

DIRECTOR STUDIES TO FIT SUITABLE MUSIC TO FILMS

Columbia Orchestra Director Has Art of Playing the Picture Down to Point That Enhances Value of Feature.



Vincent C. Knowles, who is singularly successful in selecting and rendering charming and appropriate numbers for pictures showing

RECENTLY a discriminating woman remarked to the writer: "The feature picture really was atrocious. But despite that fact, I thoroughly enjoyed the music they played for it." And that comment states considerably: "Playing the pictures" to write in the vernacular of the theater, is an art in itself. If one is under the impression that it is an easy task, they ought to sit with the orchestra director when the coming feature attraction is being screened for him to select themes and also cue them in suitably. It is comparatively easy, as some directors do, to pick a few tuneful popular numbers and keep on repeating them, regardless whether the particular one they are playing at that particular period is appropriate to the scene or situation being enacted on the screen. But that is not artfully playing the pictures, any more than deafening an audience with loud music can be considered as enhancing the value of the feature. Some managers are fortunate in having directors who can musically supplement the features. Such managers can really get a kick a fea-

villain; but up in my neighborhood, where they know me better, I'm 'McKim, the sewing-machine man.' Clarence H. Geldert, screen actor, author and director, has been elected President of the Mission Film corporation, Leon Rice vice-president and D. W. Pollard and Ernest Caesar have been added to the board of directors. E. G. Havermale was chosen secretary and treasurer to succeed Richard Wayne, who resigned to have more time for his work upon the screen. While planning the exploitation of the first Mission feature production, "Science or God?" to be released next month, Mr. Geldert is also preparing to film "The Shepherdess and the Chimney Sweep," one of Hans Christian Anderson's fairy tales.

Able Artists Picked for "East Is West."

Constance Talmadge, Star, Will Have Excellent Supporting Cast in Feature.

"EAST IS WEST" has an all-star cast.

Director Sidney Franklin believes in having the best talent to be secured for such a felicitous combination of story, star and setting, and has made a point of surrounding Constance Talmadge with a cast of luminaries as a fitting foil for her piquant role of the Chinese girl, Ming Toy.

Edward Burns is portraying the leading role of Billy Benson. The young Lochnivar of the screen will have ample opportunity to aid beauty in distress and put another feather in his cap for excellent acting.

Fred Warren has unusual opportunities in his role of Lo Sang Kee, the genial Chinaman, who upholds the principles of the Occident, as well as those of China, and symbolizes a benevolent justice in his characterization.

Hop Toy, as played by Frank Lansing, is a sinister figure, in startling contrast to the kindly Lo Sang Kee.

Still another contrast is the comedy element introduced by Charlie Young, a role that Warner Oland makes the most of and brings out all the amazing complexities of that chop suey king's character.

Then there are Nigel Barrie, a well-known juvenile, who portrays the role of Jimmy Potter; Nick De Ruiz, who is cast as Chang Lee; and Jim Wang, the proprietor of the love boat.

Altogether it is an excellent cast fortunate enough to be provided with equally excellent parts.

Selznick Revives Pictures With Tommy Meighan.

Star Will Be Seen in Film When He Was Mere Leading Man.

NOW that Thomas Meighan is a star in his own right, picture fans will find interest in his earlier work in the days when he was only a leading man, striving for the "top of the ladder." Selznick's revival of "The Forbidden City" shows Meighan in his beginnings.

"The Forbidden City" was produced at a time when Lewis J. Selznick was raising the Talmadge girls to screen stardom and the George Scarborough story was one of the vehicles that helped Norma in her earlier popularity. In this work Meighan appeared as Norma's leading man.

Another interesting point, coupled with Miss Talmadge's vogue at present, is disclosed in the fact that Sidney A. Franklin, who directed "The Forbidden City," also directed "Smilin' Through," the latest of Norma Talmadge's screen successes. Thus is the screen record kept clear.

U. S. MARINES HELP BEAUTY OF SCREEN IN NEW PICTURE

Extra Men Could Impersonate Doughboys, But When It Came to "Devil-Dogs" Director Insisted on Real Thing.



Katherine MacDonald, coming to Rivoli in "The Infidel," who was "rescued" from South sea savages, but by real honest-to-goodness American marines.

"EXTRA men" of the Los Angeles motion picture studios can successfully impersonate the doughy doughboy, but when the author calls for marines in his story an S. O. S. must be sent out for the genuine soldiers of the sea, for no five-dollar-a-day cinema neophyte, regardless of light blue trousers, dark blue coat and plenty of brass buttons, can realistically give the atmosphere of the leatherneck.

James Young, the photoplay director, is author of this statement, and when Charles A. Logue, the author, wrote a scene in "The Infidel," booked for the Rivoli, that called for Katherine MacDonald, the beautiful star, to be saved from hooch-crazed South sea savages by United States marines, it was marines he demanded, and marines that he got.

Logue insisted that such minor technical details of the plot as required scenes of Uncle Sam's dress-nights in action and runs-to-the-rescue by the sea soldiers be carried out to the letter.

And who could look like a marine? Nobody who had not served in the ranks of the amphibious warriors could present a sufficiently authentic appearance to satisfy the exacting author and director.

But what marines need 30 minutes to rescue a lady in distress? Besides the beautiful star herself, the players in Katherine MacDonald's latest screen production include such well known and capable players as Joseph Dowling, Melbourne MacDowell, Robert Ellis and Barbara Tennant.

Previous to entering motion pictures John M. Stahl, director of "One Clear Call," "The Child Thou Gavest Me" and "The Song of Life," was an actor on the speaking stage, playing in both dramatic productions and vaudeville sketches. He began his film apprenticeship at the very bottom over ten years ago, playing extra parts for \$5 a day. Now he has his own company under the Louis B. Mayer banner, making all-star specials for First National release. "The Dangerous Age," his latest effort, is now in course of production.

"Island Wives," one of Corinne Griffith's current Vitagraph productions, affords the star an opportunity to wear an astonishing diversity of costumes. On the south sea isle she is dressed in the cool native skirt and waist, on the millionaire's yacht she wears a gorgeous succession of brocaded Chinese costumes and in America she appears in the latest and best that Paris and Fifth avenue have to offer.

SOCIETY "DEBS" RUN AWAY WITH DIRECTOR'S PET GOAT

Two Working in "Atmosphere Roles." With More Money Than Brains, Couldn't Wear Same Clothes Two Days.

BY CHARLES E. MCCARTHY.

THE dress ideas of New York society girls cause motion-picture directors working in eastern studios no end of trouble. Unlike Hollywood, New York has girls of the elite and near-elite who seek in motion-picture work relaxation from arduous teas and bridge parties. That is, they seek it if the casting director doesn't find out their lineage, for he has had enough trouble with society in the films, and if a young lady with a blue-book reference applies for work as "atmosphere" in the hall room set she gets the "air," vernacularly speaking.

They besiege the eastern studios of the motion-picture companies, however, and some of them succeed in getting extra jobs. Two such sub-debs were hired the other day at the Paramount Long Island studio to make up the background of a fashionable ballroom scene for Alice Brady's first Paramount picture, "Missing Millions." They came to the studio in their limousines, all dressed in pink evening clothes, with slippers and stockings to match, a perfect picture of liveliness.

The casting director spoke to Joseph Henabery, who is directing the picture, with enthusiasm—after the fashion of casting directors—about

the "classy" bunch of extras that had been obtained for the scene. Everything went fine the first day. Long shots, close-ups and medium shots were taken with rapidity. When the day was done Henabery gave the following instructions:

"Everybody be on this set again tomorrow at 9 o'clock dressed the same as you are today."

For experienced extras in the movies that was enough. But to the young debutantes of the 400 the words meant nothing.

The next morning 138 extras came in the clothes they had worn the day before. The two young ladies with addresses in the social register arrived at the studio in a complete change of costume. They were so pleased about their new dresses that they even became so bold as to ask the director if he liked them.

Now Henabery is a mild-mannered man, but he almost lost his poise. "Why did you change dresses?" he asked sharply.

"Oh, we never wear the same dress twice in two days," the novices explained.

"But, don't you realize that the scene we are shooting today is a continuation of the one we shot yesterday? In the picture you haven't had any time to change."

And the picture was held up two hours while the distressed young ladies sped to their homes to put on the clothes they had worn the day before.

NOTED PHOTOPLAY VILLAIN HANDY MAN ABOUT HOUSE

Robert McKim's Skill With Screwdriver Reveals Dark Past When He Used to Sell Sewing Machines.

ROBERT MCKIM is said by many to be the screen's most polished villain. But he's a handy man about the house, and this tale is told solely in the interest of the ladies. McKim's stage urbanity is wonderfully displayed in his interpretation of the role of the villainous Dr. Vilefort in the William Fox special production, "Monte Cristo," recently made at the Fox West Coast studios under the direction of Emmett J. Flynn.

During the filming of the picture Mr. McKim found a rip in his satin coat and hastened to the Fox wardrobe department to have it repaired. "I'll have to do it by hand," explained the wardrobe woman. "Our sewing machines are out of order."

"Let us see what I can do with 'em," said McKim.

had a machine in good running order. For good measure, while the coat was being fixed, the actor repaired the rest of the machines and bowed himself out. Later he confessed that once upon a time he had been a sewing-machine agent.

"Many years ago," he said, "I went to Honolulu with a repertoire company. The show flopped. I had to get a job and I found it with the local branch of a big sewing machine company. I first worked in the rental and repair department, where I learned to fix any old kind of machines, and then I went out and sold them to Kanaka women. It took a year, though, before I saved enough money to get back to the United States.

MAJESTIC

Direction of Jensen and Von Herberg



TODAY! My Old Kentucky Home

—With All-Star Cast, Including MONTE BLUE Famous "Danton" of "Orphans of the Storm"

It's the "Kentucky Derby" of the season's screen events. From everywhere that it has been shown come nothing but praises—praise for its great horse race—praise for its pathos and comedy—praise for its love stories—praise for its acting and beautiful settings.

It's the kind of picture that makes ideal summertime entertainment. Come and enjoy.

Pathe Weekly and Comedy

LIBERTY

LIBERTY CORNER. DIRECTION JENSEN - VON HERBERG. HAMPTON

TREMENDOUS



WALLACE REID

AND THEODORE ROBERTS

IN PARAMOUNT'S CLASSIEST, THRILLIEST, LAUGHIEST AUTO RACING DRAMA

"ACROSS THE CONTINENT"

Wally drives a fliover 85 miles per hour!—breaks a coast-to-coast record!—drives through a raging prairie fire!!!—races the Overland Limited through a pitch black tunnel and makes love to two girls!!!!

KEATES'

CONTEST CONCERT On Our Mighty Wurlitzer

1. Overture, Lustpiel... Kela-Bela
2. Traumerei... Schumann
3. After Vespers... Neil Moret
4. KEATES' CONTEST
5. Take a Trip to the Land of Harmony... Arranged

TODAY at 12:30

NOTE:

Last Sunday's contest was a circus and everybody had lots of fun. We'll have more today! So if you can sing or whistle and have a little bit of nerve and you feel lucky—well, you're going to get a \$5 bill.

Try Your Luck

ALSO A TWO-PART COMEDY AND WORLD EVENTS TOLD IN MOTION