

NEWS AND GOSSIP

at Work—and Where

LABOUR TO ATTEND

This vehicle for Sessue Hayakawa's genius is an adaptation of the well-known novel by E. Phillips Oppenheim, and is a story of the immediate future and of interesting politics, of a Labour Government in this country, and of a great danger which threatens the nation. Passion runs side by side with politics, and many of the important incidents in the film are likely to create considerable controversy. A number of members of the present Labour Government will attend this premiere in considerable force; and quite a number of Conservatives will also be present to see whether the state of affairs brought about some years hence by the Labour Party has been intelligently anticipated by the novelist, and satisfactorily interpreted by the producer (A. E. Coleby), and the artists. The time is 8.30 p.m.

FROM HALLS TO SCREEN

Dollie and Billie, the two young sisters who have for nearly five years been a welcome turn in variety, where their bright and merry program has won them hosts of admirers, are to be featured in a new Stoll film. Not only in London but in many provincial towns, Dollie and Billie have gained an immense popularity, particularly in Manchester, where they appeared seven times in twelve months, and scored heavily in Glasgow during a ten weeks' pantomime season. Recently they were in the London Alhambra program three times within six weeks, and still more recently substituted for Grock at the London Coliseum.

"THE MATING OF MARCUS"

Dollie and Billie are to feature as Naomi and Vivi in "The Mating of Marcus," a comedy by Mabel Barnes-Grundy, which W. P. Kellino will produce at the Cricklewood Studios. It was at the suggestion of Sir Oswald Stoll and Mr. Kellino studied the girls on the stage. Struck by their possibilities, he gave them a studio test, and being confirmed in his opinion, wrote a short scene for them which further strengthened his judgment. So as land girls, Dollie and Billie will play opposite David Hawthorne in the new picture, beginning work in the immediate future.

NEW LANG PICTURE

The screen adaptation of A. E. W. Mason's novel, "Miranda of the Balcony," will be shown to the Press and Trade on Friday week, May 16, at the New Scala, London, at 3. As announced recently, this title has been discarded in favour of "Slaves of Destiny." Matheson Lang plays the principal male role of Charnock, appearing on the screen in modern clothes for the first time for many months. Maurice Elvey, who has directed the picture on an unstinted scale, obtained many exteriors abroad, and some strong local colour of Northern Africa is promised. The unusually strong cast also

includes Mlle. Valia, as leading lady—her last part for the screen; Henry Victor in a striking character role; H. Humberston Wright as Hassan; and H. Agar Lyons as Wilbraham, the heavy role.

RIDGWELL ON LOCATION

This week a band of Stoll players departed to a far corner of Wales—near Milford—for the purpose of securing some exterior scenes of "Pools of the Past," which George Ridgwell is directing. J. Rosenthal, jun., is now the cameraman, and Victor Peers, Ridgwell's assistant, Mlle. Disa, Peggy Lynn, A. E. Imeson, Sydney N. Folker, Cameron Carr, Gordon Hopkirk and Basil H. Saunders. The story is an adaptation of Charles Proctor's novel.

SPARE A COPPER!

The average film "peeler" or "bobby" is far too often an amusing character, and not true to life in the opinion of the observant. Stoll police-constables may have erred in the past, but it is satisfactory to know that the "officers" who figured in "The Brighton Mystery," one of "The Old Man in the Corner" series last week at Stoll's won official commendation. In the office of the general manager at the Cricklewood studios a genuine constable was wickedly mistaken for one of the tame variety. "No," he said, "I am the real thing, and those men of yours I saw on the floor just now are really good imitations. Film policemen, you know, usually cause laughter, but these are not at all bad." Hugh Croise, it is understood, indignantly denies that his extensive acquaintance with the police is the real cause of this verisimilitude.

Walter Forde, the well-known British screen comedian, is now in London, having just returned from a stay in Paris.

Adrian Brunel has returned from Algiers, and will shortly resume production.

Madge Stuart, Betty Ross-Clark, and Lewis Dayton are engaged to play for M. Delmonte, a Czech director, in a new production to be "shot" in various parts of the Continent.

Burton George is completing his cast for the new Anglia production, "Human Desires," and the names will be announced almost immediately.

We are glad to record the new activities of Miss Mary Buxton. She has now joined Messrs. Curtis Brown, Ltd., the well-known firm of literary and dramatic agents in Henrietta Street, as supervisor of their film rights department—a department which has been instrumental in negotiating many of the most important screen propositions of the most recent years here and in America. As many of our readers are aware, Miss Buxton joined the staff of Bramlins, Ltd., in 1920, where for a space of eighteen months she was in charge of their book department. She is anxious to get in touch with all those members of the industry who are open to acquire suitable subjects or to be put into direct contact with authors.

CUTTS' BIG EFFORT.

Graham Cutts is progressing very rapidly with the production of the Gainsborough picture, "The Passionate Adventure," and will very shortly have it completed. It is understood that the Gainsborough Company, Ltd., have fixed the general release date for December 1st of this year, although, of course, there may be special presentations in the key cities prior to that date. There are plenty of signs that "The Passionate Adventure" is likely to be Graham Cutts' biggest picture.

NEW HILL PICTURE.

The Stoll screen version of E. Phillips Oppenheim's novel, "The Conspirators," is now completed. Sinclair Hill has directed this picture at Cricklewood. The plot is a modern mystery one, and the strong British cast includes David Hawthorne and Betty Faire in the leading parts, supported by Edward O'Neill, Fred Rains, Margaret Hope and George Turner. Horace M. Wheddon is responsible for the camera work. Trade show dates of this production will very shortly be made known.

STUDIO PULSE

Productions in Progress

ATLANTIC UNION.—Studio: Hepworths, Walton-on-Thames (Walton 16). "Owd Bob," with Fisher White and Yvonne Thomas. Producer, Henry Edwards; cameraman, E. Brice.

DAVIDSON.—Studio: Lea Bridge (Walthamstow 634). "The Gay Corinthian," with Victor McLaglen. Producer, Arthur Rooke; cameraman, Leslie Eveleigh.

GAINSBOROUGH PICTURES.—Studio: Famous Players-Lasky, Poole Street, Islington (North 2744). "The Passionate Adventure," with Clive Brook, Marjorie Daw and Alice Joyce. Producer, Graham Cutts; cameraman, Claude McDonnell.

GAUMONT.—Studio: Lime Grove, Shepherd's Bush (Hammersmith 2000). "The Eleventh Commandment," with Fay Compton and Stewart Rome. Producer, George A. Cooper; cameraman, Basil Emmott.

GRANVILLE PRODUCTIONS.—Studio: Alliance, St. Margaret's (Richmond 1045). "Contraband," with Peggy Hyland. Producer, Fred le Roy Granville; cameraman, J. Rogers.

STOLL.—Studio: Temple Road, Cricklewood (Willesden 3203). "Chappy—That's All," with Joyce Dearsley. Producer, Thomas Bentley. "The Love Story of Ailette Brunton," with Isobel Elsom. Producer, Maurice Elvey; cameraman, J. C. Cox. "The Old Man in the Corner," with Rolf Leslie. Producer, Hugh Croise; cameraman, D. P. Cooper. "The Conspirators," with David Hawthorne and Betty Faire. Producer, Sinclair Hill; cameraman, H. M. Wheddon. "Pools of the Past," with Disa. Producer, George Ridgwell; cameraman, I. Roseman. "The Mating of Marcus," with Dollie and Billie. Producer, W. P. Kellino.

WALTER WEST.—Studio: Kew Bridge (Chiswick 574). "The Stirrup-Cup Sensation," with Violet Hopson and Stewart Rome. Producer, Walter West; cameraman, G. Toni.

WELSH, PEARSON AND CO.—Studio: 41, Craven Park, Harlesden (Willesden 2862). "Reveille," with Betty Balfour and Stewart Rome. Producer, George Pearson; cameraman, Percy Strong.