

# About the Author

[Marion Davies, by Pfau and Marx]

*Ten weeks after W. R. died, Marion was married to Horace Brown, who had been a captain in the merchant marine. Theirs was a simple elopement to Las Vegas, to the El Rancho Vegas Hotel. If the newspaper reporters didn't get her age right, they were quick to point out that it was her first marriage.*

*It was seen to be a union made in her desperation over the loss of W. R., and to give her support in the coming battles. She was an officer of the Hearst Corporation and held W. R.'s voting rights, and though she thought of herself as a member of the family, all these relationships were soon ended.*

*The captain stayed on, though Marion would several times think of divorce and have the papers filed. They said the captain looked like a young W. R., but that was almost all that friends would say about him.*

*Marion had been operated on for malignant osteomyelitis early in the summer of 1961. Then there were complications.*

*In southern California, summertime often lingers on. Nature shows little interest in the calendar. But for Marion, the turn of the seasons, when it came, was symbolic. Her last milestone was that autumnal equinox.*