

Right off the Reel Fine

Rumors—Where Do They Start?

"VE something I want to ask you. The envelope had a special delivery stamp on it and several marked stamps, too! It was also marked 'Rush,' 'Important' and 'Personal.' I got it gingerly from the hands of the boy who had brought it and turned it over several times. Such a beautiful day! I did hope there was nothing in that letter that would cloud the sunshine and set 'ol Miss Worry worrying."

"I wonder what it is," I said aloud. Whereat the girl at the next desk—who had been eyeing it with considerable interest, remarked sensibly: "You'd probably find out if you'd open it."

Realizing she was absolutely in the right, I slipped the letter open across the end and with reluctant fingers took the missive from its resting place. I unfolded it slowly, closed my eyes—opened them quickly and hurriedly—as one does when there's a particularly bad dose of medicine to be taken. I read the words: "Dear Miss Time: I am feeling terrible this morning and I just know I wouldn't have any peace until I wrote to you and asked you if what I heard was the truth. I heard from a person who should know that that wonderful moving picture actor, Mr. —, while making a picture the other day, was struck by lightning, which didn't kill him, but which crumpled his spine so that he will never be able to take any parts again were he to stand up straight. Oh, Miss Time, if this is true, tell me! I am enclosing a stamped and self-addressed envelope and please answer by return mail, as I won't be able to do anything until I know definitely just how badly dear Mr. — was hurt."

Not having heard the news myself, I was extremely doubtful as to the veracity of the report. However, wishing to make no mistakes, I telegraphed the company where Mr. — lived, moved, and had his beautiful being. Within several hours came the answer to my wire. It was signed by the actor himself. It read: "We don't have lightning in California."

This refreshing news I incorporated in my answer to the distraught person who had sent me the special delivery letter and I thought nothing further about the matter. Imagine my surprise, therefore, when, upon opening the next day's mail, I found ten or 12 letters all bearing on the same subject. Only a day had wrought wondrous changes in the supposed condition of the popular Mr. —. They had heard—my correspondents—that he had been struck by lightning and instantly killed.

The horse he had been riding had tumbled over the side of a mountain and crushed him.

A board had fallen on his head, rendering him instantly insane and making it necessary to incarcerate him in a straitjacket and a padded cell used only in our best institutions designed for those mentally not there.

He was deaf and dumb, which accounted for some of his peculiar actions on the screen.

He had been married six times, had 15 children, all of whom were in California, playing in the "movies."

He had killed a man.

He smoked so many cigarettes that a famous specialist had given him just six months to live and he had replied to the famous specialist as the ultimatum was delivered: "A short life and a smoky one"—or words to that effect.

All of these letters carried stamped and self-addressed envelopes and each one ended with the idea that the writer be answered by return mail—if I had any regard for the writer's peace of mind.

"Now," I said to the girl at the next desk, "there's got to be something the matter with that man or all these stories couldn't be about him. I'm going to wire again and see if I can't clear up the mystery." She agreed with me that this would be a good thing to do. So accordingly, I sent another message. I wired:

"Please tell me just what is the matter with you."

Post haste came back the reply: "Curiously principally. What the dickens is the matter with you? Answer my expense."

I didn't answer for the vurr' good reason that I knew of no answer to make. I just wrote my correspondents:

nothing letters, telling them that if they would visit the theaters where the pictures taken by his company were being shown, they would see Mr. — perfectly all right, neither dead, crumpled, crushed, deaf, dumb, blind or anything of the kind. Came a cessation in the queries. Then—all of a sudden—another bunch of worried letters came in.

"Dear Miss Time: Please answer me this minute and tell me if it is the truth that the man we see in pictures who seems to be Mr. — is not really he. I heard that he had been bound and gagged and put in a dark cellar by a man who had always been jealous of him and that this man had gone and stolen his makeup and was posing as the real — and that nobody knew. Won't you please tell me at once if this is so? If it is, O, how cruel! That darling man! Something should be done!"

I answered, telling her that I had recently had a letter from Mr. —, in which he wrote happily and sanely that therefore I was quite certain this dire catastrophe had not happened to him. Came back the ominous inquiry:

"Are you sure he wrote that letter? Miss Time, I have good reason to think that he did not. I advise you to investigate."

In the meantime, close on the heels of the first letter referring to cellar incarceration, had come a flock of other letters in which anxious damsels inquired flusteringly to know if it was true that Mr. — had been lured into a dark wood and shot; that—

He had entered a monastery.

He had given his life blood to save a child.

He had been bitten by a mad dog.

An enraged Chinaman had knifed him and left him torn and bleeding on one of the city's best and cleanest boulevards.

He had had a duel over who should be who and had been worsted and now the hated rival was in his boots posing as Mr. — himself.

And so on.

By this time I was practically sure that nothing in the world was the matter with Mr. —. My letter from him seemed to have been written by a man, sane and happy. I knew his signature. Just to be absolutely sure, however, I wrote a letter of diligent inquiry regarding him to the management of the company. In due time a detailed and painstaking answer was received, which assured me absolutely that the star was starring and as stary as ever.

Accordingly I wrote letters which must have brought joy to his worried friends.

Since that time, however, occurrences of this kind have become common.

What I want to know is, who starts the rumors?

Does anybody know?



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MOVIE LAND

The Wind Changed.

RUE Boreas played havoc with a carefully arranged scene gotten up by Director Sturgeon of the Western Vitaphone Company. He would a sand storm film! Supers were to hold sand in pails and other receptacles and throw it in the air at given signals and the sand was to be taken by the wind and drift by the camera near the foreground. It was an unfortunate gentleman was dying gracefully in the stormy wilds. So thought the director, Boreas did smile! It was really all well arranged, but at the moment the sand was thrown up the wind suddenly changed and the dying gentleman in Sturgeon's assistant and the camera man were lost in thick clouds of sand. Did Director Sturgeon "cuss"? Susana question!

Young Girl Wanted.

Beware the swindler in Selig clothing! The following letter was received in the Selig offices the other day: "Gentlemen: Just a few lines to obtain your answer to a couple of my questions. I saw an ad where a young girl wanted to play in movies. I answered the ad and to my surprise received a telephone call the next day. In the afternoon the party came up to see me and told me I would do fine, that I was just the girl to play with him. I asked him what company he was playing with and he said Selig. Now, I want to know if you are there some Selig players in Pittsburg, and, if so, are they looking for a young girl? If there is a Selig player in Pittsburg looking for a partner, will you kindly tell me his name? The reason I answered the ad was simply because I am getting so interested in movies that I watch my every chance. Now, if you have no Selig players in Pittsburg and this ad is only a fake, kindly let me know how I can become a movie actress. Hoping this will be no trouble to you in answering a few questions, kindly write and let me know in Pittsburg the player who is supposed to be in Pittsburg."

Needless to say the gentleman had no connection whatsoever with the Selig Company.

ANSWERS TO MOVIE FANS

A. V.: In "Sold" Paulina Frederick took the part of Helen and Thomas Holding was Donald Bryant.

T. K. M.: Henry King is with the Balboa Company, Long Beach, Cal. He is married to Gypsy Abbott.

Movie Fan: In "The Trey or Hearts" George Larkin took the part of Allen Law and Cleo Madison was Judith Trine. In "The Broken Coin" Grace Cunard was Kitty Gray, Francis Ford was Count Frederick and Eddie Polo takes the part of Rolleau.

Miss Clara: Eleanor Woodruff is with the Pathe Freres Company, 1 Congress street, Jersey City, N. J. Ruth Roland is not married. No trouble at all.

A. B.: Mr. Chaplin's teeth are not false. Ruth Roland is not still in her teens. Yes, Roscoe Arbuckle is married. If you will mention the companies producing the pictures in which you are interested I will try and get information for you regarding them.

Charles E.: "The Birth of a Nation" was adapted from the book "The Clansman." It follows the story rather closely.

C. G. T.: In the Bosworth production "Captain Courtesy" Dustin Farnum was "Captain Courtesy"; Herbert Standing, Father Reinaldo; Winifred Kingston,

The Frame of Public Favor



Lottie Pickford

"LITTLE LOTTIE" PICKFORD, sister of "Little Mary," and the star who is shining so brightly at the present time in the American company's serial, "The Diamond From the Sky," was born June 3, 1895, and was christened Lottie Stella. She has, however, always for some reason kept the "Stella" part as a deep, dark secret. At the age of 3 years she made her debut on the stage, and the early part of her young life was spent in understanding Mary. Later, though, chances for her advancement showed themselves, and in "The Fatal Wedding" and with Chauncey Olcott in "Ragged Robin" she made a decided hit. She went into pictures at the same time as did sister Mary, appearing first as the cardinal's page in "The Cardinal's Snuff Box" with the Biograph Company. Afterwards she played various parts with the independents, Pathe, Vitaphone, Kalem and Famous Players. Now the American company proudly calls her its own. Miss Pickford is five feet three inches high, has dark hair and violet eyes and weighs ridiculously little! She refuses to give her exact weight, however, declaring that small as she may be, she's bigger than Mary! She's a daring young woman and woe to the horse or boat or automobile that endeavors to m-m-m-master her! Not married.

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personally. If you wish a list of the various film-producing companies and who will send me stamped, self-addressed envelope, I will be delighted to mail you what I have.

Lenna: No, to both your questions.

V. B. T.: In the Bosworth production, "Nearly a Lady," Elsie Janis played the part of Frederica Calhoun; Frank Elliott, Lord Cecil Grosvenor; Owen Moore, Jack Rawlins; Myrtle Stedman, Mrs. Reginald Brooks; Harry Ham, Jim Brooks and Roberta Hickman, Elaine. Martha Ann! Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the printed

material you desire on how to become a photo-player.

Ethyl V.: I am afraid the editor would think me rather a pig if I insisted on having two pages in the paper. I am mighty glad, though, that you wish I could have them. I have an idea Blanche Sweet might answer you if you would write to her in care of the Leaky Company, Los Angeles, enclosing stamped and self-addressed envelope.

Not Curious: My dear, no! X. X. X.: Does Kerrigan sound Jew-

ish? No, Norma Talmage and Anita Stewart are not.

H. I. A. P.: I imagine that you are referring to James Cruze, though you mention no name. He left the Keystone house company some time ago. Marguerite Snow is with the Metro company, unless by this time she and her husband, Mr. Cruze, have started a company of their own, as they contemplated doing, I understand. Yes, Charles Chaplin will with the Keystone company for some time. The Keystone company produced "Tillie's Punctured Romance." South Siders—Beverly Bayne has gone to the Metro Company.

L. V. T.—No, G. M. Anderson is not dead.

Lillian E. M.—Little Helen Badgely is still with the Thanhouser Company. The Thanhouser twins are 14 years old. Their names are Madeline and Marion Fairbanks. No, Ruth Pickford is not a sister of Mary and Lottie. I have no information regarding her. Of course

your vote counts, my dear, but it takes more than one vote to get a picture in the Frame. Yes.

Mac K.—Ella Hall is not married. Arthur Johnson has been married. Can't tell you. He is with the Keystone Company and is in good health again I understand.

E. A. W.—If you will write to Ed Coxen and Winifred Greenwood in care of the American Film Corporation, Santa Barbara, Cal., sending a quarter with your request for pictures, I imagine they will see that you receive them.

"His Letters," which are the epistles from a moving picture actor in California to his lawyer friend in Chicago, will appear from time to time on this page. In the intervals will appear various articles of timely interest.

TOPIC OF INTEREST TO MOVING-PICTURE FANS

THE past week has seen many calamities and joys in the movie world, for just at present the most "vogueish" things in the screen realm seem to be fashions and illness. The National Fashion Extravaganza at the Carnegie Library Thursday, Friday and yesterday drew many film stars East to prepare winter wardrobes for the coming season. It may be well to add that a beautiful motion picture star, Miss Alice Brady, daughter of the film magnate, was cast for the leading role in the show. A number of other handsome and prominent women of the silent drama were also seen taking part. In the number of the ill and otherwise physically disabled we number, first, Miss Mabel Norman, who is seriously ill in a Los Angeles hospital. Grace Cunard who recently underwent an operation resulting from an accident that occurred a little over a year ago, is being represented in the productions that she was working on by her sister, Nina Cunard. Little Mae Marsh, the enthusiastic, fragile and dainty actress who is best known for her splendid work in "The Birth of a Nation," is ill with an attack of bronchitis. Syd Chaplin, the slapstick comedian of the Keystone Company, has attached his happy self to the already long "sick list" by falling and injuring his head. There are no less than a score of prominent stars of the movie now ill. One tragedian of the film in a successful endeavor to look stern, almost makes the climax by breaking his jaw.

Milton Hoffman was a few days in advance of the fashion show when he purchased his winter overcoat. But since he considers the average man's clothes prosaic, he may be justified in doing as he did—getting a soft, roomy pure white overcoat with large white buttons. Some of his co-workers styled him the "masculine Fanny Harlequin."

The latest is the filming of a single musical composition by a living composer, Hans Kronold, the "cellist," who never before had appeared on any save a concert stage, was discovered last year, during his tour of the Keith Circuit Library Thursday, Friday and yesterday drew many film stars East to prepare winter wardrobes for the coming season. It may be well to add that a beautiful motion picture star, Miss Alice Brady, daughter of the film magnate, was cast for the leading role in the show. A number of other handsome and prominent women of the silent drama were also seen taking part. In the number of the ill and otherwise physically disabled we number, first, Miss Mabel Norman, who is seriously ill in a Los Angeles hospital. Grace Cunard who recently underwent an operation resulting from an accident that occurred a little over a year ago, is being represented in the productions that she was working on by her sister, Nina Cunard. Little Mae Marsh, the enthusiastic, fragile and dainty actress who is best known for her splendid work in "The Birth of a Nation," is ill with an attack of bronchitis. Syd Chaplin, the slapstick comedian of the Keystone Company, has attached his happy self to the already long "sick list" by falling and injuring his head. There are no less than a score of prominent stars of the movie now ill. One tragedian of the film in a successful endeavor to look stern, almost makes the climax by breaking his jaw.

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The production of the best known of the far-famed English Drury Lane melodramas, "The Great Ruby," now being released by the Lubin Company, furnishes another interesting illustration of the narrowness of the camera and the adaptability of American settings to any environment if properly selected. As will be recalled, the scenes of "The Great Ruby" are laid in England, the oldest of the old England. The play is permeated with the local color of the country.

To a layman the immediate impression will be that the action of the picture does really take place in England, and it will be difficult even for the film expert to conceive of certain parts of the film having been made in this country.

This was borne out the other day when an English member of a moving picture producing company, upon witnessing the picture, immediately "spotted" an old inn as an establishment in England with which he was familiar. As a matter of fact, the hours shown was that of old General Wayne's Inn, one of George Washington's headquarters en route to Valley Forge. The same commentary enthused over the "appearance" of a regiment of Royal Engineers in the picture—narrowly missed, dear, has the most handsome military organization in the world. Here again the picture was misleading, insofar as the "soldiers" were recruits from in and about Philadelphia, albeit that the spectacle which they present is one of the most brilliant military assemblages ever seen on the screen.

Explorer Stanley's historical journey into Africa in search for a hidden city, during which he met with many strange adventures and on several occasions narrowly missed death, has been woven into a screen drama. It was released under the title of "Stanley's Search for a Hidden City" September 26. Captain Jack Bonavita, the world-famous lion-trainer, and the celebrated collection of Horsley wild animals are featured.

Lola Meredith owns and harbors what is perhaps the ugliest dog living. This homely animal, especially engaged because of his ugliness, played the part of Michael in "Dog of My Heart," in which Miss Meredith starred, after Laurette Taylor went abroad. When Miss Meredith left the play she had become so attached to Michael that she took him with her. Miss Meredith will be seen shortly in "An Enemy to Society," a coming release on the Metro programme.

The German war pictures, "The Battle and Fall of Przemysl," which will be distributed in the New England states by Samuel Grant, manager of the Olympia Film Company, Olympia building, Boston, are showing at Tremont Temple, Boston, to capacity business.

Director Herbert Blache, with Mary Miles Minter, the juvenile Metro star, and a company of supporting players, will leave shortly for Frederick, Md., where the exterior scenes of "Barbara Frietschie" will be taken.

"Barbara Frietschie" is a screen adaptation of the famous poem of the same name, and will be an unusually pretentious Popular Plays and Players feature, released on the Metro programme.

Once in a while the motion picture producers spring up with a new idea.

Most interesting to Oregonians is the news that their state will play a part in the new pictures that will be taken soon, for under auspices of the Red Cross Society of America the Vitaphone Company has made arrangements to show for the first time in pictures the complete activities of this wonderful organization in war and peace. Le Met, the air man, and John Coleman, the director, with several expert cameramen, will take the pictures.

It is generally assumed that the work of the Red Cross is only first aid in time of war. This is an important branch, but the society also does work in connection with mine disasters and railroad wrecks.

In educating railroad men in relief work the Red Cross Society has two cars of its own in constant use, one west and the other east of the Mississippi, organizing and directing under the direction of medical officers. The newest branch of Red Cross activity will be undertaken this month in Washington and Oregon to help lumberjacks, among whom the first of injured and killed through accidents has been extremely high.

Glady's Brockwell, for scenes in "Double Trouble," wears a striking riding habit, which Lady Duff-Gordon, the New York Fifth Avenue tailor, designed for Miss Brockwell's personal use. Her personal wardrobe trunks contain a number of gorgeous gowns, which Miss Brockwell will wear in future Fine Arts Films picture dramas.

Douglas Bronston, of the Pathe scenario department, is a versatile genius. He wrote a song for "Neal of the Navy," the big serial success, that was so good Pathe has had it published by Berlin, Watterston & Snyder. The song, like the serial, is making good.

Quite unexpectedly the Los Angeles Council "sat" on the advocates for "pictures while you eat." The Public Safety committee of the Council refused last week to consider an application for an ordinance permitting exhibition of motion pictures in cafes and restaurants in that city. Chairman Brain of that committee, emphatically said that in his opinion every business should stand on its own footing and not attempt to encroach on others. To grant such permission, the committee said, would be establishing a bad precedent.

In "The Voice of the Fog" Mr. Brian appears as a young English nobleman who comes to America as the private secretary of a wealthy family. In one of the scenes representing a society entertainment Mr. Brian dances the latest waltz and one-step. These scenes never fail to bring forth applause from the younger persons at the playhouse theaters where it is shown, indicating beyond a doubt that whatever is said to the contrary the dancing "crash" is still as strong as ever.

Adventures of the Silly Gallillies in Movie Land



VOTE FOR THE PICTURE OF YOUR FAVORITE PLAYER.

Creighton Hale received the highest number of votes this week! His picture, therefore, will appear in The Frame of Public Favor next Sunday. Of the other players voted upon the following six are the leaders: Matt Moore, Harry Myers, Sidney Bracey, Morgan Jones, Ethel Clayton and Beatrix Michelena.

The Ballot.

..... requests the pleasure of seeing the photograph of

..... appear in the Frame of Public Favor one week from next Sunday.