

Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

Dear M. C. (alias Calvin Coolidge): What have you got against Julie Andrews? You backed Debbie Reynolds for the Oscar and you have never said a word of praise about Julie, who won it. She's a marvelous actress, she can dance like Ginger Rogers and she can sing like a nightingale. I'm glad the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences doesn't agree with you. — Pamela Mitchell, Pasadena

Dear Pamela: Where were you when Julie, who previously denied any concern over losing "My Fair Lady" to Audrey Hepburn (to every Hollywood columnist including myself) took off after Jack Warner with her snide crack on the Golden Globes telecast? I voted for Debbie (as did Rod Taylor, the only Academy member I've talked to who has given me permission to quote him) because I thought hers was the best acting, better than Julie's winning "Mary Poppins" but NOT better than Julie's "Sound of Music," which I'm sure will be up for another Oscar next year. I wish her all the luck in the world but I also wish she would give straight answers to straight questions. Now tell me how President Coolidge got into the act: after all this gab on my part am I still silent Cal to you, Dear Heart?

Dear Mike: What's the matter with Carroll Baker? — Travis Bentley, Laurelton, N.Y.

Dear Travis: Aside from trying to carry the "sex symbol" image pinned to her tiara by producer Joe Levine while still attending PTA meetings, her doctor has told her to take two weeks off. She was pushing too hard to get Paramount's "Harlow" into release before Electronvision's "Harlow" (starring Carol Lynley). Her sawbones says it's overwork.

Dear Mike: Have Merle Oberon and Marlene Dietrich ever had facial surgery? Where may I obtain their addresses and also makeup artist William Tuttle's? — Mrs. Cecile Harmon, San Francisco

Suspensions On Increase

A total of 138 students were suspended from Torrance schools during March, according to a report given to the Board of Education Monday. Since September, 607 students have been suspended for disciplinary reasons. The figures compare with 110 students suspended during March, 1964, according to the report. The number of students suspended this year is, however, well below the 776 suspended during the September-April period in 1963-64.

Dear Mrs. Harmon: I've had enough trouble with Julie without having Merle and Marlene made at me. Their addresses are public domain in "Celebrity Register," published by Harper & Row) and Tuttle's is M-G-M Studios, Culver City, Calif. Good luck.

Dear Mr. C.: Would Vince Edwards ever marry a girl who is not in show business? I would like to meet him. He seems like a very nice person. — E. B. Cleveland Heights, O.

Dear E. B.: Vince dates pro's and non-pro's alike so it's open season. He's at Desilu Studio, Hollywood. But he warned that his last official statement on The Subject was "I'm not ready for marriage."

Dear Mike: I still get mad when I think about the 1963 Academy Awards. Why did "Cleopatra" win only four awards? I thought the picture was marvelous. It's a shame "Tom Jones" was named best picture because "Cleo" is a motion picture classic. — Don Baker, Falconer, N.Y.

Dear Don: The Academy voters felt the second half didn't come up to the first. Shakespeare ran up against the same snag in "Anthony and Cleopatra" and Shaw encountered it in "Caesar and Cleopatra." The plot says after the exciting Julius Caesar passes from the scene, what I would like to see would be a musical remake with Julie Andrews and Rex Harrison, wouldn't you?

Dear Mike: Are Liz Taylor and Richard Burton planning a tour with the poetry-reading show they did in New York? Where may I see it? — Pearl Hudelson, Roslindale, Mass.

Dear Pearl: No plans. That was strictly a one-shot for charity. But their agents are arranging for them to PLAY poets, here in Hollywood, at the same time — she burning Edna St. Vincent Millay's candle at both ends for Metro while he exercises Dylan Thomas' "sullen art from raging moon" in "Dylan" for Columbia.

Sir: Who is going to play the title role in "The Fatty Arbuckle Story"? I have a fat friend I would like to recommend for the part. — Art Chudacoff, Coraolis, Pa.

Dear Art: It looks like the fat boy in "Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?" He now tips the Toledo at 375 pounds. But there's nothing to stop you from recommending your friend to the producer: Bill Sargent, Electronvision Productions, 9130 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood.

(Mike Connolly will try to answer your questions in his column. He gives no personal replies by mail.)

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