



Tears won't move him

OF ALL THE DIRECTORS

in Hollywood, none can tame a temperamental actress so skillfully as **George Stevens**. Stars seldom pay compliments to directors, but Katharine Hepburn calls him "the best in Hollywood," and studios hire him to guide top-notch actresses like Ginger Rogers, Barbara Stanwyck, and Irene Dunne through difficult roles. Soft-spoken Stevens never raises his voice when a leading lady turns on the tears and temper. Instead, he clamps his teeth on a pipe and refuses to talk. Chewed up nine pipes during his latest picture, *The More the Merrier*, which he's working on in our photograph. A former director of cowboy films, Stevens says he learned to handle stars by observing horses. "A leading lady is like a thoroughbred," he explains. "Flatter her, feed her out of your hand, and she'll respond." Hobby is hunting—deer—with his nine-year-old son.

THE **American**

1943