

Man with a past--and future¹

The share-cropper's boy who once hunted food for his hungry family and then became a war hero has finally found love and success

He felt the scene wasn't coming off properly and asked for several retakes. When the director protested impatiently, the actor said, "You forget that I'm working under a great handicap." "What handicap?" fumed the director. Said Audie Murphy, "No talent."

A sharp sense of humor, a good sense of proportion and a quiet self-confidence have been Audie Murphy's saving graces in a lifetime of difficulty and pain. The 29-year old Texan who used to hunt food for his family after his share-cropper father deserted them, and who won 24 wartime decorations—including

the Medal of Honor – before he was old enough to vote is now supplying the same determination to his movie career.

He's a sentimental, temperamental Irishman who reins his feelings in tight and shows the world a mask of indifference. Yet he's been known to leave his last dollar as a tip to a waiter.

He seems to have achieved happiness at last with his second wife, Pam, and their little boy Terry. And it looks as though pain and poverty are gone forever.

¹ "Man with a past--and future." Hollywood Men Maco Magazine 1953. Last entry.