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THE QUEEN MEETS THE STARS

In a Leicester Square cinema, celebrities gather for the social event of the week, the Royal Command Film Performance. Their names read like a page from film-land's "Who's Who." Here's Robert Donat and Glynis Johns. And here - Hollywood's Elizabeth Taylor, escorted by namesake Robert. Also present - Associated British star Michael Denison and wife Dulcie Gray. Representing Anglo-American co-operation Bobby Henrey and Billy de Wolfe. For the second time in three years, a British film - with late arrival John Mills as its star - is the picture chosen to receive Royal recognition. The Queen greets Sir Philip Warton and other leaders of Britain's film industry.

Stealing the show from all the stars is six-year-old Auriel Calvert, whose excitement at presenting a bouquet to Princess Margaret calls for a smile all round.

For the Queen, dressed in a magnificent crinoline gown, it's the first public appearance since the King's illness. But, as Stephen Murray and Patricia Neale head the stars waiting to meet the Royal Party they note that the Queen's smile is as ready and gracious as ever, despite the natural concern she must feel about the King's health.

Acclaimed as the most attractive star of the show - Hollywood's evergreen Myrna Loy.

Staged in aid of the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund, Command Performance ends at midnight, as the Royal Party say good-bye to filmland.