

QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED OF NORMAN TAUROG

- I LET'S START AT THE BEGINNING, NORMAN. HOW DID YOU HAPPEN TO GET INTO THE MOVIE INDUSTRY?
- II TELL US ABOUT YOUR EARLY DAYS IN HOLLYWOOD. DID YOU COME HERE AS AN ACTOR?
- III WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB AS A DIRECTOR, NORMAN? DID YOU DO ANY TWO-REELERS?
- IV WHAT WERE YOUR FIRST PICTURES WORKING WITH CHILDREN?
- V GETTING DOWN TO SPECIFIC PICTURES, NORM, EVERYONE IS FAMILIAR WITH YOUR WORK IN "SKIPPY", FOR WHICH YOU WON AN OSCAR. WAS THIS YOUR FIRST FULL-LENGTH WITH A MOPPET STAR?
- VI WHICH IS MORE DIFFICULT, NORMAN -- TO GET A COMEDY PERFORMANCE OR A DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE OUT OF A CHILD STAR?
- VII DID THE FACT THAT YOU WERE A CHILD ACTOR YOURSELF HELP YOU IN HANDLING YOUNGSTERS?

VIII

THERE'S SOMETHING THAT PUZZLES ME, NORMAN, AND MAYBE YOU CAN ANSWER IT. WHAT'S THE REASON THERE ARE NO IMPORTANT CHILD STARS -- THE KIND WHO CARRY THE PICTURE SUCH AS JACKIE COOPER, JACKIE COOGAN, SHIRLEY TEMPLE -- IN THE INDUSTRY TODAY?

IX

DO THE TRICKS YOU DEVELOPED IN HANDLING CHILD STARS HELP YOU WITH ADULT ACTORS?

X

DID YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS IN YOUR PICTURES WITH STAGE MOTHERS OR STAGE FATHERS?

XI

NORM, YOU'VE DIRECTED MUSICALS FROM THE EARLY TALKIE DAYS RIGHT UP TO THE PRESENT TIME. IS THERE ANY COMPARISON BETWEEN DIRECTING BING CROSBY OR MAURICE CHEVALIER IN A MUSICAL FILM AS COMPARED WITH, SAY, DEAN MARTIN OR ELVIS PRESLEY?

XII

ON THE SAME SUBJECT, NORM, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DIRECTING A COMEDY WITH JERRY LEWIS AS AGAINST THE OLD-TIME TWO REELERS WITH LLOYD HAMILTON AND LARRY SEMON?

XIII

NORM, IT SO HAPPENS YOU DIRECTED TWO ACTORS IN PARTICULAR WHO WERE KNOWN FOR THEIR EXPLOSIVE INDIVIDUALISM -- W. C. FIELDS AND MARIO LANZA. WHAT'S A DIRECTOR'S APPROACH WHEN HE KNOWS HE'S WALKING INTO THE LION'S DEN? HOW DO YOU HANDLE THESE STRONG-WILLED PERSONALITIES -- DO THEY RUN THE PICTURE OR DO YOU?

XIV RECENTLY, THERE'S BEEN A RASH OF FRENCH AND BRITISH COMEDIES EMPLOYING BROAD SLAPSTICK. WHY DO YOU THINK THESE TALENTED YOUNG FOREIGN DIRECTORS ARE SO INTRIGUES WITH OUR OWN SILENT PICTURE COMEDY TECHNIQUE?

XV NORM, WHY IS IT THAT IN ALL YOUR PICTURES, FROM THE TWO REELERS RIGHT UP TO THE PRESENT YOU'VE ALWAYS USED AN ANIMAL? A DUCK, A GOAT, A PARAKEET, DOGS, A BEAR, A JACKASS -- WHY IS THAT? IS IT A GOOD LUCK OMEN?

XVI (THIS SHOULD BE JACKIE COOGAN'S QUESTION)

NOW FOR OUR LAST AND FINAL QUESTION, NORM. TELL ME,

HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN YOU SEE YOUR OLD PICTURES ON TELEVISION?