

BRITISH STUDIOS

Peeps Behind the Screen

Wireless on the Screen.

Capt. Calvert is putting the finishing touches to his latest production for Gaumont, which is being called "The Scientist." Much of the plot is based upon an intelligent anticipation of the realisation of wireless transmission of vision. A wonderful looking instrument called the Vidoscope has been built for use in this film. David Hawthorne, Frank Dane, Cecil Du Gué, F. R. Hignett, and Marjorie Hume are playing the leading rôles in the production, which is being photographed by Basil Emmott. Certainly the film is of a very topical nature, for the wireless boom has never been greater, and anything dealing with wireless can be depended upon to attract the thousands of enthusiasts who dabble in this new hobby.

Back from Scotland.

Most of the members of the Welsh-Pearson Company who have been up in Scotland playing in the exteriors of "The Romany," have now returned to town. By this time it is probable that the remaining few will also have got back and that work on the interiors will have commenced at the studio. Victor McLaglen is being starred in this film, which Martin Thornton has been directing.

Travelling Round.

It seems more than probable that "The Prodigal Son" is going to be the biggest picture A. E. Coleby has ever made. Already he has been nine weeks upon the production and has made a trip to Iceland for the exteriors. He has still to visit Monte Carlo, with a number of the members of his company, and there further scenes for the film will be made. So that in all probability another five or six weeks will be occupied in completing the film. Seldom are British directors allowed so much time on one production and it is pleasing to find at least one firm which is willing to allow its director to take his time over a subject of such an important nature as Sir Hall Caine's "Prodigal Son."

A Liverpool Company.

Union Films, of Liverpool, made a few comedies a month or so ago, but since then little has been heard of the company's activities. We now learn that early in October the company is starting work again and that the studios in Liverpool have been closed for some weeks so that they can be enlarged and several alterations made.

A British Super.

Fred Paul has nearly completed "The Right to Strike," a screen version of the stage play, and rumour has it that the next production by British Super Films is to be a big super production. No particulars are yet available.

Hepworth Activities.

Henry Edwardes has now returned from Venice, where he has, with Chrissie White and Gwynne Herbert, been making the exteriors of "The World of Wonderful Reality" for Hepworth. It will be remembered that some time back Hepworth put out an extraordinarily successful film called "The City of Beautiful Nonsense," the film's popularity warranted a sequel, so that in "The World of Wonderful Reality" we are to be shown that sequel. Hepworth has had two companies working. While Edwardes was away on exteriors in Venice, Cecil Hepworth was directing Alma Taylor in "The Pipes of Pan" at the company's studios at Walton-on-Thames. "The Pipes of Pan" is from an original story by George Dewhurst, and supporting Alma Taylor is John McAndrews and T. H. Mulcaster.

Davidson Still Busy.

Davidson's studio seems to be always working. Arthur Rooke started directing last week a new subject for the company

—a five-reel drama, which at the minute is nameless, no suitable title having yet been decided upon. In this production we are to see Henry Vibart in the leading rôle. Vibart has been working with Hepworth in "The World of Wonderful Reality," but just completed his work in that film in time to be starred with Davidson. Other members of the cast are Myrtle Vibart, Dacia, Derek Glynn, and Mrs. Hubert Willis. The photography is in the hands of Leslie Eveleigh.

Master's Latest.

It is now fairly well known that Catherine Calvert, the American screen and stage star, is to play for Masters in a new production called "The Green Caravan," which is to be made under the direction of E. J. Collins. It appears that a few of those in the cast supporting Miss Calvert are Valia, who has been playing in "A Gamble with Hearts"; Wallace Bosco, recently completed work in "Rob Roy" for Gaumont; Harry Newman, Gregory Scott, Sammy Foster, Sunday Milham, and Mrs. Royce, and it is hoped that by next week work will have been started on this production. Last week Challis Sanderson completed another of the short sport films for the company called "The Last Hundred Yards." In this picture James Knight was featured and was supported by Jack Jarman, Atherlie Davies, Harry Newman, and Ted Saunders.

Stage Play for Film.

According to a report we hear, a screen version of the popular stage play "Grumpy," is shortly to be made by a well-known producing concern. We are given to understand that although none of the cast has yet been chosen, Cyril Maude, who created the original rôle on the stage of the Criterion, has decided not to appear in the screen version.

The Cunninghame's Series.

The new series of Quality Films, known as the Cunninghame's Series, is still occupying the attention of George A. Cooper as the B.P. Studios. Last week the fifth subject of the series was started on and is to be called "Keeping Man Interested." In this subject Sydney Folker and Joan McLean are playing the leading rôles. It is hoped that before this week is out the sixth subject will be well under way. Throughout this series Sydney Folker and Joan McLean are being co-starred.

Gerald Lawrence Deserts Films.

After a very successful tour of the leading provincial towns with his new play, "Mr. Garrick," Gerald Lawrence will present it at the Court Theatre on Friday, September 29. Although Mr. Lawrence has made several sallies into filmland, he is very true to his first love, the stage. It will be recalled that he played the hero in "The Glorious Adventure." Both this film and his new play (which is from the pen of Louis N. Parker) demand that he should wear costume—and Mr. Lawrence declares that period plays appeal to him. Madge Compton will appear opposite Mr. Lawrence as Pamela, whilst Roy Byford, also a well-known figure in filmland, is to play the part of Dr. Samuel Johnson, who along with Oliver Goldsmith, Sir Joshua Reynolds, and Boswell appear in the first scene at the Turk's Head Tavern.

Wyndham Standing Joins Hollandia.

In accordance with the new Hollandia policy of featuring famous American stars, Wyndham Standing has now joined the Haarlem organisation, having come specially from America for this engagement. He will appear in a series of Hollandia pictures, the first of which is already well under way. This is "The Lion's Mouse," from the novel by C. N. and A. M. Williamson,



Wyndham Standing

and it will be followed by an adaptation of a famous play, the title of which will shortly be announced. Mr. Standing, although he has become famous as an American screen star, is of British birth, and is, of course, one of the noted Standing family which has been so long and closely allied to stage and screen on both sides of the globe. Wyndham Standing has had ten years in motion pictures, and will be best known for his performances in "Earthbound" (Goldwyn), "Eyes of the Soul" (Famous Players), and "Smilin' Through" (First National), the latter now showing in England. He has played opposite Norma Talmadge, Pauline Frederick, Elsie Ferguson, Olga Petrova and Mae Marsh, and in "The Lion's Mouse" has Marguerite Marsh, sister of Mae, as his *vis-a-vis*. Mr. Standing made the first colour picture, with Mr. Baumeester, the famous Dutch actor, and was a further pioneer in that he made the first motion picture without titles called "The Journey's End" (Ballin Productions), and also the first moving picture in which real Indians were used by permission of the U.S. Government ("The Bugle Call," made by the New York M.P. Company). Mr. Standing, who has played in over 100 motion pictures, deprecates the present attitude of the American Censorship Board, which, he states, is curtailing output and placing impossible restrictions on the entire art.

Newall's Production.

Guy Newall is still working upon his latest picture for George Clark called "Maid of the Silver Sea." He has now been five weeks making of this subject and expects to have it completed in a very short time. So far, he has not definitely decided what his next production for the company is to be.

Artiste's Death.

We regret to have to announce the death of Francis Duguid, a well known member of the profession and of the Kinema Club.

Blackton's Next.

We are to have yet another costume film from J. Stuart Blackton; this time it is to be a story of the early Elizabethan period. Apart from the fact that the scenario is now being written, no other particulars are available. It is, of course, quite definitely settled that Blackton will not make "Haddon Hall," for the obvious reason that the picture is to be made by an American concern.