

CAMERA MEN UNDER DIFFICULTIES FILM STORIES BATTLEFIELDS TELL

Thousands of Feet of Reels Taken of Stirring Events in War-Torn Europe—Many Guises Adopted to Obtain Pictures in Forbidden Territory—Negatives Now Are Being Developed.



Anna Pavlova, Who After Dancing Before the Camera at Chicago, Will Leave for California.

Now that "Big Joe Farnham" has once more put his feet on American soil and has had two weeks to think over his war career, he is busy telling his friends the thrilling tale of "Taking War Films Under Fire." In the first place, Mr. Farnham, it will be remembered, left for the war zone early last September, and his party was also the third and fourth civilians to enter Rheims between September 15 and April 10, the other two being Senators Beveridge and Young.

The subtle arts that the film warrior used to induce the authorities even to let him approach anywhere near the firing line are amusing, for they approached the French government as representatives of the world's greatest peace organization, and so successful were their efforts to persuade the War Office that France itself would be best served by the pictures, that they even procured a letter to President Joffre.

Exactly 35 days of the four months were passed at the front, and with the aid of the little Scotch camera man, who passed as a genuine American citizen, the troubles, the bluffs and the bullets did them no material damage and brought ample reward. Mr. Farnham and his companion film tourist, Philip Klein, assert there are many little flashes that reveal human nature at its highest and most radiant moments shown in these pictures.

The British at Boulogne politely refused to allow pictures to be taken, but later right in the British zone the camera man took pictures and also chances.

There are in this series pictures of camp life, Zeppelin raids and all the other horrors of war. Some of the most talked-of battles, some of the bloodiest scenes of devastation in Belgium and the frontier will combine to make these the most interesting and authentic war pictures that have yet been even attempted. It is said.

The shooting of spies, who are caught by the hundreds daily and dispatched with rather unceremoniously, always and frequently without cause, helps to make up more than one feature of keen purport. Out of the 11,000 feet of film that were taken, 7000 are so useful, and there are also almost 800 feet of still pictures. These pictures will go down as a monument of the individual attainments of the daring men who risked everything for the sake of putting on the screen before the American people the real events of the great war. The negatives are now in the process of finishing.

Demack's royal actress is not satisfied with knowing perfectly her own language and several other European tongues, but aspires to speak the American language perfectly. For this purpose the greater part of her spare time all summer has been passed learning the minutest idioms of English. The tragedienne is so apt, it is said, that she long that charming accent which she now possesses will be replaced by purest English.

Miss Nansen will make New York the scene of most of her study, and after mastering the American tongue, already knowing Danish, German, Scandinavian and French, she will be well classed as a linguist of merit. Of all the languages she has so far taken up she expresses her preference for English. She is so apt, it is said, that she long that charming accent which she now possesses will be replaced by purest English.

This charming tragedienne is said to possess one other eccentricity—clothes. Her gowns are the result of fastidious discrimination, and are not flashy and sometimes not classed as daring, but they are artistic and varied, some simple, others rich and elaborate, but always with art and beauty in view. One of the most-discussed members of Miss Nansen's select wardrobe is the "golden gown." Paul Poiret's last creation before he left for the front. It is a wonderful concoction of cloth of gold and beaded brocade. This stunning garment she has worn in several scenes of her late presentations.

Anna Pavlova, who is appearing daily before the camera at Sans Souci in "The Dumb Girl of Portici," tells interestingly of her surrender to the screen play. There are, as she says, so many persons who would really love to see her dance, and had she not consented to dance for the films thousands who will now see a visualization of her never would have had the opportunity of realizing what her art really is.

As the world's highest exponent of terpsichorean art Pavlova has considered the value of the film as the only means for immortalizing her art. Now as never before in this factor being given marked value and it is therefore that she, like other stars, listened to desire to have her accomplishments seen by future generations.

Miss Pavlova already possesses a liking for the new work and in the short time has become almost an idol for her co-workers. She is, it is said, one of the most unassuming and charming personages imaginable and not possessed of capricious temper or morose disposition, called temperamental.

It had been said by many that the lighting, the little, fluttery wings in her "Swan Dance," and the general

stage effects were greatly responsible for her marvelous success. But for once and all this appearance discredits such criticism. Without it all she is still Pavlova and in the barest setting would yet be Pavlova. However, in "The Dumb Girl of Portici," elaborate moral settings and scenery have been secured to give the queen of dance a fitting throne. Her dancing on the screen promises to be as great a sensation as on the stage, for the reason that it will reach thousands more.

Split Reels

BECKY SHARP, the capricious little vixen, has charmed and interested all who have come in contact with her since she became known as the heroine of Thackeray's famous "Vanity Fair." Mrs. Fiske, who, it will be remembered, first played "Becky" in America 13 years ago, again will delight with her remarkable interpretation of the character in the new film version of the popular novel.

It is also interesting to note that all the prominent members of the cast are appearing in the same roles that they have succeeded in. Arthur Row, the versatile actor, who is widely known as author and impersonator, will be Pitt Crawley, "Vanity Fair," the best of Thackeray's works, is classed as one of the keenest of English satires, and will be especially welcome to literary people. There is also a jocular element that has a strong popular appeal.

One of the most interesting events in the history of the educational motion picture is taking place at the University of Minnesota farm this Summer. A course in moving picture and lantern projection is now included in the Summer course, and students are given first-hand instruction, consisting of both lecture and laboratory work. In view of the fact that most of those in attendance are leaders in rural social center work, and in many instances are providing regular weekly motion picture entertainments, and that other states and schools may follow Minnesota's example, the occurrence throws an optimistic appearance on the future of the educational film. Several hundred have enrolled for the course.

Pennsylvania displayed typical Quaker discretion in refusing to allow the Thaw films to be shown. The action was not taken on account of the improper character of the pictures, as one perturbed film man thought, when he stated that they merely showed Harry K. Thaw at breakfast in his cell, talking to a friend, and later leaving the prison, but, as the authorities said, because of the unpleasant associations attached. It was on this account that the Pennsylvania censors decided that the Thaws had sufficient publicity.

Recently a local film fan stated that Charlie Chaplin had abandoned comedy and would shortly become a leader in tragedy. No one knows whence the prophetic gleam came, but the nearest Chaplin has ever come to tragedy so far is that felt by some of his audiences or those who are afflicted with his impersonations.

Lou Tellegen, who is appearing in "The Explorer," says he is the first stage star to appear before the camera, the event having taken place a little more than eight years ago.

One of the most beautiful interpreters of girl roles is Miss Margaret Vale, the charming niece of President Wilson. Her most recent action is to become a movie actress. Miss Vale is a South Carolina girl and a painter and author of ability.

The July issue of the Medical Times has an interesting article on the much-discussed "Effects of Moving Pictures on the Eyes." How relieved the worried clinician who has so long tried to save the eyes of all future generations will be, when he learns that the specialists concur that normal eyes are not injured by motion pictures. One prominent oculist states that he has "yet to see any organic change in the eye that could be definitely traced to motion pictures." A Georgia specialist of humor as well as medicine observes that "the effect of frequent observation of moving pictures has the same effect upon the eyes as has the eating of cabbage upon the digestion."

"Bob"—There are a great many leading film corporations, and letters addressed to the Vitaphone Company of America, East Fifteenth Street and Loeb, East Broadway, Brooklyn, N. Y.; the Mutual Film Corporation, 11 West Twenty-third Street, New York City; Universal Picture Company, 1600 Broadway, New York City; the Metro Picture Corporation, 1465 Broadway, New York, will perhaps satisfy your need.

Prominent clergymen and educators are rallying to the aid of Frederick Thompson and giving him every encouragement. A little over three weeks ago it became known that Mr. Thompson had a gigantic scheme of "filming the Bible." He recognizes the im-

Betty Nansen, The Royal Danish Motion Picture Star Who Will Perfect Her English This Summer

portance of such a work, the long process of filming and the accuracy that must be had, to make it the greatest film work of the world, so he has set aside five years of his life for the fulfillment of his dream, and at the close of 1921, if nothing happens, will have the scenario of the Bible complete.

Emma Bell, known outside of the literary profession as Mrs. Wallace C. Clifton, is not only a writer of short stories, but also a writer of numerous clever scenarios. She has just signed a contract to write exclusively for the Selig Company.

"The Dance of the Seven Veils" has probably had its last appearance in Rochester, since it caused the manager of a first-class motion picture house a fine of \$200 and temporarily closed his house. The manager had obtained the film from a producer, who also parted with \$200, and was giving a private exhibition to a "select" party of newspaper men and city officials. The 400 stage interest was at such a pitch that the film had to be shown half a dozen times.

PAY REFUSED EX-GOVERNOR

U. S. Court Told Sulzer Offered to Serve Clients Free.

NEW YORK, July 27.—Judge Augustus N. Hand, of the United States District Court, declined yesterday to award ex-Governor William Sulzer any compensation for his legal services on behalf of depositors in the bankruptcy proceedings against Adolf Mandel, private banker of 155 Livingston street.

Before refusing Mr. Sulzer's request the judge had received a report from William Allen, the special master in the Mandel proceedings, who declared that testimony taken before him showed that the ex-Governor had offered his services free.

Judge Hand awarded \$22,500 to Jeremiah T. Mahoney, attorney for the receiver; \$5500 to Olcott, Gruber, Bonynge and McManus, attorneys for the petitioning creditors; \$250 to Special Master Allen and \$2317 to Strasburger, Eschwege & Schallie, attorneys for Mandel.

Eugene Lamb Richards, State Superintendent of Banks, acted as receiver in the case without compensation, thereby saving \$13,000.

BELL RINGER IS MYSTERY

Identity of Person Who Told Liberty Chimes Is Unknown.

DENVER, Colo., July 27.—"The mystery of the old bell ringer" is the most fascinating of the myths which have been revived by the trip of the Liberty Bell from Philadelphia to San Francisco.

Who was the old man who rang the bell when it first pealed forth in celebration of the Declaration of Independence?

It is conceded that the story of the boy dashing into the street on July 4, 1776, calling to the old caretaker in the belfry, "Ring, ring! They've signed it!" is fiction pure and simple. Wilfred Jordan, custodian of the museum in Independence Hall and an au-



National Theater



TODAY, TOMORROW, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

ANOTHER SCREEN FAVORITE

Lois Meredith

IN HER NATIONAL SUCCESS

"HELP WANTED"

In Five Reels.

A Story of Humiliations That May Befall Anybody's Sister.



ALSO

One Reel Comedy

THE YOUNG STENOGRAPHER

10c—11 A. M. to 11 P. M.—10c

Coming Thursday---HAZEL DAWN in "NIOBE"

COMING---Hall Caine's Masterpiece, "Eternal City"---Watch for the Date

thority on the history of the Liberty Bell, declares there is no record of such an event. The first authenticated ringing after the signing of the Declaration of Independence was on July 8, when it called the citizens of Philadelphia together to hear the document read.

"Andrew McNair, doorkeeper at the time, may have been the first bell ringer, but this has not been established," says Custodian Jordan. A story, for which history will not vouch, is that when the news of the surrender of Cornwallis reached Philadelphia "the old bell ringer died of joy."

The history of the Philadelphia Pine-Street Church contains the name of "William Hurry, bellman of the old Statehouse." And on the ancient stone in the graveyard where Hurry lies buried are the words, "Who departed this life October 22, 1781." That day the news of the surrender of Cornwallis reached Philadelphia.

Was William Hurry really the old bell ringer who rang in the new year of American freedom on the day that the Declaration of Independence was approved, and did he really die of joy on hearing that the long war with England was over at last?

mann at Webster Groves and was released on a \$500 bond. He confessed the forgery.

Miss Niemeyer, who has been a court ward for one year, was not aware of the charge against Ross until the hearing. Recently she has lived at the home of her brother, Benjamin

Niemeyer, in Des Peres Township, where Ross also stayed. Niemeyer said that the couple told him they were married when they moved to his home.

The girl also is said to have told her parents that she was married to Ross. When the fact that they were not

married was brought out by Ross' arrest, Miss Niemeyer refused to leave Ross and declared that his arrest would not change her love for him. Accompanied by their parents, the couple went to Clayton and applied for a license. It was granted, with the consent of the parents of the girl.

Maiestic

Starting Today, 10:30 A. M.

THEATER

Admission 10c

Presents

Midnight at Maxim's

A Drama of the "Gay White Way"



Introducing Principal Features From Maxim's, Rector's and Bustanoby's Caberets.

The Season's Greatest Sensation

FATTY ARBUCKLE in A TWO-ACT KEYSTONE COMEDY

FIDDLERS HOLD CONTEST

Mouth Harp Prize Won by Playing While Standing on Head.

DECATUR, Ill., July 27.—The sixth annual De Kalb County fiddlers' contest was held in the State Armory in this city. There were 100 entries, ranging in age from 10 to 95 years. Local merchants gave the prizes. The opening was "The Irish Washerwoman" by the entire company of 100.

David Weddell, of Formosa, Kan., won the long-distance prize, \$12.50. Quay Fowler, 78 years old, won the tallest fiddler's prize, being 6 feet 6 1/2 inches in height. Harry Bates won the mouth harp prize while standing on his head.

Lyman Drake won the best old fiddler prize by his version of "Hell on the Wabash." The "boys" played such pieces as "Money Musk," "King's Head," "Old Zip Coon," "Bory O'More," "Leather Breeches" and "Arkansas Traveler."

GIRL BRIDE STILL LOVES

Maid Hears Chances Against Spouse, but Refuses to Leave.

ST. LOUIS, July 27.—Miss Elsie Niemeyer, 19 years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Niemeyer, of Kirkwood, St. Louis County, and a ward of the St. Louis County Juvenile Court, has refused to desert Frank G. Ross, 32 years old, of Webster Groves, for the alleged forgery of three checks, aggregating \$63.50. He admitted the charge.

It is understood that the county authorities are willing to parole Ross on the forgery charge, because it was his first offense. He wept as he related that he forged the checks to obtain money for Miss Niemeyer's support as his alleged wife.

Ross was given a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace Krieger.