

the cut direct, the men provided an audience for Gyp, the dog, who, although not trained to do such tricks, proved to be a wonderful little juggler with a film tin, and no mean comedian either. At the end of the luncheon hour, up on the studio floor, Gyp became a decorous little dog again, but Polly was brought on to the set shrieking at the top of her voice "What the —'s all this about?"

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The new sporting drama which Arthur Rooke is directing for I. B. Davidson will not lack variety. In addition to two racing scenes, one on the flat and the other over hurdles, there is a fight for the amateur championship of Great Britain. The combatants in the latter are Victor McLaglen (who put up such a good fight in "The Call of the Road") and Harry Drake, who recently beat the heavy-weight champion of Germany. In addition to these exciting incidents, there is a pretty love story. The hero (Victor McLaglen) becomes attached to a rich young lady (played by Phyllis Shannaw), but under her father's will her uncle (Douglas Munro) acts as guardian, and controls her financial affairs until she is married. The uncle resorts to all kinds of intrigue to prevent the marriage, and for a time succeeds. But eventually his villainy is detected in quite a surprising climax. Besides some picturesque exteriors in Surrey countryside, there are some fine interiors, including a West End club and a children's nursery in the East End. Leslie Eveleigh is the cameraman. Mr. Rooke is responsible for the scenario, in collaboration with I. B. Davidson.

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The final scenes in "The Corner Man," which Einar Bruun has directed for Harma (Associated Exhibitors) were taken during the week-end. The most important included a garden fete at night, for which the charming grounds of one of the directors of the company (Mr. T. Thompson) at Albury House, Surbiton Hill, were placed at the disposal of the producer. The many guests were all in fancy dress, and some very effective shots were secured. The grounds were gorgeously illuminated with hundreds of Chinese and other lanterns; there was a big display of fireworks; there was an orchestra on a specially constructed bandstand; indeed, everything was carried out on a most elaborate scale. An important development in the plot takes place at this function, in which all the principal artists were concerned, namely, Hugh E. Wright, Ida Lambert, Eric Barclay, and A. Harding Steerman. The proceedings lasted until the early hours of Saturday morning.

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George Ridgwell has commenced the production of the second Stoll series of "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" with the dramatic episode of "The Second Stain." This story gives Eille Norwood, as the great detective, an ample opportunity of exhibiting his deductive powers, though it does not call upon the actor to exercise his genius at super-fatuous disguise. Hubert Willis is playing the part of the first, but Teddy Arundell, as the blundering official from Scotland Yard, Detective-Inspector Hopkins, helps to invest the new series with a new note. In "The Second Stain" Dorothy Fane is playing the part of Mrs. Hope, the fair purveyor of a highly-important political document, while Cecil Ward figures as Lord Bellinger, the Prime Minister from whose despatch box the document is filched. Mdm. D'Esterre, as before, represents Holmes' housekeeper. The front of the famous house in Baker Street, where the detective was supposed to have lived, occupied a portion of the studio at Cricklewood for the space of six months, but was then resolved to its three-ply elements. It has now been reconstructed for the new series on its old site, and will remain there till next March. Holmes' sitting room and bedroom have also been rebuilt on the deck floor, together with their adjacent corridors and staircases.

Nearly a thousand people will take part in "The Scourge," the forthcoming Hardy production, upon which work is shortly to be commenced. The plot of the picture concerns the Great Plague of London, and several special sets of interiors approximate to the period have been designed. The cast is now almost complete, and includes William Stack (in the leading rôle) Sir Simeon Stuart, Humberstone Wright, Fotheringham Lysons, Cecil Cameron, Guy Graham, Harding Steerman, Miss Julia MacKay and Miss Beatrice Anderson. Practically the whole of the scenes will be interiors, so that producing will not be affected by weather difficulties. The fact that such a huge number of persons are required makes the wardrobe question no small problem, as costumes worn in old seventeenth century London will be indispensable to everyone taking part.

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I hear that Harrogate, the famous Spa town, not far from Leeds, is blossoming out as a film producing centre. Mr. Robert Fenimore, the moving spirit of the North British Productions, is filming "The Lonely Road," a crook drama, an adaptation of a Flemish story, in studios he has opened at Duchy Court, Harrogate. The Court, a spacious residence off Otley Road, has been divided, one half into flats, and the other adapted to the purposes of film producing. This latter portion includes a splendid ball room, with oak panelled walls and a perfect floor, which formed an ideal setting for a fancy dress ball, at which the hero of the story is accused of stealing a necklace. A motor-car chase along the neighbouring avenues, and a dramatic arrest are other features. All the interior scenes have been taken at Duchy Court, and local dealers in antiques have generously helped the enterprise by lending appropriate furniture and fittings, while Mr. Fenimore has had no difficulty in enlisting the voluntary services of local people for his "crowd." Among the outdoor scenes is the arrival of the Rotterdam boat at Hull, and in order to get this correctly, the producer, Mr. Alfred Vandenbosch, went to the Yorkshire port for genuine pictures.

Mr. Fenimore himself plays a dual rôle in the production, and is cleverly assisted by Miss Gwyneth Roden, a new figure on the British screen. The finishing touches are now being given to the production.

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Sir Gilbert Parker, the distinguished novelist, visits the London studio of Famous Players-Lasky British Producers.

Left to Right: Sir Gilbert Parker, Major Charles Bell, O.B.E., studio general manager; Tom Geraghty, production manager; John S. Robertson, producer, in foreground right.