

The Silent Drama



Scene from 'Smilin' Through' at the Liberty.



Scene from 'Thunderclap of the Circle'.



Anita Stewart at the Rivoli.



Scene from 'The Prodigal Judge of the Peoples'.

AND now Victor Herbert, the renowned orchestra conductor, comes out in defense of the movies and the people that make them. The recent attacks of the reformers have nettled and irritated the noble composer.

Mr. Herbert knows whereof he speaks. His association with members of the industry is extensive. He has lived with them and played with them.

While appearing as guest-conductor at John Kumsky's New Capitol theater, Detroit, Herbert, in an interview, expressed his sentiments regarding those who attacked the whole picture industry because of the actions of a few in Hollywood.

"Thousands of people in an industry and a couple of sensational police cases bring the whole industry into disrepute.

"What do these reformers know about the picture or theatrical world? If the people who make pictures are immoral, then I am immoral. If the people who entertain us from the stage are immoral, then I am immoral, for we are all alike, and it is a terrible thing to brand any class of people as immoral."

Mildred Davis, who has three generations of writers back of her, "dropped into poetry" recently and a friend of hers sent her effort to a "fan" magazine. The magazine not only printed it but sent her one paper dollar.

Harry Myers, Gertrude Olmstead, Emmet King, Percy Pembroke, Josef Swickard, Noble Johnson. That is the cast with which Robert Hill began production at Universal City on "The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe."

Raymond Hitchcock, comedian, who is featured in "The Beauty Shop," the new Cosmopolitan production, began his stage career many years ago as a clerk in a shoe store in Auburn, N. Y.

Constance Talmadge's suit for divorce against her husband, John Plafoglio, wealthy young tobacco importer of New York, will be set for early trial in the Los Angeles court.

George Walsh is suing Tom, Mix in a California court for \$25,000, charging that Mix borrowed Joe Walsh's horse, for use in a picture and has refused to return the animal.

A "pillar" made of soft cloth used in a ballet set in "The Bitterness of Sweetest" caught fire the other day and went up like a rocket.

Pat O'Malley, who is appearing in "Brothers Under Their Skins," says that the only way to play a "drunk" and be convincing, is to be totally

zober. "One drink will make an actor playing such a role look horribly sober," says Mr. O'Malley, "while abstinence enables him to look well under the bad weather."

A mink fur coat, valued at \$10,000, plays a leading and dramatic part in "Brothers Under Their Skins," which E. Mason Hopper is directing for Goldwyn. The coat was rented by the studio and is insured for the full amount.

Blonde and beautiful Claire Windsor, working in "Brothers Under Their Skins," was described the other day as being "of Swedish distraction." The ethnological humorist who made the observation, has successfully eluded the police of Culver City.

Helene Chadwick, of Goldwyn picture fame, loves to collect autographs and doesn't care who knows it. Mary Garden, who visited the Goldwyn studios recently, was added to her list of alphabetic scapes.

Norman Kerry, who suffered an attack of "kites" eyes, has returned to work. He is playing a prominent role in "Brothers Under Their Skins."

Peter B. Kyne's story now under the direction of E. Mason Hopper, "The Good Provider," which E. Mason Hopper is directing, will go to Vienna in May to star in a series of pictures backed by American capital.

The actor has only recently returned from Italy, where he acted before the camera. The leading woman in these foreign pictures will be Hazel Dawn, former screen and musical comedy star. Mr. Kerry will leave for New York as soon as he finishes in "Brothers Under Their Skins."

The finest pair of masculine underlinings seen in filmdom since Will Rogers wore tights in "Doubling for Romeo," are now being exhibited by Antonio Moreno, who is playing the part of an Italian dancer in "The Bitterness of Sweetest," which Rupert Hughes is personally directing at the Goldwyn studio.

After a year's absence from the screen Mr. and Mrs. Carter De Haven are to return in a series of two-reel domestic comedies. The De Havens are both screen and stage favorites, and their resumption of their screen work is the result of a demand, reported by theater owners throughout the country, for some comedies to take the place of those produced by the late Sidney Drew and Mrs. Drew.

John M. Stahl's next production will be based on an original story by the director, according to announcement from the Louis B. Mayer studios. Hundreds of books and plays were read by the scenario staff in the search for material for this picture, but none of those suitable were in sufficient contrast to Mr. Stahl's last production, "One Clear Call," adapted from the novel by Frances Nimmo Greene.

Theater lovers throughout the country will have the opportunity to see their stage favorites in Stairand Revue, a single reel motion picture subject, which presents all the Broadway favorites in intimate views of both in and out the theater.

Reports have it that the book files at the Louis B. Mayer studios are now being dusted off and sorted out preparatory to a big spring production drive. Mr. Mayer at present holds the film rights to a number of popular novels by such authors as Harold MacGrath, James Oliver Curwood, Kathleen Norris and Frances Nimmo Greene, and also has options on two current stage successes.

Figures compiled by the Charles Ray Productions indicate that Charles Ray's pictures have about even popularity in large cities and small. The large ones favor him by a trifle. It is felt by those who plan Ray's pictures that the average movie fan,

whether of the city or of the country, is not fond of cynicism or satire, or aggression, and Ray has been careful to avoid a false or unsympathetic atmosphere. He has consistently chosen natural and wholesome themes and they have been found to appeal equally to the high-gear city dweller and to the calmer living rural citizen.

Thirty years of travel without the aid of a single Baedeker is the record of My Mayer, who has produced the Hy Mayer "Travelogue," now being distributed by H-C Pictures. Mr. Mayer's last trip took him through all continental Europe, where he photographed the pictures that comprise the current series of Travelogues.

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day after what he termed the most strenuous test of his picture career, at the Metro studio.

Upon the completion of "Blood and Sand" at the Lasky studio, Fred Niblo will head his own production unit at the Louis B. Mayer studios, where he recently directed Anita Stewart in two First National attractions, "The Woman He Married" and "Rose O' the Sea." Since his desertion of stardom on the speaking stage several years ago Mr. Niblo has devoted himself to mastering the art of picture making with the result that he is now considered one of the foremost dramatic directors in the industry.

Alfred E. Green, who recently completed "Our Leading Citizen," starring Thomas Meighan, has been chosen to direct Wallace Reid in the latter's new Paramount picture, "The Ghost Breaker," the production of which has been started at the Lasky studio. Lila Lee will be Mr. Reid's leading woman.

Funny how the Latin atmosphere clings about Lila Lee. She was a South American beauty in "The Dictator," with Wallace Reid as star, "shot" at the Pickford-Fairbanks studios at Hollywood and Doug won the day.

Not Always a Case of Rolling Over Attractive Country in Big Studio Cars—Many Features Not So Comfortable.

W HAT a wonderful assignment! To the average fan who looks at the screen and admires the beautiful out-of-doors, photographed from mountain tops and valleys, the jungle or rolling plains, the thought no doubt appeals to them that if only they could be commissioned to go out and find locations for filming they would never ask for anything closer to a sinecure.

It must be admitted, however tedious and oftentimes difficult the work of a location man necessarily is, it nevertheless attracts those who do not know what an arduous task it is.

Spanish lass; and now she'll be a Castilian princess in "The Ghost Breaker" in which Wallace Reid will have the stellar role.

The complete cast for "Someone to Love," the most recent Thomas H. Ince feature to enter production, is announced as a near-perfection "balance" in characterization.

The cast includes Madge Bellamy, Cullen Landis, Noah Beery, Vola Vale, Harry Rattenbury, Carrie Clark Ward, Bert Sprotten, Lincoln Stedman and Larry Steers.

"The 'Someone to Love' company is on location near Santa Cruz in northern California under the direction of John Griffith Wray, who directed "Hail the Woman."

In "Evidence," Elaine Hammerstein impersonates an actress who marries into society and makes her snobbish relatives like her.

Owen Moore in "Reported Missing," experiences the thrills of being shanghaied, taken to sea and wrecked in a studio typhoon.

Thompson Buchanan, supervisor at the Lasky studio and also a playwright of national note, left this week for a short visit to San Francisco where he will confer with Henry Miller, the distinguished actor, upon a play Mr. Buchanan has written and which will be put into rehearsal shortly with a tentative title of "He Stoops to Conquer." The cast will include such leading lights of the stage as Henry Miller, Blanche Baines, Ruth Chatterton and Bruce McRae.

David Powell, who was Gloria Swanson's leading man in "Her Gilded Cage," will play the leading male role with Dorothy Dalton in her latest Paramount picture, "The Siren Call."

T Roy Barnes went out to the California desert to grow the beard he wears in his "Happy Jack" characterization for "The Old Homestead," which will be produced soon as a Paramount picture by James Cruze.

Leah Baird, Ince star, is in the hospital recovering from a serious operation. She will be out in two or three weeks.

Max Linder leaves for New York next week where he sails for France on a long and well-earned vacation.

Billy Dale, former vaudevillian, has begun work as "ging" man for Harold Lloyd at the Roach studios.

Nazimova, the exotic, is reaping the benefits of pioneering. Ten years ago she was first with Ibsen. Now she is accorded special orders for "Doll's House" by the famed Norwegian author.

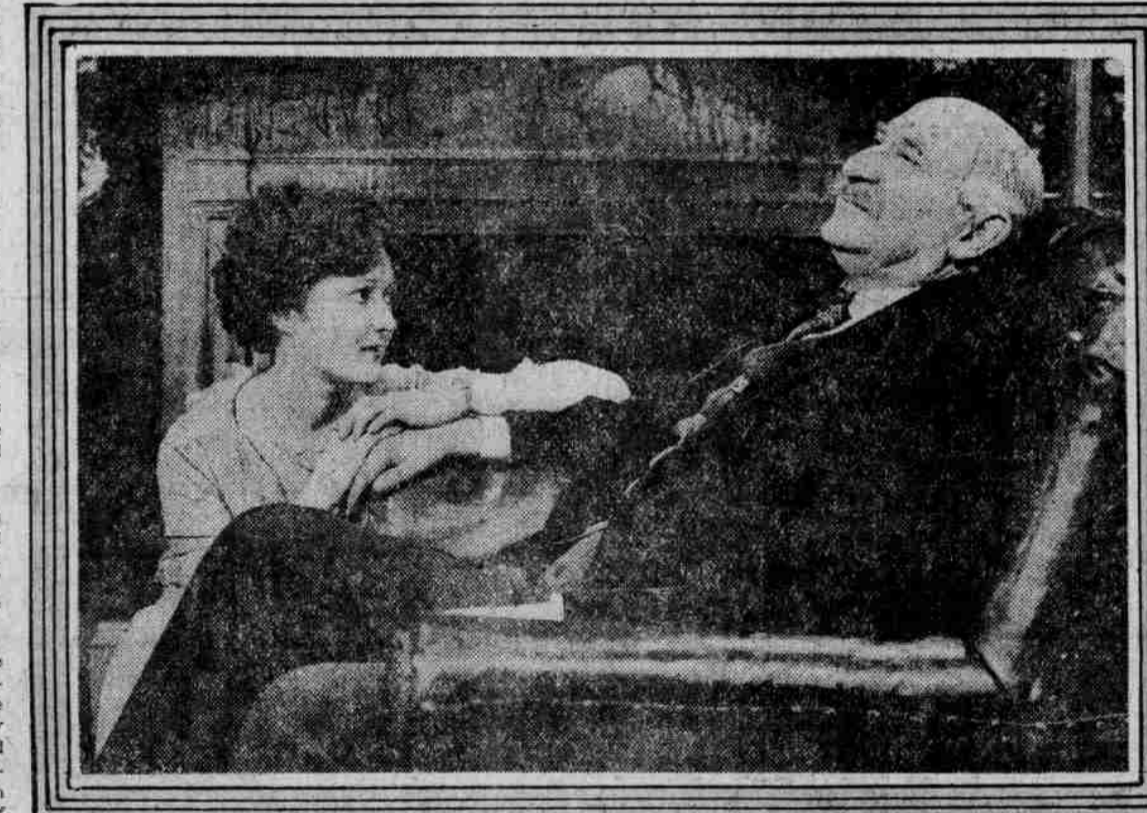
Gilbert Warrenton, cameraman to Alfred E. Green at Lasky's, has invented a new periscope finder which is a great assistance in "setting up" for the shot and also saves much time and annoyance.

Hal Roach has added J. A. Howe to the directorate force at his Culver City plant. Mr. Howe is one of the old timers in the game, beginning in '12 as assistant director at the old Reliance Majestic with Griffith as director-general of five-reel comedy-drama featuring Lillian Gish, Blanche Sweet, the late Bobbie Herron and others.

For the past six years he has been directing at various comedy lots with 101 comedies to his credit. Mr. Howe has also written all of his stories. He is a native of Kansas City, Mo.

Selznick News is digging up men, formerly prominent, who are now pictured in their retirement, prizefighters, politicians, authors and such like being recalled to public attention.

Harry "Snub" Pollard essayed the role of director to his new bride when a news film photographer was taking some pictures of the couple in front of their new home at Serrano and Franklin, Hollywood. The photographer had "gagged" up a little action and so "Snub" agreed that he would instruct Mrs. Pollard in "putting it over." His better half, who has never seen pictures in the making, was not



Scene from 'The Good Provider' at the Columbia.



Scene from 'Zane Grey's Adaptation of Wildfire' at Majestic.

TODAY'S FILM FEATURES.

- Liberty—Norma Talmadge, "Smilin' Through."
Majestic—Zane Grey's "Wildfire" story, "When Romance Rides."
Rivoli—Anita Stewart, "The Woman He Married."
Peoples—Jean Paige, "The Prodigal Judge."
Columbia—Vera Gordon, "The Good Provider."
Circle—Fox special, "Thunderclap."
Hippodrome—Viola Dana, "Seeing's Believing."

SOUTH SEA ISLANDS VOGUE TAKES BIG GRIP ON MOVIES

Location Fever Current in Magazines Also Casts Its Spell Over Mind of Writers for Silver Sheet.

THE South Seas vogue that has been current in literature has hit the movies. And with it the perplexing question—"The South Sea isles; paradise or prison?" has been worrying the scenario writers.

Many are the authors and lecturers who picture the Pacific isles as lush islands of flowers and sunshine, where nature provides food, drink and amusement, where one has only to lie under a spreading palm and enjoy love without obligations and peace unbroken by responsibilities. This is a very popular view, typified by Frederick O'Brien's books, "White Shadows in the South Seas" and "Mystic Isles of the South Seas."

On the other hand, there are authors who, with sharply satirical pens, characterize the "tropical love" as a sordid indulgence, the flouting of convention as vice, and the languor as laziness. Of such is "The Cruise of the Kawa," written by "Dr. Traprock," and a smaller but increasing number of other volumes.

The undeniably romantic flavor of this region has made it the scene of a number of motion pictures. However, it has been the aim of their authors and directors to present life as it is, and to avoid argument or preachment. "South of Sava," a Paramount picture

starring Mary Miles Minter, is referred to in the studio as "a South Sea picture without a grass skirt or a beach comb." There is intense drama, however, when Phyllis Latimer (Miss Minter) arrives at Sava to join her husband, and finds that he has succumbed to the South Sea lure—and a native woman. On the other hand, Phyllis meets there a young man, a wealthy plantation owner, who has kept his ideals and morals, as well as his American efficiency.

"The Man Unconquerable," starring Jack Holt, pictures still another aspect of life below the equator. The South Pacific archipelago is the scene of the climactic sequence of "The Bonded Woman," starring Betty Compson. Angela (Miss Compson) leaves her home in San Francisco, and sails to reclaim the man she loves. She finds him drowning the bitterness of his soul in drink. Here are shown all the meretricious attractions that lure a man to his downfall.

But another side is effectively shown, for Angela gets her man on board a small schooner, and contrives to get him and herself left alone on a desert island of the group. Here the man conquers himself and his evil desires, and finds regeneration, and love.