

with a new show. Mary Glynn is playing at the Shaftesbury in "The Cat and the Canary," while Mavis Clare, who has been playing for Gaumont and Blackton recently, is at the Strand in "The Balance."

Historical Dumas.

"Amy Robsart" is the title of the latest addition to the B. and C. "Romance of History Series," and was completed last week at the company's Walthamstow studios. The film was made under the direction of George Ridgwell, who shortly returns to Stoll to direct Eille Norwood in a further series of Sherlock Holmes pictures. Gregory Scott has been playing in this subject along with Gordon Hopkirk and Harry Worth, and the photographer was Arthur Kingston. These series of films are being made as one and two-reel subjects at the rate of about one every fortnight.

More Comedies.

A new producing concern has just entered the field, with the intention of making a series of two-reel comedies. The company has for its directors W. Hardman, W. H. Parker and G. R. Snowball, and is called the "Beehive" Film Producing Co., Ltd. George Dewhurst, director of "A Sister to Assist 'Er," is directing for the company, and has already

completed two films, "The Doubles" and "Lonesome Farm." Geoffrey Benstead is manager of the productions, Margaret Hope and Jimmy Reardon are the stars, and are supported by a cast which includes Donald Searle, Olive Sloane, Hal Martin, Leighton Potter, E. Barber, Eva Llewelyn, Arthur Walcott, Bert Darley. Barker's studios at Ealing are being used for interiors, while the exteriors have been made at East Grinstead and Thorpe Bay. Gustav Pauli is photographing the series.

Quality Films.

Having completed "The Letters" for Quality, George A. Cooper is now working upon another subject for the company which is to be called "The Dancing Partners." Joan Machan and Sydney N. Folker are starring in this subject, which should be completed some time next week. Cooper has been rather unfortunate lately, as the weather has been none too good, and on many occasions he has had to hold up the production as a result of the fog. Naturally, this means additional expense, but Quality, despite the fact that its films are only short subjects, is sparing neither money nor care in making them as attractive in every way as features.

the renter had not fulfilled the contract, which in consequence was null and void. That was the line he always took, and should continue to take.

The Secretary said if an exhibitor chose to sign a contract with Clause 19 deleted he did it at his own risk and must be prepared for what followed.

In order to make renters keep their word members of the branch should refuse to sign any contract from which the renters had deleted Clause 19.

The Chairman said in that case they would have to close their books until a new form of contract had been brought into operation. The alternative was to sign a separate contract for each film. He emphasised the unfair methods adopted by some renters who booked certain features for second run at super kinemas and thus injured the smaller man.

One way out of the difficulty was that renters' representatives should have power to countersign a contract and that renters should honour the signature. There should be no blind bargains.

It was decided that it should be left to individual members to take their cue from the views expressed in the discussion.

Road Transport.

The West of England Film Transit Co., formed by local members of the Industry for the purpose of conveying films between Plymouth, Cardiff and London, wrote that motor lorries would leave Plymouth at 11.15 p.m. for Cardiff, calling at Plympton, Ivybridge, Totnes, Paignton, Torquay, Teignmouth, Dawlish, Exeter, Taunton, Bridgwater, Burnham, Weston-super-Mare, Bristol, Gloucester, Cinderford, Lydney and Newport; and for London, calling at the same towns as far as Exeter, and then travelling via Honiton, Chard, Yeovil, Sherborne, Shaftesbury, and Salisbury.

The scale of charges was: Typical films to Cardiff or London, 9s. per film; one-reel films, 1s.; every additional reel up to five, 1s.; all films over five reels at one rate, 6s. Crossovers to any of the towns named could be arranged at 3s. per reel for every 50 miles or part of 50 miles. These charges were at least 40 per cent. less than the present railway carriage rates, and when the reduction of 25 per cent. on the latter comes into operation on January 1 next the company would reduce their rates accordingly. Arrangements had been made to collect films from the kinemas up to 10 p.m. on change nights, after which they would be collected from a centre. Fresh programs would be delivered to the kinemas on Mondays and Thursdays by 10.30 a.m. The principal renters in London and Cardiff were giving the company every assistance.

Harry Harcourt said similar schemes were being run in other parts of the country, and he believed were successful. If there should be any delay in the delivery of films it would be covered by insurance. He argued that a saving of 40 per cent. in the cost would be a great help.

The Chairman replied that insurance would not help them very much as it would not cover the loss of credit a house would suffer if films did not turn up. On the railways they had an efficient service and were pretty sure of getting their films. At a meeting some time since the branch passed a resolution asking the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce to take up the matter of railway rates in conjunction with the National Chamber, and that was being done.

A sub-committee consisting of the Chairman, Secretary, and H. Harcourt was appointed to meet the directors of the company with a view to getting further information, especially in regard to the collection of films at the different centres and the feasibility of the inclusion of so many towns so far apart.

New Meeting Place.

It was unanimously decided that future meetings should be held at 46, Union Street, the advantage of a neutral meeting place outweighing the small expense. The Secretary was instructed to write to P.C.T. thanking it for the excellent accommodation hitherto provided for the branch.

S. WALES AND THE UNEMPLOYED NEW STANDARD CONTRACT DEMANDED — UNEMPLOYED ASSOCIATION AND HALF-PRICE ADMISSION

David Hughes presided at the monthly meeting of the South Wales branch held at the Exchange Cardiff, on November 3.

Wanted a Standard Contract.

J. E. Sprague (Pontypridd), asking if there was any information regarding the standard contract, received a negative answer, and the Chairman suggested that they might get their delegates in London to urge the extreme necessity of getting a clear and equitable document placed before them.

M. E. Jacobs pressed for the Association to set up a contract, but it was pointed out that the K.R.S. would not recognise it.

The Chairman thought they could safely leave the matter to their delegates.

The discussion which took place on the Tax campaign is reported in another column.

A member called attention to a matter which he considered was of great importance. Recently, he said, he had been approached by an unemployed organisation requesting that the members be allowed to request that the members be allowed to attend his cinema at half-price. He compared the case of a man receiving a 30s. dole wanting a half-price seat with another man also with a family receiving the same amount as wages who had to pay the full price.

Another member said he had had a similar experience. His remedy was to say to the individuals: "Produce your unemployment card, not that of any so-called employment organisation, and we will see what we can do." Several other members expressed the view that it should be discouraged, but the matter was left to the individual exhibitor.

ALL FOR ABOLITION DEVON AND CORNWALL — THE TAX CAMPAIGN — THE STANDARD CONTRACT—ROAD TRANSPORT—NEW MEETING PLACE—THE MAYOR'S APPRECIATION

The meeting of this branch, on October 31, Mont Gilpin presiding, discussed the Entertainment Tax, Harry Harcourt explaining that the General Council was going all out for abolition.

The Chairman strongly supported the decision to go all out for abolition. Every branch of the entertainments profession could unite on it because all were badly hit by the Tax.

The Reckoning.

With regard to the cost of the new campaign, the suggestion that as far as possible general expenses should come out of the Parliamentary fund and that local expenses should be defrayed from the branch fund was approved, and Harry Harcourt was instructed to vote for it when it came before the General Council.

A Tax Committee consisting of the Chairman, H. Harcourt, Jack Binmore and Mrs. Mather, with the Secretary (C. Halderson Rundle) as convener, was appointed, and it was agreed that the theatre and music-hall managers be invited to join any deputations to candidates thought necessary.

Standard Contract.

On the question of the standard contract the Chairman said they did not know where they were. Under present conditions exhibitors and renters made a contract and subsequently the former found they had to agree to the deletion of a certain clause, and this let them down.

Harry Harcourt gave a concrete example. They signed a contract for six films: a super and five smaller films, but the renter subsequently deleted clause 19 with the object of withdrawing the super while holding them to the five small films.

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The Chairman pointed out that in a case like that the exhibitor signed the contract for six films, and if he got only five then