

October 5, 2018

LOVE 'EM AND WEEP - Filmed November 26 through December 7, 1926. Retakes filmed on January 12, and 13, 1927. Released June 12, 1927. Working Title: Better Husbands Week

Hal Roach, H.M. Walker, Fred Guiol and Stan Laurel all contributed to the story and gags in this film.

Director **Fred Guiol** along with Ivan Moffat were both nominated for an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay for adapting Edna Ferber's novel *Giant* into the film *Giant*.

Clara Guiol - Played the maid for Mae Busch in this film. She was the sister of Fred Guiol who directed this comedy. Additionally, Clara was an extra in several other Laurel & Hardy comedies.

Laurel and Hardy do not use their own names in this film. Stan Laurel plays the part of Romaine Ricketts, the aide for Titus Tillsbury. Oliver Hardy's part in this comedy is extremely brief as he plays the role of Judge Chigger with a heavy and bushy mustache.

Several Laurel & Hardy regulars made their debuts in this comedy.

James "Jimmie" Finlayson also makes his debut in a Laurel & Hardy film as Titus Tillsbury a successful businessman. In addition to his work at the Mack Sennett Studios, Fin also appeared in several of the solo films of Stan and Ollie.

Mae Busch (Mrs. Hardy in *Sons Of the Desert*) makes her Laurel & Hardy film debut in this comedy playing a woman from Titus Tillsbury's past. She was a top comedienne at the Mack Sennett Studios before

appearing in such MGM films such as Erich Von Stroheim's *Foolish Wives* and Lon Chaney's *The Unholy Three*. She was also the cause of the breakup between Mack Sennett and Mabel Normand. Disagreements with MGM executives sent her career into a downward spiral. She wound up at the Hal Roach Studios in 1926.

Charlie Hall is the third of the Laurel & Hardy mainstays in this comedy. He plays Fin's butler here, but would go on to be the little menace for many of Laurel & Hardy's comedies in the years ahead.

Vivien Oakland - We saw her last week as the wife of the judge who accidentally got drunk in *Scram*. She was a former Ziegfeld girl. Appearing in her first of six films with Laurel & Hardy. Her role in this film was originally slated for Gertrude Astor. Vivien retired from show business in 1951, settling in Sherman Oaks, California. In the final year of her life, she worked at Neff's Toy Store as a saleslady.

Villie Latimer (aka billed as Billie Latimer) was "old lady scandal" in this film instead of Hal Roach Studios mainstay Gale Henry. During Villie's very brief career, she mostly played spinsters or grumpy old women. In 1925, she was the neighbor in the comedy short *Chasing The Chaser* that was written and directed by Stan Laurel and starring James Finlayson.

Charlotte Mineau - Began her career in films in 1912 working with Charlie Chaplin and Mack Sennett. In addition to this comedy, she appeared in two other Laurel & Hardy short comedies. As Mrs. Tillsbury notice in the scene after her husband faints, the close-up (with Mae Busch in the background) of her shows her saying "Jimmy" in reaction to him on the floor.

Locations

Mae Busch's apartment is located at 610 South Kenmore Avenue in Los Angeles and still stands today. Titus Tillsbury's home is located in the Lafayette Park area of Los Angeles and also still stands today.

CHICKENS COME HOME - Filmed December 30-31, 1930 and January 2 through 10, 1931. Released February 21, 1931.

Chickens Come Home is a remake of *Love 'Em And Weep*. Oliver Hardy takes over James Finlayson's role while Fin portrays the butler, who is more involved in the plot in this version. Mae Busch reprises her role as the other woman while Stan Laurel, once again is supporting his friend and partner, this time, Ollie.

In this film, Ollie and Stan are successful business men dealing high grade fertilizer. Being the success that he is, Ollie has decided to run for mayor.

Oliver Hardy's "**Norvell**" family crest appears in the dinner scene at the Hardy home.

You May Be Fast, But Your Mamma's Gonna Slow You Down - Words by Gil Wells and music by Buddy Cooper. This sheet music shows up in both *Love 'Em And Weep* and *Chickens Come Home*. Released in 1923 and popularized by Marion Harris, Lucille Hegamin & The Dixie Daisies, Billy Murray, The Georgians and Aileen Stanley "The Victrola Girl".

Hamilton "Ham" Kinsey - He was Stan Laurel's stunt double in some of their films such as *Twice Two* and *Them Thar Hills* along with appearing in numerous Laurel & Hardy and Hal Roach comedies in uncredited roles and background characters. A story Stan Laurel shared with his close friend Joe Finck (a retired film cutter) took place when Stan and Hamilton were on the set taking a break together between takes on one of their two reel comedies. Joe remembers Stan saying: "They were sitting in the dressing room, having some drinks, having just a grand time. Then Stan said to Ham, "Boy, this is the life!" Just as Stan said that, the ground started to tremble, they heard a strange kind of noise and the whole building started to shake. It was the great California earthquake of the mid-1930's. Stan said, he was always proud of his timing."

Dorothy Layton - had a very brief career in Hollywood. From 1922 through 1934, the Western Association of Motion Picture Advertisers (WAMPAS) selected 13 girls to be WAMPAS Baby starlets. The ladies were chosen for their Hollywood promise and future success. Dorothy was among the 13 girls selected in 1932. Ginger Rogers and Gloria Stuart were in that line-up with her that year. This was her first of four films with Laurel & Hardy. She left Hollywood in 1934, got married, raised a family and became a volunteer worker. In a 2001 interview about her life in Hollywood she said. "I'm never too chatty about those days. I was fond of most of them and often wonder how my life would be had I stayed. Volunteer work gave me a sense of belonging whilst Hollywood was false and phony and really made no sense at all."

In the scene where Ollie accidentally pushes the intercom button and his entire staff walks in, the people are: Venice Lloyd (wife of cameraman Art Lloyd), Baldwin Cooke (appeared in 31 films with Laurel & Hardy), Alice Cooke (Baldwin's wife and friend of Stan - together Stan, Baldwin and Alice formed the Stan Jefferson Trio and

toured in vaudeville), Hamilton (Ham) Kinsey (Stan Laurel's double and Clara Guiol (Fred Guiol's sister from *Love 'Em And Weep*).

According to **Alice Cooke**: She and her husband (**Baldwin Cooke**) met Stan Laurel in St. Thomas, Ontario in 1915. The Cooke's had ended their partnership with another act and teamed up with Stan to form the Stan Jefferson Trio until 1918. Years later when Stan found out the Cooke's had moved to southern California, Alice said, "He insisted we join him on the Roach lot and so Baldy and I went to work doing supporting parts in Laurel and Hardy and other Roach pictures for twenty years."

Clara Guiol - The sister of director Fred Guiol. She also appeared in *Love 'Em And Weep*.

Venice Lloyd - was the wife Hal Roach Studios cameraman Art Lloyd. Longtime devoted Sons Of The Desert member.

Spanish Version of *Chickens Come Home* (*Polítiquerías*) was filmed at the same as the English version. The voices in the Spanish version are actually Laurel & Hardy's. They were not dubbed by other actors.

Patsy O'Byrne - With nearly 60 film credits to her name, Patsy O'Byrne was a character comedienne of the silent screen who usually played busybodies, matrons and an assortment of wicked old women in films with Will Rogers, W. C. Fields and Lucille Ball.

Thelma Todd appeared in Laurel & Hardy's first all talking film, *Unaccustomed As We Are* in 1929. In addition to five more films with Stan and Ollie, she was featured in comedies with The Marx Brothers along with Wheeler and Woolsey. Plus, she teamed up with Zasu Pitts and later Patsy Kelly starring in her own comedy series at the Hal Roach Studios. Her untimely death in December of 1935 has been the

subject of many books, magazine articles and discussions for over 80 years.

Norma Drew - Played Stan Laurel's wife. Appeared in *Our Blushing Brides* with Joan Crawford along with the 1934 version of *Imitation Of Life* with Claudette Colbert. Norma was also a descendant of two United States Presidents: Zachary Taylor and Ulysses Grant.

REFERENCES:

Laurel & Hardy: The Magic Behind The Movies by Randy Skretvedt

The Comedy World Of Stan Laurel by John McCabe

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Internet Movie Database