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MR. SMITH GOES TO WASHINGTON (1939)

"I've been in Congress 36 years but I've never seen a member as dumb as that boy... The movies had a chance to do a good job but they have given the public only a false, absurd impression." -- U. S. Senator Norris

"Ridiculous. Just something from Hollywood." -- U. S. Senator Lodge

"I just saw my first professional football game last Sunday." -- U. S. Senator Pepper

"People in Podunk and Squeedunk don't realize the Senate isn't like that."

-- U. S. Senator Barkley

"... With the forms of government Mr. Capra has been irreverent. Quite possibly he declines to be overawed by the men who strut in office after running like mad to get there. But his recognition that legislators are human (and that is a lot more than some of their critics would concede) has not kept him from expressing a sincere and heart-warming belief in the government those legislators are serving. If the indignant Senators cannot see that, if they believe their personal dignity is more important than the dignity of democracy, then Mr. Capra's Mr. Smith has come to Washington, and to the nation, at a perfect time; the Senate needs a session on first principles."

-----Frank S. Nugent, the New York Times

CREDITS: Directed by Frank Capra. Screenplay by Sidney Buchman, based on the short story, "The Gentleman from Montana," by Lewis R. Foster. Photographed by Joseph Walker. Sets designed by Lionel Banks. Score by Dmitri Tiomkin. Edited by Gene Havlick and Al Clark. Produced and released by Columbia Pictures Corp. Running time: 125 minutes.

CAST: James Stewart (Jefferson Smith), Jean Arthur (Saunders), Claude Rains (Sen. Joseph Paine), Edward Arnold (Jim Taylor), Guy Kibbee (Gov. Hopper), Thomas Mitchell (Diz Moore), Eugene Pallette (Chick McGann), Beulah Bondi (Ma Smith), H. B. Warner (the Senate Majority Leader), Harry Carey (the Vice-President), Astrid Allwyn (Susan Paine), Ruth Donnelly (Mrs. Hopper), Grant Mitchell (Sen. Macpherson), Porter Hall (Sen. Monroe), Pierre Watkin (the Senate Minority Leader), and William Demarest (Bill Griffith).