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- \* Details: from Margaret Young to Annette Kuhn
- \* Notes: This transcription has rendered the original text as written, including some spelling and grammatical errors. Enclosed with questionnaire and provides further memories of cinemagoing in Glasgow. Part of continued contact with Margaret Young who also took part in two interviews. Sister of respondent Mollie Stevenson [MS-92-002]

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#### QUESTION-NAIRE

My earliest recollection of being in a cinema was with my mother. I would be about five. It was a comedy with, I think, Harold Lloyd. He got his foot stuck in a spittoon and while everyone was in fits of laughter I was crying my eyes out as I thought he would have his foot caught forever. My mother had to take me out of the picture house. This would be 1930.

From about 1935-1950 I would visit the cinema about three to four times a week. Sometimes on a Saturday I would go in the afternoon and in the evening. Sometimes I would watch the same programme twice if I thought the usherette did not notice me. When I was young I would go to the cinema with my mother, father or my sister. When I was older I would go with my girlfriends and later on with the boyfriends.

I went to the local picture houses when I was younger and then into the town when I was older. The locals in Riddrie were the Rex, the Riddrie, the Parade in Dennistoun and the one in Marne Street known locally as "the flea pit" [probably referring to the Park Cinema]. In town we frequented the Regal, Paramount, La Scala, the Savoy and Cranstons.

My pin-up for years was Errol Flynn. I thought he was the perfect specimen. He happened to appear in a film of that name [referring to *The Perfect Specimen*]. Deanna Durbin, Mickey Rooney, Judy Garland,

Katharine Hepburn, Carole Lombard, Cary Grant – I have a list of my favourites in the jotter – were all favourites of mine. They seemed to be so glamorous, talented and fun.

The films I looked forward to seeing were the "Andy Hardy" movies with Mickey Rooney, Deanna Durbin films, Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers films, Eddie Cantor films, e.g. *The Kid from Spain*, *Roman Scandals*. I think the latter film had a coloured ending with an ice cream factory being opened to the local children. The Marx Brothers in *A Night at the Opera* comes to mind as does *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* with Gary Cooper and Jean Arthur, Errol Flynn and *Robin Hood* (there's a list of his films in the jotter), Katharine Hepburn in *Bringing up Baby* with Cary Grant, the *Gold Diggers* films [referring to the *Gold Diggers* series made by Warner Brothers], Robert Donat [likely mistaken for Michael Redgrave] and Margaret Lockwood in *The Lady Vanishes*, Robert Donat and Madeleine Carroll in *The 39 Steps*. My mother and I saw "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" in the Parade and it cost my mother 3d and 2d for me.

I collected cigarette cards of film stars and still have 45 out of 50 in the original folder. They were issued with Players Navy Cut cigarettes.

My sister and I devoured the American film magazines, such as *Photoplay*, *Modern Screen*, *Screen Stories* and the *Picturegoer*, which I'm not sure was British or American. I still have the following books – *Stars and Films of 1938* and *Film Stars of the World*, which I received on my birthday [day and month redacted] 38 and *The Adventures of Robin Hood* – a book of the film. If they can be of use to you, let me know.

My other interests other than going to the pictures were reading, listening to the wireless and playing street games with my pals. Later on I took an interest in tennis.

Glamour, excitement, fantasy land and fun were what attracted me to the flicks.