

They Tell Me That...

ACCORDING to the publicity boys, Errol Flynn expressed complete and pleasant surprise at the announcement of his wife, Lili Damita, that the stork will pay a visit to the Flynn household some time next spring.

The star says he always wanted a son, and he is positive that the child will be a boy.

Lili did not mention anything about the impending visit of the stork to Errol, and he believes she planned to surprise him later.

Or so they say. Such husbandly ignorance is the usual thing in screen stories, but we're just a trifle sceptical about it in real life.

Dog In Divorce Suit

HOWEVER, here's something else to add to your "It-was-bound-to-happen-in-the-end" department: A



ASTA

... Used to the situation.

couple in a Hollywood divorce suit are disputing the custody of the dog.

The dog in the case, at any rate, is used to the situation; he went through it all once before—in a Goldwyn's "The Cowboy and the crazy comedy "The Awful Truth." Lady," in which she co-stars with

Now life has once again caught up with the films. This is how it happened. Asta's master, Alfie Jeffers, is being sued for divorce by Mrs. Gladys Jeffers, who claims that the hound is community property.

Asta is currently appearing as the ghostly, troublesome pup Oscar, of "Topper Takes A Trip."

'Way Down South

THE atmosphere of old Southern colonels, mint juleps and darkies connected with the casting of "Gone With the Wind" seems to have had its effect on David O. Selznick. Anyway, he's now going to make a picture called "Swanee River," based on the life of Stephen Collins Foster, who wrote that song and dozens of other plantation melodies. Foster's life is a good subject for the screen, though it's been done before, notably by Republic in a film entitled "Harmony Lane," which starred Douglass Montgomery.

Kentucky In Colour

STILL keeping the discussion "down South," it has to be recorded that 20th Century-Fox have finished production of "Kentucky." Probably the chief claim to fame of this picture will be that it will show the Kentucky Derby in full colour. We've seen plenty of black and white versions of America's premier turf classic, but now for the first time it will be possible to see the colour of the jockeys' tunics—and even, perhaps, the colour of the bookies' money.

Loretta Young and Richard Greene appear as two modern lovers separated (temporarily) by the traditional enmity between their families inherited from Civil War days. Walter Brennan in a testy old Southern gentleman who knows more about horses than anyone in Kentucky.

Presence Of Mind

EN route to the preview of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Cowboy and the crazy comedy "The Awful Truth." Lady," in which she co-stars with

Our Special Correspondent, Jennifer Quentin, Gives You The Latest Hollywood Gossip

Gary Cooper, Merle Oberon discovered that she was somewhat behind schedule and in imminent danger of being late if she were delayed by autograph hunters.

With resourcefulness worthy of a Girl Guide, Merle borrowed a scarf from her escort, and stepped from her automobile with her writing arm in a sling.

She was passed through the lines with murmurs of sympathy.

Finished At Five?

THE drop in public interest in the Dionne Quins, now aged five, is causing Producer Darryl Zanuck to consider passing up the final feature of their four-picture deal, the contract for which expires on January 1, 1940.

Bob For Bette

BETTE DAVIS is the first star to revolt against the new hair style. In defiance of her studio she has had eight inches shorn off her tresses.

"I don't care what the style experts say," she announces. "The

THREE AT ONCE

British Films On Broadway

RECENTLY, Broadway, New York, looked like Piccadilly, London. Three British nature productions were showing, with outstanding success, at the same time. Two of the three were G.B.D. releases.

"The Lady Vanishes," with Michael Redgrave, was screened at the Globe, to splendid business, while at the Astor Theatre, "Pygmalion" (Leslie Howard and Wendy Hiller), then in its third week, had been showing to "standing room only" from the start.

The third successful British invader of Broadway was Charles Laughton's film, "Vessel of Wrath."

short bob is the sensible length. I won't wear my hair on top of my head any more."

Apart from this minor skirmish, Bette is, at long last, at peace with the Warner studio. Not long ago she was bemoaning the fact that she was held a prisoner—at \$600 a week—by her contract until 1942.

Now her bosses have torn up the old contract and given her a new one with more money and other concessions.

'Mayerling' Previewed In Auckland

THE first preview of a Continental film in Auckland took place the other evening when the brilliant French production "Mayerling" was shown to an audience of 500 at the Embassy Theatre. The reception was most enthusiastic, high praise being given to the work of Danielle Darrieux and Charles Boyer, the stars, and every other aspect of this picture, which has been brought to New Zealand by Metro-politan Films.

Two Pictures—£40,000

ERNST LUBITSCH'S two-picture deal with Metro will net him more than £40,000. First job is directing Garbo in "Madame Curie." and second is "Shop Around the Corner," which he had originally intended to produce on his own.

Huxley Writes Script

ALDOUS HUXLEY, by the way, has been doing the script for Garbo's "Madame Curie" picture. He says he thinks he was chosen for the job because his brother is a scientist!

Huxley is, for an author, unusually philosophic about films and is not a bit worried about what the studio may do with his work, because "the executives know more about making films than I do."

Nevertheless, he has decided views about pictures—and Garbo. The main aim of his



ALDOUS HUXLEY

"... Know more than I do"

treatment has been to show pictorially the processes by which radium was discovered, without too many words.

He has minimised dialogue, believing that Garbo's peculiar quality and personality are better without excessive talk.

\$5000 Flick

WOULD you let Akim Tamiroff flick a cigar out of your mouth with a 25ft. bull whip for \$5000? not to Walter Wanger.



His 20,000-mile aeroplane jaunt to South America to meet Annabella (which sent the gossips into ecstasies of expectation) hasn't dulled Tyrone Power's zest for travel. As soon as he finishes "Rose of Washington Square," he's heading for Australia, and maybe, New Zealand. Also, he's leased an island off the coast of Mexico where he's planning to build a "vacation shack." But whether it's to be a honeymoon bungalow for him and Annabella, he won't say.

Talkie "Tough Guy" Charles Bickford turned the offer down flat.

Perhaps he was right. As he points out, he once spent six months in the hospital after a lion bit him in a Universal picture, and on another occasion he lost a chunk of his leg to a movie alligator. The prospect of losing an eye, a nose or an ear if Tamiroff's marksmanship were not accurate wasn't worth the £5000 offered for the role, in his estimation.

Brian Donlevy, however, is prepared to take a chance. The characterisation is required for "Union Pacific."

CORRECTION.

A CAPTION under an illustration on this page last week gave the name of Walter Wanger as the director of "Wuthering Heights." His husband of Margaret Tallichet, and the ex-husband of Margaret Sullivan. Actually the photograph was one of Director William Wyler, and the caption should have referred to him and

COLUMBIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR HAPPINESS!

Even greater than his brilliant production of "MR. DEEDS"

... hailing

Frank Capra's

world sensation

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

A Columbia Picture

(Approved for Universal Exhibition.)

WATCH FOR RELEASE DATE!



Behold Jean Arthur, Columbia's contract star, hardly recognisable in this up-to-the-minute costume and high coiffure. Miss Arthur's portrayal of "Alice Symamore," in Frank Capra's production "You Can't Take It With You," is one of the best performances of her very successful career.