

JUDY GARLAND

LIKE HER pug-nosed co-player, Judy Garland is no novice at this show business. And like him her rise to fame has been meteoric. Although she had sung and danced behind many a foot-light before she got within modelling distance of Hollywood, it was not until she appeared in *Love Finds Andy Hardy* and then bagged a contract at \$1500 a week to sing on Bob Hope's radio show that Judy really "arrived." As she stood, breathless and excited before her first big-time broadcast "mike" she may have thought back a few years to the time when she was the youngest of the Gumm Sisters Trio, singing and dancing in vaudeville houses. For Judy comes of show people and she grew up with the smell of grease-paint in her nostrils. By the time she was five she was a veteran of the Gumm act but it was not until she was twelve that she got a Hollywood nibble. A vacationing talent scout heard her at the swank Lake Tahoe Lodge, whisked her off to Hollywood before she could sing tra-la-la. She was given minor parts in such pictures as *Every Sunday*, *Broadway Melody of 1938* and *Thoroughbreds Don't Cry*.

Still her favorite picture is the one that shot her up to join the movie fans' top-ten, *Love Finds Andy Hardy*. Because audiences could see with one eye shut that the Rooney-Garland team was one of the cutest to come out of Hollywood they demanded more of the same, got it in *Babes in Arms*, will get it again in *Andy Hardy Meets a Debutante* and *Strike Up the Band*. *Babes in Arms*, budgeted at the comparatively low figure of \$800,000, smashed all house records when it appeared in New York with Judy and Mickey on hand for a personal appearance. 140,000 people plunked down their money to see the youngsters while 60 policemen tried to keep the crowd in check.

As the box-office grosses mounted studio officials beamed with joy, were doubly delighted when the final figures rolled in and they discovered that *Babes in Arms* had made \$2,500,000—more than any MGM release except *Gone With the Wind*.

There is no doubt that the fact that the Rooney-Garland combine is such an attractive one has contributed to Judy's triumphs. But that very combination may be preventing Judy from getting the individual notice she deserves, for it is no easy job to hold the centre of the stage with an old hand like Rooney pulling all sorts of mugging tricks out of the bag. But Judy isn't worrying. She is making money for her studio—an express ticket to Hollywood success, she is popular with the younger Hollywood set, she enjoys her work. And she has proved by her performance in the fantasy, *The Wizard of Oz*, that she can carry her burden without the help of Mr. Rooney. Judy's is a double-barrelled talent for she can not only sing but her acting is natural, effective. And Mickey, while he likes nothing better than acting with lovely Miss Garland, has demonstrated by his dramatic performance in *Young Tom Edison* that he does an equally fine job with or without Judy.

Click of the Year in the movie field is a difficult choice to make—for here is a big-time business in which "clicking" is a necessary virtue. **CLICK**, however, does not hedge when it picks two, not one, for its accolade; these youngsters not only lead the field but will continue to pull ahead of it.



At two, under-dressed Judy already shows promise of poise and charm.



WHISKING THROUGH THE KINKY KIDS
PARADE with her sisters, Frances Gumm was a cute little tyke who sang and danced like a veteran.

Mickey & Judy CONTINUED

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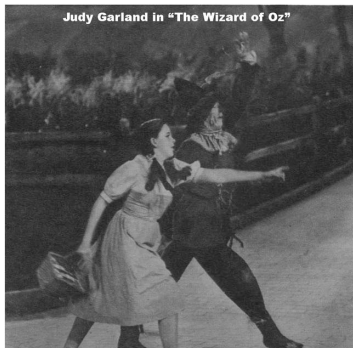


Mrs. GUMM and her talented daughter Judy enjoy working together just as do Mickey and "Mom." Below, with Rooney and his Mother, now Mrs. Pankey, is Joe Yule, Mickey's father, an old-time actor.

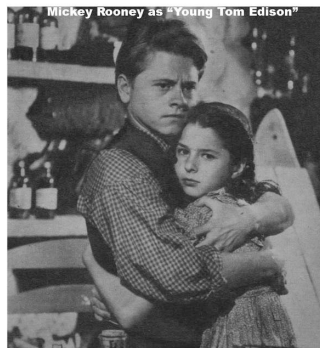


JUDY AND MICKEY KNEW THEY WERE TOPS when they had their hand and foot prints imbedded in concrete at Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Judy was further recognized when she got an *Oscar* for her "contribution in bringing to the screen the spirit of youth," presented to her by Rooney who himself had won the award the previous year. Mickey led the 1939 Motion Picture Exhibitors' box-office poll.

OFF-SCREEN Judy and Mickey are normal, happy young people who enjoy the sort of thing that the kid around the corner likes. Mickey's hobby—and a serious one—is writing swing. Judy studies classical music. Both are close to their mothers for they realize that if it were not for maternal efforts they might not be on the top of the movie heap today. They consider themselves too young for serious romance, laugh at gossip columnists who try to pair them. Mickey considers his best unteamed picture *Young Tom Edison*. Judy highly approved of her role in *The Wizard of Oz*. *Andy Hardy Meets A Debutante* (see page 36), although more trivial, pleases them both.



Judy Garland in "The Wizard of Oz"



Mickey Rooney as "Young Tom Edison"

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TOP MONEY-MAKER for its producers has been the Hardy series. Typical of the films is this scene with Andy deep in despair, while Lewis Stone as Judge Hardy, Fay Holden as "Ma," Sara Haden as Aunt Milly and Cecelia Parker as Marian show concern over Andy's chagrin.



IN ANDY HARDY MEETS A DEBUTANTE, Andy falls in love with the picture of a New York deb, boasts of his *amour* to his Carvel High School friends. When his family suddenly has to go to New York



Andy is stymied, has to meet the deb (Diane Lewis) to uphold his claims of friendship. Discovering that she is a dog-lover he rents the largest dog he can find, tries to strike up a conversa-



tion with her. Repulsed by a well-aimed glance he decides to crash one of her parties, stops for sartorial advice from sub-deb Betsey Booth (Judy Garland) whom he met when

and Adds Another to a Record-Breaking Series

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FIRST OF THE HARDY SERIES in which Mickey and Judy appeared together was *Love Finds Andy Hardy* (above), which beat all previous Hardy box-office records. Their coming picture, now in production, is a musical, *Strike Up the Band* (below), promises to be as great a hit as *Babes in Arms*.



she visited Carvel in *Love Finds Andy Hardy*. Betsy, he discovers, knows Debutante Daphne Fowler, promises him an introduction. With the introduction Andy's dilemma is solved but when he returns to

Carvel he discovers that his girl, Polly (Ann Rutherford), is not enthusiastic about his fling into New York society. This movie is expected to follow the others of the popular Hardy series in ringing up over \$1,000,000.