

BRITISH STUDIOS

Peeps Behind The Screen

The Butcher Way to Star-dom.

During the past few months no less than eleven well-known stage and screen stars have been in films bought by Butchers Film Service. These films bring to the provinces many of the most famous British stage artistes, and members of the audience, who otherwise would never have the opportunity of seeing some of our theatrical celebrities, have written expressing their delight at being able to see artistes of whom hitherto they had only heard. Dennis Neilson Terry, Yvonne Arnaud, Lydia Kyasht, Lady Tree, Jose Collins, H. V. Esmond, and Sidney Fairbrother are only a few of the stars appearing in Butchers' films.

Screening Sylvia Scarlett.

Molly Adair, who is now creating Sylvia Scarlett for the screen version of "Sinister Street," which George Beranger is producing for Ideal, spent a great part of her early life in Lisbon. She received her education in England, but her very first film engagement took her on to the Continent. She is dark, with an almost olive skin (suggestive of foreign ancestors) and large, soft brown eyes. Other films in which she has played are "A Gamble in Lives," "Stella," "The Beryl Coronet," and "The Puppet Man."

Famous Dancer at Ideal's.

To the already noteworthy cast for the film version of Arnold Bennett's story "The Old Wives' Tale," Ideal has now made an addition in the person of Madame Karsavina. This famous dancer was taken in a scene of the film, at the studios last Friday, which was laid at a noted Paris restaurant, and which made a gorgeous background for her performance. Her dance, accomplished with all the grace which has made her a great and popular favourite the world over, should lend further attraction to a film in the cast of which are Fay Compton and Florence Turner. The direction of the picture is in hands of Denison Clift.

Latest Foss Production.

The new film "All Roads Lead to Calvary" was completed last week under the direction of Kenelm Foss. This film, which tells the story of a young fisherman's rise to political fame, will undoubtedly cause widespread interest when it is shown, for it deals in certain parts with the much-discussed labour question. The cast in-

cludes Bertram Burleigh as the labour leader, Minna Grey as his wife, and Mary Odette as Joan Allway. The early scenes of the film are set in the little seaside town of old Hastings, whilst Westminster and the Houses of Parliament form the backgrounds to the dramatic scenes of the latter part of the film. Kenelm Foss says that he experienced some little difficulty in photographing the Westminster district, for frequently he was filming at the busiest time of the day. The police gave Mr. Foss every possible assistance, but even their efforts were not always successful.

Plague of London to be Filmed.

One of the features of the Hardy Film Company's new production, "The Scourge," a picture which deals with the Plague of London, is a seventeenth-century street which is now in course of construction. This is an ordinary "property" street, but is a wooden structure with real bolts on the doors, cobbled pavements, plastered walls, glass in the windows, etc. Ex-Service men are being exclusively employed on the work, and, when completed, this unique piece of scenery will be nearly two hundred yards in length. Another novel effect which is being arranged for the same film is the transplanting of an orchard to the company's studios at Isleworth in order to have the action lies in an orchard in spring. The requisite spring-time blooms and green leaves are being affixed to the trees by an expert who is coming from Paris specially for the purpose. Phyllis Titmus, who starred in "The Recoil," the Hardy Company's previous production, has been re-engaged as leading lady in this picture. She is also appearing in "The Gipsy Princess," where she has a prominent part.

Rumours Denied.

In some unaccountable manner a rumour has been going the rounds to the effect that Ivo Dawson, the well-known player, has gone to America. This is not the case. Mr. Dawson tells us that he has no intention of going to America again, and is always to be found at his home at Crossways, Claygate, Surrey.

Welsh-Pearson's Latest.

Work is proceeding apace at the Willesden studios, on the latest Welsh-Pearson production, "Maud Emily." The direction of this is in the hands of George



Betty Balfour

Pearson, and the two stars are Betty Balfour and Rex Davis. The photographic work is in the expert charge of Emile Lauste. "Maud Emily" is a comedy drama with a strong East-End atmosphere, and the scenario is the work of Eliot Stannard.

Picturising Poems.

The North British Productions at Harrogate is embarking on the production of a series of short but well-known English poems. The first of these will be Lord Lytton's "The Portrait," with its somewhat gruesome incident of the rival lovers' discovery of each others identity in the presence of the dead woman. If this necessarily rather short subject is a success, Robert Fenemore intends to adapt many other well-known poems in the same way.

The New Sherlock Series.

The production of the Stoll second series of the "Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" proceeds apace. George Ridgwell started on these two-reelers only a few weeks ago, yet already he is more than half way through the third episode—"The Adventure of the Red Circle." The first episode of the second series was "The Second Stain," and the second was "The Abbey Grange." Eille Norwood is again the star, and Alfred H. Moses the chief cameraman.

Alliance Films with H.R.H.

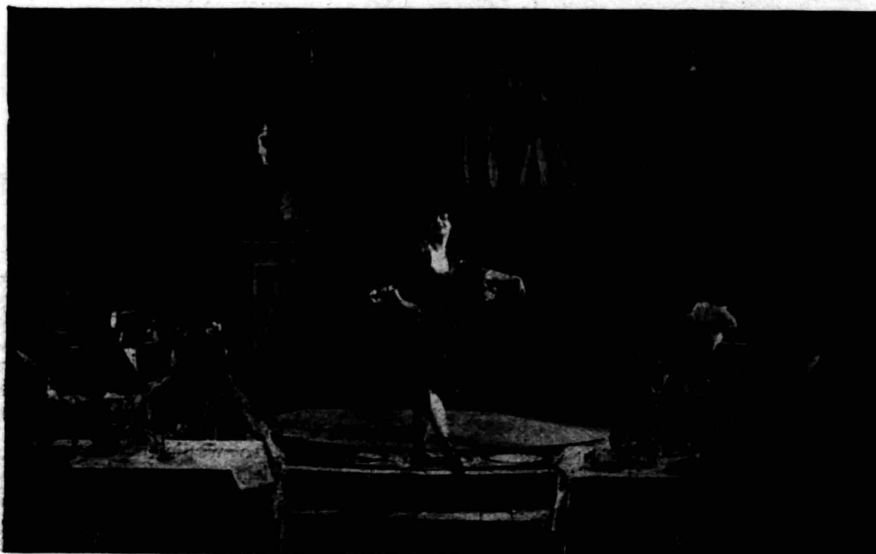
At the request of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Major Maddick, who is in charge of the entertainment arrangements for the Far East tour, arranged with Sir Walter de Frece, Chairman of Alliance Film Corporation, Ltd., to supply copies of "Carnival" and "The Menace" for exhibition to His Royal Highness and suite. Both these productions are the work of Harley Knoles, Director-General of Alliance productions.

More Forde Comedies.

A British film comedian has made his appearance in the person of Walter Forde, and his first production, entitled "Walter's Winning Ways," will be released in January next. He is now at work on the third of a series of comedy films for the Zodiac Company. Two have already been completed, and have met with no small amount of success both in the foreign markets and in the United Kingdom. His present comedy is being made under the title, "Walter's Flying Frolics."

Herma's New Film.

The last scenes for the new Associated Exhibitors film, "The Corner Man," were successfully shot last week, and the film



Madame Karsavina dancing for "The Old Wives Tale" (Ideal)