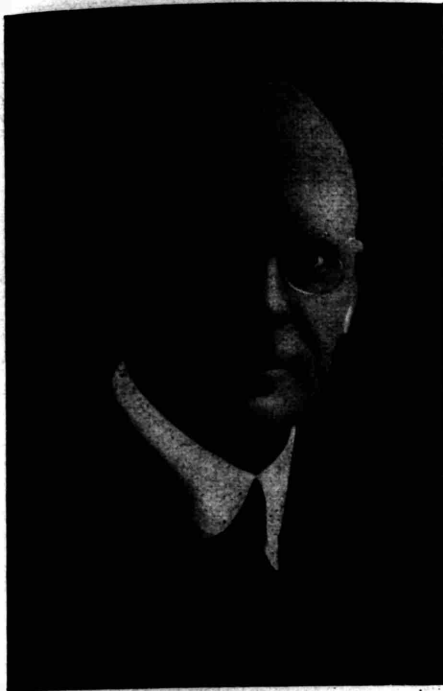


# BRITISH STUDIOS

## Peeps Behind the Screen



### The late Bannister Merwin Malins Going Abroad.

Geoffrey Malins has been engaged by Harry Myers, of Maitt and Myers, to go to Poland to produce for a new Anglo-Polish company. Malins will direct the first production for this company. The company will feature a number of English artistes in the leading rôles.

### Crisp's Program.

The Donald Crisp Film Co. is the title of the company which Donald Crisp will direct six subjects for. The first picture will be "At Your Service." All the company's productions are being handled by the Buck Film Company.

### Bannister Merwin's Death.

The death of Bannister Merwin, the scenarist and producer, on Wednesday last, following an operation for cancer, came as a great blow to those who were acquainted with this popular member of the profession. Mr. Merwin was an American short story writer, and wrote a number of short stories for screen adaptation for the Edison Company of America. That was his introduction to the film world. He had the distinction of being the first author to have his name mentioned on the screen. He was always a firm believer in the original screen story, and most of his productions were made from original scripts. He came to England about 1912, and later took charge of the London Film Company's scenario department, and it was for the London that he first produced pictures. He spent some time with Broadwest, Trans-Atlantic, and Harma, directed "The Magistrate" for Samuelson, a number of successes for Master Films, including "Laddie" and "Love at the Wheel," and was in charge of Bramlin's scenario department. He was a brother of Samuel Mervin, the American novelist, and was about 47 years of age.

### A New Series.

The first picture of Quality Films has just been completed at Screenplays studio, and the second is now in course of production. This company has for its director George A. Cooper, who is making a series of one-reel subjects, at the rate of one a week. Each subject is a screen version of one of the stories appearing in the monthly story magazine *Pan*. The first production, "Fallen Leaves," adapted from Will Scott's story of that name, features John East, Jeff

Barlow, Nancy Price, and the photography is in the hands of Randal Terraneau.

### More Artistes for International.

A number of artistes have been engaged to play in "Lark's Gate." They are Edward O'Neil, Donald Searle, Gladys Jessel, Joyce Gaymon, and Walter D'Eyncourt. John Gliddon left for Egypt on Friday last, to photograph some of the exteriors of this production. Before completing the picture he will travel to New York for exteriors. The South of France, Egypt, England and America are all to be visited by the company for the purpose of shooting scenes in.

### News from Masters

Ward McAllister has been appearing in "The Sheik," one of the new Master Song Films, which is being made at Teddington. H. B. Parkinson has completed "Trapped by the Mormons," and is almost ready to commence producing another subject dealing with Mormons, which will be a five-reeler. Clive Brook has been engaged to play lead in the production, and Ward McAllister has an important part. The name of the production and the names of the other artistes in the cast are not yet available.

### Hepworth Notes.

Henry Edwards has completed "Tit for Tat," the new Hepworth production, on which he has been busy for some weeks past. In this picture he reappears in a comedy. Chrissie White and Mary Brough play leading rôles. "A Sister to Assist 'Er" is the title of the next production to be made at the company's studios at Walton-on-Thames. The production will be in the hands of Cecil Hepworth.

### A New Departure.

The production of "The Reaping," the subject which, according to schedule, the Hardy Film Company was to produce, has now been held up, and the company has decided to produce a series of one-reel subjects dealing with the adventures of "Billy Bunter," a well-known character in school boy literature.

### Nearing Completion.

Harley Knoles has nearly finished with the production of "The Bohemian Girl,"

and the Trade show should take place in a very short time now. This picture is of particular interest to the Trade, because of its cast, of the money that has been lavished upon it, and the time that it has taken to make. Gladys Cooper, Henry Vibart, and Constance Collier are the three artistes in the reproduction appearing on this page.

### Scripts Wanted.

Walter Forde has started work on a new comedy subject, which is being produced by Forde himself and Tom Seamore, who has appeared in a number of the Forde comedies. Scenarists who have any scripts for two-reel comedies should submit them to Walter Forde, who is on the look out for scenarios that have some novel comedy stunts in them.

### More Comedies.

The Rising Sun has again started work, and members of the company are busy at the Ealing studios on a new comedy, which Bert Haldane is directing. Louie Freer is appearing in the leading comedy rôle, and Madge Tree is also in the film.

### More Jacobs Subjects.

Following the successful Trade showing of "Sam's Boy" and "A Will and a Way," two W. W. Jacobs stories, produced by Artistic, the company announces that it will continue with this series of subjects. H. Manning Haynes will direct the next production.

### Slow Motion Triumphs.

A wonderful slow-motion picture in "Around the Town" last week of Edna Maude's dance, which truly represents the poetry of motion, has created great interest in art circles. Last Saturday, "Around the Town" cameramen also took slow motion pictures of the steeplechasing at Lingfield, and this week they are taking the Cambridge boat race crew in action. The Oxford crew will probably also be recorded in the same fashion.

### Stoff Getting Busy Again.

Cricklewood ceases to be inactive, and already ample preparations have been made for an outburst of "floor business" in a few weeks' time. Maurice Elvey is in Switzerland on exteriors, and A. E. Coleby will recommence work shortly.



A Scene from "The Bohemian Girl"