



GINGER ROGERS

Looking at Hollywood

with ED SULLIVAN

Many Film Stars Stepped—Literally—Into Fame

By ED SULLIVAN

Hollywood. THE WRITERS of the ancient Greeks and Romans, who were more observant, perhaps, made a great to-do about the feet of their gods and heroes. It was Homer's original contention that Achilles, hero of the "Iliad," could only be brought down by a blow to one section of his body, the heel, and today, centuries later, the Achilles heel and the Achilles tendon are references in standard use.

Mercury, messenger of the Roman gods, was winged-footed. In their emphasis upon the feet of their heroes the ancients proved that they knew their onions, and Hollywood bears them out.

Take, for instance, the careers which have been stepped out by the educated feet of Ginger Rogers, Sonja Henie, Fred Astaire, Zorina, and Eleanor Powell. The Greeks had a word for it, and this quintet of performers indicates that the word was directly related to swimming pools, Carthay Circle premièrès, and income tax payments.

You might think that a mechanical age would have minimized the importance of the feet, upon which the ancients placed such importance, but it is not so. The Chicago Tribune on my desk has stories on Johnstown, which won a Kentucky Derby on its feet; Foot Racer Glenn Cunningham, Dancer Nijinsky, and a dispatch from the east that Bill Robinson is scoring at the world's fair in "Hot Mikado."

Homer and Virgil, who knew about those things, would have written reams of copy about the size 5-B feet of Sonja Henie and the size 5½-B feet of Ginger Rogers. The foot sizes are B's, but the performances certainly are double A's, as you can discover at your neighborhood theaters. Miss Henie at the moment is manipulating her feet in "Second Fiddle"; Miss Rogers is doing a jitterbug dance in "Bachelor Mother."

These two youngsters came



GEORGE RAFT

to Hollywood from points that are far removed geographically. Miss Rogers came out of the swirling heat waves of Texas, where she embarked on a stage career in consequence of winning a Charleston contest. Miss Henie came from the fjords of Norway in consequence of winning the Olympic figure skating championships so often that the Olympic officials had begun to consider barring Norway from competition.

Plus their common possession of inspired feet, the Misses Henie and Rogers had several other important qualities—ambition, the ability to concentrate, the ability to learn quickly that which was taught to them, and mothers of good taste and excellent judgment. Sonja's mother always is with her in Hollywood; Ginger's mother likewise always is at her daughter's side. Whether or not the daughters need the mothers at this stage of the game is problematical. Hollywood will tell you that Sonja Henie, for all of her feminine softness on the screen, has a grasp of business technique and organization that is startling. RKO will tell you that Ginger Rogers is the *smartest*



ALICE FAYE

judge of a script on that lot. There is very little that escapes her critical observation.

Pandro Berman, who picked Ginger Rogers to team with Fred Astaire in "Flying Down to Rio," gambled \$1,000,000 on his judgment. Darryl Zanuck, who signed Miss Henie, gambled approximately the same amount.

Quite a few Hollywood stars have arrived in the movies on the strength of their pedal extremities, in addition to those I've named. Jeanette MacDonald started out as a dancer in Ned Wayburn's chorus line at the Capitol theater on Broadway. Alice Faye started on the same stage as a \$30-a-week dancer. George Raft danced his way into pictures. So did Ricardo Cortez. Joan Crawford was picked for the movies when she was hoofing in the line of a Shubert musical. Barbara Stanwyck, like Ginger, was a Charleston dance contest winner in the east. Myrna Loy



JOAN CRAWFORD

was a Fanchon and Marco chorine on the stage of the Grauman Chinese theater, and in the forecourt of that house, where her footprints are imbedded in concrete, Miss Loy scrawled: "To Sid Grauman—who gave me my first job."

Two Stars in Color

• Full color pictures of these stars appear on page one of today's Picture Section.

● HERBERT MARSHALL was born in London, England, May 23, 1890, and was educated at St. Mary's college. His father, Percy Marshall, was a well known actor. Herbert worked as a clerk for a firm of accountants, but when he got a small rôle in "The Adventures of Lady Ursula" he made good and eventually became one of England's leading stage stars. In 1928 while appearing in a Broadway play he signed with Paramount. His first picture was "The Letter," opposite Jeanette Eagels. He's six feet tall and weighs about 160 pounds.

● FRANCES DEE was born in Pasadena, Cal., Nov. 26, 1907. When she was 7 years old the family moved to Chicago. She attended Hyde Park High school and the University of Chicago. During a summer vacation in California Miss Dee tried out for extra work. Her first film was "Follow Thru," starring Nancy Carroll and Buddy Rogers. Her big chance came with Maurice Chevalier in "Playboy of Paris." She's 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighs 108 pounds. In real life she's the wife of Actor Joel McCrea and has two children.

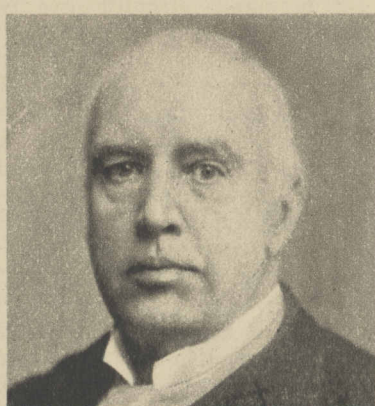


SONJA HENIE

Gems of American Eloquence

• American eloquence has played an important part in the history of our country. From a long list of famous speeches The Tribune is selecting gems of American eloquence which are being presented in this, the Graphic Section, every Sunday. The content of these speeches is important both historically and politically. Men and boys learning to speak in public will find in them helpful lessons. Speakers and writers can learn a great deal from studying their style. This is the seventh of the series.

AT THE Republican national convention in Cincinnati in 1876 James G. Blaine was one of the principal candidates for the presidential nomination, but he was beaten by barely twenty-eight votes in the final ballot by Rutherford B. Hayes. The speech that placed Blaine's name before the delegates is one of the most famous in American political history. It was made by Robert G. Ingersoll, a master of rhetorical display and an outstanding orator of his day. His address on behalf of Blaine, which was delivered on June 15, follows in part:



ROBERT G. INGERSOLL

"Our country, crowned with the vast and marvelous achievements of its first century, asks for a man worthy of the past, and prophetic of her future; asks for a man who has the audacity of genius; asks for a man who is the grandest combination of heart, conscience, and brain beneath her flag—such a man is James G. Blaine.

"For the Republican host, led by this intrepid man, there can be no defeat.

"This is a grand year—a year filled with recollections of the revolution; filled with proud and tender memories of the past; with the sacred legends of liberty—a year in which the sons of freedom will drink from the fountains of enthusiasm; a year in which the people call for the man who has preserved in congress what our soldiers won upon the field; a year in which they call for the man who has torn from the throat of treason the tongue of slander—for the

man who has snatched the mask of Democracy from the hideous face of rebellion; for the man who, like an intellectual athlete, has stood in the arena of debate and challenged all comers, and who is still a total stranger to defeat.

"Like an armed warrior, like a plumed knight, James G. Blaine marched down the halls of the American congress and threw his shining lance full and fair against the brazen foreheads of the defamers of his country and the maligners of his honor. For the Republican party to desert this gallant leader now is as though an army should desert their general upon the field of battle.

"James G. Blaine is now and has been for years the bearer of the sacred standard of the Republican party. I call it sacred because no human being can stand beneath its folds without becoming and without remaining free.

"Gentlemen of the conven-

tion, in the name of the great republic, the only republic that ever existed upon this earth; in the name of all her defenders and of all her supporters; in the name of all her soldiers living; in the name of all her soldiers dead upon the field of battle, and in the name of those who perished in the skeleton clutch of famine at Andersonville and Libby, whose sufferings he so vividly remembers, Illinois—Illinois nominates for the next President of this country that prince of parliamentarians—that leader of leaders—James G. Blaine."

This speech was delivered by a man who probably used more rhetorical flourishes than any other speaker in our history—and got away with it. Notice, for example, the carefully worked out parallel structures in this speech. Notice the figure of the "plumed knight"—which is presented in one of the memorable passages of American oratory. Notice such loaded phrases as "torn from the throat of treason the tongue of slander."

Such speaking techniques are out of style now, and even in Ingersoll's day they would probably have been effective only when spoken by a leader to sympathizers. Today audiences are more sophisticated, or at least speakers are afraid they are. Whichever is the case, the Ingersoll type of public speaking is at present as a matter of history.—Comment by Martin Maloney of Northwestern university school of speech.

Fresh charm, new beauty can come with a lovelier skin!

READ CHARMING MRS. CONNORS' BEAUTY ADVICE:

WEEHAWKEN, N. J.

Camay helps keep my skin looking its very best—and I can't ask more than that of any beauty care! Take it from me—if you want to help your skin look its loveliest, just be faithful to Camay!

(Signed) MARGARET CONNORS
Apr. 28, 1939 (Mrs. Vincent J. Connors)

WOULD YOU EXPECT to help bring out the hidden beauty of your skin without giving it expert care—a beauty care? Of course not! Nothing is more important, according to Mrs. Connors, than thorough, but gentle cleansing—and she recommends Camay! Thousands like her—young brides and older women, too—find Camay just right!

YOU'LL LIKE CAMAY, TOO! For Camay's searching beauty bubbles cleanse skin thoroughly...yet its mild, caressing lather—soft as spring rain—makes even sensitive skin grateful for such gentle care!

FOR YOUR BEAUTY BATH, TOO, you'll find Camay a wonderful help in keeping skin on back and shoulders lovely—a refreshing aid to daintiness! Yet Camay costs so little! Get three cakes today! Watch your skin respond to its gentle care!

Camay

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Trade-Mark Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

HOW MARIE MADE A HIT WHEN SHE TOOK A BRIDE'S ADVICE!

Skin can look so lifeless unless it's thoroughly clean, Marie. You need Camay!



SO MARIE GAVE CAMAY A REAL TRIAL...



Camay is grand! I never thought my skin could ever look so fresh and lovely!



No wonder Marie thanks Camay—when Don's eyes tell hershe's lovely!