

I was searching for a leading man. For weeks she had been combing Hollywood for the proper Armand for her "Camilla." Dozens of aspirants had applied but something was wrong with each of them, until we had well nigh despaired of a hero. Then June Mathis, who had written the script of "Four Horsemen," told us of the young Italian who had played Julio in that picture and whom she considered a genuine find. She suggested we give him a trial. Without much hope, we agreed to look him over.

One day, in Hollywood, the door of my office opened to admit Nazimova, followed by a bulky figure dressed in fur from head to foot. I had a glimpse of dark, slanting eyes between brows and lashes white with mica, the artificial snow of the camera world. Down his face perspiration was streaming in rivers, to complete the ruin of the make-up. The effect was not impressive. Here, I thought, is the very worst yet.

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a few hundred years too late. He should have been born in the middle ages, when men wore armor and carried swords, fought duels and won their spurs by riding a horse into battle to fight for a principle—or a beautiful lady. He would have made a dashing Crusader. He would have upheld his cause, however idealistic and lost it was, until carried bleeding from the field. There was nothing of the coward in Rudy, in the physical sense of the word.

Yes, there were two distinct Rudys: First, the artist, very intense, who took himself all too seriously, with no sense of humor in his work. He had a sense of fun, but no humor. He couldn't stand flippant criticism of his acting.

He welcomed the serious constructive kind, but the *dash notes*—how he despised them! I have seen him pitch them all into the fire, swearing vociferously the while. Later, when they came in tons, his secretaries took charge of them and showed him only the intelligent ones, which he answered personally.

When he was making a picture, nothing else existed. He didn't act the part, he lived it. The character he was portraying was a personality with which he identified himself, until he became its living entity. It was as though he made of that character a shell into which he stepped, with all its mental workings and physical habits. This transfiguration began when he started studying the script and continued until the last camera shot was finished. Then he discarded the

**The Two Valentinos**

"When I met Valentino himself I was amazed to find not my romantic hero, but just a boy, quite frank and sincere. Why, he is only a child! At first I was disillusioned, but in another way I liked him the more."

There were two distinct Valentinos—Rudy the artist and Rudy the man. The one was the swashbuckling cavalier who flashed across the screen into the hearts of millions. The other was a simple boy with a childish sensitivity often mistaken for weakness by the undiscerning and the prejudiced. American men, particularly, had no use for him. They looked down on him and criticized him, which hurt him terribly, for he was pitifully anxious to be liked; he wanted their friendship and respect. Had they taken pains to know him, they would have given him both; but he couldn't talk business, politics or the stock exchange. He had no mentality for such things. They lay beyond his grasp because he had utterly no interest in them.

If I, myself, tried to talk business with him I couldn't get his attention. He would be thinking how handsome

were colored by malicious insinuations that cast him in a false light. One of the great penalties the screen star pays for fame is that of having false innuendoes coupled with his name. The public clamors for the intimate life history of its popular idol; rumor and shrewd imagination combine to supply this demand.

In reality Rudolph Valentino was a great artist, one of the few the screen has produced. If he had not been, his fame would have died with him; he would be forgotten now. But he supplied to his public a particular need, which no one else ever filled—a spirit of chivalry and romance associated with a bygone age, but the desire for which is eternal. It is something glamorous and fanciful, suggestive of the adventurous romance which every woman secretarily craves, whether she admits it or not.

But he wasn't given credit for the real art he had. His unusual abilities were neglected to emphasize the grosser side—sex appeal, women, night life, flirtations—anything that would create a wider shopgirl public and a few thousand more fans.

**Too Young for His Fame**

This forced him into a role he hated to play, a role in which he was wretchedly unhappy. But Hollywood gossip accomplished its aim.

**CIVIC CALENDAR**

- Sponsored by The Ossoli Club in charge of Mrs. Konrad Schreier Tel. H. P. 362
- March 14, 6:30 p. m.—Presbyterian Men's Fellowship club dinner. Mrs. C. Edward Thorney, of the Public Utility company will speak on "The Development of Metropolitan Chicago" (illustrated).
- March 18, 2:00 p. m.—Highland Park Woman's club business meeting and program.
- March 18, 19 and 20—D. A. R. State conference, Stevens hotel, Chicago.
- March 19, 10 a. m.—Community Garden Study class—Highland Park Woman's club.
- March 19, 12:30 p. m.—League of Women Voters meeting Highland Park Presbyterian church.
- March 20, 3:00 p. m.—Deerfield-Shields High school P. T. A. meeting.
- March 25, 2:30 p. m.—"Problems of Personality" Mrs. Anne Rogers Ossoli club.
- April 1, 2:30 p. m.—H. P. Woman's club. America in a World Neighborhood. R. C. Pattison Kline.
- April 2, 2:00 p. m.—Lincoln school P. T. A. card party.
- April 3, 3:00 p. m.—Deerfield-Shields high school P. T. A. meeting.
- April 8, 2:30 p. m.—Ossoli club card party. Prizes presented by the board.
- April 10, 2:30 p. m.—D. A. R. meeting. Mrs. Henry W. Boyd, hostess. Musicale; guest day.
- April 11—Spring concert—Deerfield-Shields Township High school.
- April 11, 6:30 p. m.—Men's Fellowship club dinner and program—The Highland Park Presbyterian church.
- April 15, 12:30 p. m.—Annual luncheon, election of officers, reports, program, poetry and songs—Rowena Bastin Bennett.
- April 16, 10:00 a. m.—Community Garden Study class, H. P. Woman's club.
- April 16, 12:30 p. m.—League of Women Voters meeting, H. P. Presbyterian church.
- April 19 to 29—Lincoln school spring vacation—Ossoli club.
- April 22, 12:30 p. m.—Annual luncheon, election of officers and program.

**Boxer Dies on Floor at Great Lakes Station**

Believed to be a victim of a heart attack while boxing against "Kid" Sudan, lightweight, John Lesnewski, 17, a sailor at Great Lakes, suddenly sank to the canvas and passed away within a half hour Wednesday of last week at a boxing show staged at Great Lakes.

It was stated by Joseph "Jack" Kennedy, director of boxing at Great Lakes, that heart disease probably directly caused the youth's death as he went down without being hit.

The end came after about one-half minute of light boxing in the first round and neither puncher had landed any solid blows during that time.

Lesnewski, whose home was at Lorain, Ohio, had enlisted in the navy only a short time ago and according to his friends was an "interested worker."

The youth was examined before entering the ring and found to be in splendid physical condition.

**Lake Level Returned to Normal, Report Says**

The level of the water in Lake Michigan has returned to the normal Chicago datum of 580 feet above sea level, according to the Waterways Bulletin just released by the Mississippi Valley Waterways committee. Surveys by geodetic experts show the level of the lake to be only .69 of a foot higher than the average for the last nine years, the report states. The high point last July was 582.31 feet above sea level.

This information, timely in view of the fact that much of the argument against the Lake Shore drive has been based upon claims that the lake will continue to rise, is made up of impartial statistics compiled by the government. Engineers familiar with the cycles of Lake Michigan lake levels believe that the water will remain above normal for the next few years, but do not anticipate any substantial raise over the present mark.

rests upon business—upon our farms, our factories and counting houses, and our homes. Statistics may be dull in certain aspects, but statistics must be reliably gathered and intelligently compiled if the progress of the nation is to be wisely charted.

**Not Interference**

The census taking should not be considered either coercive or a meddling interference in private affairs. It is performing a function necessary and beneficial to us all, collectively and individually. No one need hesitate to answer frankly and fully the questions asked by the enumerators. They have no personal interest in your affairs. They are merely units in an organization engaged in a mighty task. Utmost secrecy surrounds every census contact.

Under the law the information furnished shall be used only for the statistical purposes for which it is supplied. No publication shall be made by the Census office whereby the data furnished by any particular establishment or individual can be identified, nor shall the Director of the Census permit anyone other than the sworn employees of the Census office, to examine the individual reports.

This is a public service, important and far-reaching. It cannot be successful unless the people themselves realize their responsibility and join the Department of Commerce with confidence and full co-operation in this great government undertaking.

Distribution is a new subject, included for the first time in the present census. It may be described briefly as a census of trade, undertaken to obtain statistics of goods sold by merchants and dealers, wholesale and retail, and of the number of persons employed in the trade. This, and the manufacturing census, will begin at once in the hope that it may be completed before April 2. The merchants and dealers are urged to cooperate with the enumerators when they call for this information.

The Bureau of the Census in Washington has asked the Supervisor, Mrs. Estelle Northam, of this district to broadcast the information that if any family expects to be absent from his home during the month of April, will he write or telephone the Bureau of the Census headquarters for this district, which is located in Evanston, to send the Absent Family Schedule to him, which can be filled out and returned to the bureau or left with anyone who may be in the home when the enumerator calls. This is requested so that no one will be left out of the count when the population report is given of his community.