Spencer Tracy
as 'Edison
The Man'

'Northwest Passage'

'Boys Town'

'Captains Courageous'

'Test Pilot'

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
Studio News
Culver City, California
LOUELLA O. PARSONS, LOS ANGELES EXAMINER—“Spencer Tracy’s like-ness of Menlo’s Man is uncanny. I met the wizard of Menlo Park a number of times so I had a chance to study the great inventor at close range, and I must say I was really impressed with Spencer, who is so like Edison, both in quiet manner of speaking and in his actions and appearance.

“Clarence Brown has done an excellent job of directing, for in the biography he injects suspense, human interest, and the romance of business.

“Spencer Tracy, always a good actor, gives a remarkable characterization of the older Edison and in the last scenes he is uncanny.”

“Rita Johnson is very attractive as Mrs. Edison, considered a beautiful woman in her youth.

“I feel sure ‘Edison, the Man’ will please many people, for it is both instructive and entertaining—a combination that is difficult to find. John Considine, Jr., who spent much time assembling the material, deserves great credit.”

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER — “Completing the Thomas A. Edison screen saga, begun several months ago with the release of ‘Young Tom Edison,’ M-G-M does itself and the industry proud with a sincere tribute to the man who invented the medium which now helps to celebrate him.

“In his performance of the title role, Spencer Tracy clicks on his nomination for another Academy Award.

“Rita Johnson gives an exquisitely modulated performance as Edison’s wife, one that will further her career immeasurably.”

EDWIN SCHALLERT, LOS ANGELES TIMES—“‘Edison, the Man’ takes its place as one of the superior biographical motion pictures. It is presented with taste, intelligence and humaneness. Spencer Tracy supplies one of his simplest and strongest performances as the great inventor. Direction by Clarence Brown, writing and portrayal all dignify this feature, which remarkably revives around the theme of the discovery of the electric light, and the beginning of a new world.

“Spencer Tracy acting is especially fine and good.”

VARIETY—“‘Edison, the Man’ is a picture which not alone relates the story of a great scientist and humanitarian in powerful dramatics and entertaining terms, but also carries an inspirational antidote for the depressions of the day—a film which lights a beacon in text and tradition of such as should be especially salable at this time. It is by every measure a splendid and memorable production, destined to take its place among the important pictures of the year.

“Thomas Edison, the man: In a truly great performance, great in its simple and eloquent statement of the electrical wizard’s life in his Menlo Park worksh, in his home life, in his dealings with his fellow laborers and the powerful and admired men of his day, in his visionary devotion to the growth and welfare of his country—in such a truly great performance Spencer Tracy catches the very spirit of Edison, the man.

“Top credit for superb quality of the picture goes to Clarence Brown for his distinguished direction.

“John W. Considine, Jr., with wise and sound preparation and his method of treatment of the production deserves highest praise for a picture of distinction and commercial promise.”

JIMMY STARR, L. A. EVENING HERALD & EXAMINER—“‘Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer’s picturization of Edison, the Man’ is one of the most interesting productions I’ve seen.

“I don’t remember when Spencer Tracy ever gave a better performance. Specialized, of character, as is Rita Johnson, as Mrs. Edison. This young woman is a fine actress.

“Clarence Brown told the story with an easy, simple flow of events. “Applause to Producer John W. Considine, Jr., for the thoroughness and the fine quality of a truly unusual film.”

Garland Revives Another Old Hit In Hardy Picture

Another song hit which has lain dormant for many years comes to life when Judy Garland sings “I’m Nobody’s Baby” in “Andy Hardy Meets Deb tante”

Although the film is not a musical, the young star has two other solos. One is “I’m A Fool To Want You,” which gives her co-star, stepping out with the nation’s leading debonair, and the other, “Alone,” is sung as she sits in the midst of the crowd at the deb’s coming out party.

Produced by Leo Feist, Inc., two decades ago, “I’m Nobody’s Baby” has been the favorite of such singers as Nora Bayes and Sophie Tucker.

“The three numbers may be favorites of yesteryear, but Judy will sing them to the hootest orchestra ever assembled in a studio. The modern musicians were chosen not for their ability to play “hot” music, but because such instrumentation could more quickly grasp the psychology of phrasing popular song numbers after Judy’s own style.

“Featured with Rooney and Judy are the top members of the Vitaphone orchestra, which include Lewis Stone, Fay Holden, Ann Rutherford, Cecilia Parker and Sara Haden. George Seitz again directs.”

Comedy and Romance Highlight Film of Noted Stage Play

Outstanding comedy performances by Mary Livingstone, Edna May Oliver, Eddie Gwynn, Melville Cooper and Marshall Hunt, plus the romantic teaming of Great Garbo and Laurence Olivier, highlight M-G-M’s picturization of “Pride and Prejudice.”

One of the most amusing costume comedies of the screen, filmed, the same season, boasts pokes at the gay social whirl of the 1820’s, with Director Robert Z. Leonard taking full advantage of the modes and manners of the period for laughs.

Brought to the screen by Hunt Stromberg, the leads feature Garbo, the nation’s most brilliant supporting casts, including Maureen O’Sullivan, Ann Rutherford, Heather Angel, Fredric March, George Kennedy, Walter Pidgeon, who comes again to the screen as the master detective in “Phantom Raiders,” and in the Nick Carter series. Directed by Jacques Tourneur, it has gone to musical scoring and final editing. “Nick Carter, Master Detective,” first of the series, inspired the “Nick Carter Clubs.”

The new mystery deals with the detective’s trailing of a sabotage ring working off Canal Zone waters. Florence Rice plays the heroine, and Donald Meek, John Sibley, John Carrithers, John Paragon and Steffi Duna are among the principals.

Frederick Phister produced.

Stothart Starts Work On Score of ‘Married An Angel’

Herbert Stothart started work this week on the problem of bringing the original score of “I Married An Angel!” to the screen, for Jeanette Mac Donald and Nelson Eddy.

Based on the New York stage success of the same name, the new production is to be transferred to the film with all the glamour of the original. Work is scheduled to get under way within a few weeks.

The picture will be produced by Hunt Stromberg.

Vidor Returning For Gable Film

King Vidor returns this week from a business trip to New York, and will resume work immediately on preparations for the production. The picture is going to Clark Gable.

Vidor is producing the new film with Laurence Stallings on the screen.

The novel by Desmond Holdbridge, deals with an adventurous millionaire whose yacht is marooned during the dry season in the heart of a tropical jungle and the ultimate change in the lives of those aboard.

Stephani On New Producer Ticket

Frederick Stephani, M-G-M producer of the popular Nick Carter series and other pictures, was signed to a new long-term contract by M-G-M. He recently completed “The Captian Is A Lady” and “Phantom Raiders.”

Owen Starts Sixth Year With Metro

Reginald Owen was this week signed on a new long-term contract by M-G-M. His most recent role was as the Emperor in “Florian." He has been with M-G-M more than five years.

The Mortal Storm Clicks At Preview

Scoring with the perfection of its performances and the timeliness of its theme, “The Mortal Storm” is acclaimed as a great dramatic hit at its recent sneak preview.

Based on the best-seller novel by Phyllis Bottome, the story deals with the experiences of a family caught in the midst of the Nazi regime.

Starring Margaret Sullivan, James Stewart, Robert Young and Frank Morgan, supporting players include Irene Rich, Maria Ouspenskaya, Robert Stack, William Orr, Bonita Granville and Gene Reynolds. The production was directed by Frank Borzage.

Nick Carter Clubs Launched Result Of Detective Films

“Nick Carter Clubs,” organized by youngsters, are springing up throughout the country, according to letters received from the young幾個 of Walter Pidgeon, who comes again to the screen as the master detective in “Phantom Raiders,” and in the Nick Carter series. Directed by Jacques Tourneur, it has gone to musical scoring and final editing. “Nick Carter, Master Detective,” first of the series, inspired the “Nick Carter Clubs.”

The new mystery deals with the detective’s trailing of a sabotage ring working off Canal Zone waters. Florence Rice plays the heroine, and Donald Meek, John Sibley, John Carrithers, John Paragon and Steffi Duna are among the principals.

Frederick Phister produced.

Pomona Audience Lauds Crawford, March In ‘Susan’

Acclaimed by a sneak preview audience at Pomona as one of the greatest and most enjoyable dramatic comedies of many a year, “Susan and God.” M-G-M’s picturization of the Rachel Crothers Broadway hit, completed final editing this week in preparation for its press preview.

The film, which co-stars Joan Crawford and Frederic March as Susan and God, includes Barrie Trivers in a featured cast as the name of John Carroll, Ruth Hussey, Rose Hobart, Rita Hayworth, Rita Quigley, Nigel Bruce, Bruce Cabot, Marjorie Main, Constance Collier and Norma Mitchell. George Cukor directed, with Hunt Stromberg producing.
Gable, Taylor Co-Star In New Prison Drama

Clark Gable and Robert Taylor will team for the first time when production starts on "Osborne of Sing Sing," a dramatic story of one of the famous New York prison reformers, which John W. Considine, Jr., is to produce.

Gable will play the famous warden, and Taylor will appear as "Kid Dapper," a convict, first an enemy of the warden, and later, understanding his ideals, his friend and co-worker in the fight to improve prison conditions.

The picture is based on the book by Jonathan Finn and Harold Friedman, dealing with the career of Thomas Mott Osborne, a wealthy New Yorker, became interested in prison reform after important work in the Junior Republic. He went to Auburn as a prisoner to learn first-hand of graft, corruption, brutality and other prison evils. He became warden at Sing Sing at Ossining, N. Y., where he was responsible for abolition of prison labor and many other prison conditions. In the two books convicts became his friends and allies.

Hepburn Arrives June 5 to Star In Noted Stage Play

Katharine Hepburn arrives June 5 to star in preparations for the filming of her outstanding stage success, "The Philadelphia Story." Miss Hepburn has completed a sensationally successful run of the Philip Barry play at the Schubert Theater in New York.

The start of the picture sees her reunited with George Cukor, who directed two of her greatest screen successes, "Little Women" and "A Bill of Divorcement." Cukor recently completed work on "Susan and God" with Joan Crawford and Fredric March.

Miss Hepburn left Hollywood more than a year ago to go back to the stage. While "The Philadelphia Story" was running to capacity in the theater it was reported that she was signed for the starring role she created. Early production will follow the preliminary conferences of star and director with producer Joseph Mankiewicz.

Kildare Goes Home! Next of Series to Start At Studio

As soon as Lew Ayres returns from his vacation he will plunge into the most amazing of his medical adventures as Dr. Kildare in "Dr. Kildare Goes Home," the New York latest in the series. Lionel Barrymore, as his mentor, the veteran Dr. Gillespie, will guide his steps on his ordeals with later application medical research to a baffling, fantastic disease, the actual identity of which will be kept secret, as it will be referred to only as "X."

It's the story of the script, based on the original of the same name, as applied by scenarists Willis Goldbeck and Harry Ruskin.

'Slave Drive' Shortest Title Selected For Turner-Shelton Romantic Drama

"I Do" has been announced by M-G-M as the final title for the production formerly known as "To Own the World," featuring Lana Turner and John Shelton.

The production, an original screen story by Detsen Trumbo, is a powerful drama of two young people and their struggle for existence in a big city. It marks the first straight dramatic role for Miss Turner, and the biggest role of his career for Shelton.

"I Do" is directed by Harold S. Bucquet, and is the first American film produced by Seymour Nebenzahl, responsible for such European successes as "48" and "Mayerling."

Robt. Montgomery Completes English Film, Returns Soon

With camera work to be completed on this week "Busman's Honeymoon" at the M-G-M British studios at Denham, the Robert Montgomery will passageway back to Hollywood immediately thereafter, according to word received here.

Reluctant to fly back on the Clipper from Ireland, they are hoping to find passage on an American boat. The star has planned to await the premiere of the picture in England before coming home, but is now being urged to return as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, "The Earl of Chicago," Montgomery's last picture made at the Golder City studio, has received great acclaim in England, according to clippings mailed from London.

Marx Bros. Home From Tour, Set to Launch 'Go West!'

With a week at the Paramount Theater in Los Angeles added to their road tour to visit the studio he launched "Go West!," the Marx Brothers have piled up a total of 103 performances of their act and are preparing to begin camera work on the picture within the next three weeks.

The tour to Joliet, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago and Los Angeles gave them what amounts to more than 100 dress rehearsals of the five most hilarious scenes from their script.

They plan to do these sequences while the results of their try-outs are still fresh in mind. Eddie Buzzell will direct and Jack Cunnings produces.

Billie Burke Wins Role and Contract

Billie Burke this week was cast for a featured role in "Dulcy," new Ann Sothern feature, and at the same time signed to a new long-term contract by M-G-M. Miss Burke will play the role of Mrs. Foster, as the new comedy will be directed by S. Sylvan Simon, with Edgar Selwyn producing.

Whiteman to Play Himself In Rooney, Garland Musical

With the signing of Paul Whiteman and orchestra for "Strike Up the Band," conferences are under way regarding a special routine to be worked into the Mickey Rooney-Judy Garland musical of youth. The Whiteman will arrive June 3, to go into discussions with Arthur Freed, producer, Busby Berkeley, director, and George Stoll, musical director, and then will work out his own routine for his specialty in the picture. In addition Whiteman will turn actor, to enact himself in scenes with the principals.


Shearer Planes From New York To Start 'Escape'

Returned from New York by plane to take over her role as the Countess von Trehk in Ethel Vanel's "Escape," Norma Shearer this week went before the camera eras with her co-star, Robert Taylor, in a Bavarian mountain setting.

Taylor is seen as Mark Preysing, young American artist; Nazimova as his mother, ex-actress Emmy Ritter, imprisoned in a concentration camp; Paul Lukas as General Kurt von Kolb. Also cast in important roles are Felix Bressart as the old servant, Fritz; Bonita Granville as the schoolgirl, Ursula; Albert and Elsa Balsam as the lawyer, and his wife; and Edgar Barrier as the sadistic Commissioner of Police.

The story of the musical "Escape" is the picturization of the best-seller, with Lawrence Weingarten producing.

Newest Powell, Loy Comedy Ready for 'Sneak' Preview Soon

"I Love You Again," the new, fast-moving comedy co-starring William Powell and Myrna Loy, will be ready for a "sneak" preview within two weeks.

The production is the first in some time to co-star the two favorites in roles other than the "Thin Man" series. The new story tells of the plight of a man who suddenly recovers from an amnesia attack after forty years duration and discovers himself to be the central figure in a new and strange world.

Other players include Frank McHugh, Edmund Lowe, Donald Douglas and Nella Walker.

It was directed by W. S. Van Dyke II, and produced by Lawrence Weingarten.

Nine Important Musical Musicals On '40-'41 Slate

Nine important musical productions are slated for the coming season, at M-G-M, all with important major stars.

Two co-star Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy, and Miss MacDonald will appear in another, without Eddy, before her next concert tour.

Two will star Miss Garland, currently at work in "Strike Up the Band," will be teamed in another, and Miss Garland in a solo in a third musical romance of youth.

James Stewart, Hedy Lamarr, Eleanor Powell and Lana Turner will form a star quartet in "The Ziegfeld Girl," and Miss Powell, with all-star cast, will appear in "Broadway Melody of 1941." The Marx Brothers will star in "Go West!"

Miss MacDonald and Eddy will start shortly in "I Married An Angel," with Norma Shearer producing and Robert Z. Leonard directing. Following that, they will be joined in Noel Coward's "Bitter Sweet," Victor Saville producing, and Miss MacDonald will appear in a musical version of "Smilin' Through."

"Babes On Broadway" will follow "Strike Up the Band" for Rooney and Miss Garland, and she will star in "Little Nellie Kelly," both produced by Arthur Freed. Jack Cunnings will produce the Marx Brothers' film "Red, Hot and Blue.""The Jazz Singer" and Miss Lamarr will star in "The Continental," with Walter Lang producing.

Beery's 'Wyoming' Troupe to Shoot At Jackson Hole

Final preparations for a location trip to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, will be completed this week by Director Richard Basehart and "Wyoming," the new Wallace Beery starring picture scheduled to go before the cameras on June 2. Present plans are to establish a company of 100 people who will make a hole in operation to operate over a radius of 250 miles of scenic wonders. Eight carloads of equipment and vehicles for use in the roughest mountain country will be required by the unit.

Lee Bowman has been set to play the young romantic male lead, with Ann Rutherford as the feminine lead. Marjorie Main plays a featured character role. Milton Berle is featured.

'Boom Town' Troupe On 21st Location Jaunt of Picture

The "Boom Town" company at M-G-M this week completed its twenty-first location jaunt at Woodland and Spencer Tracy, who star with Claudette Colbert, Hedy Lamarr and Frank Morgan, have shot fine scenes in oil fields near Norwalk, Calif.

The company has filmed sequences in more than a dozen varied oil fields as well as in references, ground, storage tanks, in prairie country and at a race track. They still have several thrilling scenes to do, including Rocheleau and Jack Conway directing and Sam Zimbalist producing.

'EVENY MAN, WOMAN, CHILD WILL WANT TO SEE EDDISON, THE MAN!'

HEDDA HOPPER, COLUMNIST
Tracy who!
"Captains Tov and Living winner of Award! Tracy synonym to finest trai Screen... gives you performance of a nation's...
HE DARED TO DREAM OF THE IMPOSSIBLE...and MADE HIS DREAMS COME TRUE!!

A great star and a superb cast... in a magnificent and stirring drama that brings you all of the romantic color, adventure and glamour in the life of a great idealist... who led the world along the Path of Progress... and illuminated it that others might follow!

The advertising layouts on these pages are suggested copy only... see M-G-M press book for complete campaign.
Newspaper Sections

In most localities NEWSPAPERS are the way of life and a great deal of business is done by calling in the ad salesmen for all your leading dailies. Bear down on these for a special section, a full week's run-of-the-press-fourty days.

Edison as the acknowledged "wizard of electricity" and inventor who put the magic of electricity into the modern home . . . gives authority to participation in your special section by every manufacturer, distributor and retailer of electrical products. The list is endless.

The most important direct inventions by Edison in the field were:

Incandescent Lighting

'T. A. Mazda lamps currently carry a picture and credit of Edison on each car-

ton and globe-sleeve. They should go the limit at this time inasmuch as "EDI-

SON, THE MAN" portrays the romance of the electric light as its main plot ac-

tion. Other manufacturers and dealers directly connected, such as the electrical

power company, the fixture companies, lamp companies, and dealers in lamps of

all styles will fall in line as the picture does a great deal of business.

Storage Batteries

Edison invented this source of elec-

tricity, and gives you a wide field of ex-

plotation among the battery manufac-

turers, dealers, home flashlights, etc.

All Electrical Appliances

Once you get the ball rolling with these "naturals" it is but a matter of sales-
manship to include all the other nation-

ally advertised electrical products such as refrigators, ranges, vacuum sweep-

ers, household appliances, etc.

Western Union Tie-Ups

Western Union went to town for "YOU CAN'T LIVE ON EDISON, THE MAN" but that was only a sample of what they will do for "EDISON, THE MAN." In this pic-

ture General Powell will have a fortune to them. In the picture General Powell

proves one of Edison's best friends—

gives him his start, buys his first inven-
tion and becomes one of the outstanding charac-
ters in the picture. In the dialogue at the time of introducing Edison to

Powell, these words are heard by the audi-

cence: "You're General Powell? The presi-

dent of Western Union? Then you're the

man I want to see."

Again as Edison goes to work—

the words over the shop door: WESTERN

UNION WORKSHOP are legible to all.

These special plugs plus the sym-
pathy the picture builds for the head-

of this great company at that time . . .

are invaluable ADS and GOOD WILL for

that company!

Movie Cameras

Edison's inventing of the Kinetoscope

was the advent of motion pictures. Man-

ufacturers and dealers in 16 and 18 mm.

movie cameras are aware and appreciative of this.

Ediphone

Special stills of Tracy with the Edi-

phone have been made for national ex-

ploitation. These will go to your local represen-
tative, also the national ad man on your

paper, for full cooperation.

PHONOGRAPH TIE-UPS

It is common knowledge that Edison

invented the phonograph. In "EDISON,

THE MAN" the audience sees how—in

one of the most dramatic episodes of the

picture. The value of this invention is

vividly impressed on the minds of every-

one. It will build new interest for every

manufacturer of the phonograph, and its

use.

There are no limitations to your tie-ups

here. Every radio station in the nation

should sponsor a sustaining program de-

icated to this great man, his work, his

achievements, and his motion picture.

Every manufacturer, distributor, and

dealer should throw aside precedent to

ballyhoo, exploit, display and publicize

this picture to the skies.

ORGANS

Edison loved to play the organ when

tired or thinking. Stills of Tracy at the

organ are available for your music stores.

Get this fact over to the radio listeners by

special organ recitals dedicated to Edison

and the picture.

ADVERTISING LINES

A FILM AS BRILLIANT AS THE LIGHT HE GAVE THE WORLD! . . .
The amazing life of Thomas Alva Edison becomes the highest biographical

achievement in the history of motion pic-

tures.

THE STORY OF DREAMS AND COURAGE . . . OF HOPE AND FAITH!

The thrilling story of a great faith in

an idea and an ideal . . . a tender, ro-

mantic story of a man who had dreams . . .

and of a woman who kept those dreams from fading.

ALL THE ELEMENTS OF GREAT EN-

TERTAINMENT . . . THRILLINGLY COMBINED! ADVENTURE as a man

surmounts impossible odds ... ROM-

ANCE as an idealist almost sacrifices love for the romance of progress . . . DRAMA as men battle bitterly for the ful-

fillment of a dream.

OUT OF AMERICA'S VERY HEART COMES THE STORY OF ONE OF HER

GREATEST SONS! A story more fasci-

nating, more thrilling, more romantic than the most fanciful fiction.

SPENCER TRACY in an inspired perfor-

mance that is destined to make him the screen's first three-time Academy Award

winner!

A MAN WHO CONCEIVED . . . AND A WOMAN WHO BELIEVED!

IMPOSSIBLE" WAS MORE THAN A

WORD TO THIS MAN . . . IT WAS A

CHALLENGE! STORIES of the great man, radically rich in romance . . .

afflame with adventure, alive with drama!

THE STORY OF A MAN WHO DREAMS . . . AND OF A WOMAN WHO

KEEPS HIS DREAMS ALIVE!

A great star and a superb cast . . .

in a magnificent and stirring drama

that brings you all of the romantic color, adventure and glamour in the life of a
great idealist.

THE COLORFUL CAREER OF HU-

MANITY'S GREATEST BENEFACCTOR!


MAN . . . At long last, motion pictures glorify the amazing, romantic and human career of the man responsible for their existence.

A MOTION PICTURE AS BRILLIANT

AS THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MAN

WHO STORY? IT TELLS!

HIS GENIUS ILLUMINATED THE

PATH OF PROGRESS! . . . Here is the

colorful career of the greatest inventive

wizard in all history.

SPENCER TRACY IN THE MOST

MAGNIFICENT PERFORMANCE OF HIS

ACADEMY AWARD WINNING CA-

REER!

The superb drama of a man's dreams and courage . . . gloriously combined with the hope and faith of a woman!

TICKER DISPLAY

How many people have seen a stock or news "ticker?" Get one of your display either in theatre or in prominent downtown spot—running.

Schools and Clubs

The schools from every angle will open their doors to this picture. The science departments, the literary, the his-


tory, the creative, all will find this picture stimulating for their pupils' interest.

P.T.A.'s and all clubs, in which mo-

thers and fathers are interested will

want to sponsor this one for the attention of their offspring.

Boys' clubs, Y. M. C. A., etc., are

naturals for instilling creative ability in young manhood, and will follow through on their previous support of "YOUNG

EDISON, THE MAN."

The Chamber of Commerce and civic leaders will pounce on this as a chance to

shout the opportunities of locality for young Americans — the rewards of achievement which this nation lauds as possible success for all.

Ford Parade

Henry Ford has done much to per-

petuate the shop and fame of Edison. The two names are always associated.

Get to your email for full coopera-

tion in this campaign—bringing to the

front the oldest Ford you can find, as

the kind Edison drove. Strike up a pa-

rade of new models with tribute to Edison and the pic.

SONG

Edison's favorite melody was "Sweet

Genovieve." . . . it is heard many times in the picture . . . he (Tracy) plays it on

the organ in the picture. Use it to crash

special time on the air and among the or-

chestras.

Electrical Workers

Get to the electrical employees by hon-

oring their oldest member! Let them also select a special employee to honor

with guest tickets. This is a far better

direct mail and the head of the Electrical Association will call for the votes and
carry your message to all employees for you.

The same can be pulled with workers in Western Union and phonograph com-

pany branches. This is a big con-

cern around which the plot of "EDISON, THE MAN" revolves.
Preview Audience Hails Tracy's Human Role In 'Edison, the Man'

On the same evening that "Edison, the Man," was being premiered in four theaters in New Jersey with Spencer Tracy, Director Clarence Brown, Producer John W. Considine, Jr., and Rita Johnson in attendance, an audience of Hollywood's greatest personalities and press representatives of every known news service applauded the picture as the greatest human interest bioscope of the year. The meet and greet preview in Grauman's Chinese Theater.

"Edison, the Man," is hailed as the greatest of Spencer Tracy's portrayals of real-life men, the others having been both Martha Scott in "Boys Town," Henry M. Stanley in "Stanley and Livingstone," and Major Robert Rogers in "Northwest Passage."

Considine

Considine

Brown

Brown

1869 Clothes Aided In Film Portrait, Says Rita Johnson

Rita Johnson has had her first taste of playing a role in a costume drama, and her per- 

ludes period clothes are the greatest ex- 

terior aid possible in losing one's self in a role. Her initial costume character is 

Mary Shill.

The picture, says Mrs. Johnson, "is a 

telling of an ambition which John W. Considine, Jr., the producer, has had for fourteen years. 

He has produced a great inventor, his life has been easier to make a story of Edison's life and recently filmed the inventor's 'Young Tom Edison' picture was directed by Clarence Brown. 

The picture covers Edison's young man 

career through his achievement of light- 

ning during the very eventful days when 

the chief characters in support of the 

stage play are Rita Johnson, Lynne 

Powell, Valeen Thomas, Marjorie Ford, 

Robert Travers, Gladys Cooper, Regis 

Bart, Henny Travers, Felix Bressart, 

Godfrey, Guy D'Ennery, Byron Foulier, 

Ralph Parsons, Arthur Arlowsorth, Gene 

Richardson, Mitchel Elliott, and 

Ann Gillis.

Assisting on production were Ovville 

Duell, associate producer. The screen 

picture was written by Talbot Hobbs 

and Braddy Foote from an original story 

by Dore Schary and Hugo Butler.

Tracy Finds Study For Role of Edison Investigating Research

Spencer Tracy, noted for his care with 

which he prepares his screen roles by studying authentic characters and stories set 

groundstreaking, asserts that the practice is 

not only valuable to him as an actor but as 

an average citizen. He points as an example 

to "Edison, the Man," the dramatic Metro-Gold- 

wyn-Mayer film biography.

"For one thing," he says, "Edison's patience 

was astounding. After 9000 items had 

been tried as light filaments, all failures, 

someone remarked at his lack of progress 

and he replied, 'This is progress.' I know 

9000 Edison's failures, but the society of 

men we used to keep on to success after 

seven thousand that many failures. Such 

a man's life cannot help but benefit 

the world and I'm happy to be portraying 

him. I hope I can put over just a trace of 

his greatness."

Tracy points out that Edison always 

said time was the most precious thing in 

the world because it was the only thing 

money couldn't buy. "He felt he was to make himself into work, not for 

personal gain, but for aiding the world," the 

star reveals. "He early resolved never to 

invent anything that was of no use to 

the world."

He said he lived twice as long as the average man, because he worked 

throughout a dozen hours a day. He had a 

prophetic vision in that he felt the 

world two miracles of sound— 

the phonograph and the telephone 

transmitter."

Tracy read volumes of notes on 

Edison, visited his inventor's workshops, talked with Edison's family and friends and 

made a multitude of facts about the 

great American's life. He can talk for 

hours about the man.

"Edison was far ahead of his time. He 

even visualized talking pictures way back in 1912. He relied much on common 

sense, and above all, he was human. He 

seemed to show you how to be yourself 

but subscribed to a clipping service 

for jokes, which he loved to tell. 

Yes, he truly was a great human being 

and it's a privilege to have played with 

him on the screen."

Clarence Brown

"Edison, the Man"

Clarence Brown is 

An Associate Producer

and Director

of the 

Orinco Productions

Screen Play by 

Talbot Hobbs and 

BRADLEY FOOTE 

Original Screenplay by 

Dore Schary and Hugo Butler

CLARENCE BROWN

Music Score by 

Howard Booth

Directorial Assistant: 

Douglas Clancy

Art Director: 

Colin Gubbins

Set Designer: 

Robert Edson

Costume Designer: 

Edwin Schary

Women's Costumes by 

Gladys Hevner

Make-Up by 

Theodore D. Salter

Director of Photography 

André de la Roche

Production Managers 

Orinco Productions

FILM EDITORS by 

Frederick Y. Smith

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT 

William A. Simonds, The Edison Institute, 

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGER 

Norman R. Lindsay, Director of Historical Research, Thomas A. Edison, Inc., West 

Oranges, New Jersey.

The Players

Thomas A. Edison……Spencer Tracy

Mary Stilwell………Rita Johnson

Bun Coffey………Lyne Overman

General Powell………Charles Coburn

Mr. Taggart………Gene Lockhart

Ben Els………Henry Travers

Michael Simon………Felix Bressart

Ashton………Peter Godfrey

Londrum………Ray D'Ennery

Edwin Hall………Byron Foulier

"Acid" Graham………Dale Stanwyk

Bignlow………Arthur Arlowsorth

Jimmy Price………Gone Reynolds

Mr. Johnson………Erie Stebbins

Snaide………Grant Mitchell

Sheriff………Paul Hurst

Toastermaster……George Lessey

John Schofield……Jay Ward

Nancy Grey………Ann Gillis

In a republic of old Independence Hall, Thomas Edison (Spencer Tracy) now, is being honored at the Golden-Acclamations Dinner and the speakers outline his career at the luncheon, Edison is once again the guest of honor.

In 1869, Edison, an unknown telegrapher of 22, sent to the Golding Telegraph Company in New York to see a friend, Bun Coffey (Lyne Overman), he was offered the job of telegrapher in New York City, where he worked for a year before returning to Newark, where he worked as a telegrapher and inventor. Edison meantime, left Boston to help Ben Els (Henry Travers) and General Powell (Charles Coburn) in the exploitation of the Golding Indicator.

Production of the Edison company to the shops at Newark, promising to buy anything prac- 

tical, young men invented, the Edison Company in 1876, had constructed a first telegraph system. 

When the company moved to Cleveland in the Keating-Telgraph Telegraph Co. in 1879, the 

business was flourishing, Edison invites to Pwll and Tag- 

gall to join him to 30,000 and is ascertain-

ed when he receives $10,000.

He and Mary are married, and with the money, he builds his Menlo Park laboratory and starts 

work on inventions. A genius and a 

lions to the Edisons and the years pass. 

Edison is in desperate need of a loan. 

Fitting out the company is over. Edison is left out of action. Action is needed and Edison suggests 

Edison to join the American Institute of 

Electrical Engineers. The stimulus sets Edison to frantic work. Day and night, he labors in the 

laboratory and Edison finally resorts to Pwll, intending to offer him a loan. But Pwll is dying. 

He tells Edison he has faith in his own work, but money is too much. Unwilling to worry Pwll, Edison 

says his affairs are in good shape. He goes 

to Taggart for $10,000 and receives an amaz- 

ing 

repay. Taggart is willing to give Edison a hundred thousand, but he wants the right 

of every invention yet to be worked on. Edison stalls not. Pwll is delighted.

At the end of his resources, Edison raises money to pay off his men in full and tells them 

there are no more jobs. He goes home to Mary, discovers that his machine has 

been stolen. Edison recovers the principle of the talking machine and invents it to time to hold 

off the sheriff. He now becomes a celebrity.

The flamboyant Bunt brings on the next crisis when he undertakes to give a banquet on a story on Edison and brags that Edison has in 

an invention to change the world. The 

big and causes gas stocks, in which Taggart is a heavy investor, to drop. Taggart and his 

cohorts are not worried, as Edison has proved himself a genius. Edison succeeds as a charlatan.

The whole business forces Edison into his work on a new invention to be renewed effort. He must 

find the proper filament to be the thousand 
thousand. Edison decides to let Pwll 

take the idea, but Pwll is too 

Edison.

By chance, he gets the idea that thread 

covered with carbon might do the trick. To 

the joy of the entire plant, it is successful. On October 18, the new light has hovers 

for forty hours. Edison goes after the franchise to light all of New York. Taggart gets 

his aldersman to argue against the franchise. Edison gives up all his work, and then Edison 

refuses to Pwll, intending to 

offer him a loan. But Pwll is dying. 

He tells Edison he has faith in his 

own work, but money is too much. Unwilling to worry Pwll, Edison 

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ing
**STUDIO NEWS**

**Gable and Loy Teamed In Two New Pictures**

Clark Gable and Myrna Loy will be co-starred in two pictures during the coming season, it was announced this week by M-G-M.

The first is to be "The Great Canadian," action drama of the international hockey games in which Gable plays a star player who constantly finds himself in difficulties with his hero-worshipping ladies fans.

This will be their first attraction since their recent-booking, "Test Pilot," and "Too Hot to Handle." The second picture will be "The Road to Rome," famous Robert E. Sherwood stage play.

Other pictures scheduled for Miss Loy are "The Thin Man's Shadow," in which she again will appear opposite William Powell, and "Third Finger, Left Hand." Other pictures scheduled for Gable include "Obamas of Sing Sing," "Witch of the Wilderness," and "The Life of Simon Bolivar."

**Naval Air Bases Location Sites For Taylor Film**

With the Pensacola, Fla., and the San Diego Naval Bases as its exciting background, thrilling flying scenes with all the spectacle of naval aviation will be filmed for "Flight Command." M-G-M picture starring Robert Taylor. Location units are starting work immediately, to be joined by Taylor and he completes his present starring assignment with Norma Shearer in "Escape." Taylor, at present in the height of his career following his enthusiastic reception in "Waterloo Bridge" with Vivien Leigh, will have one of his most adventuresome roles as a young naval flying officer, who invents a device to land planes in a fog.

In an accident, he injures his eyes, and when his vision recov- eries, defies a doctor's orders and continues flying until an accident causes his discharge. Almost blind and penniless, he continues to work and through the girl who loves him succeeds in demonstrating his invention, which will save many lives in the future.

From an original story by Commander Haislip and John Sutherland, the film is being brought to the screen by J. Walter Ruben.

**Three Big Attractions For Spencer Tracy After 'Boom Town'**

Spencer Tracy's new season schedule calls for three pictures following his co-starring role with Clark Gable, Claudette Colbert and Hedy Lamaray in "Boom Town."

He will play Father Flanagan again in "Ex-Mayor of Boys Town," with Mickey Rooney teamed with him as the ex-pupil picture dealing with the Omaha institution. John W. Considine, Jr., who produced the original, also will produce the sequel.

Conrad Richter's epic novel "Sea of Grass," dramatic story of the spread of civilization from the West and the flight of the cattlemen to prevent their broad ranges from being cut into agricultural property, shows Tracy in the role of Colonel Breton, "strong man" of the West.

"Yearling," Marjorie Kinnan Raw- ling's best-selling novel, will team Tracy with a younger not yet chosen, in the dramatic story of Florida "crackers." Sid- new Franklin will produce and Victor Fleming, who directed "Gone With the Wind," will direct.

**Young and Gargan Stage Thrilling Rescues In Flames**

One of the most thrilling fire scenes ever filmed was made this week for "One Came Home" at M-G-M. The scene shows the rescue of a half-dozen horses from a burning barn by Robert Young and William Gargan while charg- ing from the burning structure.

The scenes required two nights of work on exteriors of the barn and two days inside a stage. Controlled fire was used, firemen being on hand to extinguish his blaze after each thrilling shot. Lewis Stone and Lynne Carver appear with the others in the picture which S. Sylvan Simon directs and Albert Lewy produces.

An extensive schedule of seventy-eight Specialties was announced this week for 1940-41 release by M-G-M. That num- ber will be divided as follows: Pete Smith shows "Bombay Bridge" in 18 se- ries; six; John Nesbit's "Passing Parade," nine; Cartoons, eighteen; James A. Fitz- Patrick's "Traveltalks," twelve; Our Gang comedies, nine, and Miniatures, ten... * * *

Trained seals exhibit their talents everywhere from a cocktail bar to a lux- urious living room in high society for the benefit of Pete Smith and his audiences in his new M-G-M Specialty, "Social Sea Lion." This picture follows Marine and Baby Seal as they leave their haunts on California's coastal rocks and invade city life, and adds his timely remarks at each new stunt their bull... * * *

"Crime Merchant," dealing with law- breaking panders and sellers of stolen goods, is the newest short in M-G-M's crusading Crime Does Not Pay series. The two-reeler places blame on those merchants who accept and offer stolen goods for sale as well as on the actual thieves.

Another short follows "Women In Hiding," expose of the baby barter racket, in the series. It is directed by Joe Newman from a script by Julian Hohfeld and Alan Friedman. Jack Chertok and Rich- ard Goldstone produce.

"Clothes Make the Man," "Doddling" and "Secret Seven" are the three latest subjects to be developed by John Nesbit in his new Passing Parade short, "Trifles of Importance." The first shows the origin of various fads and styles in men's cloth- ing; second, provides proof of how doodling saved a man's life, and "Secret Seven" reveals a justice-dealing secret society.

Basil Wrangel directs with Jack Chert- tok and Richard Goldstone as producers.

Two new Technicolor cartoons, "Tom Turkey" and "Milky Way," are an- nounced by Fred Quimby, head of M-G- M's cartoon organization, as ready for re- lease. The former, presented by Hugh Har- man, shows what happens when your work is done by studio technicians. Cam- "Milky Way," a Rudolph Ising cartoon, tells about the three little kittens who lost their mittens.

**N. Y. Hails 'Bridge'**

New York newspaper critics acclaimed "Waterloo Bridge," with Robert Taylor and Vivien Leigh, following its opening at the Capitol Theater.

Exports follow: JOURNAL AMERICAN...Rose Pols- wick: "Miss Leigh and Mr. Taylor are a glamorous co-starring team." TIMES...John Nesbit: "Metro-Gcal-Mayor has made compelling screen drama of Sherwood play. This is Taylor's best screen role."

LIFE...Kate Cameron: "Metro-Gcal-Mayor has made compelling screen drama of Sherwood play. This is Taylor's best screen role."

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The movie is beautiful, intelligent and touch- ing, and fine entertainment finely di- rected by Mervyn Le Roy."

TIMES...Teresa Christensen: "Let there be no doubt about it. Vivien Leigh is fine an actress as we have on screen today."

HERALD TRIBUNE...Howard Barnes: "There is stuff of an absorbing screen drama in "Waterloo Bridge." POST....Arthur Winsett: "Robert Taylor in his best performance. Mr. Mervyn Le Roy, has made an elegant thing out of the picture."

SUN...Eileen Creelman: "The produc- tion is a disaster as one and one that is sure to be popular. Miss Leigh is beautiful as ever. Taylor is a dashing creature, sure of himself, with ready charm and amiable manner."

**Cameras In Armor Created To Film Garbo's 'Mme. Curie.'**

Intensive research and experiment has gotten under way in the M-G-M camera department and laboratories in prepara- tion for the filming of "Mme. Curie," story of the life of the discoverer of rad- ium, slated as Garbo's next vehicle.

Because radio affects film, through almost any material and at even great distances, special methods of photograph- ing its use and emanations are being worked out as the neighborhood built for the affections of a certain girl, and how the quick-fingered leader of the Gang "outsurts" his opponent.


**Turner Opposite Taylor In Drama of the Tropics**

Lana Turner, whose meteoric rise on the screen has been one of Holly- wood's Cinderella stories gets the most important "break" in her ca- reer. She has been assigned a lead, practically a co-starring part, with Robert Taylor in "Tropi- cal Hurricane."

She plays a stranded show girl who finds herself on a river steamer in the heart of the tropics, where she meets a dashing pirate, with the Overseer of a wilderness trading post.

Production will start later in the season after Taylor and Miss Tur- ner finish present commitments.

**Shelton Signed To Term Ticket**

His work in "I Do," opposite Lana Turner, this week won for John Shelton, new arrival on the stage, a long-term contract with M-G-M.

Shelton, a stage actor, came to the studio through a talent scout, was tested and played a role in "The Ghost Comes Home," which led to his choice opposite Miss Turner in her first starring picture.

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