

TRADE NOTES

"Do the Dead Talk?"

At a time when so much controversy is raging upon the possibility of communication with the spirit world, and leaders of science and literature are to be found admitting their allegiance to the possibility of conversing with those who have "passed over," no title can possibly possess a greater box-office value than one which propounds the great conundrum. In "Do the Dead Talk?" Mr. Sowerbutts has secured a picture, produced by the Ebony Film Corporation, that in six reels is said to deal in a marvellous manner with the psychic. In America it has played to capacity business, and proved its money earning capacity wherever shown. That its exploitation on this side of the Atlantic will be on a scale commensurate with its importance, goes without saying, but we may mention that Mr. Sowerbutts intends to leave nothing to chance in this matter, and is arranging for a publicity campaign and exploitation hints and aids for exhibitors that will excite irresistible interest.

Good Things from International Cine Corporation

Those exhibitors who profited from the drawing power of Hank Mann Comedies will appreciate the importance of the announcement that Mr. F. Green, of International Cine Corporation, is now able to make to the effect that a new consignment of these rib ticklers has arrived. There are two sets in all, the first consisting of fourteen subjects, and the second twelve. A point worth bearing in mind is that showmen are at liberty to book just those comedies which are likely to appeal to their patrons, and are under no compulsion to take the whole output. A Trade Show will take place in about a fortnight. It is gratifying to be able to record the fact that "If Women Only Knew," handled by this concern, has proved the biggest attraction from a monetary point of view that this house has ever handled. Mr. Green also informs us that he has received the second of the Swedish pictures, entitled "The Love Child." A further announcement regarding it will be made shortly.

"Was She Guilty?"

Mr. W. Thompson, Granger's live publicity expert, informs us that that firm will submit for the judgment of the Trade during August a Binger production under the title "Was She Guilty?" This is said to be the type of picture that cinema devotees appreciate, being strong dramatic fare, replete with situations that sustain interest until the end, and leave an audience puzzled to determine whether the principal character was really guilty or an injured innocent. The film features Gertrude McCoy, Lewis Willoughby, Zoe Palmer and W. A. Fresham, who made such a hit in "The Fifth Form of St. Dominic's." Exhibitors on the lookout for a worth-while film should not fail to witness the presentation of this picture.

Universal Release Dates

The recent promise of the European Motion Picture Company to use every effort to make the British release date of Universal Films as nearly simultaneous with the American release date as possible, is about to be realised. Edwin J. Smith, managing director, announces that "Human Hearts," a Universal Jewel super production, featuring House Peters and an all-star cast, which is down for release in the States in October, will be released in November, this year, in Great Britain. Mr. Smith states that this close association of release dates is merely another indication of Mr. Carl Laemmle's intention of not only giving the exhibitors the opportunity of getting away from some of the evils of the past, but also of his anxiety to assure the exhibitor of a constant supply of subjects fresh from the studios. The release date list opens on October 2nd with "Moonlight Follies," and the chapter serial of "The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe," and thereafter a constant supply of pictures will be ensured to exhibitors.

Walturdaw Sports Club

Walturdaw Sports Club will hold a Sports Carnival at the private sports ground, Brentham, Park Royal, on Saturday next, July 15th. Inter club events, open to Walwyn and Gerrard and Regent Athletic Clubs, cricket match, dancing on the lawn, and a grand concert, are items of what promises to be a full and excellent programme.

"Quality Plays" from Walturdaw

The Walturdaw Company announce that they have just purchased the exclusive rights in the United Kingdom of an entirely new and all-British series of short subjects under the title of "Quality Plays." Produced by George A. Cooper, the stories are taken from "Pan" and other English magazines. Photography, quality, acting, direction and story will mark, it is said, yet another milestone in British short subjects. The Trade Show will be held at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Tuesday next, July 18th, at 11 a.m.

Dickens Film from W. and F.

Close on the heels of the remarkable success scored by the Lloyd comedy "Grandma's Boy" comes the announcement from W. and F. that they will Trade Show the Charles Dickens picture "The Cricket on the Hearth" on Friday, July 21st, at the New Gallery, at 11 a.m. Great interest will centre in the fact that this typically British story has been produced by a French director, M. Jean Maoussi, of Films Eclipse, Paris, but so admirably did another French director produce a recent offering of the W. and F., viz., "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime," that one is led to expect a similar achievement. We are assured by the W. and F. that the English atmosphere and typically British sentiment of this little heart story has been so well retained and the characters so genuinely Dickensian that nothing is left to be desired. Marcel Vibert and Sabine Landray, of the Comedie Francais, play the leading rôles.

A New Condenser

The Gaumont Company is putting on the market a new type of condenser, which is said to have the effect of greatly increasing the luminosity of the picture, and adding to the whiteness of the light. It can be fitted to machines of all makes. The Gaumont Sales Department in Sherwood Street will be pleased to give personal demonstrations to exhibitors who are interested.

"The Man from Blankleys"

The Gaumont Company announces that the next "Real art" picture to be shown will be an adaptation of the famous play in which Sir Charles Hawtrey made such a big London success, "The Man from Blankleys," written by F. Anstey and Robert Warwick, who is featured with Bebe Daniels, has a very fine part, which involves a good scrap. Warwick was for some time an amateur boxing champion of Los Angeles and San Francisco, and his opponent in the film is Gertrude McCoy.

"A Sailor Tramp"

The next Welsh Pearson Trade Show will be held at the New Gallery next Thursday, July 20th, when the British National programme film "A Sailor Tramp," from the novel by Bart Kennedy, will be shown.

Victor MacLaglen is featured in this film as "The Sailor Tramp," and the part of the "Cockney" is played by the inimitable screen comedian Hugh E. Wright. There is a strong supporting cast, including Pauline Johnson, Ambrose Manning and Mrs. Hubert Willis. The production is by F. Martin Thornton.

Hal Martin, who was seriously injured at sea off Falmouth while performing a very risky stunt for the film, has so far recovered that he hopes to attend the Trade Show. He is now convalescing at Hugh Wright's charming country residence at Crawley.