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Vidor's first film with Marion Davies freed her from the cumbersome dramatic roles which she had previously been assigned and gave her the opportunity to be herself. As a guest at San Simeon, Vidor had observed Miss Davies' imitations and comic antics, so he cast her as a 1920's Cinderella, a clumsy teenager who falls in love with her older sister's boyfriend. Marion Davies in *The Patsy* must not be confused with the pathetic opera singer in *Citizen Kane*—an error which has greatly maligned her talents as a comedienne. Under Vidor's direction, she gives a stunning, hilarious performance. Marie Dressler and Dell Henderson play her mother and father.