

Here's your chance to know all about the new Joan

RS. FRANCHOT TONE stood sapling-slim against the wall, and breathing deeply, reached for glorious high notes, and achieved them. Her music teacher at the piano smiled contentment and approval as her fingers raced over the keyboard in accompaniment! The girl taking her music lesson—the girl you know as Joan Crawford, in her sleeky-tailored white slack suit, was as unlike the Joan Crawford of a few months ago as the mind can conceive. There was the same broad, intelligent brow, the same deep eyes, the same fluent mouth, the same intentness, which always characterized her. But the point of difference was a quietness as penetrating as it was intangible.

For years the most remarkable characteristic of this ardent young person was a driving force. Not always with purpose—not always with clarity. But so intensified that at various times it high-lighted the varying facets of Joan's personality, giving basis to the many stories about the "changing" Joan Crawford. Unquestionably it is marriage. Unquestionably it is because Franchot Tone has correlated her qualities and talents—even the forcefulness of her ambition. Certain it is,

that as she stands there while the minutes tick away in that sound-deadening room, (so that she might receive no distorted idea of the importance or the beauty of her voice) this is a Joan Crawford who becomes in turn an inspiration and a revelation.

There is a poise in her bearing. A lack of emotional tension which adds not only to her as a person, but also as an artist. She has had self-assurance before—that is indicated by the distance she has traveled from her beginnings. She has had faith in herself before—for women with little faith do not span the distances between a job in the chorus and stardom on the screen. Such a hurdle demands courage as well.

This Joan Crawford is the embodiment of all the Joan Crawfords who have been presented to the public. It is my belief that in reality those varying Crawfords were only phases of the same girl—a girl who was seeking the underlying personality within herself, and was succeeding merely in revealing small portions of herself as crises in her life arose. Today she is a happy Joan. Because at last she has found a love which permits her completely to lose herself, she has, paradoxically enough, found herself! [Continued on page 76]

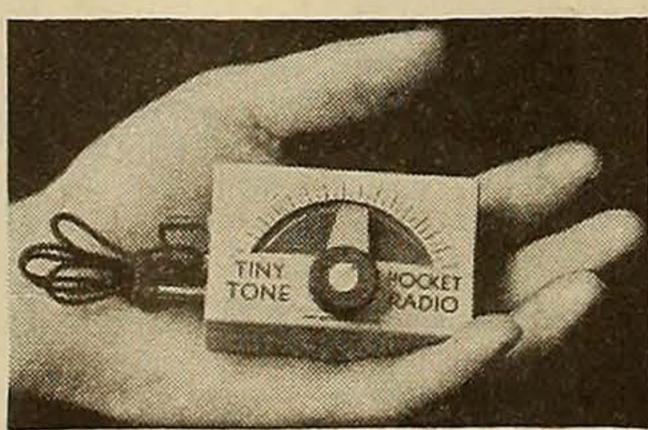


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## What Joan Crawford Found in Marriage

[Continued from page 30]

TOAN has found in Franchot Tone, a person to whose interest she is more not only a diversion, but it also promises devoted than she has ever been to her own. Not that she has been selfish, but nothing commanded her heart to the exclusion of all else. Franchot Tone does. She is more interested in his career, in his happiness, than any other thing in life. At the present, she is preparing for the Gorgeous Hussy while Franchot is working. And so now, months after their marriage, when six o'clock comes and she knows that Franchot will be home shortly, she is the eager, vibrant girl whose day is defined by his home-coming.

Peace she has—a peace so enveloping that it is with considerable interest that I look forward to her next picture. For in it should be revealed a Crawford whom the world has never seen before. A girl whose talents will be far more rounded, far more dazzling. Perhaps the reason Joan has this air of quietness about her is that the road before her is clear. At last she has the thing she has never had

before—security.

No matter how great a star is, no matter to what heights a woman climbs, there are moments when she wants to be only a woman, completely feminine and in some aspects, helpless. There has never been one person in Joan's life who has protected her. No one who has given her the sense that if danger were to arrive, they would be there to guard her. Franchot gives her that safety and that freedom from care.

Since her marriage, Joan has not made a picture. The studio has been seeking suitable material and in The Gorgeous Hussy, a story of the era of Andrew Jackson, was found the costume vehicle for which she has been asking so long. She looks forward to it with extraordinary delight, for it will give her an opportunity to be something else besides varying versions of the Dancing Daughter. Joan takes her career today more seriously than she has ever done before, but not so intensely. It is this ripened, matured Joan who will undoubtedly present the best work of her life.

HER plans for the future hold the promise of additional achievement. Music definitely enters into the scheme. Four years ago Joan discovered she had a voice. At first she studied popular music, making a record of one song each month so that she might see her musical development as she went along. Two years ago, about the time when Franchot Tone entered her life, her interest turned to opera. Franchot has had a splendid musical background and his knowledge of opera and every department of music is great. He imparted his enthusiasm to Joan, and together they began their study. What had at first been only a suspicion became a certainty with training. Joan has an astonishing voice, with three octaves in range, and with a middle register mellow and true, and full-bodied.

With the same intensity with which she had climbed to fame, she began the serious and consistent study of music under a coach. Since her marriage, with weeks of leisure at her command, she has taken a lesson each day. Frequently, it is three and four hours in duration. Simultaneously, with her study of music, is her study

of languages, because to Joan, music is to become her future career.

Franchot, too, studies consistently. Because of his former training, he is, naturally, farther advanced than his wife. But according to their teachers, Franchot should be ready for opera this side of three years. Joan possibly will need an additional six months or a year before she

is ready.

Definitely then, there is another career for Crawford which may well parallel her screen appearances. An amazing career for a girl who had never suspected her own abilities, even though she had always had a secret yearning to sing. Ever since Joan was a child, she sang in the bathtub, as other children do. But Joan would sit in the steaming water for hours on end. "That's the only place my voice sounded all right," she reports. She had hidden this dream of a musical career for years perhaps abashed at even the thought of such a desire.

THE impetuous, the restless, the too sensitive Crawford is now part of the past. The Crawford of today is a woman who has achieved an extraordinary peace in love. One who has plans, but is not impatient with her planning. One who has a calm and full-visioned attitude towards the future.

She enjoys her position as Mrs. Franchot Tone fully as much—if not more than her niche as Joan Crawford. Without question, Joan will have children. Perhaps not in the immediate future, but certainly before many years have passed. She has the wholesome view that children are essential to the rounded and complete

life of a woman.

Her marriage has been a magnet which has brought into one fine whole all her phases, all the aspects of this kaleidoscopic personality. There will be no drastic changes in her character from now onthat I venture to prophesy. There will be progress, because Joan is a girl whose life is based on growth—who has always grown! Marriage has fused all the aspects of her character into one. Franchot has brought into her life the priceless ingredient of protection.

And as a result, while her talents have been a by-product of her own driving ambition, the talents she will display in the future will be the by-product of a

great marriage!

THEN—In 1910, out at the Essanay studios in Chicago, there was considerable suppressed excitement over the signing up of a handsome young chap called "The Gibson Man." It turned out to be J. Warren Kerrigan of later Covered Wagon fame and he certainly went far in pictures. His first picture, made for Essanay in Chicago, was A Voice from the Fireplace.

NOW-Kerrigan, still youthful-looking, lives in retirement in his home, just at the brow of a hill on the pass over which one travels from Hollywood to get to Warner Broth-

ers' and Universal Studios.