

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS

The recent report that Jack Buchanan had dived into the Thames at Shepperton and rescued a small child, but the eye-witnesses who spread the story had apparently failed to notice the film cameras busily recording Jack's heroism for the Gaumont film of Ian Hay's play, "The Happy Ending." Nevertheless, it was a full dress episode, for Jack and the child and the river were very real. Fav Compton's tumble into the river later in the day, however, was a totally unexpected experience not provided for in the film. I am told that the misadventure might have had more serious consequences had Miss Compton not been a strong swimmer. As it was, quite a few minutes elapsed before the producer, George Cooper, and his assistants managed to fish her out and get her away in a car for Jack Buchanan's place at Shepperton, where she took to blankets whilst the car went on post haste to London to fetch a change of clothing.

THE CENTAUR UP TO DATE

Geoffrey Benstead, who during the war saw service with King Edward's Horse and afterwards as an officer acted as a show jumper for the Army at Aldershot, Dublin, Olympia, and the Royal Show, has been hard at work on his "Hints on Horsemanship" series for some time and has almost got them ready for Trade showing. The series is comprehensive and those who have "played" for the producer include Army officers, N.C.O.s and men, famous jockeys, circus riders and others. Scenes of how and how not to do it are frequent and the scope of the features embraces the wonderful riding of the Italian Army, our own military School of Equitation, Red Indian riding, hunting and race-course methods. Among those appearing in the series are Victor Smythe, George Duller, who demonstrates the modern jockey style, Benstead, who exploits modern hunting in conjunction with Mrs. Charles Langlands, of Epsom, Mrs. George Duller, Germaine de Vaux and Maude Wulffe, of circus fame. Comedy relief is imparted by Fatty Phillips, James Reardon and Bob Vallis. The

BRITISH STUDIO

Artistes and Producers

cameramen are Bert Ford and Germain Berger.

MID-EUROPE CONDITIONS

Bert Wynne is back, and is inclined, on the strength of his tour of inspection of the Berlin and Viennese studios, to doubt whether the expense of taking companies over there to work is justified. He tells us he can see no advantage either artistically or commercially, and his proposal therefore is to resume production over here in the immediate future. Arrangements are not yet complete on the business side, but a scheme of co-operation with a firm of renters is being formulated, and when this has been settled Wynne will start work without further delay. The subject matter of his first picture is not yet public property, but we shall announce this as soon as the producer thinks it wise to release the news.

NIEBUHR AND HIS PLANS

Next week Walter Niebuhr starts work on "The City of Temptation." His leading lady is Julianne Johnston, and as her appearance on the Drury Lane screen with Douglas Fairbanks in "The Thief of Bagdad" will synchronise with the beginning of this new production, some interesting comparisons will be possible for those in the studio. Niebuhr proposes to go to Constantinople for his exteriors, and next week we shall have some further announcements to make about the picture.

"MRS. MAY"

Quality, which has supplied such excellent two- and one-reel comedies in the past, has now almost completed a really enterprising program. By the first week of October there will be twelve two-reel comedies for distribution. In view of the dearth of good short comedies on the

British market, the rights of J. le Breton's celebrated literary creation, "Mrs. May," were acquired, and the title role has been portrayed by Sydney Fairbrother. It is claimed that these comedies, while they ring true to the atmosphere of comedy that is really appreciated in this country as opposed to the American conception of comedy, yet have an artistic merit both in story, setting and photography that will be second to no productions marketed in Great Britain.

STAFF WORK

The pictures themselves, which have been produced by Leslie S. Hiscott and photographed by Randal Terraneau, deal, of course, with "Mrs. May's" well-known foibles and "slim" methods of living by her wits. The strong cast that supports Sydney Fairbrother includes Frank Stanmore, James Reardon, Edward O'Neill, Sydney Folker, Percy Parsons, Tubby Phillips, Jeff Barlow, Morris Rubin, Irene Tripod, Annie Esmond, Agnes Thomas and Eva Llewellyn. At the time of writing, we understand that no arrangements have been made for the disposal of this series, nor will the directors of Quality Plays show them until they have all twelve complete for the market.

JACKIE IN A FAMILIAR SETTING

Wanting to see how things are done over here, Jackie Coogan last week spent an interesting hour or two in the Stoll Studio. He seems to have had quite a good time, although he did not fail to register the fact that the studio itself was not as big as those to which he was accustomed. He would not have thought the occasion complete without some camera work, and he accordingly appeared with Harry Beasley in a scene. Beasley, of course, is Harry Tate's "boy," and he is playing in "Ordeal by Golf." Then Jackie gave the dancers in a big ballroom scene a turn from the bandstand, so everybody was satisfied.

GOOD LUCK, ARTHUR!

On Saturday last the wedding of Arthur Pusey and Adrienne Brune was celebrated. Pusey is at present playing in "Storm" at the Royalty Theatre, but he will, of course, be familiar to a wider public through his film work, notably in "The Blue Lagoon." His bride is "The Merry Widow" at the Lyceum.

DOUBLES AT BLACKPOOL

Blackpool audiences this week have had the experience of seeing Herbert Langley on the screen in the Graham-Wilcox film, "Southern Love," at the Princess Theatre, Promenade, and of hearing the popular operatic baritone at the Central Pier, where he is one of the leading members of the Wylie-Tate Super-Pier. Mr. Langley has scored a big success at Blackpool this season, and the Princess has done huge business as a result. The two places of entertainment carried through an interesting "tie-up,"—Pier patrons being advised to see the film, and Princess audiences being encouraged to visit the Pier. Last week the Hippodrome starred Owen Nares in "Miriam Rozella," whilst the actor was



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