington are largely honest. They are usually as noble, upright, and clean as the masses who

send them to the Nations capital. In recent years there seems to be a growing lack of leadership in the United States. Our so called leaders follow rather than lead. These representatives find out what the "boys" back home desire and serve as their spokesman. Our political life is becoming a competition of interest rather than a contest of principles. If a man tries to be a statesman and stands up for what he believes is right, he often faces defeat at the next election. When the primary, the initiative and referendum, the telegram barrage, the radio and public opinion are focused against a man, who in his heart longs to uphold the integrity of a statesman—I say when all these force a man whom the voters have sent to Washington, to act for their special interest, and not for the interest of the nation as a whole, then domination is growing at the heart of the government. If only the people would send great leaders to Washington, have confidence in them, leave them alone to carry out to the best of their ability, then and only then would we have statesmen of whom we would be proud and a man who would work for the good of the United States. (What helps the body of a tree helps every branch although at times there must be some pruning.) Herein lies the real peril to democracy. No government can survive that is not blessed with a wide, fearless and unselfish public leadership. If a government is dominated by pressure groups and propaganda, whether it be the farmer, Wall Street or labor, road department or railroads, it cannot serve the purpose of common justice and well-being.

There is an excessive leveling down process in America today. Various groups do not have like capacities and each group should be dealt with on the basis of innate capacity and merit and dealt with wisely to keep out malicious class hatred. Human kind is not of one pattern and one grade. Washington and Jefferson realized this and we had best realize it. In trying to equalize we have growing threats to American ideals.

Gangster activities, like underground rats; mob outbursts, human selfishness (wanting what the other fellow has without working for it). These elements are seriously undermining democracy. Let us solve social issues by discussion, balloting, acceptance of the ballot results, review and re-

vision—This is the peaceful way of getting along together. If we go about solving such problems in a blustry, bitter, backbiting manner, we admit democracy is unable to deal effectively with its current problems. Its laws must encourage co-operation rather than resistance. Democracy depends upon restraint, tolerance and compromise.

The democracies have a great future if they can and will play their role in time. They can if they will effectively deal with the most serious of all perils to democracy—the indifference, complacency and ignorance of those who have shared democracy's benefits. We simply take our government for granted and have no idea what we would suffer if it were taken from us. Can you vision the espionage, the terror, that knock on your door at night and "guards whisking you away to a concentration camp to languish or be clubbed and worked unmercifully without trial?" Can you feel the hand of a despotic power continually above your head? Can you imagine not being able to compliment or criticize a particular actor, or artist, or hang a desired picture in your home or sing a certain song without being reported and then being thrust into a concentration camp or prison? No, the average American has not thought of himself as ever facing those abnoxious realities. Artistic and music loving Austria, plodding, efficient Czechoslovakia, practical good-natured Poland, nor energetic Finland ever dreamed that big, mighty powers with complex ideologies would attempt to move over them so soon. We make no effort to understand what democracy is. We just think it is "our government" when in reality it is a form of human relationship in which men and women of "every class and creed live together in peace."

We do not practice democracy in our daily living. What do we contribute that democracy may be preserved and strengthened? We show no devotion to the common "weal." These seriously threaten democracy.

Happily for us there are those in the nation who are awake. May we as Americans back them in every turn of life. May we urge the election and support of greater leaders in Washington—men who can and will be statesmen and not just spokesmen; will the boards and those of authority give us real school teachers, men and

Ashley



LESLIE HOWARD as the idealistic Ashley Wilkes in "Gone With The Wind," filmization of the celebrated Margaret Mitchell novel, which opens Sunday at the Park Theatre.

women who are ever at the task of supporting, inspiring and interpreting democracy—never before have we needed such masterful teachers of government and citizenship in our lower grades, high schools and colleges. May the ministers of the gospel first be vigilant supporters of God's great work and secondly, inspire mankind to support democracy. Men, women, and youth, will you bestir yourselves; will you work without ceasing to instill in every American, both young and old, his duty to consciously realize what democracy is, to cherish it and spread the gospel of support so that we and the generations yet to come may enjoy the blessings of a "kindly living" sought after by our great Robert E. Lee or in the immortal words of homely, beloved Abraham Lincoln, thrive under a government, "of the people, for the people and by the people!"

Pigeon races have been held in England with as many as 50,000 homing pigeons competing.

It is required by law that a New Registration be had. The books open on Saturday.

Advertisement for Westinghouse TRU-ZONE COLD refrigerators. The ad features a large illustration of a refrigerator with its doors open, showing interior shelves and drawers. Text includes: 'Now see how WESTINGHOUSE TRU-ZONE COLD KEEPS ALL YOUR FOODS MARKET · FRESH an amazing new way!', 'What a thrill to win!... What a pleasure to buy and own!... This new Westinghouse ARISTOCRAT-SIX with TRU-ZONE COLD! With just one setting of a simple control dial you can now enjoy five kinds of refrigeration at once—the RIGHT cold and humidity for every type of food.', a list of five temperature settings, 'Exclusive TRUE-TEMP CONTROL... makes new TRU-ZONE COLD possible; gives you the surer, steadier cold that makes humidity safe. Be sure to see this new feature in the 1940 Westinghouse Refrigerators. See the five distinct zones of cold! Drop in TODAY!', 'FREE! \$23,000.00 IN ELECTRICAL PRIZES', 'Westinghouse "Advise-a-Bride" CONTESTS 5 Big Weekly Contests, April 18... May 23 70 PRIZES EACH WEEK', 'GET COMPLETE DETAILS AND FREE ENTRY BLANK FROM US!', 'Electric Service Co. PHONE 171 SALES AND SERVICE MAIN STREET', 'IT'S SIMPLE AND EASY! Just write down in your own words why YOU think a young bride would be wise to select a Westinghouse Refrigerator or Westinghouse Electric Range. There are no tricks! No coupons to save. Absolutely nothing to buy. And your entry may WIN!', and a price tag of '114.95'.

Advertisement for Wayneville Laundry, Inc. It features a black and white portrait of the actress Olivia de Havilland. Text includes: 'Your Washing Troubles WILL BE Gone with the Wind IF YOU SEND THEM TO Wayneville Laundry, Inc. J. W. KILLIAN BOYD AVENUE'.