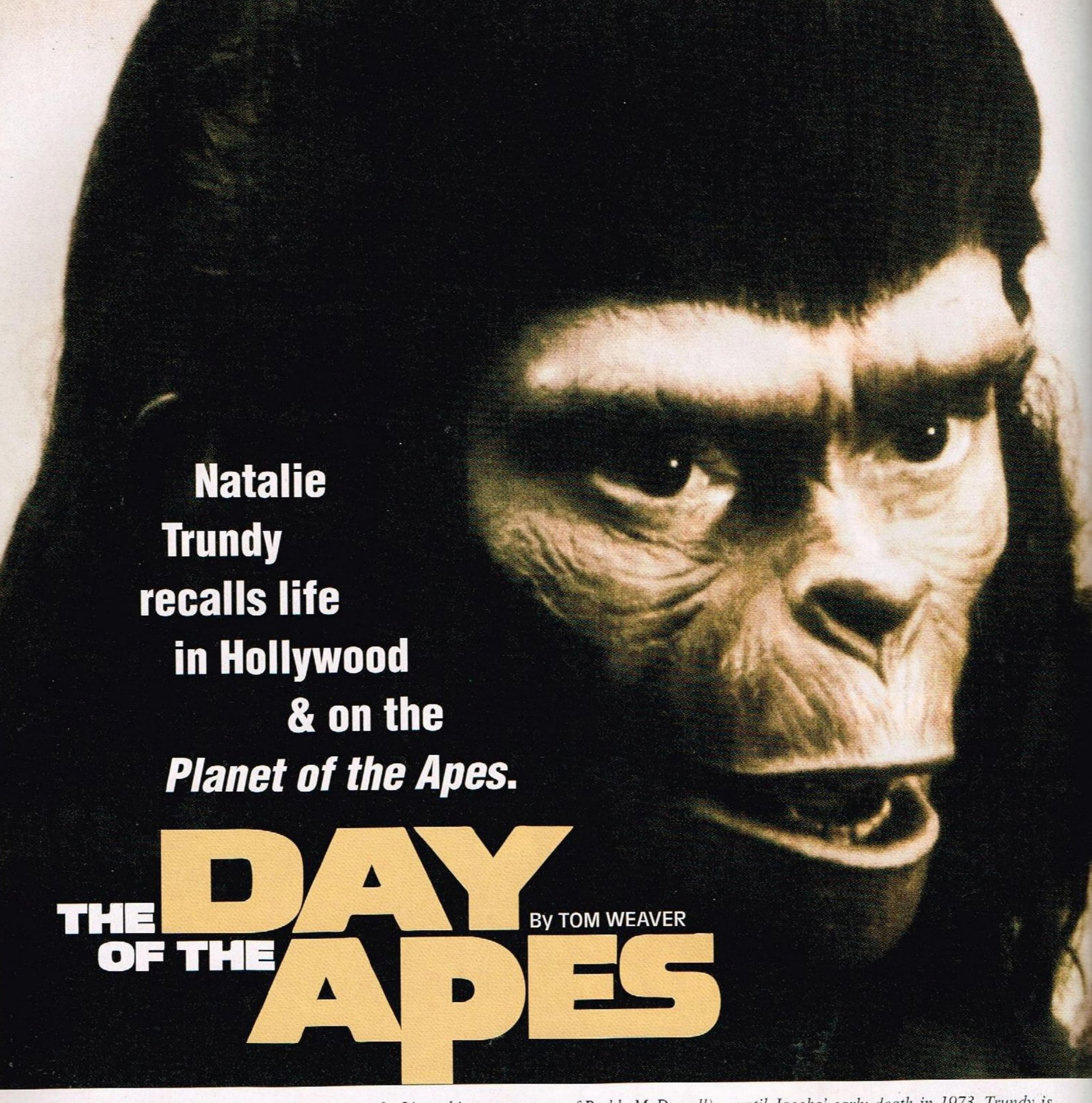


BEREE BEREIN





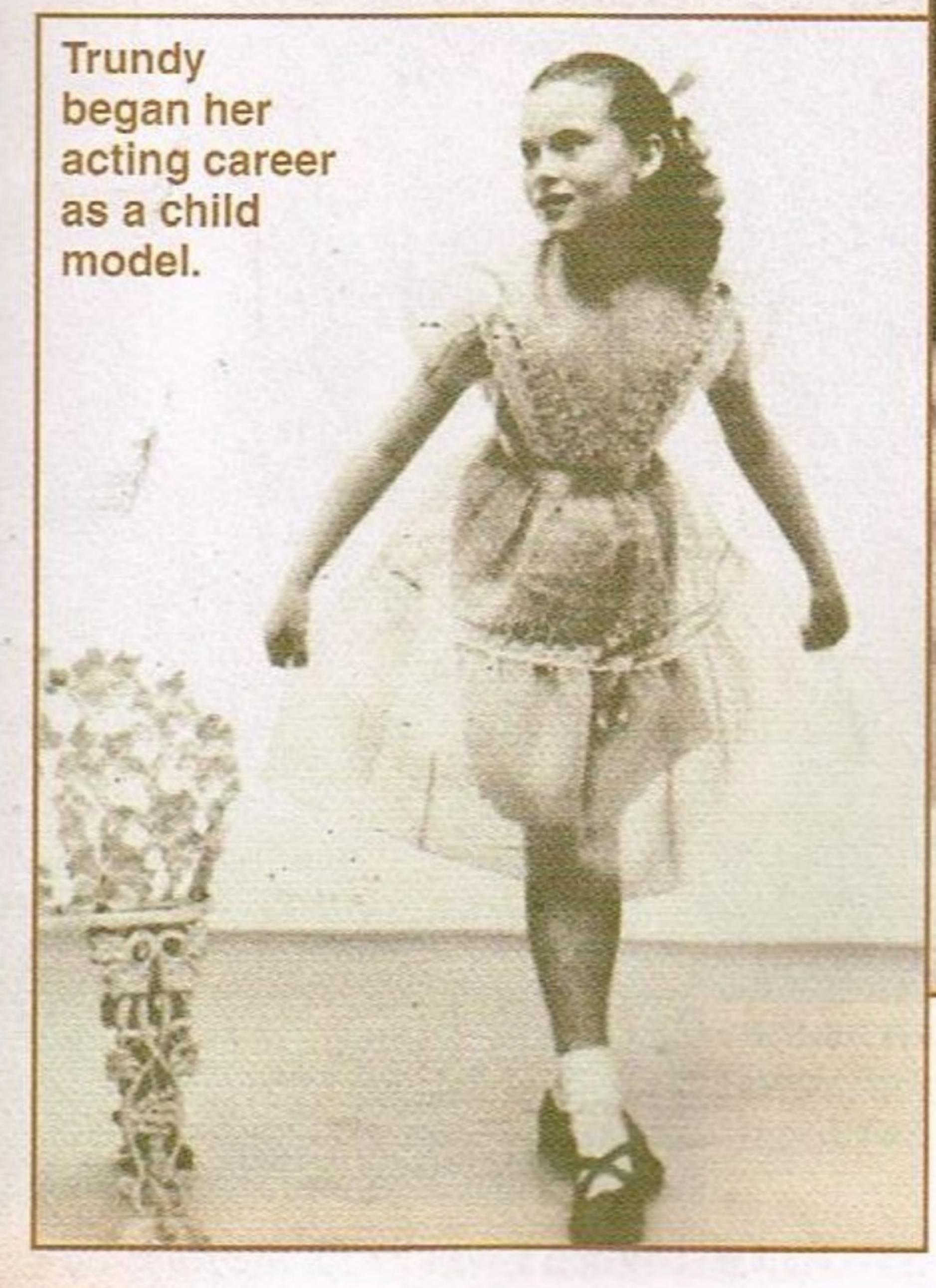
issing from too many discussions of Lisa, chimpanzee mate of Roddy McDowall). Tim Burton's new Planet of the Apes is any mention of Arthur P. Jacobs, for the camera from an early age and was the highly successful public relations man turned movie producer who shepherded the original five-film Apes series (1968-73) into production and spawned the entire Apes phenomenon. And who better to help rectify this summer performances was caught by prosituation than actress Natalie Trundy, who ducer Samuel Taylor, who was searching for NATALIE TRUNDY: I met him when I was was not only Mrs. Jacobs during this "hair- an actress for his upcoming film The Monte making The Monte Carlo Story. He was not storic" era, but played in all four sequels to Carlo Story (1957). Fourteen-year-old yet a producer—he was still in public relathe original: 1970's Beneath the Planet of the Trundy and her mother were whisked off to tions—and he represented Marlene Dietrich, 8 Apes (as the subway-dwelling mutant Albi- the title city, where she worked with stars the principality of Monaco, Prince Rainier 2 na), 1971's Escape from the Planet of the Marlene Dietrich and Vittorio De Sica-and Apes (as a human animal expert), 1972's Conquest of the Planet of the Apes and They met a second time years later, married

Boston-born Trundy showed an affinity modeling by her ninth year. She won her first acting job (as Red Riding Hood on live TV) at age 11, moving on to commercials, more live TV, Broadway and summer stock. One of her encountered Arthur Jacobs for the first time. 1973's Battle for the Planet of the Apes (as in 1968 and lived in the Hollywood fast lane

until Jacobs' early death in 1973. Trundy is today the president of Jacobs' company (APJAC Productions), but devotes more of & her time to church work and her pet dogs.

STARLOG: According to your publicity, & you were a teenager when you first met \{ \frac{1}{2}} Arthur P. Jacobs.

and Grace Kelly. Right in the middle of the street where we were filming, he told my mother, "When she grows up, I'm gonna marry her." And he did! I was his only wife. o



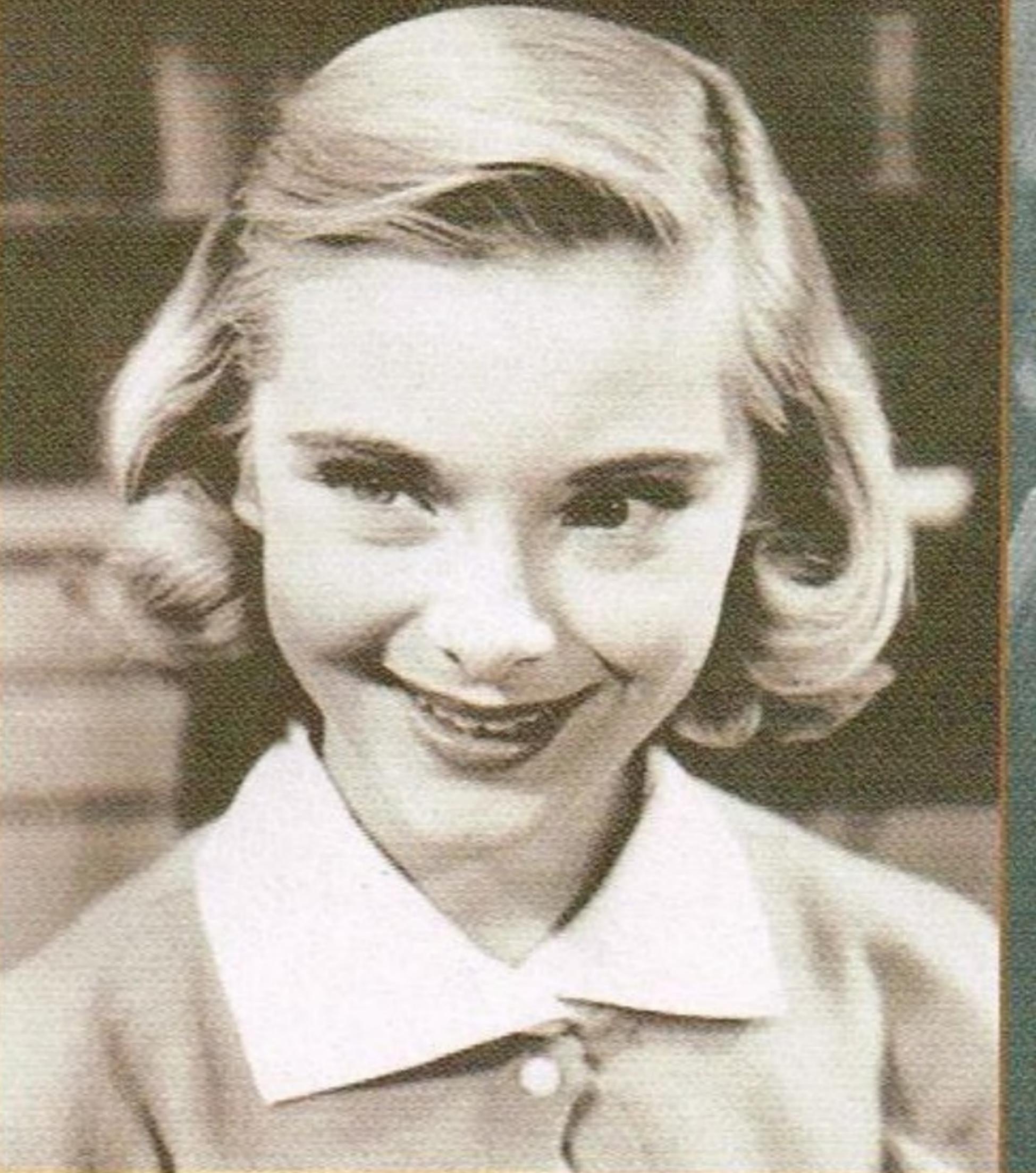


I'm sure he had many girl friends, but I was she recognized Arthur and started chatting the only wife.

said that?

TRUNDY: No, no, he said it to my mother, away from me. I'm looking at this man, more than twice my age, and I asked my mother, was 30-something years old, for crying out from there. loud, and I was not even 15 yet! I was just a STARLOG: And you got married in London little girl, and he was considerably older, in 1968. Who was at your wedding? needless to say. Anyway, we met again years TRUNDY: Mort Abrahams [co-producer of later, and ended up married and happy.

STARLOG: In between your first two meetings with Jacobs, you did a lot of TV, including Thriller and The Twilight Zone.



She was on Broadway at age 13 in A Girl Can Tell (1953).

episode ["The Twisted Image"]. To tell you pictures. And of course Vanessa and my parthe truth, I don't remember how I got the part. ents, and my sister and aunt and uncle. I obviously must have auditioned. It was a STARLOG: Were you dating him in 1967 Nielsen. I knew Leslie personally as well— Apes? Did you visit the sets of that movie? who has now been nominated for many the part.

STARLOG: How did you happen to meet up ice? I don't want any booze, just iced tea!" with Arthur Jacobs the second time?

TRUNDY: I was living with a girl friend of TRUNDY: If you want to call it a hotel. You mine, Vanessa Mitchell, and her little son. We don't want to know about it [laughs]! Then shared a flat together in London. We were so when we made Tom Sawyer [1973], that was poor—like church mice. Vanessa and I used in Missouri, and that was just as bad [hot]. I to go to her son to get pennies to take the tube had to stay there for that whole thing. Then [subway] into London! Well, Vanessa went to

Natalie Trundy was Lisa, chimp mate to heroic Caesar in Conquest of the Planet of the Apes and its follow-up Battle.

the opening of the Playboy Club in London and there Arthur was, sitting there, very morose. Arthur was living in London at this time filming Doctor Dolittle [1967]. Vanessa was with her boy friend, and

with him. She said, "You'll never guess STARLOG: Were you right there when he who's living with me. Natalie Trundy." He perked up—and he rang me the next day and invited me out to dinner. I refused. Then, he sent me this great big thing of flowers that took up the whole living room of our poor "Who's that old man?" As far as I was con-flat! So I agreed to go to lunch with him. He cerned, he was just an old man [laughs]! He sent his chauffeur to collect me...and it went

the Apes movies], Carol Channing, Peter O'Toole, Petula Clark, [composer] Leslie Bricusse and his wife Evie [actress Yvonne Romain]—there were so many people, I can't



Jimmy Stewart's daughter in Mr. Hobbs Takes a Vacation.

TRUNDY: For Thriller, I was in the first even remember. Sammy Davis took a lot of

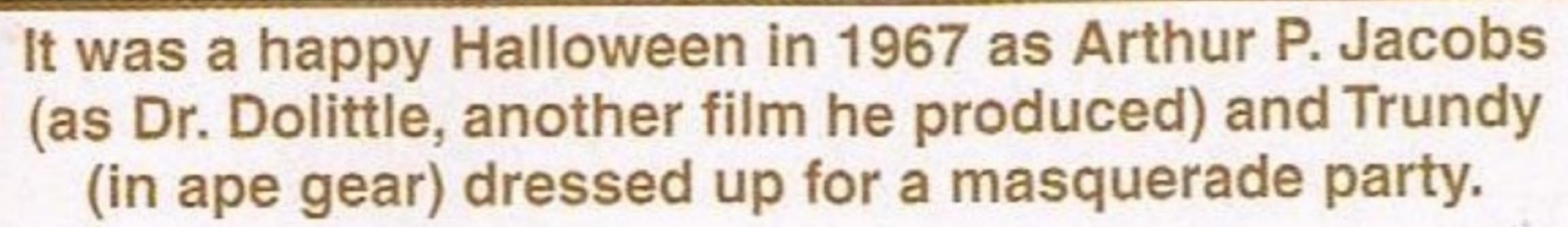
[Fatal Attraction-type] part, hounding Leslie when he was making the first Planet of the he lived up the street from me [laughs]. I was TRUNDY: How 'bout Page, Arizona? Oh, still young and couldn't drive yet, so he used God in Heaven, 120 degrees! That's where to pick me up in the morning and take me to they shot the opening parts of the movie. And Universal! It was directed by Arthur Hiller, Arthur couldn't go because he already had a bad heart at the time. So, guess what, I had to awards. Twilight Zone ["Valley of the Shad- go. I called him and said, "You know, Arthur ow"] was a little on the weird side, to say the P., I'm gonna dump you now!" Page, Arileast [laughs], but it was a fun show. I met zona, even at nighttime, it's 100 degrees. It Rod Serling—he was a very nice person. He was awful. We had fans; there was no air conactually interviewed me when I was up for ditioning. I said, "Can anybody bring me another cup of iced tea, please, with a lot of

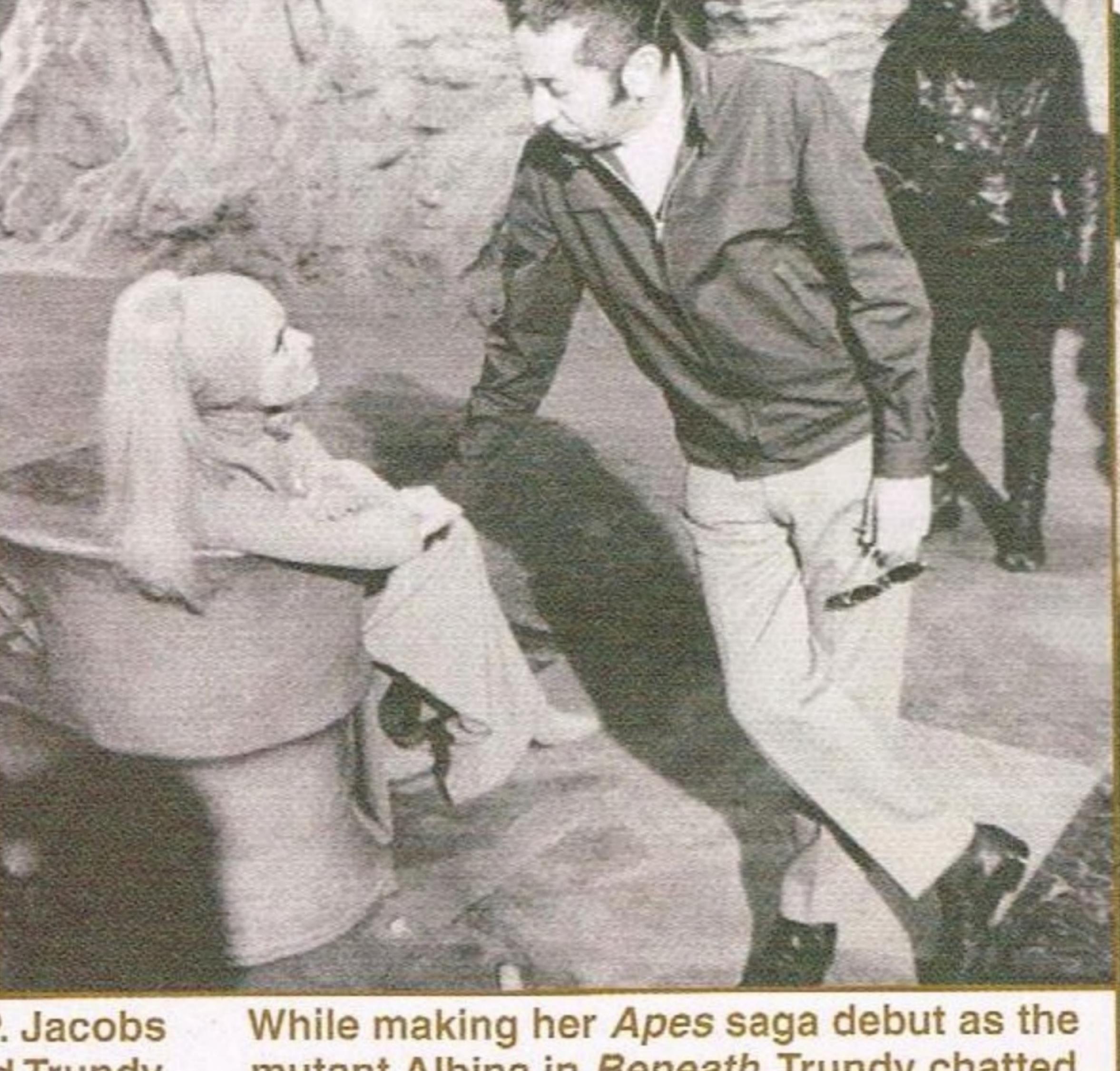
STARLOG: Were you staying in a hotel?

Escape provided Trundy with her second role in the Apes series—as a human. She went chimp for the final two films.

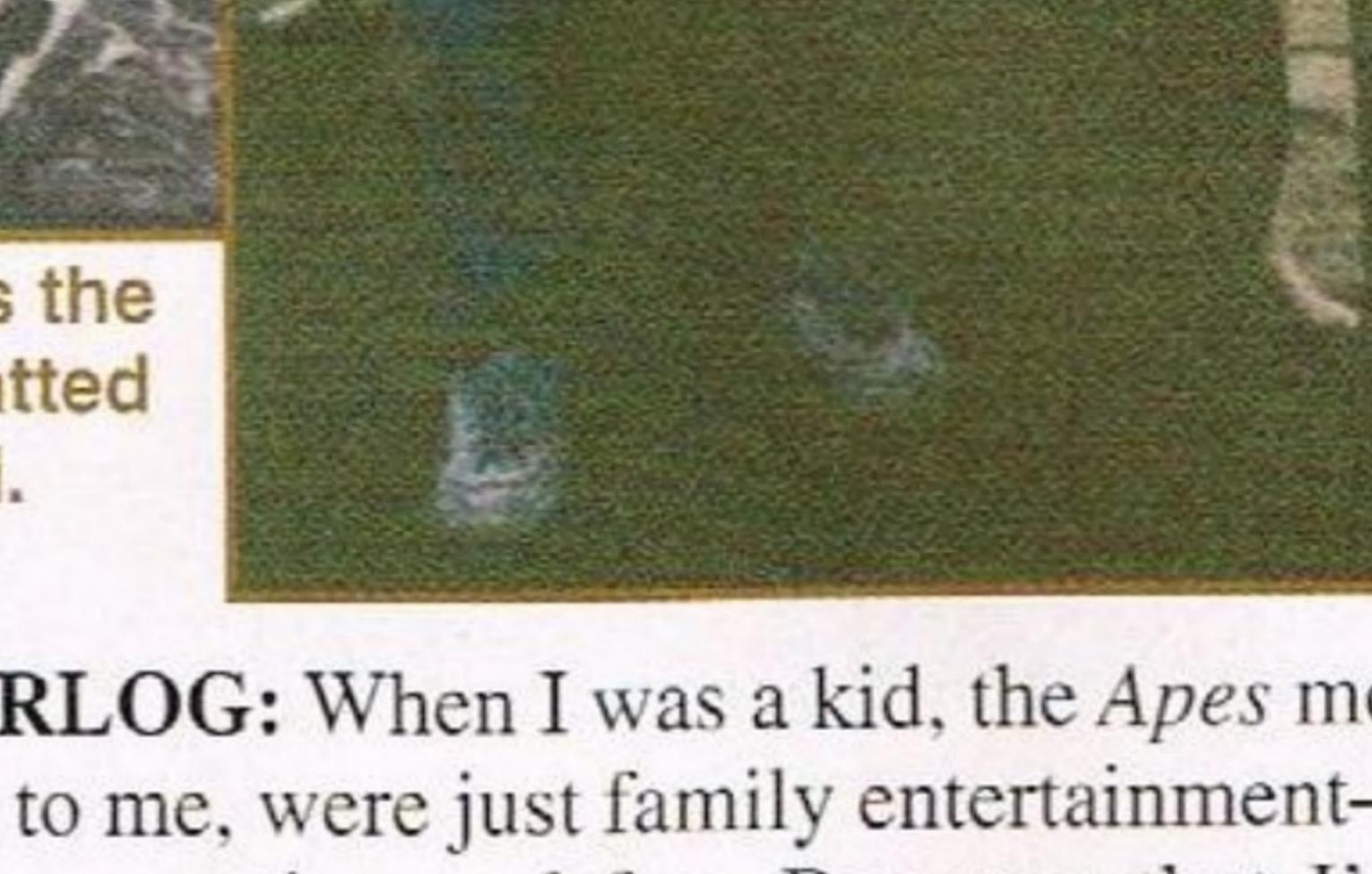








mutant Albina in Beneath, Trundy chatted on set with her producer husband.



we went to Natchez, Mississippi for Huckleberry Finn [1974], and I said, "Holy Christ in Heaven, here I go again!"

STARLOG: What kind of movies did Jacobs especially like to make?

TRUNDY: He once said, "I will never in my lifetime make a film that cannot be seen by the whole family." He owned the rights to Midnight Cowboy [1969] and he gave them away. He gave them away. Arthur said, "I TRUNDY: Oh, I liked playing Albina. It was will not have my name on it." He gave them to [producer] Jerry Hellman, and that movie made millions.

STARLOG: Early on, there was apprehension that people would just find Planet of the Apes funny.

TRUNDY: Really, much of it was funny, but a lot of it was very serious. If you think about it, it was also, in a-way, very political. By the way, and this is a true story: During the filming, at lunchtime, the gorillas would eat with the gorillas...the chimpanzees would eat with the chimpanzees...and the other ones would eat together, too. One group here, one group there! Except for the stars, of course.

STARLOG: This was on the first movie? TRUNDY: This was on all of them!

STARLOG: These Apes movies must have been such large-scale, time-consuming projects. Were they just five movies that he made while you knew him, or was this the "Planet of the Apes era" in your lives?

TRUNDY: It was. Completely!

STARLOG: Whose idea was it for you to start appearing in the Planet of the—

TRUNDY: [interrupting] Mine! [Laughs] Nobody else's! I wanted to be in it. I wanted to be part of it. I was in all except the first

STARLOG: So we can chalk your four roles up to nepotism—or is that too strong a word? TRUNDY: No, no, no! Not too strong a

word! STARLOG: Linda Harrison [Nova, STAR-LOG #213] was the girl friend, and later the wife, of studio exec Richard Zanuck, so that's the way she got her part, too.

TRUNDY: That's right.

STARLOG: So you just said to your husband, "You're making a Planet of the Apes

was it as simple as that?

TRUNDY: I said, "I wanna be in it!" [laughs]—and I was. All of them, from then on! I really did 'em for fun, if you want to know the truth.

STARLOG: For Beneath, would you have TRUNDY: Oh, the writers. And Arthur. mutant role you did play?

fun, and I didn't have to wear ape makeup.

STARLOG: For at least one scene, your makeup had to be an ordeal.

TRUNDY: Those radiation burns had to be painted on my face every single day. It really wasn't an unpleasant process, but taking it off TRUNDY: I don't think anybody was aware was a killer. My makeup man had to take it off with a hair dryer, set on cold. And he had to use acetone to get it off my face. It was so happened here, there and everywhere, it was painful I would cry. Day after day after day that was not terrific!

STARLOG: At one point, you also had to wear a mask of your own face over all that makeup.

TRUNDY: We all wore appliances, they weren't just masks. The extras wore ape masks, but the stars who played apes wore appliances, and as Albina, I wore appliances. Fortunately, I don't have claustrophobia, but imagine people who do. I mean, they could not work, it would be impossible.

STARLOG: Kim Hunter told me [in issue TRUNDY: Well...not too much. #160] that Sal Mineo, who was in Escape, had trouble with his ape makeup.

TRUNDY: Yes, he did. He was claustrophobic. His character didn't last too long in the a good life together. He wanted children—he picture, he got killed right away—and I think he was very happy about it, to tell you the children. When I had my sixth miscarriage, truth [laughs]! Incidentally, I got along with we were living in London. I was in the bath-Kim wonderfully—what a nice lady. A real room and I started to bleed, and I said, lady. A wonderful woman.

STARLOG: Did Jacobs ever appear in any of his own movies?

TRUNDY: No. But always, in all of his movies, some character had the name of Arthur. In Escape, the one where I played the psychologist, psychiatrist, whatever, with Bradford Dillman, the zookeeper—his name was Arthur. He always got an Arthur in somewhere!

sequel [Beneath], I would like to be in it"— STARLOG: When I was a kid, the Apes movies, to me, were just family entertainment makeup, action and fun. But now that I'm older, I recognize some of the political and social undercurrents. Whose idea was it to slip all of that stuff into the movies?

preferred playing an ape instead of the STARLOG: Was he a political person? Did he have time to be?

> TRUNDY: No, he didn't have time to do anything. He worked 29 hours a day, 10 days a week. And I think that's what killed him. He was only 51 when he died.

> STARLOG: Zanuck admits that he was also unaware of the undercurrents at the time.

> of it at the time, necessarily. But when you think, years later, about all of the things that very pursuant. Pursuant to what's happening...even today!

> STARLOG: Just out of curiosity, being the wife of the producer, did you get preferential treatment on any of the Apes sets?

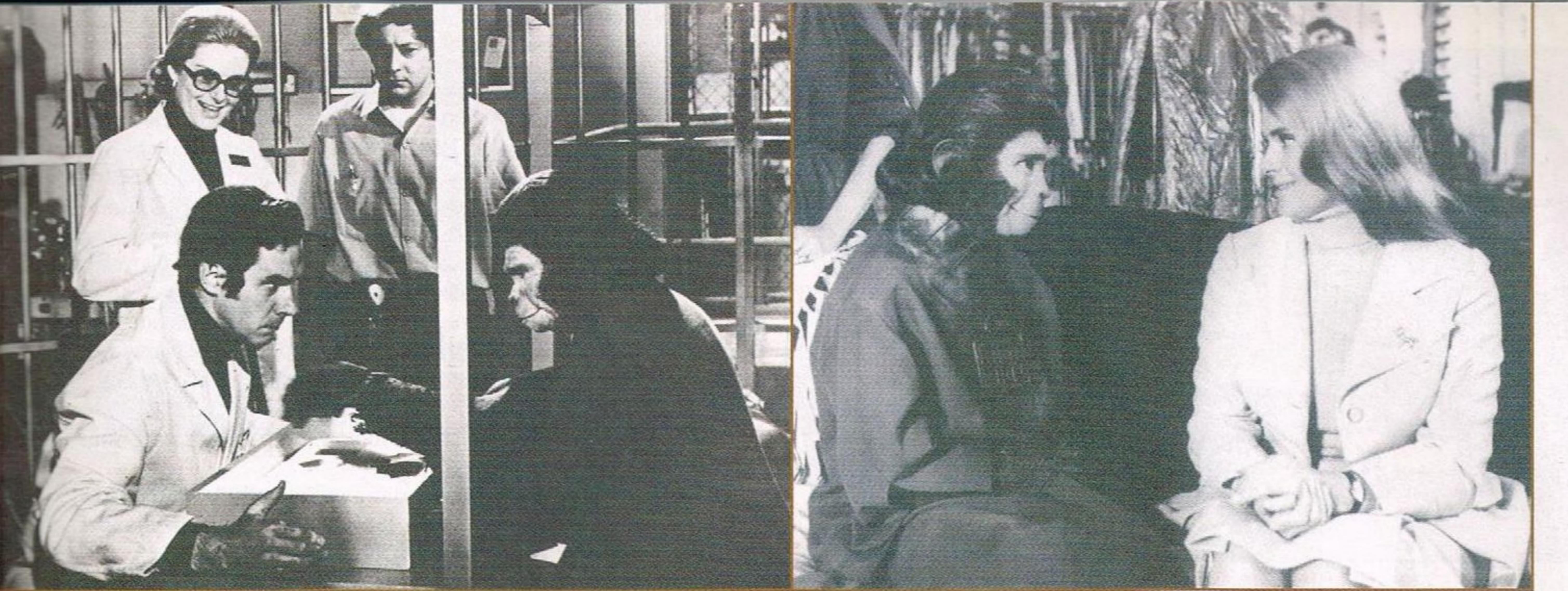
> TRUNDY: Absolutely not. Don't think I wouldn't have accepted it, for your information [laughs], but I didn't! I worked as hard as everybody else!

> STARLOG: You talked about your husband's workaholic lifestyle. Did that leave time for any home life?

STARLOG: How did you deal with that? Did you resent it?

TRUNDY: No. I loved him so much...we had didn't marry me to be an actress, he wanted "Arthur, please call the doctor." The doctor came with a specialist, and they said, "Mr. Jacobs, she just lost another baby." All he did was sit on the end of the bed and cry. It was a little baby boy. I was five months pregnant. Well, at least I've got two children now [by her second husband], God bless 'em.

STARLOG: Drop a few names—who were your best friends and most frequent guests during those years?



Left: Today, Zuma Beach (where Charlton Heston discovered the Statue of Liberty) looks different to Trundy and Jeff Krueger.

On Escape, Trundy stepped in where co-star Bradford Dillman (left) feared to tread and entered the tigers' cage.

As "Stevie" Branton in Escape, Trundy bonded with Zira (Kim Hunter), "a wonderful woman." Trundy loved Roddy McDowall, too.

TRUNDY: Well, Michael Caine and his wife, TRUNDY: It was the beginning. It took four Gregory Peck and his wife and people like Quincy Jones from the music end. And Roddy McDowall always. Arthur and Roddy loved to play Monopoly. We used to show movies every Saturday night—we had a proasleep—it would be around midnight and go on forever. Finally around 3 or 4 a.m., I said, "Easily!" [Laughs] would say, "Good night, guys. I'm going to STARLOG: Who were the makeup men? bed." Then I would come down at about 8 TRUNDY: My favorite makeup man was yet!" [Laughs] They did it all the time.

STARLOG: Just the two of them?

the Apes sequels], who stayed with us when movie must have been quite a trip. he was here in America, sometimes played TRUNDY: We were shooting Escape in Bev-I play?" and Arthur said, "No. Just sit there and smoke your cigar!" [Laughs]

STARLOG: What was it that you and your husband liked about McDowall?

TRUNDY: He was a very sweet, caring person, and very intelligent. I adored him. But the two of us listened to very different types of music. He enjoyed classical, while I always listened to rock 'n' roll. When we were together in an Apes movie, we had an agreement that whoever reached the makeup department first would win the right to pick the music we would listen to. I would have the Beatles in my machine, and he would have classical music in his. It was a goodnatured race between us to see who would get to choose the music for the day. I like classical music, but at 2 a.m., when you're trying to stay vaguely awake, it can put you right to sleep [laughs]!

STARLOG: At 2 a.m., would you be having your makeup taken off at the end of a work day, or put on at the beginning of one?

hours to put the appliances on. Before they put the bottom part of the face on, the mouth, Roddy and I used to order our breakfasts. Here we were ordering breakfasts at, like, 4:30 or 5 a.m. But [the commissary] didn't jection room in our house. There were certain serve makeup men breakfast. So I would have enjoyed it 'cause you look like disaspeople who were "regulars," and Roddy was order 20 hard-boiled eggs, 10 orders of ters!"—you know, from the chin down! And always one of them, because Arthur and he French toast, 10 steaks, lots of toast, freshly walking through the streets of Beverly Hills adored each other. After the other guests squeezed orange juice and coffee—the coffee to the restaurant, people stopped and stared. would leave—I would already be half- they made in the makeup room was lousy! "Are we really seeing this? Is this for real?" Finally, the guy in the commissary looked at Some people even bumped into each other! Arthur and Roddy would sit on the floor and me and said, "Miss Trundy! How can you STARLOG: Any other Escape anecdotes? start playing Monopoly. And Monopoly can consume all this food and stay so slim?" I TRUNDY: I went into a cage with a tiger. I

a.m., and they were still playing Monopoly. I Jack Barron. He was exclusive to me. would say, "I think it's coffee time, guys," Roddy's was Joe DiBella. And, of course, your period. They smell it." I used to go in and they would reply, "No, we're not finished John Chambers and Dan Striepeke, who were with them and play. They never put a fang out like the supervising makeup men, would to me, never a claw. They were so sweet. come around.

TRUNDY: Paul Dehn [the British writer of STARLOG: Being on the set of an Apes STARLOG: Bradford Dillman, your leading

too. One weekend Groucho Marx was erly Hills. At lunchtime, we would all traipse there—he was so old by then! He said, "Can to La Scala—the owner was a dear friend. you do that?", and I said, "I have no fear

You should have seen us going into this restaurant, with Kim and Roddy in ape makeup [laughs]! Sitting in the restaurant, eating veal piccata, salads and everything else. And when we got back to the set, the makeup man would look at us and say, "Boy, you must

had no fear. I will tell you something: If they don't sense fear, they won't hurt you. The trainer told me, "The only thing they can't stand—it drives them crazy—is if you are on

man—did he also go in the cage?

There was a tiger and a baby lion.

TRUNDY: No. He looked and said, "I don't think so." [Laughs] He asked me, "How can





Apes expert Bill Blake (left) and Trundy visit makeup maestro John Chambers and the Oscar he won for the original film.

All aped up, Blake (who did live Apes stage shows in makeup for years) consults with Trundy.

toward them, and therefore they have no fear toward me." That's how it works. And, believe me, these guys were not declawed!

STARLOG: Your husband gets his share of credit for the Apes movies—and deservedly—as well as some others. But I often think the late Paul Dehn goes unnoticed. Do you agree?

TRUNDY: I certainly do. I think Paul got "Arthur has passed away." short-changed. He was a love. He was so STARLOG: Where did he die? quiet—sometimes you would walk into a room and think he was snoozing. But he was not. He was a very sweet, quiet man.

STARLOG: Was there ever any concern on anybody's part that you were showing up in all of these Apes movies in different roles?

TRUNDY: No, I don't think so, because they changed me around. In Beneath, I was all covered up, and in Escape, they dyed my blonde hair strawberry blonde. Then, I was an ape in the last two.

STARLOG: So what was your major complaint about the ape makeup?

TRUNDY: Those big brown contact lenses they put in my eyes. One night Arthur and I were at a dinner party at the home of Walter LA in jeans and a T-shirt. Charlie Kivowitz afford to support them. What do you think I Grauman, the director. The lenses, of course, were out by then. Suddenly, I turned to Arthur and said, "I can't see anything! Take me home!" I was crying, in the middle of dinner. So he took me home and called his doctor Charlie Kivowitz, who said, "Put wet a mortician. Charlie hemmed and hawed and STARLOG: And today? compresses on her eyes 'til I get the ophthal- I said, "Charlie, I have a hundred-dollar bill mologist." They came and looked at me and Arthur was told that I could never wear those lenses again. So from then on, for the rest of the movie, I had to work with my eyelids "down," so the camera didn't see my blue eyes. An ape has to have brown eyes! So I just kept 'em closed, like I was sleeping.

STARLOG: Where were you when you heard that Jacobs had died?

TRUNDY: I was in the South, in Mississippi, making Arthur's Huckleberry Finn. He from the doctor? I don't think so! couldn't go because of the humidity—he had already had one heart attack, he couldn't stay there. But he used to call me every morning, 10 a.m. my time in Mississippi, 7 a.m. here in Los Angeles. He was an early riser. One He said, "Sweetheart, just go in the other morning I was trying to teach Southern belles room, leave all these people alone." And then how to waltz when Bobby Greenhut, the there was another person who everybody

associate producer, said, "Phone call." I a humanitarian trip to India. office, to the phone, and it was Handy Andy, this chap who worked for us. I said, "Where's slept in her convent. She had a walking stick, Arthur?" and he said, "Arthur's dead." My legs went to rubber, I collapsed. I didn't faint, but I went down on the floor. Greenhut came in and said, "What's wrong?" and I said,

TRUNDY: He was found in his bed. When Then we would find the poor little babies— Andy came that morning to pick him up to take him to the studio, the housekeeper said, "Mr. Jacobs didn't wake up." So Andy went up and found that he was gone. He was lying on top of the bed in his pajamas and dressing gown, with the dogs all around him, like they were trying to keep him warm. That's how I found out. And then they couldn't get me out of Natchez, Mississippi! They only had two mail planes a day there! So what they did was STARLOG: You adopted 25 babies? They get the Governor's Lear jet and brought it lived with you? down. I had to ride to the plane with a police- TRUNDY: No, no-I pay for them. I've got man, on the back of a motorcycle—there adopted children in India and China, about were only two cops in Natchez. I arrived in 40. I support them. Because the nuns cannot met me at the airport and said, "Let's go into would sleep in a convent for [laughs]? I was the VIP Room, I'll give you a shot of Vali- on the floor, with the other nuns, and got up um." I said, "No, I don't want a shot of Valium. I just want you to take me to my husband." Arthur had already been brought to "I'm up, Mother!" in my pocket. If you don't take me, I'll take a cab." So he took me to the mortician's place, and the mortician came out and said, "Your husband isn't quite ready yet." I said, "I don't day. care if he's 'ready' or not. Just leave me alone STARLOG: Are you going to see the new with him." And I went in and sat and talked to him for about an hour. Just holding on to him. And...it was OK. Do you think I cared whether he was 'ready' or not, from a mortician? Do you think I needed a shot of Valium

Then, I got back to my house—I had asked for nobody to be there. Well, the house was full of people. About the only good person was Gene Kelly—he manned the phones.

used to criticize, Rona Barrett. She lived across the street. She also manned the phones. People used to call her a bitch. She was not a bitch, she was just a [Hollywood gossip] columnist for cryin' out loud, doin' her job. But, believe me, she was at my house and started shooing people out, "Get out. Out!" She came up to my boobs, she was so short [laughs], but she got the guests out! She said, "Mrs. Jacobs has to be alone now. Mr. Kelly and I will take care of everything." Which they did.

STARLOG: Did you retire from acting after his death?

TRUNDY: I did a couple of TV shows, like Quincy, but I let it go. I did remarry, and I have two beautiful children, 24 and 23.

STARLOG: Your second husband—are you still married to him?

TRUNDY: No. Got rid of him [laughs]!

STARLOG: In more recent years, you made

assumed it was my husband. I went to the TRUNDY: Not once—I've been there 12 times! I worked with Mother Teresa, and I

and we would go up and down the streets and she would poke people who were lying in the street. If they were alive, and not too ill, they would go to the House of the Ill. If they were dead, they would be taken to the House of the Dying, where she would pray over them. they were always girls, 'cause [in India] they only want boys. The little girls they get rid of, which is really awful. They're all so adorable, with these big black eyes, and they're so small I could almost put them in the palm of my hand. And so we would pick up the babies. I put them in a big knapsack and we would take them to [the orphanage]. I've adopted about 25 of them.

at 4 a.m. Mother Teresa used to come and poke me with her damn stick! I would say,

TRUNDY: I volunteer at church. I spend a lot of time there. I feed the homeless every Saturday and Sunday afternoon. I happen to be very Catholic and so I also go to Mass every

Apes movie? Are you looking forward to it? TRUNDY: I will go to see it, but I'm not looking forward to it. The first Apes belonged to my husband. And with all of this publicity about the new movie coming out, nobody ever mentioned his name. If you'll permit me a closing comment, I want to say that the most important thing that I loved was being with him. Arthur took me everywhere he went, even if it was just to New York for a day—everywhere. He never left me behind. I loved it. Imagine if they had frequent flyer miles then!