

Notes and News



"HULLO, PICTUREGOERS! My name is HARRY PENN. I'm appearing in the second of the Goldwyn 'Edgar' series, *Shakespeare's Hamlet*."

A new player for Hepworth's.

HEPWORTH'S have just added another artiste to their Stock Company. Eileen Dennis, who has appeared in two of their productions with conspicuous success, is a young English girl who has spent some years in America. She is very young . . . very pretty . . . and very ambitious and is keenly interested in her work. She will play prominent parts in all forthcoming Hepworth pictures.

Mercy Hatton comes back.

IT is some years since we heard of Mercy Hatton, and her return to films will be welcomed by many. Miss Hatton is engaged for an important rôle in the Broadwest version of the stage play, *Her Son*.

Monte Carlo in a picture

THE other day the whole floor of the big B. and C. studio was utilised for a set representing a famous hotel in Monte Carlo where Lydia Kyasht, the adventures heroine of the story, is the cause of many visitors losing their valuables. The title of the film, which William Humphrey's is directing, is *The Black Spider*. Many distinguished people appeared as suppers in the scene referred to, and as some of the exteriors were actually filmed at Monte Carlo, the production bids fair to be a most sensational one.

A new British company.

FRED PAUL, one of our most popular British producers, has joined forces with John Robyns, managing director of the newly formed producing company, British Standard Film Productions, and is hard at work at the Barker Studios at Ealing, which are undergoing structural alterations, and where an ambitious program will be carried out. A film adaptation of George R. Sims' famous Adelphi drama, *The English Rose*, will be the first production, and in this Fred Paul will appear as Father Michael, and thus make his first return as an artist to any cast since *The Dop Doctor*. Amy Brandon-Hawes (daughter of the author of "Charley's Aunt") plays feminine lead. *Uncle Dick's Darling*, by H. J. Byron, will be the second production.

Screen Stars in China.

MARIE WALCAMP has been film acting in China. She takes the stellar rôle in a serial entitled *The Dragon's Net*, the plot of which took the company to Shanghai, Pekin, Hong Kong and then on to India, where the company were also to make a separate picture. The China "News" reporter relates the difficulties of acting in the open streets and the impossibility of getting a crowd to behave as if nothing unusual were happening and even the actors finding distractions in the crowds.

He tells of an old lady approaching an actor gazing at the yellow smear of make-up on his face, mistaking it for the jaundice and recommending him to see a doctor in Tokio.

A movie pioneer.

MAJOR WALLACE McCUTCHEON, who plays the rôle of Frederick Vaux, "Chief of the United States Secret Service," in Pearl White's latest Pathé serial *The Black Secret*, although only 34 years old, is quite a pioneer in the picture world. His father, Wallace McCutcheon, sen., was one of the original owners of the American Biograph and Mutoscope Co., and before he was out of knickerbockers young Wallace was acting before the camera and even directing pictures, which in those days were not longer than twenty-eight or thirty seconds and which were displayed in penny-in-the-slot machines. Major McCutcheon fought in the British Army during the war and is now back with his first love—the movies.

Queenie finds locations.

QUEENIE THOMAS has recently spent a happy holiday in Italy and has earmarked many beauty spots for future use in her films. Her next production for Bertram Phillips is a secret at present, but it will probably have Italy as a background—if Queenie has her way it most certainly will.

Lost, a chauffeur.

POOR Mildred Davis! The leading lady of the Harold Lloyd comedies has an automobile "on her hands." She had what she thought was a high-class chauffeur, although she twice paid his fine for breaking the speed laws. When he was guilty of the third offence, however, he passed out of her young life. Under the laws of California a driver who breaks the law three times is barred from further operation of the steering wheel for the period of a year. And so, pending the selection of a new chauffeur, pretty Mildred has had to drive her own car. Now isn't that awful?

Wallace Reid—journalist.

WALLACE REID was once a journalist, for a short space in his career. After having gained a broad experience working on a ranch, running a hotel and working on a Government survey, he became a reporter and it was on the New York *Star* that he first got an insight into newspaper work. His varied real life has aided him considerably in his real career and accounts probably for his remarkable versatility. He is being seen at present in *Alias Mike Moran*.

Patsy comes back.

PATSY DE FOREST, the charming little screen comedy favourite and she has spent the past two years on the American stage. Now, however, the screen is to see her once again, for she has just fixed up a contract to appear as leading lady for Montgomery and Rook in their Vitagraph comedies. Her first new rôle will be that of a Spanish senorita.

After 20 years.

ROSE COGHLAN, who was the original Duchess of Desborough when *The Sporting Duchess* was staged in this country more than twenty years ago, has accepted an invitation from Vitagraph to view privately its screen version of the famous Drury Lane melodrama before its general release. Alice Joyce appears in the rôle created by Miss Coghlan and the

picture will bring back memories of former triumphs to the latter.

Was Othello black?

ANSON DYER doesn't care a rap for "press opinion." He says Othello was black, . . . "tho', mind you, he may not have been as black as I am painting him!" Poor maligned, uncertain Othello is the subject of Anson Dyer's latest Hepworth cartoon burlesque.

Samuelson in America.

WE hear excellent reports of the first production upon which G. B. Samuelson is engaged in America, entitled *The Mercy of Tiberius*, in which Peggy Hyland is starred. When filmand's G. B. S. sets out to do anything he invariably does it well, so we can look forward to something good. Pretty Peggy comes back with him when he returns to England with his company in the late spring.

"In old Alsace."

I HEAR that *In Old Alsace*, founded on *L'Ami Fritz* by Ereckmann-Chatrian, the author of the late Sir Henry Irving's great stage medium *The Bells*, is the sensation of Paris and that everyone is flocking to see it. The action of this charming, old-world Alsatian story, filmed by M. Kene Hervil, took place seventy years ago and has an added interest for the present generation in the fact that Alsace, which at the time of the story was in German possession, has once again changed hands.

Featuring famous French artistes.

IN OLD ALSACE was produced under the official patronage of M. Millerand, who was at the time Governor of Alsace and features (in the rôle of a match-making rabbi), M. de Max who has played several times on tour in England with Mme. Sarah Bernhardt and who is considered one of France's greatest artistes. It was Trade shown in London last week.

Japanese artiste's advice.

"KNOW your script!" says Tsuru Aoki, the famous Japanese film artiste and wife of Sessue Hayakawa. "An engineer," says Mde. Aoki, "would not try to build a bridge without knowing the plans. The comparison applies to a photo drama. The players should know the construction of the plot; the seemingly insignificant points that are vital to the climax." Which is sound advice and although seemingly obvious, often the cause of much trouble in a film studio.

A new hobby.

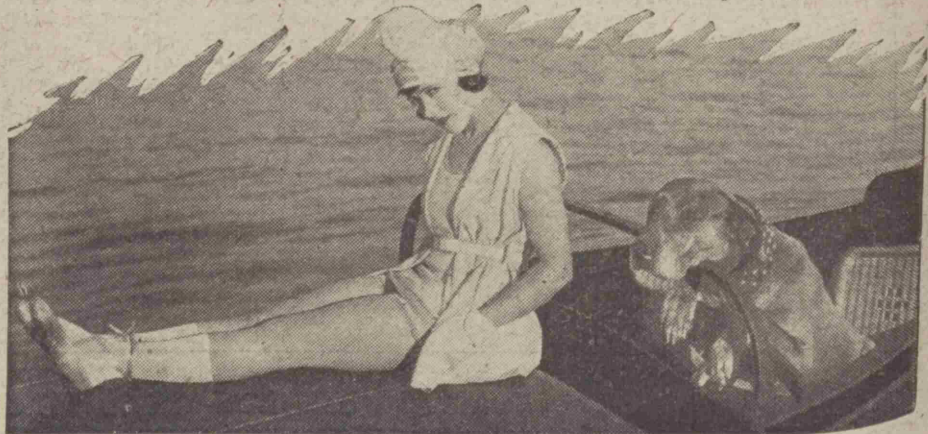
ARCHERY is Alice Joyce's latest hobby. During the filming of *The Sporting Duchess*, a coming Vitagraph special production, she had some exciting games with her lead and "heavy" who were skilful at the ancient pastime, and so enthusiastic did she become that she is planning to hold some tournaments this summer.

A change in cast.

OWING to the intervention of theatrical contracts which necessitates her leaving London, Iris Hoey has been reluctantly compelled to resign her part in *Duke's Son*, the new George Clarke production, in which Guy Newall and Ivy Duke are appearing. Mary Mervall will play the part vacated by Miss Hoey.

New British comedies.

WE have had little elaboration in our comedies in the past, but the Reardon



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST. The lady is pretty MARIE PREVOST of Mack Sennett Comedies, and the "gentleman" is Teddy, one of her pets.