Carleton Carpenter recalls MGM days

By ETHEL SIMMONS

When Carleton Carpenter was a young contract player at MGM, he and Debbie Reynolds sang a song together, "Aba Dab honeymoon," about a couple of loving chimpanzees.

The song, released from the sound track of their film "Two Weeks With Love," was a sensational hit, which earned them a gold record. Later they collaborated on "Row, Row, Row" for another gold record. Later they collaborated on "Row, Row, Row" for another gold record. Later they collaborated on "Row, Row, Row" for another gold record. Carpenter an of Epishem Services on the MGM tot at the "time there was a schism in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and his earned them a gold record. Later they collaborated on "Row, Row, Row" for another gold record. Carpenter an of Epishem Services and the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the them there was a chism in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the the down of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the work of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the death of the missian in the studio between founder Louis B. Mayer and the studio

Besides performing in more than 16 being remaking days.

HE DOESN'T mind being remove the provided of the prov

Besides performing in more than 16 major motion pictures, Cairpenter has been starred or featured in more than 20 Broadway shows. In the last five or six years, what he has enjoyed most is the work he has done off-off Broadway. In December he performed in a Playwrights Workshop production of "Rocky Road" for which he did not not be seen to be seen as the production of t

"Arsenic and Old Lace," the comedy clasic by Joseph Resselring, is about two little old ladies who murder nice gentlemen boarders to free them from suffering any unhappiness.

Carpenter stars as Mortimer, the ladies' nephew, who is the only one in the family or household who is not a little

family or household who is not a little crazy.

"He's same enough to tie everything tagether." Carpenter said. Cary Grant played Mortimer in the movie version of the Broadway hit.

MORTIMER'S AUNTS are played by Jean Barker as Abby and Jeanne Arnold as Martia. Jean Barker is short and round.

"She was born in Josephine Hull's body — that's Terry's line," Carpenter said.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" is sold out for its run through Feb. 22. An extra matinee has been added for Feb. 17, however.

however.
"It's a lovely cast," Carpenter said.
He has worked with Jeanne Arnold,
who frequently stars at Meadow Brook,
in Theatre East in California.
"Jeanne Arnold is fun," he said. Of
Jean Barker's role in the play, he said.
"She's dear in it."
Besides his stene method.

"She's dear init."
Besides his stage work, Carpenter has pursued a writing career that began with writing short stories for magazines. In 1972, he started writing mystery novels and has had many of them published.

published.

He also has written a musical,
"Twofer," with two other writers, and
is "deep into the second act" of a show,
"Scupant," which stands for "Single Room
Oscupant," which he says he is writing
with Geraldine Fitzgerald in mind.



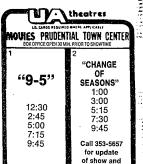
Carleton Carpenter has come a long way since those early days under contract at MGM, but people still remember him for that "goofy song," "Aba Daba Honeymoon." (Staff photo by Stephen Cantrell)

CARPENTER'S NEWEST movie is
"Graduation" with Farley Granger.
The thriller, which has not been released yet, was shot in New Jersey. He
abaying a 1945-type emee at a high
school party.
Last December, Carpenter appeared
at Stratford in Dickens" (Christimas
Carol" in which he played two female
characters, a tradition in English pantomime.
During 1980, he also played one of
the two stepsisters in "Cinderella" for
the St. Louis Municipal Opera. Last
year was, he said, "The year of the
drag!" 1 got tired of getting into those
'loo-zooms'!"

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