

# STUDIO NOTES

By "DANGLE"

A. E. Coleby hard at work at Cricklewood—His demand for an "enfant prodigue"—An obscure microbe holds up "The Lost Leader"—Society dancers in a Pathé film—Will Kellino begins a New Picture

A. E. Coleby, whose production of "The Call of the Road" is generally acknowledged to be a very fine example of all that is best in British picture-making, and who is also responsible for that other highly-praised film play, "The Right to Live," has now signed on with Stolls, and is already hard at work at the Cricklewood studio with the details of his first picture for the firm—which is to be an adaptation of "Brenda's," highly successful study of child life, "Froggy's Little Brother."

If Froggy had been a girl instead of a boy, it is more than probable that this story would have been filmed long ago in America, with Mary Pickford in the stellar rôle; for "Froggy's Little Brother" is just the type of story that would appeal to the world's sweetheart and to all her innumerable admirers. It is full of humour and pathos, depicting an orphan to feed and bring up his baby brother. But although it contains plenty of "sob stuff," it also contains plenty of laughs.

The casting of this picture is proving no easy matter, and Billy Saunders, Stoll's casting director, has been having quite an anxious time in providing the producer with a number of youngsters with "hollow cheeks and large, sorrowful eyes." The difficulty he has yet to overcome is to find a really suitable small boy to play the part of Froggy, "for," says he, "Mr. Coleby's demand is for a boy about six, who looks about four, and has about twenty-five years experience!"

Fortunately it is not often that a Stoll picture is held up through the illness of a principal artist, but the infrequency of the occurrence provides little solace for George Ridgwell, who, after getting half-way through the production of the screen version of E. Phillips Oppenheim's telling novel, "The Lost Leader," has been idle for over a week in consequence of the serious illness of Robert English, who fills the title rôle.

The picture, so far as it has progressed, promises to be an outstanding one, and this fact makes Mr. Ridgwell the more anxious to complete it; but Mr. English is at present in bed with a high temperature and an obscure microbe in his system, which he is supposed to have picked up in India some years ago, and which has already laid him low on more than one occasion.

Mr. English, by the by, fills the very important part of Sir Theodore Cannyng in the Stoll picture of "The Fruitful Vine," and he had looked forward to being present at the Trade Show of that picture.

For some time past a committee of gentlemen engaged in the British film industry have been working out the details of a plan for the formation of a club for those engaged in the production of British films. This committee is composed of Eille Norwood, Rex Davies, Sydney Paxton, Arthur Walcott, and Bertram Burleigh (artists), George Ridgwell, Duncan McRae and Fred Paul (producers), Adrian Brunel and William J. Elliott (scenario writers), George Woods-Taylor and Alfred H. Moses (cameramen). A full scheme has now been completed and will be laid before a mass meeting of artists, producers, scenario writers, and cameramen, which will be held on Sunday, October 16th, at 3 p.m. Those desirous of receiving an invitation to this meeting are asked to send name and address to the Hon. Secretary, 85, Long Acre, W.C. 2.

After the Trade Show of Captain Calvert's new British Screencraft production, "Roses in the Dust," on Thursday week, the Gaumont Company, Limited, will get busy with

comedies. The selection of the next set of "Mermaid" comedies will be shown, and will later be followed by some new Christie specials. The comedy Trade Shows, I understand, will be arranged irrespective of any Trade Shows arranged for features in the interim.

In a forthcoming Pathé film a striking feature will be an exhibition of ballroom dancing by the latest pair of

society dancers and delineators, Mrs. Jack Carlton and Captain Maxwell Stewart, in which their original creations should be seen to great advantage. Captain Stewart, who served in the war with distinction, was awarded the first prize for fox-trotting at the Warriors Ball in 1921. This clever couple are giving demonstrations of their art at the Colour Scheme Studios in Bond Street, which, after the prevailing fashion, are decorated in Russian peasant tones.



Captain Stewart and Mrs. Carlton

I'm sorry to hear that Gerald Ames had a rib broken during a film fight, and was laid up for several days. He has been able to travel to Devonshire, however, to take up his part in a new production. His wife, Miss Mary Dibley, is in Wales playing in "The Bargain."

Captain Harry Lambart who, with Mr. R. A. Pitcairn, of the New Gallery, is directing the fortunes of Lambart Films, tells us that his picture, "Romance and Reality" (suggested by Arthur Branscombe's book, "The Cradle of the Washingtons") is now in the cutting stages. The picture is stated to be a moving drama, full of action and incident. Some of the exteriors were taken at Althorp, the stately home of Earl Spencer, who very courteously placed the Hall at Captain Lambart's disposal, while others were shot at Sulgrave Manor, the English ancestral home of the Washingtons presented to the United States. At such old-world places at Penn, Sedgley and Albrighton the company has captured the most glorious scenic backgrounds for the screen, and in fine contrast to these shots incidents in the Paris streets figure largely in the picture.

The principal rôle is being played by Miss Cora Goffin, this being her first big film. Before entering the film world Miss Goffin was on the stage for ten years, and at the age of ten produced her own ballet at the Palladium, afterwards playing the title rôle in "Little Lord Fauntleroy" with Haydn Coffin. She inherits her talent from her mother, whose stage name was Miss Cora Poole.

Miss Elizabeth Brandt, the well-known Swedish actress and writer on screen and stage topics, has added to her many other activities the rôle of business negotiator for the