

# BRITISH

## Peeps Behind



R. Henderson Bland

**The Latest "Ideal."**

Ideal is hard at work on its film version of "Mr. Gilfil's Love Story," an adaptation from one of George Eliot's famous "Scenes of Clerical Life." R. Henderson Bland, who has just finished playing in "General Post," and who is well known for much good work, including his remarkable impersonation in "From Manger to Cross," plays "Maynard Gilfil," and the production is under the direction of H. V. Bramble. After this production Mr. Bland will appear in "The Cigarette Maker's Romance," and other Marion Crawford novels which will be filmed by the International Producers' Federation, with whom he is under contract to "star."

**Another Company Abroad.**

Since its formation the Cairns Torquay Film Company, Limited, has been making rapid strides. Not content with purchasing a fine estate in Devonshire for the purpose of film production, the company has spared

no expense in endeavouring to make it still more beautiful. A casual visit to the estate would leave one with the impression that one had wandered by mistake into an old Devonshire inheritance. A massive house, well-kept grounds, luxurious motor-cars, and myriads of pigeons, ducks, geese, chickens, hens, goats, and so on, would all tend towards that impression. Continuing one's wanderings, one suddenly discovers, tucked away in a corner, hidden by a beautiful screen of trees, countless workmen, busily excavating, building and erecting the company's new studio, and here lies the trouble. In spite of all his persuasive powers, Dallas Cairns cannot inspire in the Devonshire workmen the love of a speedily finished job. Nothing daunted, however, he has gone ahead with his first production and has purchased the film rights of Warwick Deeping's novel, "Unrest," and with his company left London a fortnight ago for the South of France and Italy. The leading rôles are in the hands of Maud Yates and Dallas Cairns himself. The photograph here reproduced was taken on the steps of the Hotel Ruhl at Nice, where the company has made its headquarters. From there it goes next to Venice, Genoa, Milan, Marseilles, returning to Nice, then for Paris and home. Whilst at Nice the company took part in the famous annual event, "The Battle of Flowers."

**Wilfred Noy Busy with "The Race at the Window."**

Wilfred Noy is being given an exceptional opportunity to show his versatility with the subject on which he is now engaged at Bushey. One could not easily think of two more dissimilar stories than "The Lady Clare" (his last effort) and "The Face at the Window." The former was picturesque, artistic and dainty; the latter is claimed to be melodramatic, thrilling and packed with "stunts." It has the advantage of a title, perhaps, even more famous than that of Tennyson's poem, for the original play has toured for years to big receipts. The company now working at the studio has just returned from Paris, where Sir Simeon Stuart,

Gladys Jennings, Chas. Quartermaine, and the rest, achieved a number of highly successful exteriors, with the Eiffel Tower, the Tuileries and other famous Parisian monuments as backgrounds. Mr. Noy took the opportunity of making a close study of the famous Bal Tabaret, in which a large part of the action takes place, and which is being carefully reproduced at Bushey. The subject is well on the way to completion.

**"Seeing Double."**

The happy use of twins who are as like each other as two peas in a pod is the artifice of James Reardon in his new two-reel comedy "Seeing Double," which he is now producing for Reardon British Films, Ltd. A caller at the Kew studios the other day saw for himself the difficulties attaching to a brace of girls—for the twins were Eileen and Heather Carol—with nothing to choose between them. One scene shows the wife, Irene Tripod, in the act of discovering her husband's intrigue with the maid, whose sister has also been smuggled into the house. In rehearsing the part, the producer suddenly discovered that he had been giving instructions to the wrong girl.

**Aerofilms' Addition.**

R. M. O'Neill has joined the staff of Aerofilms, Ltd., as kine. camera-man. He is well known among the Topical sections of the Trade, and previous to the war was with the Eclair Film Company, Cricks and Martin, and the Kinemacolor. Mr. O'Neill was demobilised last year after four years' service as camera-man in the R.N.A.S. and R.A.F. He saw service in France and the East, as well as with the High Seas Fleet. With the Fleet he served on the famous seaplane-carrying-ship, *Campania*, which was one of the cross Channel boats converted for seaplane use. He was responsible for many of the aerial and ground war productions, and also rendered good service in securing photographic stills. With Aerofilms his work will not only be to film aerial scenes, but he will take over a large portion of the aerial still photography which is being carried out, showing all the principal towns in and around the British Isles.

**"The English Rose."**

Fred Paul is hard at work making the British Standard Film production of the famous old Adelphi drama by George R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, "The English Rose." The drama, which ran at the Adelphi for over a year on its original production, has held the favour of the public for years, and has been played and loved all over the world, and the screen version should be as popular a feature as the stage one. Amy Brandon-Thomas, the daughter of the author of the immortal "Charley's Aunt," is playing the leading rôle. Fred Paul himself appears as "Father Michael"; this, by the way, is his first appearance since "The Dop Doctor"; Sydney Folker is the "Harry," and Humberstone Wright the "Captain Maxwell." Others in a strong supporting cast are Jack Raymond, Mary Morton and George Turner. "The English Rose," with its romantic and stirring story, lends itself to picturesque setting, of which the popular producer can be relied on to make the most.

**No Scene-Building Necessary.**

So beautiful are the fittings of the Georgian house at Surbiton to which the Stoll Film Company has attached its studio that at times it is possible to make use of the house itself in pictures. Notably in the illustration we give of "The Amateur Gentleman," which is to be Trade-shown next month, this gorgeous setting of "Crockford's" is in



The Dallas Cairns Company in Monte Carlo

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