

London this week.—Georges Treuille is working on "Married Life" for Ideal.—John Gliddon is with International Artists at Brixham, obtaining exteriors for "The Night Hawk"—Hugh Croise is commencing "Four Men in a Van" for Titan.—Harley Knowles has finished casting for "The Bohemian Girl" (Alliance).—Frankland A. Richardson is severing his connection with Granger-Binger, and is now on the free list.—Edwin J. Collins is directing "Single Life" for Ideal.—Milton Elmore is at work on "Teddy Laughs Last" (Regulus).—Maurice Elvey is directing "A Romance

of Wastdale" for Stoll.—George Ridgewell is producing Stoll's "The Eleventh Hour."

### An Exceptional Artiste.

Back in the not so very remote days when Milton Rosmer played in Miss Horniman's repertory company, and made his first appearance in her production of Harold Brighouse's play, "Dealing in Futures," his artistry received the unstinted praise of the critics; and later his fine work in Masefield's "Nan," Galsworthy's "The Mob," and Houghton's "The Hilarys," stamped him indelibly as one of the greatest of our

younger actors. He went into the studio with rather a contempt for picture work, John Galsworthy having expressed a wish that he should figure on the screen in the part he had played so often on the stage in "Justice," but in the studio he began to realise the tremendous possibilities film work held for a man who cared to take it seriously. It is Mr. Rosmer's nature to take everything seriously, once it interests him, and so the stage lost him, at all events for a while, and the screen gained a new recruit who soon was to soar far above the heads of actors who had been doing screen work for years past. Recently Mr. Rosmer has starred in several un-Trade shown Stoll productions, notably "The Pointing Finger" and "General John Regan," and he has now entered into an agreement with that firm by which he is to be featured in four productions in succession. The first of these is to be a film version of A. E. W. Mason's novel, "The Romance of Wastdale," which Maurice Elvey is about to produce.

### Seizing the Opportunity.

In an effort to obtain a topical effect for a film which is on the stocks, Kenneth Graeme and the staff, including Dawn Meredith, repaired to the scene of the recent Ripolin fire, and after no little difficulty had been surmounted, and some risk incurred, succeeded in getting some extraordinary good "shots," which would be practically impossible to obtain just when they were wanted. The comedy series, entitled "The Adventures of Mr. Pusher Long," is progressing very favourably, and already the Kenneth Graeme Film Syndicate is cutting three of the series of twelve.

### To the Hills.

Coils of rope and a number of alpenstocks in Maurice Elvey's room at the Stoll Cricklewood studios indicate in a general sort of way the character of the picture he is about to produce. This is a film version of "A Romance of Wastdale," A. E. W. Mason's first novel, and the famous author, who is a member of the Alpine Club, and an enthusiastic mountaineer, is going to accompany the producer and the artistes on their travels and climb with them. "A Romance of Wastdale" is not, however, an Alpine story. Its action takes place in the Cumberland hills, where Mr. Mason spent most of his boyhood and clambered about to his heart's content. Milton Rosmer is to star in this picture as the hero, David Gordon, and Irene Rooke will figure as Mrs. Jackson, a housekeeper. The part of the heroine, Kate Nugent, will be played by Valia Venitskaya. The picture will be remarkable for the fact that, aside from the housekeeper and some people who will appear in a single scene, there will be only three characters in the story—two men and one woman.

### Players' Movements.

Harding Steerman, Eric Barclay and Patric Frances have just been booked by Bramlins to play in a forthcoming Harma production; Hilda Anthony and Peggie Hathaway have recently been engaged to play in the Ideal production, "Married Life." Gibb McLaughlin is at present working with Progress at Shoreham, and Kate Phillips and Pauline Peters have been re-engaged by Mr. Morgan for important parts in his forthcoming production, "The Lilac Sunbonnet," Frances Weatheral is playing the part of the Duchess in the Progress production, "Lowland Cinderella." Cecil Susands is also playing for Progress. All these engagements have been arranged by Bramlins.

Peggie Hathaway has gone to Ideal for "Married Life," and Kate Nugent to Stoll for "A Romance of Wastdale," for which Irene Rooke has also been booked. Madge White is to play lead in "The Eleventh Hour" (Stoll), while Johnny Butte and F. Manning Hayes are now with Titan for "Four Men in a Van." Joan Morgan has gone to Scotland for "Lilac Sunbonnet" (Progress).

## TRADE IN FRANCE

From Our Own Correspondent, E. G. KENDREW, 66 bis, Rue St. Didier, Paris

### The Boxing Film Dispute.

Leon Volterra, director of the Theatre de Paris, recently presented at that house the Dempsey-Carpentier fight film, having acquired rights from the Western Import.

Van Goitsenhoven, of Brussels, on the contention that he had exclusive rights of the film, applied to the Paris Courts for an injunction to stop the projection. Counsel for Western Import proved that the English company had acquired the rights from M. Quimbsby, while the lawyer representing petitioner declared that exclusive rights had been bought by Van Goitsenhoven in a similar way.

M. Volterra's counsel said that his client held a contract in good form, and he had perfect liberty to show the film at the Theatre de Paris, whereupon the Judge refused to grant the injunction, and invited the two parties to come to some arrangement as to the ownership of the disputed French rights.

The reel has since been withdrawn from the Theatre de Paris, and it is now advertised at a number of local kinema halls as being controlled by Van Goitsenhoven.

### New Films.

The Lys Rouge Film Company, under the direction of Maurice de Marsan, will shortly issue "La Mechant Homme," produced by Ch. Maudru, with Desjardins and Renée Loryane. The same concern is also releasing during the coming season a version of "Cinderella," with Simone Sandré and Georges Lannes, and "L'Amour du Mort," the screen version of Tom Gallon's novel, which M. de Marsan recently executed in England with Anne Verity, Bertram Burleigh, and Gaston Jacquet. The next production of the firm is another adaptation of Zola's "L'Assommoir" (Drink).

## TRADE IN SOUTH AFRICA

From Our Own Correspondent.

### Native Kinemas.

The Bloemfontein Town Council recently discussed whether a kinema which is to be built in the town should be controlled by the natives through the Bloemfontein Bioscopes Co. or run by the Council. In the end the city fathers won.

A Native Affairs Committee brought the matter up, and suggested that the Council should provide buildings, screen, operator's box, and seating accommodation; that the Bioscopes Co. provide the rest, and that the net profits be equally divided between the Co. and the Council.

There was great opposition to the monopoly being given to the company to exploit the natives, and the question of censorship was another difficulty. In the town of Parys the local Amusement Committee runs a theatre which pays them handsomely, £3,000 profit, having been made and spent in beautifying the town.

Bloemfontein has decided to do likewise. It was felt that unless the bioscope was under strict supervision the natives might become demoralised by the films, and lead to a Black Peril, such as is alleged to have happened in Johannesburg.

### Films for Natives.

There is a feeling that native film displays are a danger in that many films depict members of the white race in "silly actions." It is argued that the young

native will be given a poisonous impression, which may endanger white children in the future.

Safety lies in showing to natives native pictures depicting their own vices and virtues, but it is not quite clear how it is to be done.

### The Guileless Patron.

A member of the public, described as "an old and faithful attendant of the bioscope," putting in 200 nights in the year, was recently fined £2 10s. by a Bloemfontein magistrate for fraud. The crime was that of buying a 1s. 4d. ticket for a show in the Bloemfontein Town Hall, not using it, and obtaining admission to the Vaudette Picture Theatre.

The accused man appealed to a higher court, and the conviction was quashed on the ground that there was no intention to deceive, as the buyer thought it would be all right to use the ticket in any theatre he chose. An interesting principle seems to be involved here, and some serious puzzles for managers suggested.

### Half Caine Film on Tour.

Nina Kortsman, described as the only lady in the kinema business in South Africa, is piloting round the world the film version of Hall Caine's celebrated novel, "The Woman Thou Gavest Me." She has recently shown the film at Bloemfontein and Lourenço Marques.