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## Picture Show ANNUAL

1949 Our Cover Picture: David Niven in "Bonnie Prince Charlie." Cyd Charisse and Margaret O'Brien in "The Unfinished Dance." (M.-G.-M.)

1912—"David Garrick" was made at the Hepworth Studios. The scene is the famous inn, "The Cheshire Cheese." W. G. Saunders is on the left, as Dr. Johnson, at the table are Sir Charles Wyndham, in the title role, and Hay Plumb, who directed the film and took the part of Billy Banter.

Below: Cecil Hepworth, a snapshot taken during the 1914-1918 war.



Those Were the Days—

present. Cecil Hepworth is in London as it is Thursday and his day for attending his London office. His absence, however, means that there will be no interior photography and, therefore, the comedy must be written for exteriors only. This dictates the line of research through the comic papers.

through the comic papers.

Presently Johnny Butt is out of his chair and the scenario, production, editorial and casting departments have been in conference for six and a half minutes. Back to the studio for the cameraman and Vi Hopson—"Outdoor costume, please—what, Alma Taylor doing nothing? Come on—print frock—sunbonnet—something in the village." To horse and away.

On the lawn of the "Red Lion" by the river at

On the lawn of the "Red Lion" by the river at Shepperton, Boy meets Girl. Next scene a country lane. Cut the country lane—do the scene in a punt—there are a dozen punts moored next door. Knock off for lunch for all the stars. New crusty loaves—a pound or so of glorious cheese—ample butter—one knife—beer and soft drinks.

More acting. Johnny Butt falls in the river—very funny. Harry Buss and Thurston Harris both fall in the river—funnier still. Hay Plumb in a moment of excitement nearly falls in the river, but he saves himself. This is fortunate as an artiste can be cut out of the rest of the story and sent back to change, but the director is expected to remain with the company. Five o'clock and a cup of tea. The cast has never gone far from the "Red Lion" all day. Two more scenes and, as Canio remarks, "the comedy is ended."

And so A Wife For a Day was born.

Two extra artists were employed on the spot. The "Red Lion" waiter, who looked like a waiter, behaved like a waiter, and who, in fact, was a waiter, gratefully accepted his fee of half-a-crown. The boatman's little boy who, away from school because he had "spots," played the part of a boatman, and his fee sent production costs rocketing another shilling.

Two four-wheelers had conveyed the company to

ONE fine day—not from the opera but from the past—one of the well-remembered happy days of the care-free infancy of the films . . .

One fine day, then, in the summer of 1910, in the front yard of the Hepworth Studios at Walton-on-Thames might be seen, possibly, Harry Buss, Thurston Harris, Harry Gilbey, almost certainly Johnny Butt and without a doubt Jack Raymond, and with them Hay Plumb, carrying under his arm the script of the drama then in production.

Across the way in her house in Hurst Grove, Vi Hopson is busy with her housework until such time as Gladys Silvani, the leading lady, arrives. But Gladys is a hard-working girl in the Gaiety Chorus, and has an unexpected rehearsal, and when this dire news filters through to the waiting company it is realised that the drama is held up for that day.

Undismayed, the company, with the exception of Vi, who is given the tip to carry on with her chores, moves off to the local hairdressers' saloon where they seize squatting rights, by virtue of Johnny Butt requesting a shave, and proceed to pore over the back numbers of "Chips" and "Comic Cuts."

With a gay disregard of all authors' rights they concoct between them a comedy suitable to the style of all



Chrissie White and Henry Edwards in "The Naked Man," an early silent British film.

In circle: Violet Hopson, the first villainess to become so popular that she changed to starring roles, winning her greatest popularity in films with a racing background.



Hay Plumb Recalls the 1910's

Shepperton in the morning, but as three artistes had walked back to the studios wet through, only one cab was needed to take the rest back. Had the river scenes been taken in the Cotswolds the film would have been more expensive, but as it was, A Wife For a Day cost exactly five pounds in salaries, transport and film-stock, and it sold twenty-five copies!

Let us march on with time to 1912. Thirty-six years ago. It sounds so remote, and the years pass so swiftly that a film fan of 1948 may be forgiven if he or she imagines that it was an age of long side-whiskers and

crinolines.

On the opposite page is a "still" of the silent film of David Garrick taken at the Hepworth Studios in 1912.

It shows the interior of the famous "Cheshire Cheese," in Fleet Street, and is an early example of a set being

solidly built instead of painted on "flats."

Authenticity was beginning to assert itself, the "Cheshire Cheese" was visited by the Art Director and Producer, no doubt to their satisfaction, the two heavy settles were made in the studio workshops instead of being borrowed as usual from the "local," the fireplace was copied from the genuine article, and the furniture was selected with a view to its appropriateness.

was selected with a view to its appropriateness.

Sir Charles Wyndham as David Garrick is seated on the left of the table, while Hay Plumb on the right, as

Billy Banter, silently insults him.

Asleep on the settle at the right is James (Jimmy) Blakeley, a well-known stage star of the day. An interesting personality occupies the settle on the left in the form of W. G. Saunders as Doctor Johnson. Bill Saunders was probably the first Art Director appointed and paid as such in a British studio. Robert McMahon as Boswell stands meekly by.

Chrissie White was the Ada Ingot, and very lovely she

Chrissie White was the Ada Ingot, and very lovely she looked. There must have been a difference of fifty years in the ages of David Garrick and Ada Ingot in the film, but nobody seemed to mind. Chrissie was a film star, Sir Charles was one of our leading actors, knighted for

his services to the stage, and both were known to the play-going public in their own capacities.

Mary Moore (who became Lady Wyndham) had appeared in the play at the Criterion Theatre and it was she who suggested that "one of the Hepworth pretty girls" should play her part in the film version.

Fan mail existed then to a mild extent, but the private lives of the 1912 stars remained their own affairs. Not a single one of them possessed a swimming-pool, those who married appear to have done so only once, they could pay a visit to London without invoking the aid of Scotland Yard and their opinions on world affairs—if they held any—were not reported in the Press.

The writer took a current girl friend to an Oxford Street picture house, and in the darkness bought a shilling box of chocolates. When their eyes became accustomed to the gloom they beheld his own face on the lid of the box. The audience remained calm, the usherette of the period maintained a sublime indifference, the doorkeeper was unshaken. Such was Fame

the doorkeeper was unshaken. Such was Fame. Thirty-five years ago the "Yes-man" had not been invented. When Hay Plumb wrote the script of David Garrick, it was turned down flat by Sir Charles in his suite at the Hyde Park Hotel one afternoon and accepted two days later when certain commas had been inserted, although Plumb insists that he made no alterations whatever. He then proceeded to compile the scenario, direct the film, play Billy Banter, fight the duel, order the four-wheeler to meet Sir Charles each morning at Walton Station—and take him back in the evening in time to play "Garrick" in London, and find locations for the exterior scenes.

It was a longish film for 1912, it must have run three quarters of an hour; but its director never saw it, and this picture is his only souvenir. Those were the days.





James Harcourt, Margaret Lockwood, Rex Harrison, Paul von Hernried (later Henreid) and Irene Handl in "Night Train to Munich."

Denham Studios seen from

winner, and gradually tenacity, ingenuity and hard work began to tell. You did not hear quite so often the expression "if it's a British film, let's go somewhere else." The world slump of the late nineteen-twenties arrived with the inevitable consequences. Companies failed, work was suspended, but still films were made and still the quality improved. And talkies brought new hope, if new difficulties, to the situation. In 1927 the British International Studios at Elstree opened, and there, in 1929, Alfred Hitchcock made the first British talkie, Blackmail. At Islington, Henry Ainley made his talkie debut reciting In Flanders Fields in a short made by Gainsborough for Armistice Day. And the same year, so rapidly was the language difficulty realised and experiments begun to overcome it, Arnold Bennett's Piccadilly was produced in three languages, the world's first trilingual talkie. At the bottom of the cast in the English speaking version, by the way, was Charles Laughton as A Continental Visitor. He ate his way steadily through the film—it was all he had to do.

There was a frantic rush to wire studios for sound recording, a rush as great as the cinemas to wire for reproduction. Our own stage stars found themselves in unprecedented demand, plays were snapped up and photographed practically as they were written, with little thought for the art of the cinema and the great mobility of the camera.

In 1930, among the stage stars who appeared on the screen were Colin Clive, who starred in Journey's End, Sir John Martin Harvey in The Lyons Mail, Beverly

Nichols and Seymour Hicks in Glamour, Tom Walls and Yvonne Arnaud were a popular team, Ivor Novello, already popular in silent films, strengthened his hold in talkies, Evelyn Laye made her talkie debut in The Luck of the Navy, Emlyn Williams, Jessie Matthews, Gracie Fields, George Robey—they were

Right: Vic Oliver, Graham Moffatt, Ben Lyon and Bebe Daniels in "Hi Gang!"





Events on the Continent had cast their shadows upon ussome of the greatest men in many professions had fled before the Nazi threat to freedom of thought and expression, and both England and America had benefited by receiving them, some com-pensation for receiving many others they could well have done without. On that fateful September morning, the nation waited for hell to be let loose. Cinemas were closed, studios were closed. Once again the promising British film baby, so nearly strangled at birth, seemed to be facing extinction.

But this time, the value of the film as propaganda, the value of its entertainment to keep up morale and various other factors were taken into consideration. Production suffered, of course, but during those war years, we produced some of the finest films in the world.

This statement is made not in a boastful spirit. Hollywood had become divorced from the realities of life, too dazzled by its own glitter and glamour to realise that only by recognising the fundamental truths of life and expressing them in one way or another, can art really live. Here we were plunged into the midst of life's grimmest realities, our way of life and our religious beliefs challenged and threatened. The spirit of the nation was breathed into the films it made, and their very vitality and reality showed up the tinsel and tawdry trappings which Hollywood was seeking to display as realities.

Many of the studios were requisitioned by the Government. Denham Studios, opened in 1936, the largest studios in the country, with seven stages and grounds covering a hundred and sixty acres, functioned throughout the war, even though eighty-seven offices were destroyed and a recording theatre put out of action, but Pinewood Studios, opened about the same time, and about three-quarters the size of Denham, were requisitioned, and the R.A.F., Army and Crown Film Units worked there throughout the war. The Associated British Studios at Elstree, opened in 1927, were also requisitioned, and used as an Army Ordnance Depot.

Even in the studios that were not requisitioned, work was often necessarily restricted because space was used for other purposes. Teddington Studios became a storehouse for all Warner Bros. pictures, British and American alike, which were sent out of London on Home Office instructions. It needs no imagination to discover the reason for these instructions.

Right: Anna Neagle as Amy Johnson, the famous woman pilot, and Robert Newton as James Mollison, whom she met in the course of her flying career, and married —a scene from "They Flew Alone." Right: Clifford Evans, Gordon Cameron Jackson and Tommy Trinder in "The Foreman Went to France."

Keeping up the mor-

ale in the Tube shelter

while the bombs fall

overhead-Elsie and

Doris Waters in "Gert and Daisy's

Week-end."







Laurence Olivier, as King Henry, addresses his soldiers before the Battle of Agincourt. A scene from "Henry V."

Above, right: Pat McGrath, Guy Middleton, Alfred Drayton, Valerie White, Richard Bird, Francoise Rosay and Tom Walls in "The Halfway House."

The first year of the war will always be remembered as the "phony" war, when we all waited for something to happen. After the first paralysed few weeks, when nobody knew quite what to expect, but everybody expected something like an immediate and gigantic blitzkrieg, even worse than that which had been suffered by Poland, when we expected attack by sea and air, with parachutists dropping in by the thousand and submarines and strange craft disgorging other thousands of soldiers, to say nothing of poison gas and germ warfare, the studios began to reorganise themselves, and adjust their changed situation to the changes round them. Many of their skilled men were called up to adapt their skill to uses in the photographic, camouflage, and other sections of the three Services. Cinemas, closed by Government order to prevent the congregation of crowds, which could have made mass destruction

unreal way.

During the first year of war, we saw in the cinemas *The Stars Look Down*, the film version of A. J. Cronin's novel about mining conditions, in which Michael Redgrave, fresh from his screen

and panic easier for the enemy, reopened. Life resumed a course as normal as possible in an

successes in The Lady Vanishes and with Elisabeth Bergner in A Stolen Life, played one of the leading roles with Emlyn Williams and Margaret Lockwood, who was also seen in Night Train to Munich, a film of the escape of a Czechoslovak munitions magnate to England, and a Gestapo plot to get him back through his daughter. It

Right: On the morning of July 6th, 1944—Stage 2 at the Warner Bros. Teddington studio. The VI and blast did most of the damage here, although burning oil from the storage tank added its quota of destruction.

Right: Googie Withers, Roland Culver, Beatrice Lillie and Clive Brook in "On Approval."



Above: David Niven, Billy Hartnell, Stanley Holloway, John Laurie and Jimmy Hanley in "The Way Ahead."

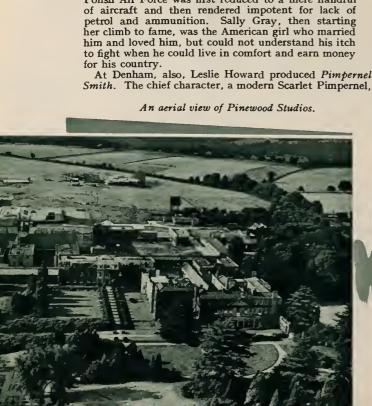
was made at Shepherd's Bush, and in the leading roles were Rex Harrison and Paul von Hernried, who later changed his name to Henreid.

In this film Basil Radford and Naunton Wayne continued their brilliant team work as Charters and Caldicott, the couple of obtuse English first seen in The Lady Vanishes, who were always sublimely oblivious to the desperate deeds that were going on round them, although they occasionally became conscions that things were a little odd.

At Denham, Conrad Veidt starred as a Danish merchant navy captain in a film even more topical, exciting, excellently made and acted, Contraband, which dealt with the Royal Navy's vigilant watch for ships that might try to run the contraband control and take into Germany the vital ores and elements she needed for munitions of war, of which we were determined to starve her. As a contrast, there was Sydney Howard to provide laughter in a new version of Tilly of Bloomsbury, which was notable for having in it, as Tilly's brother, a young actor named Michael Wilding. Tilly herself was played by Jean Gillie. And Ealing Studios gave us Saloon Bar, a thoroughly entertaining thriller of the timeless kind in which Gordon Harker, who a few years before had created a furore as the holiday-making superrefined Cockney in Rome Express, played the leading role. Among the excellent cast was Helena Pickard (Mrs. Cedric Hardwicke in private life, and now Lady Hardwicke).

THE following year, 1941, although by then bombing had started and film-making was done between rushes for shelter and the noise of sirens, guns and aircraft engines interfered with recording, we saw some very fine films, including the Denham-produced unexpected success, Dangerous Moonlight. It was a story of a Polish composer who had joined the tiny, gallant Polish Air Force, and on leaving ruined Poland, was torn between his desire to fight for his country and the knowledge that he could use his beloved music to spread the hatred of Nazi rule. It was made cheaply enough, but it had inspiration and sincerity and fire. It was a problem repeated in many variations and in many minor ways, and Anton Walbrook gave one of the finest performances of his career in it. It also brought a success even more overwhelming and unexpected to the Warsaw Concerto, composed, in the film, by the hero while the Germans were blotting out Warsaw, and the Polish Air Force was first reduced to a mere handful

At Denham, also, Leslie Howard produced Pimpernel



Right: Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard in "Brief Encounter.

Below: The director goes through a scene with Flanagan and Allen and Gordon Richards for Dreaming.



Right: James Mason in (cap), Dennis Price and Margaret Lockwood in" A Place of One's Own."





was an apparently harmless English University professor. It had a unique merit—one that I have not since noticed in any other film—it propounded the theory that to save the lives of one or two great men was of far more value to their country and to the future of the entire world than the saving of many other lives. Leslie Howard was the professor who enjoyed spending his vacations in this way, smuggling great and talented men threatened by Nazi oppression out from under the very noses of the Gestapo. You may recall the aplomb with which he extricated himself, the men he saved and those who helped him, from the tight corners into which his activities led him, and his gorgeous masquerade which hoodwinked Gestapo officials.

The loss to the world—not merely the film world—of this fine actor and finer thinker, was one of those things that cannot be assessed in terms of pounds and dollars. It is measured in wisdom and human understanding, in belief in freedom and responsibility that are

so rare a combination to-day.

In that same year Denham also produced Jeannie, which gave Barbara Mullen her great opportunity, and lightened our anxieties with its refreshing charm and

omedy.

G. B. Shaw's Major Barbara was brought to the screen, also, with Wendy Hiller as the Salvation Army lass, of wealthy and disapproving parents, Rex Harrison as the young man who joined the Salvation Army not for salvation but for Barbara's sake, and Robert Newton as the bully she defied and conquered.

Michael Redgrave, who was Barbara Mullen's sweet heart in Jeannie, travelled from Denham to Shepherd's Bush to co-star with Diana Wynyard and Phyllis Calvert in the new version of Kipps, H. G. Wells' famous story of a young man's apprenticeship to the drapery trade, and his struggles to start his own shop. The film had previously been made as a silent film.

It was in this year, also, that we saw *The Prime Minister*, a film made at the Warner Studios at Teddington, with John Gielgud making one of his too-rare screen appearances as Disraeli, and Diana Wynyard playing

opposite him.

1942

A NOTHER of our famous Prime Ministers was seen on the screen the following year—the younger Pitt, brilliantly portrayed by Robert Donat. 1942 was a year of biographical films, for we also saw Anna Neagle and Robert Newton as Amy Johnson and James Mollison, the famous flyers, Leslie Howard as R. J. Mitchell, the designer of the Spitfire, in The First of the Few, Tommy



James Mason and Ann Todd in "The Seventh Veil."

Extreme right:
Michael Redgrave,
Trevor Howard and
John Mills in "The
Way to the Stars."





Trinder in *The Foreman Went to France*, based on a real life adventure of a foreman sent from this country to save a certain part of vital machinery from a factory in France and destroy the rest when it became certain that it would otherwise fall into the hands of the advancing Germans.

This year also saw James Mason's budding career burst into spectacular bloom as Margaret Lockwood's co-star in The Man in Grey, the first of his sadistic hero roles. The finely produced, beautifully acted Life and Death of Colonel Blimp, in Technicolor, created a tremendous sensation. It was the story of a gallant officer who finds himself outmoded in thought and behaviour at the outbreak of this war. There was also a topical comedy starring Elsie and Doris Waters, in which the famous Gert and Daisy of radio fame had a high old time in Tube shelters and among the evacuees.

Serious drama was first favourite in 1943. Most of the productions had war as a background or as the motive power of the story. In *The Flemish Farm*, Clifford Evans starred as a soldier who after the Dunkirk tragedy goes back to find the regimental colours which had been buried before the regiment left. A film of serious thought, inspiring and provocative, was *Thunder Rock*, which set out to show that nobody ever found peace by running away from war, either their own particular war, or a war in which their country was involved.

This year also saw the release of one of the finest war films produced, a film that captured the fighting spirit and pride of service, the greatness and moral strength of the Royal Navy as no other has done. It was Noel

Coward's In Which We Serve. It was the story of a destroyer and of the men who sailed in her. Noel Coward himself played the commander, and nobody who saw the film can ever forget the speech that Celia Johnson, as his wife, made at the Christmas dinnerparty held aboard the ship-the speech in which she said that every sailor's wife knows that she must be content with second place in her husband's heart, the "she" with whose surpassingly beautiful qualities no ordinary woman could hope to compete is his ship. And when the destroyer was sunk in the Mediterranean, during the Crete battle, do you recall the forlorn attitude of the survivors of her complement of officers and men? It was outstanding for its acting as well as its production, and inspired feeling-remember Bernard Miles as the chief petty officer writing home, or Richard Attenborough as the poor, pathetic little coward trying to strengthen himself with a drink at the bar, or John Mills as Shorty Blake?

1944. This was the year of Henry V, produced

Below: Stewart Granger, Vivien Leigh, Claude Rains in "Caesar and Cleopatra." and directed by its star, Laurence Olivier. It was a nlm memorable for many qualities, among them the brilliance and originality of its settings, many of them clearly inspired by and cleverly adapted from the paintings of the period—the quaintly stylised settings of the walled garden of the French Princess, the towers and turrets of mediæval Southampton, the ships in which the English force sailed. Do you remember, then, how this style was forsaken, with the result that the full force and vigour of the Battle of Agincourt became doubly effective? The dignity and truth of the words, the nobility of the English language were given sincerity and fine feeling by the experienced cast, from Henry V himself, played by Laurence Olivier, down to the simple soldier thinking things over on the eve of the battle.

The soldiers in it were as real as the soldiers in The Way Ahead, in fact with the alteration that five centuries have made in the meaning of words and phrasing of speech, they could very well have been those very soldiers, so very little does human nature alter. David Niven was specially released from the Army to star in this film, a story of a group of soldiers whom we first see as a bunch of assorted conscripts, licked into shape by a sergeant whose opinion of them, that they're not a bad lot, seems to be unduly optimistic, until they face their first battle in North Africa. Stanley Holloway, who had not long embarked on a career as a character actor rather than a comedian, gave a grand performance as a resentful, lazy soldier who was always asking for trouble from the sergeant and having got it, promptly groused about being "picked on."

A film which tried sincerely to give both sides of a

problem that was one of the sorest wounds in England between the two World Wars was The Shipbuilders. It showed clearly the pride in achievement and thought for his men of a shipowner who finds that through no fault of his own he is forced to close down his yards, and sell the business he has so proudly built up with honesty and integrity, as well as the view of the men who, also through no fault of their

own, are thrown out of work.

The Halfway House was an exploration into the supernatural, made by the Ealing Studios. Its setting was a small country hotel, where we found an assortment of people who, it seemed, had reached a point in their lives at which life no longer held enough to make them want to live. How they all found there the courage and peace they sought, with the aid of the ghostly innkeeper and his daughter who had perished when the inn was destroyed by fire a year before, made enthralling entertainment. This film marked the British debut of the celebrated French actress, Francoise Rosay.

The same year, also at Denham, was made a



Nancy Price and Roger Livesey in "I Know Where I'm Going."

Alastair Sim as the timid author in " Hue and Cry.'





began to realise why the house was such a bargain when his wife's companion, played by Margaret Lockwood, became possessed by the spirit of the unhappy girl who haunted the house. It was this film in which Dennis Price created an impression as Margaret's suitor.

In the same year, too, we saw the redoubtable Flanagan and Allen, who at the London Palladium had been helping men on leave and those left behind to forget their troubles and laugh at the fooling of the Crazy Gang, in *Dreaning. The Way to the Stars* was one of the year's outstanding productions. It was the story of an R.A.F. camp, which began with a camera tour of the place, deserted and lifeless, with just one or two reminders of the men who had once lived—and died—there. Then it told their story. It introduced two newcomers, Jean Simmons, who made a brief appearance at a camp concert, singing, and Trevor Howard, who was killed off

early in the film.

In 1946 Trevor Howard co-starred with Celia Johnson in Brief Encounter, and with Deborah Kerr in I See a Dark Stranger, an amusing comedy in which Deborah Kerr played the part of an Irish girl who came to England to continue a one-woman war against us. 1946 introduced us to yet another newcomer-at least, a comparative newcomer, although he had made one or two appearances in Australian films—Chips Rafferty. He made a tremendous hit in *The* Overlanders, the film whose stars had scarcely seen the inside of a studio all the time the film was being made. A British production unit had been sent by Michael Balcon to Australia to make the film, which dealt with the overland drive of several thousand head of cattle from the threat of Japanese invasion. Chips Rafferty, who came over here to appear as the shepherd responsible for much of the trouble in Googie Withers' life in The Loves of Joanna Godden, returned to Australia to star in another film for Ealing Studios.

The same year we saw at last the long-heralded Cæsar and Cleopatra, on which an incredible amount of time and money had been lavished. With Claude Rains as the great Roman general, Cæsar, Vivien Leigh as the crafty, capricious, child-queen of Egypt and Stewart Granger as Apollodorus, the handsome merchant; with gigantic sets, superb Technicolor photography and gorgeous costumes, it was the most expensive film yet produced. There was another Technicolor film shown the same year—London Town, a lavish musical film, which was obviously meant as a challenge to those so slickly produced by Hollywood. It introduced film audiences to a new comedian, Sid Field, and to the

music-hall favourite Tessie O'Shea.

Pinewood came back into the picture again, for there I Know Where I'm Going was made, starring Wendy Hiller and Roger Livesey. Roger Livesey was also seen in A Matter of Life and Death, that strange and unusual film which starred David Niven as the R.A.F. pilot who is believed to be killed in a crash and then, through a celestial error, is enabled to plead for an extension of his

life on earth before a celestial court.

In 1947, with the war two years behind, and the prospects of entering the hereafter not quite so immediate and speculation about them not so engrossing, films set their feet firmly on the earth. Hue and Cry was one of the liveliest and brightest turned out for many a day—it is the only film which shows the uses to which London s blitzed sites are being put by London's children. They have become their playgrounds. And Hue and Cry was a gorgeous romp in which a gang of dockland children pursued and caught a gang of fur thieves who used a thriller series in a boys' magazine to give members of their gang their instructions.

Three novels, set in the period of the early nineteenhundreds, were among the best films—Master of Bankdam, from Thomas Armstrong's The Crowthers of Bankdam, the story of a Yorkshire woollen manufacturing family, The Loves of Joanna Godden, Sheila Kaye-Smith's novel of the sheep-farmers of Romney Marsh, and A Man About the House, Francis Brett Young's dramatic novel of two spinster sisters who inherit an Italian mansion—to say nothing of the major-domo, in which role Kieron Moore became a star overnight. This year, by the way, marked the fiftieth consecutive year of film production at the Nettlefold Studios at Walton (formerly the Hepworth Studios, where, in a house called "The Rosary," Cecil Hepworth first started producing in 1897), where Master of Bankdam was made.

Other worthwhile films included Odd Man Out, a powerful drama of a hunted man, in which James Mason gave one of the best performances of his career, and introduced us to lovely Irish Kathleen Ryan as his leading lady; The Man Within, set in the eighteenth century, which was notable for Richard Attenborough's performance as a thoroughgoing coward who found his courage in the strength of a woman's belief; and a really fine version of Dickens's Great Expectations.

1948 will be remembered as the year that started, for the first time in the history of the screen, with no Hollywood films entering this country, because of the tax imposition, which, however, was later partly lifted.

imposition, which, however, was later partly lifted.
January saw the reopening of the Warner Studios at Teddington, with Stage 2 completely rebuilt to the original design. Edward Dryhurst had already begun producing Noose there with two American stars, Joseph Calleia and Carole Landis, when the official opening took place. Danny Kaye was guest of honour, and a host of stars who had made films there before the bombing, were also guests. The studios are chiefly being used by independent producers, although Warners themselves intend to make one or two pictures there.

Associated British Studios at Elstree celebrated their 21st birthday in July. After considerable post-war renovation, they had begun work again with My Brother Jonathan, thereby relieving the strain on the little Welwyn studios, where all their wartime production had taken place, and which, despite a host of handicaps, managed to turn out films of the calibre of Piccadilly Incident. It was at the Elstree studios (then British International) that the first George Bernard Shaw film was made—a version of How he Lied to her Husband. Producer Anatole de Grunwald moved to the Shepperton studios as soon as Bonnie Prince Charlie had been concluded, to make The Winslow Boy, with Anthony Asquith directing, Robert Donat starring. Uneasy Terms, made at the National Studios, Elstree, was the first of Peter Cheyney's popular detective stories to be filmed.

This article would not be complete without a reference to the man whose name, unknown in film circles in 1933, is now the most-talked-of in the film world-J. Arthur Rank. During the intervening years, he has become the most powerful single figure in the British film industry. It was in 1933 that Rank, finding the great milling combine he ran insufficient to occupy his energy, entered the film world by the church door—he started the Religious Film Society, which made films for Methodists. Two years later, astutely seeing that distribution and exhibition were the keys to successful production, he went into partnership with C. M. Woolf. an independent distributor. The following year, he invested in Universal, and this gave him his first chance of entering the American market. Then, in order to guarantee that any film he produced would have a reasonable prospect of being shown here, he gained control of the Odeon and Gaumont British theatres. Then he started producing in earnest. By the end of the war, he owned or controlled some sixty per cent. of the entire British industry, from production groups and studios, to cinema equipment firms, and his Eagle-Lion distribution company covered the world.

Rank allows his producers a great deal of freedom. Once a month they meet at a dinner to discuss films. He sees the rough scripts of all his pictures, and often alters them himself. Once he has okayed the budget for the film, however, he does not interfere until the picture is ready to be previewed. And he does not put his producers under contract—he prefers that they should feel free to leave him when they want to. Very few, so far, have done so. The excellent results from this freedom of action are shown by the films that have been made under his control, including Henry V, Caesar and Cleopatra, The Blue Lagoon, Hamlet, Mr. Perrin and Mr. Traill, and Oliver Twist,





nnis Price





























Amy Veness, as grandma, backs up Helena Pickard against husband Wilfrid Lawson and daughter Maureen Glynne, in "The Turners of Prospect Road."

the heart is. For the majority of us, it's the place to which we're tied by bonds which are no less strong for being invisible—the bonds of love—whether home is an ancestral mansion, a modern flat which could be fitted into one room of such a mansion, or a pre-fab. Home life means family life—and it is its continuity that gives it strength. For the average person, it is in the sharing of joys and sorrows, happiness and heartbreak that they find the secret of the strength of those ties, for hard times and bad luck are more easily surmounted, just as good times are more deeply enjoyed, if they are shared. There is nothing like the strength and loyalty of a united family, and even when the individual members are scattered far and wide, a call from home will bring them rallying round to help. And they know also, that home is the place to which they can go if they themselves are in need. The adjustment problems of individual ideas and temperaments to the flexible framework of family life have been used times

without number by writers—and enjoyed by readers, who see in Aunt Effie a distinct likeness to their sister Annie, or in father characteristics of their Uncle John. And there are few who do not have their enjoyment increased because of their because of the same with homes, too. Do you remember, in Quiet Week-end, the trouble over the inadequate bathing facilities in the ancient and picturesque week-end cottage? Anyone who has visited a cottage of that kind would recognise the plumbing problem, and have an even greater appreciation of the humour of it—or perhaps realise for the first time that there was humour in it.

The most popular and famous of all the homes we've seen on the screen is, of course, the home of Judge Hardy in the imaginary little town of Carvel. There have been fifteen

Below: In "The Birds and the Bees" Jose Iturbi turns on the charm to impress his three "new daughters"—before the trio discover that he has married their mother, Jeanette MacDonald. The daughters are Mary Eleanor Donahue, Ann Todd and Jane Powell.

"Life with Father"
—here is the Day
family, showing
William Powell as
father, Irene Dunne
as mother, and the
remaining members of
the family—left to
right, top, Jimmy Lydon, Martin Milner,
Elizabeth Taylor and
Zasu Pitts. Derek
Scott (left) and John
Calkins are seated
with Irene Dunne and
William Powell.





hard - working Crow-

thers (Anne Craw-ford and Jimmy

torian age musical evening-with Fredric March in " Another Part of the Forest," in which he is accompanied by Whit Bissell and Don Beddoe. Ann Blyth is Fredric March's daughter.

Hanley as her son)—a scene from "The Master of Bankdam." Hardy Family films in the series, and though they have been primarily concerned with the growing pains of son and heir Andy Hardy, as he struggled painfully through adolescence, nothing that happened to him was without its effect on the rest of the family-which is one of the truest comments on family life. We have come to know and love the Hardys, and throughout the series the characters have been played by the same cast so that the players have become identified with their roles. To many of us, Lewis Stone is the shrewd, kindly Judge Hardy, Fay Holden is cheerful, imperturbable "mom," Sara Haden is Aunt Milly and though Andy's sister has not appeared so regularly as

the other members of the family, we all think of Cecilia Parker when she is mentioned.

The Hardy Family, by the way, originated in 1937, but it was the filming of Eugene O'Neill's play, "Ah, Wilderness" that started it. M.-G.-M. wanted another family picture on the same lines, and A Family Affair, taken from Aurania Rouverol's play, "Skidding," put the imaginary town of Carvel on the map and the Hardy home has been a permanent fixture in the studio ever since. The sets, apart from some freshening up, have not been changed since they were first used.

The success of the Hardy Family's first film has had its counterpart more recently in





England. It was in *Holiday Camp* that we met the Huggett Family. And though they shared the screen with various other holiday makers, they made such an impression that Gainsborough plan a series of Huggett Family films, starting with *Wedding Bells*. Mother and father Huggett are played by Kathleen Harrison and Jack Warner, who took the roles in *Holiday Camp*. Now, however, they are provided with three daughters instead of the son and daughter they had in *Holiday Camp*.

A family that won fame in a novel and on the stage before being brought to the screen is one in complete contrast to the sturdy, commonsense Huggetts—the Sanger Family of "The Constant Nymph," the household that won itself the nickname of "Sanger's Circus." Its Bohemian, shiftless, carefree home, where music dominated and convention was unknown, has been three times filmed—twice over here, and once in Hollywood.

The variety of homes and families that have been seen on the screen is wide, and embraces every aspect of family life—we've seen homes in London's suburbs, in the fashionable West End, in the rowdy East End, home in the plantations of America's South, home in a Brooklyn tenement, home in a Tyneside slum. And as for the families, it's the unexpected event that makes the majority of films about home life so entertaining.

Hollywood's most famous family gets together for lunch—Fay Holden, Mickey Rooney, Sara Haden, Lewis Stone and Cecilia Parker in "Andy Hardy's Double Life." This was the film, by the way, which introduced Esther Williams to picturegoers.

Right: Mary Phillips and Edward Arnold were the long-suffering parents of Joan Caulfield and Mona Freeman in "Dear Ruth."





In Sitting Pretty, the trouble is caused by an answer to an advertisement. Harassed young mothers with no domestic help have a natural yearning for an occasional evening off. Children cannot be left alone—and so the "sitter" has come into being—someone who will "sit in" while mother is out. Sitting Pretty concerns the engagement of a resident "sitter" by a young couple for their three young children, unaware that the sitter is a gentleman. And though they don't like keeping him, they cannot afford to get rid of him, with embarrassing and amusing results.

Stranger dramatic fare is provided by Another Part of the Forest, a story set in the eighteen-eighties in Alabama. It presents a picture of a family divided against itself.

It presents a picture of a family divided against itself.

Adapted from "The Crowthers of Bankdam," the film,

Master of Bankdam, gave a vivid picture of the continuity
of home and family life—it started in 1854, and presented
three generations of the family, who lived in Yorkshire.

New York of the eighteen-eighties is the setting for Life with Father, a story of family life, showing the head of the house as a benevolent tyrant.

All My Sons, a post-war drama, pictures the aftermath of

war in a home that is troubled by two problems.

A home and a family — maddening, frustrating, irritating as they can be, yet they are the true riches of a man's life, and even when he resents the demands they make on him, he knows that life without them would

be empty.

Right: The Huggetts are photographed here with Ken Annahin, the director of their film destinies in "Wedding Bells."



Mady Christians, Howard Duff, Burt Lancaster, Louisa Horton and Edward G. Robinson in "All My Sons."





# "BOGIE" AND HIS "BABY"

SHE calls him "Bogie." He calls him "Bogie."
He calls her
"Baby," "Charley," or
"Slim"—the role she
played in To Have and
Have Not, the first film
in which Lauren Bacall and Humphrey Bogart appeared together. It was when they were acting in this film that rumours of wedding bells began. Humphrey made no secret of the fact that he hoped to marry his co-star, but although Lauren con-fessed to being in love, she would not reveal who it was. Conjecture, however, finished on May 21st, 1945, for on that day they were married at Louis Bromfield's Ohio farm. Lauren was quite determined that if her career interfered with her marriage it would be her career that she would sacrifice, but evidently she has found that she can combine the two successfully, for she has remained on the screen. Her second film was Confidential Agent, then came another two films with her husband, The Big Sleep and Dark Passage. One thing that Lauren and Humphrey have in common is their love of boats, and they are supremely h a p p y when they can find the time to slip away and sail their yacht.

Lauren, who was born in New York City on September 16th, 1924, has a low throaty voice, which is very fascinating. Her blonde hair has a tawny glint, and her eyes are grey-green. She is fairly tall—5 feet 6½ inches. She doesn't diet, and has no mysterious beauty secrets.

Humphrey Bogart was also born in New York City—it was on December 25th, 1900. Despite the fact that his birthday falls on Christmas Day, he demands birthday presents as well as Christmas presents! Dark-haired and brown-eyed, he is 5 feet rol inches in height. He likes to sketch and paint, and is very interested in music.



WHEN you have the talents of an actor as good as Spencer Tracy, who has won the reputation of never giving a poor performance, combined with the talents of Katharine Hepburn, who is always vivid and vital, you can be sure that the result is bound to be stimulating. So far Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn have co-starred in five films, their first being Woman of the Year, which we saw in 1942, their latest The World and his Wife, an adaptation of the Lindsay-Crouse play "State of the Union." Here they are in scenes from their quintet of successes.

Top right: As husband and wife in their latest film, "The World and his Wife," in which politics and romantic complications provided by Angela Lansbury and Van Johnson make their marriage hazardous.

Their fourth film, "Sea of Grass," made them husband and wife again.

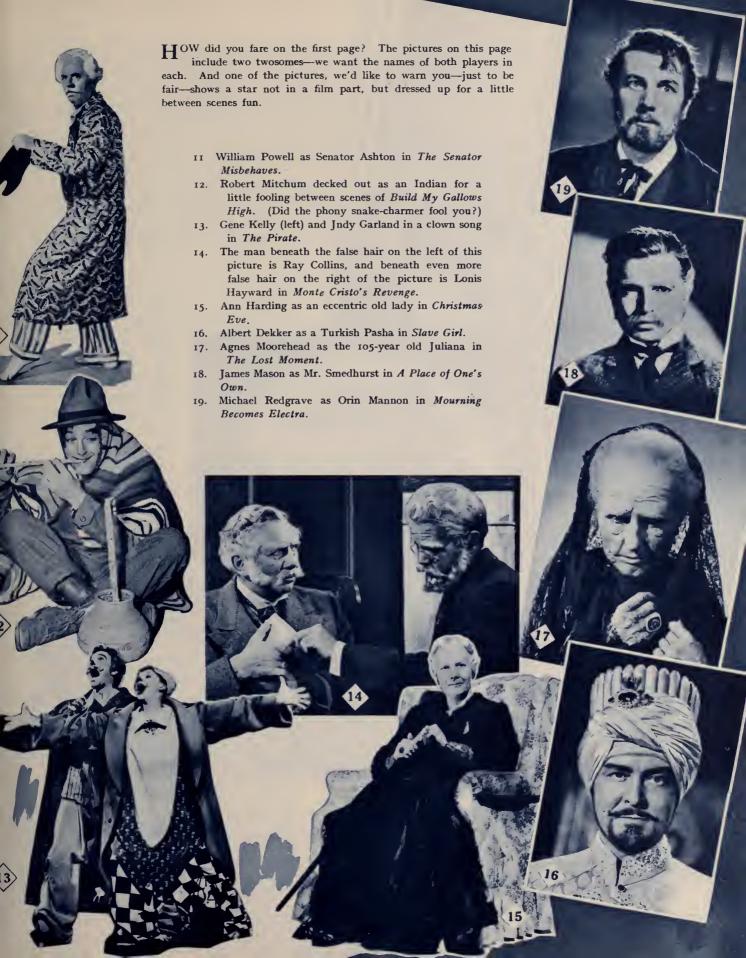
Right: In
"Without
Love," Spencer
Tracy was an
inventor,
Katharine Hepburn a scientist's daughter.





"Keeper of the Flame"—Spencer Tracy was a reporter, and Katharine Hepburn a widow he suspected of murder.







### A DETERMINED YOUNG MAN

A STUDY in contradictions—that is Tom Drake. He says that he is lazy and that he chose to be an actor because he would be able to sleep late in the mornings, but when he is working on a film he is up at six every morning! Even his appearance is deceptive; despite his soft voice and shy manner he is very determined and believes in going after what he wants. When he had once decided that he wanted to be an actor nothing would deter him, even after his initial experience in a stock company at the age of eighteen, when he could not get further engagements and had to sell piece by piece the furniture left him by his father. It was in the stage play "Janie" that he eventually got his break, and it was then that Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer became interested in him and he made his screen debut in Two Girls and a Sailor. Later films of his include The Green Years, The Beginning or the End, I'll be Yours, Alias a Gentleman.

Six feet tall with blond hair and brown eyes, Tom is an expert swimmer and horseman. He likes music and reading.

#### THE VELVET VOICE

LEO GENN, the British actor, was chosen by Rosalind Russell to co-star with her in two films, Mourning Becomes Electra and The Velvet Touch, because she liked his voice on the telephone. He was appearing in a Broadway play when the telephone conversation was arranged by the man who was to direct Mourning Becomes Electra.

Leo, who was born in London, studied for a law career and practised as a barrister for four years before becoming an actor. He played on the London stage, in British films, and did broadcasting work before going to America. He is an inveterate pipe smoker, likes playing chess and telling stories of the shaggydog variety. In 1933 he married Margaret Bonnar, casting director at Ealing studios.



when she was three years old, but when at the age of eight she was sent to a school in Paris she realised that she

Costa Rica and Gentleman's Agreement.

She is married to Schuyler Dunning, whom she met at a party in Paris given by Beatrice Lillie on V-J Day. Her films are Three Little Girls in Blue, Carnival in

would like to be an actress.





#### DANNY the DYNAMO

THE maddest and merriest of the crazy gang of comedians on the screen is Danny Kaye. Six feet tall, slender, well built, with a pair of penetrating blue eyes, ginger golden hair, he's a dynamo of human energy and a demon for work. For six weeks at the London Palladium he packed the place to capacity and caused a minor black market in tickets. Yet when in the late nineteen-thirties he had appeared at the Dorchester, in London, singing his now famous version of "Dinah," nobody asked him to stay. It wasn't until Moss Hart wrote him a special part in the Gertrude Lawrence stage show, "Lady in the Dark" that he really "arrived."

In 1943, he went to Hollywood, and rang

In 1943, he went to Hollywood, and rang the bell in his first film *Up in Arms*. This he has followed with *Wonder Man*, The Kid from Brooklyn, The Secret Life of Walter Mitty and A Song is Born.

Born David Kuminsky in New York's East End—Brooklyn—on January 18th, 1913, the son of a dress designer, he was educated at local schools, and began his career in an insurance office. Before it had really begun he left and became the official entertainer at holiday camps. A tour of Japan in 1934 gave him his present style of comedy—the audience couldn't understand a word he was saying, so to help them he used pantomime, with a Japanese word thrown in here and there.

#### GOLDEN GIRL

BETTY GRABLE was born with a crown of golden curls and a silver spoon in her mouth, and as if this were not enough, she was a chubby, cheerful baby, who was destined to develop curves that were to become world famous. Although her father was prosperous enough to keep his pretty daughter in comfort all her life, she wanted to dance, and at seven she was already broadcasting and appearing on the local variety stage. In 1937 the family went to California for a holiday—only part of it returned, for Betty and her mother had been entranced by Hollywood and its glittering opportunities.

For three years she studied dancing. Then she began her screen career by adding two years to her age (to overcome the child labour laws) and accepting a year's contract. It was a start—but it took her nine years to reach stardom in *Down Argentina Way*. After that Betty, with her peaches and cream complexion, blue eyes and golden hair, a Technicolor cameraman's dream, to add to the

other attributes already duly recorded by black and white photography, jumped the last few rungs of the success ladder.

In 1943 she married band-leader trumpeter Harry James and is the mother of two small daughters, Victoria, born in 1944, and Jessica, born in 1947.





DO you remember the homely, wholesome film of American family life, in a 1906 setting, Ah, Wilderness, adapted from the Eugene O'Neill play back in 1936? And the tense, tingling drama of Pépé le Moko, the French film of a jewel thief who takes refuge in the Casbah, the native quarter of Algiers, and the relentless, unwearying pursuit of the police inspector? If you did not see the French film, you will undoubtedly recall Algiers, the 1939 Hollywood version of the drama, with Charles Boyer in Jean Gabin's role as Pépé le Moko.

This year has seen new versions of these two popular films—both have been produced as musicals. The third version of Pépé le Moko has been given a third title—Casbah. And you can see the musical version of Ah, Wilderness under the title of Summer Holiday. Micky Rooney, who plays the part of Richard Miller in the new film, by the way, played the part of his younger brother, Tommy Miller (now taken by Butch Jenkins) in the original version. Fifteen songs were specially written for the film.

Left: Spring Byington and Lionel Barrymore as Essie and Nat Miller, Wallace Beery as Uncle Sid, Aline MacMahon as Aunt Lily, Bonita Granville as Mildred.

Right: Joseph Calleia as Inspector Slimane, Hedy Lamarr as Gaby, Sigrid Gurie as Inez and Charles Boyer as Pépé le Moko.







## TOGETHER AGAIN

RENCH Charles Boyer and Swedish Ingrid Bergman co-star for the first time since 1944, when they made The Murder in Thornton Square, in the film version of Erich Maria Remarque's novel, "Arch of Triumph," which has been translated into twenty-two languages.

It is a tempestuous, tragic love story which starts in Paris in 1938 and continues through the grim, eventful days before the Nazis invaded Poland. Charles Boyer portrays Ravic, an Austrian refugee surgeon, who is torn between two desires—revenge on the Gestapo man who tortured him in a concentration camp and was responsible for the death of many of his friends, and love for a singer to whom he can offer nothing but the uncertain life of a fugitive. Their love is overshadowed by the tragedy of the times in which they live, and though eventually Ravic kills the man he hates, it costs him the girl he loves.



### VARIETY is the SPICE

A LTHOUGH film producers are inclined to follow a big success with many imitations or variations, so that we have had cycles of song-and-dance pictures, gangster melodramas, costume romances, musical comedies, medical dramas, psychological studies, and so on, British film-makers have earned a salute for the diversity of subject they have chosen to provide us with our entertainment.

The half dozen films illustrated here were picked to indicate the wide field that is covered, ranging from the realistic Broken Journey, based on the actual rescue of those involved in a Dakota aeroplane crash in the Alps in 1946, to the imaginative, gripping short story written a hundred years ago by the Russian author, Alexander Pushkin, "The Queen of Spades."

Broken Journey was the story of thirteen men and women in a Dakota aircraft which makes a crash-landing on a glacier slope in the French Alps, and their varied reactions to the hardships of cold, loneliness and hunger, and the possibility of death. Playing leading romantic roles as the air hostess in love with a memory and the pilot in love with her, were Phyllis Calvert and James Donald, the latter a promising young actor, who made a hit on the West End stage in "The Eagle has Two Heads." Both Phyllis Calvert and Margot Grahame, who played the role of a spoilt film star, had returned from Hollywood just before the film was made. Phyllis Calvert had been there to make Time out of Mind, and Margot Grahame had completed a screen engagement.

Ralph Richardson and Michele Morgan, the French star, appear together on the screen for the first time as butler and typist in a foreign embassy in The Lost Illusion. Their attempts to keep their love a secret from the man's vindictive wife, are accidentally set at naught by the Ambassador's little motherless

Below: Eric Portman, as Sir John Dearing K.C., having been promised vital evidence, calls on Hugh Williams, as Lord Brasted, and Anne Crawford, as Lady Brasted, to receive it, and finds Clive Morton as his lordship's solicitor, with them—a scene from "The Blind Goddess."

Margot Grahame, Guy Rolfe, James Donald and Phyllis Calvert play cards after their aircraft has crashed in the Alps—a scene from "Broken Journey."

Top of page: Michele Morgan, as a typist at a foreign embassy in London, and Sir Ralph Richardson, as the butler, are secret lovers in "The Lost Illusion.'

# of SCREEN FARE

son, who causes even worse confusion when he lies in the belief that he is protecting his friend, the butler,

from suspicion of murdering his wife.

The subject of The Blind Goddess, adapted from the play by Sir Patrick Hastings, K.C., is indicated by the title, which refers, of course, to Justice. It is a story of a libel action, in which a K.C. successfully prosecutes an innocent man. Hugh Williams portrayed the role of Lord Brasted, whose former employee suspects that he has accepted an enormous bribe to acquiesce in the misuse of funds for the Relief of Displaced Persons; Eric Portman played the K.C., and Michael Denison, who scored a hit in My Brother Jonathan, was Derek Waterhouse, the employee against whom his lordship brings a libel action.

As typically English in another way is London

Belongs to Me, adapted from Norman Collins' bestselling novel, a penetrating and fascinating study of London life, revolving round Mr. and Mrs. Josser and their daughter Doris, who live in a lodging-house at Kennington, and the various lodgers who rally to the aid of a young garage mechanic, in love with Doris,

who is accused of murder.

In complete contrast is The Blue Lagoon, H. de Vere Stacpoole's South Sea Island romance of a boy and girl who grow up from childhood on an island without coming into contact with any other human society. To make this film, the company, including the stars, Jean Simmons and newcomer Donald Houston, travelled to the Fiji Islands.

Noose, a melodrama of night club life and crooked business, was adapted from the play by Richard Lewellyn. American stars Joseph Calleia and Carole

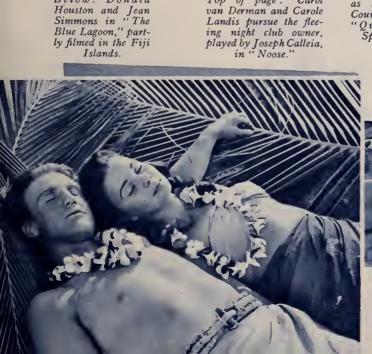
Landis were cast in the leading roles.

If for no other reason, The Queen of Spades would be outstanding entertainment, for it marks the film debut of Dame Edith Evans, famous actress of the English stage, who had hitherto remained resolutely faithful to the theatre. The story, of Tsarist Russian days, concerns a Russian officer who is obsessed by the determination to obtain the secret of winning a fortune at cards from an old Countess, the grandmother of one of his fellow officers. The supporting cast included Ronald Howard, who is fast making a name for himself, and newcomer Yvonne Mitchell.

Picturegoers have no cause to complain of monotony

in their British picture fare.

Below: Donald Houston and Jean Simmons in "The Blue Lagoon," partly filmed in the Fiji Top of page: Carol van Derman and Carole Landis pursue the fleeing night club owner,





Fay Compton as Mrs. Josser, hears that her husband, Wylie Watson, has spent their savings on defence of a young mechanic charged with murder, in "London Belongs to Me."

















Dick plays a first-rate game of bridge, and from the look on June's face, isn't so bad at backgammon, either.

It must be love— June dances on Dick's uppers and he still

## MEET the POWELLS

Their romance began in the studio. Dick, a long-established star, was playing the lead in *Meet the People*, in which June, who was struggling up the ladder of fame, having been in Hollywood only about a year, had a supporting part. Nevertheless, 6-foot blue-eyed Dick and tiny blue-eyed June (she is only one inch over 5 feet) found that they had a good many tastes in common, including riding, swimming, flying, and music. He has a fine collection of musical instruments, and she has an extensive collection of gramophone records—her tastes are chiefly classical. *Meet the People* was in fact a memorable film for them in many ways. For some time Dick had been trying to get out of the musical comedy roles in which he had enjoyed fame for eleven years—and that was the last he made before he took to his new type of role as a "tough guy" in strong drama, in which he neither danced nor sang, nor looked a handsome hero. It was also the last film in which June appeared as a song-and-dance girl, for her succeeding films gave her roles that allowed her to act as well.

Both Dick and June came to the screen from the musical comedy stage. Dick was born in Mountain View, Arkansas, and began his career by singing in the church choir, while June was born in New York, and was still in school when she got herself a job in the chorus of a New York stage show.

The Dick Powells (June always calls him Richard, by the way) are seldom seen at night clubs, and fly to the desert for week-ends.





## A CROONING BANDIT AND HIS SINGING LADY

KATHRYN GRAYSON and Frank Sinatra are co-starred for the third time in *The Kissing Bandit*, a musical romance in Technicolor, set in Old California.

Frank Sinatra plays a dashing, bold bandit, who disguises himself (rather thinly we feel) as a tax collector, and woos and wins the Governor's daughter.

## FRESH LAURELS

WITH the 1947 Academy Award for the best actor going to Ronald Colman, the award for the best actress going to Loretta Young, and the award for the best supporting player to Edmund Gwenn, it has drawn attention to the famine in young talent that has been afflicting Hollywood. The war, no doubt, is partly responsible for this

Tyrone Power is one who comes to mind at once as a "young old veteran." He returned to the screen, after three years' war service, in The Razor's Edge; and Captain from Castile, the Technicolor version of the novel by Samuel Shellabarger, is the second of his post-war films. He has the romantic role of Pedro de Vargas, the son of an aristocratic family hunted by the Inquisition, who shares with a barefoot peasant girl an enduring love, which sustains them in braving the hardships and dangers encountered by the army of Hernan Cortez, whose invasion of Mexico in 1521 is its background. Can you believe that it is fifteen years ago since Tyrone Power's name found its way to the cast of Tom Brown of Culver? It was four years later that he leapt to stardom in Lloyd's of London. Completing Captain from Castile, he flew to Europe for a holiday, and returned to tackle his next film, a gay comedy, Leave it to the Irish, after making some location sequences in Italy for the film to follow, The Dark

Ronald Colman won his well-deserved Oscar after a film career that started in England after the 1914-1918 war, in which he had served with the London Scottish. He was born in Richmond, Surrey, in 1891. In 1920 he went to America to appear on the stage there, and was chosen to play opposite Lillian Gish in the silent film "The White Sister." His beautiful speaking voice and stage experience increased his popularity in his first talkie, Bulldog Drummond, which, by the way, introduced Joan

The youngest of the three beautiful daughters of the famous Broadway actor, Richard Bennett, Joan was born in Palisades, New Jersey, in 1910, and since 1929 only one year has passed without us seeing her in a film, although during those years she

Bennett to the screen.

Tyrone Power with newcomer Jean Peters in "Captain from Castile."





same time. Claudette Colbert picked him to be her leading man in *The Gilded Lily*, and his subsequent career showed that she was a good picker. They co-starred, by the way, in one of 1947's brightest comedies, *The Egg and I*. He was born in 1908, began his career as a saxophonist in a band, and was appearing in "Roberta" on Broadway when Paramount talent scouts saw him.

William Demarest, who is seen with him in his latest film, A Miracle Can Happen, made his film bow in 1926 as a character actor, and is still

going strong.

Blue-eyed, golden-haired Joan Blondell came to the screen from the stage. Sinner's Holiday, her first film, was seen here in 1931. Although she originally made a name in musical comedy and romantic comedy roles, she has more recently shown her ability in roles that need real dramatic talent, such as "Nightmare Alley," with Tyrone Power.

The year that introduced us to Joan Blondell also introduced us to a menacing gangster in *The Painted Desert*—Clark Gable, who made his name opposite Norma Shearer as a "hero with menace" in *A Free Soul*. He has starred in over forty films since then, winning the 1934 Academy

Award together with his co-star Claudette Colbert for their romantic comedy portrayals in It Happened One Night. His role as Rhett Butler in Gone With the Wind is still one of his most memorable. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he returned to his screen career in Adventure and The Hucksters, in which Deborah Kerr made her Hollywood debut. He was born in 1901.

Edmund Gwenn won his Academy Award in 1947 at the age of seventy-two, with nearly fifty years of acting behind him, for his part of Kris Kringle in *The Big Heart*. He began his talkie career in British films in 1931, some six years before John Payne (the romantic lead in *The Big Heart*) began in Hollywood.

Don Ameche, born in 1910, was first seen on the screen in 1936 in Sins of Man. Originally intended as a lawyer, he turned to the stage while still at college, and was broadcasting when he was offered a film contract.

After a successful career in musical comedies, in his two latest films, A Genius in the Family and Will To-morrow Ever Come, he has played dramatic roles.

It is fifteen years since Merle Oberon made her bow in Wedding Rehearsal, and it was not until the war came that she began her Hollywood career. Her best known films include A Song to Remember, and her latest is Night Song, with Dana Andrews.



Left: Merle Oberon in the garden of her Hollywood home.





in the U.S. Navy during the war. Christmas Eve, and Intrigue. Henry Fonda has won great praise recently for
his work in "Daisy
Kenyon," in which he is seen above with Joan
Crawford, and as the priest in "The Fugitive,"

Henry Fonda, seen opposite Joan Crawford in Daisy Kenyon, began his career on the screen in 1935, and rapidly won a reputation for the sincerity and understanding of his portrayals. Born in 1905 in Nebraska, he came to the screen in the role he had been playing on the stage when The Farmer Takes a Wife was filmed. He served

Sylvia Sidney came to the screen from the New York stage when films began to speak, and she has alternated stage and screen work. Born in 1910 in New York City, she was only twelve when she began her theatrical career. In her latest film, Love From a Stranger, she takes the role played by Ann Harding in the 1937 version, with John Hodiak, as the sinister husband, stepping into Basil Rathbone's

Talkies lured George Raft from his career as a professional dancer. In 1932, Scarface, the gangster film starring Paul Muni, gave him a tremendous boost to stardom, and he has been playing more or less menacing roles ever since, his most recent being Mr. Ace, Nocturne,

They've won many laurels in the past-and they're still winning

them

British film awards this year went to Margaret Lockwood, whose first film, Lorna Doone, was made in 1935, Anna Neagle, who made her bow in 1931 in Should a Doctor Tell? and John Mills, who had his first film role in The Midshipmaid, in 1933. These stars have all been well known and loved for many years. It is probable that the war prevented younger stars being developed, but maybe picture-goers aren't so fickle in their fancy as producers have supposed, and remain faithful to their old loves.

with Dolores Del Rio. Both Joan and Dolores were stars of the silent screen, but Dolores Del Rio makes only rare film appearances now.

Below: Sylvia Sidney with John Hodiak and John Howard in "Love from a Stranger."



George Raft with blonde June Havoc and brunette Helena Carter in " Intrigue."





















## A Star with an Island in the Caribbean Sea

THE sea and adventure are in Errol Flynn's blood. He is a direct descendant of the Fletcher Christian who led the famous mutiny on the "Bounty" against Captain Bligh, and perhaps the salty tang of that eighteenth century sailor is still in the family veins. If it hadn't been for his love of sea and adventure, Errol Flynn would not have become an actor, for he was pearl-fishing in Tahiti when an English film company arrived to make a film of the "Bounty" story and Errol took the part of his famous ancestor. (This part, you will remember, was played by Clark Gable in the later Hollywood film starring Charles Laughton as Captain Bligh.) Some years later, in England, he turned to acting again—and was promptly given a Hollywood contract.

Since 1935, he has been continuously under contract to Warner Bros., but he has retained his independence of spirit and action. Although he has never made any secret of the fact that to him acting is just a means of earning money, he works hard and intelligently at his films when he is making them. When he is not, he plays equally hard and intelligently. He hates grumblers, has a great sense of humour, an infectious chuckle, is generous, restless, honest. In 1946, he achieved an ambition and bought an island of his own—Navy Island, in the West Indies, near Jamaica, complete with mansion, gardens, fresh water springs, and beaches. Here he sails his yacht, the Zaca, and enjoys fishing, swimming, solitude and freedom.

















difficulties are adding to those old hatreds and suspicions. For if one thing is more certain than anything else, it is that no matter who wins a war, victors and vanquished alike suffer for it.

During the past ten years, the way of lite of millions has been changed. Millions are striving desperately to regain the old way of life; millions more are striving for a new way of life; and millions are striving to adjust themselves to to-day's social ferment that is war's aftermath. Poverty, famine, distress and restlessness loom over the entire world; old values are replaced by new; tradition flung overboard.

If we choose our films, we can get a very fair picture of the world that we knew—and know now. The last few years have been full of tragedy and drama, and one of the most poignant, dramatic and humorous situations is that of the soldier returning to a familiar yet terrifyingly strange world—not only the greater world, but his own little personal world.

world, but his own little personal world.

The Best Years of Our Lives is one of the finest examples of this type of film. Here we have the stories of three men, flung together in the last minutes of their war service—an Army Air Force captain, with two rows of ribbons and a lifetime's experience of death and destruction crammed into four years; a sergeant who is returning to his secure, safe life as a banker; a young sailor who wears two hooks in place of his hands, which have been shot

away. Their problems are different, although fundamentally they are variations on the same theme, their adjustment to peace and civilian life. They are strangers in their own homes—the captain goes home to the slums he has grown out of, to try to make a success of a hasty wartime marriage to a mercenary blonde; the sailor faces the problem of deciding whether the girl he left behind him now feels pity instead of love for him, and if it is love, whether he is right in expecting her to go through life tied to a cripple; and the banker goes back to two children who have grown up while he has been away, and is sustained by his loyal and loving wife as he tries to reconcile banking with the humanitarian understanding of the men who come to him for loans, unable to offer as security anything but their own will to work, their skill, hands and brains—the things they had offered to their country to defend what they now want to build-their children's future. The airman, determined

Greer Garson and Ronald Colman in "Random Harvest." Charles Coburn and Jean Arthur in "The More the Merrier."



not to go back to his pre-war job as soda-fountain attendant, finds disillusionment all round, but fights

The aftermath of wartime separation of husband and wife has been a popular theme, offering as it does so many opportunities for variation. the most entertaining of these was Perfect Strangers, in which a city clerk and his wife-a dull and placid pair-join the Royal Navy, and after three years of separation, have such depressing memories of each other that each seeks a divorce, only to find, upon meeting, there has been an exhilarating change.

The Years Between dealt with a man's return

after his supposed death to find that his wife is occupying his seat in the House of Commons, is on the verge of marrying again, and is not at all inclined to give up her successful career to become a wife and home-maker. Michael Redgrave and Valerie Hobson played these parts with delicacy and

Desire Me was yet another version of the postwar problems-here once again a wife supposes herself to be a widow, but the stranger who brings the news of her husband's death in a prison camp plots to win her love and her husband's identity, a scheme that is complicated when the husband escapes and unexpectedly returns home.

The Unfaithful depicted a problem all too common



Robert Mitchum,

Greer Garson and





of the Coal Board so that his daughter could help Charles Boyer to incite the miners to riot by telling them that the coal will be used to kill people like themselves, and certainly he would be unable to make effective a quick decision to cancel such a bloodstained contract. It would undoubtedly need

weeks of discussion and negotiation.

Of war and its assorted problems the screen gave us many examples. It dealt with evacuees, rationing, standing was *This Above All*, from Eric Knight's novel. It was the story of a Dunkirk hero, sickened by the shattering of the world's ideals and traditions, who tried to run away from the ugliness, and of the girl who restored his belief in the ideals for which we were fighting and made him realise his responsibility to his country's ideals, which must at such a time override his own small personal ideals. It was tenderly and beautifully acted by Tyrone Power and Joan Fontaine.

A deserter was also the hero of Waterloo Road, driven to it by anxiety about his young wife, who is living with his mother and father and flirting with an amusement arcade king. And this touched on another problem that was amusingly treated in The More the Merrier (and still is one of the big headaches to-day), the housing shortage. Although war-crowded Washington may have little in common with our towns and villages to-day, you may recollect with delight the troubles that beset Jean Arthur, Charles Coburn, and Joel McCrea as they tried to adjust themselves to a timetable in order to make the most of the amenities of one very small flat, while Charles Coburn, against great odds, struggled to do a little matchmaking as well.

Frieda told the story of a German bride who braved the hostility of the local people when her English husband, an R.A.F. officer, brought her home, until in desperation she tried to commit suicide. Hostility to foreigners-German brides or not-is only too common, and many an unhappy sequel to a wartime wedding has ended in divorce

In circle: Michael Redgrave and Valerie Hobson in "The Years Between!

Thomas Mitchell, Tyrone Power and Joan Fontaine in "This Above All."









With Laird Cregar as the persistent detective in "This Gun for Hire."

Below: In "The Blue Dahlia."

IT was in 1942 that we first saw them, a slim, blonde girl and a youthful, handsome murderer in This Gun for Hire. This tough, terse and attractive team has since appeared in several films—all with violence as a background, against which their impassive, laconic style of acting is startingly etched. Veronica Lake made her name as the star with the "peek-a-boo" bob. Her real name is Constance

the "peek-a-boo" bob. Her real name is Constance Keane, and she was born on November 14th, 1919. Alan Ladd was born in Arkansas on September 3rd,

With Howard
Da Silva in
"Duffy's
Tavern," u





With Brian Donlevy in "The Glass Key."

Below: With Douglas Dick and Wally Cassell in "Saigon."























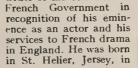
and his screen son, Michael Wilding.

Father," his first American film. Right: A recent portrait of Sir Aubrey Smith.

WICE a year, in the New Year and Birthday Honours Lists, the men and women who have made an outstanding contribution in their own field of endeavour are rewarded by their country-and all the names in those lists are personally approved by His Majesty, the King. The honours are not pecuniary reward nor profitable positions—they are badges of honour, symbols of achievement. Divided into military and civil lists, these awards entitle their proud possessor to use after his name the letters indicating his award—O.B.E., C.B.E., K.C.B., K.C.G., and so on. Higher honours are those which transform an ordinary "mister" into a man of title—a knight, baronet, baron or earl.

These high honours are not freely given, and whether they are for scientific, artistic, literary, industrial, social or political work, they are invariably the result of hard

work, even if that work is not always all that it appears. Sign that the British film industry is assuming real importance in the life of the nation is the fact that it can now point to a small handful of men who have been honoured by the King for their contribution to the world of entertainment—both producers and actors. The men are those you see on these pages. The oldest knighthood among them is Sir Seymour Hicks', Knighted by King George V in 1935, he really received the honour for his stage work, but had by then appeared in some half-dozen films, so that a pale reflection of his glory shone in the British film studios. He has been one of the best loved stars of the stage for many years, and with his wife, Ellaline Terriss, made a team that was known throughout the Empire and in America as well. It was a reward of close on fifty years' connection with the theatrical profession, for he began in a walking-on part in Islington in 1887. During the years that have elapsed since then, he has had a finger in almost every department of the theatre, and in 1931 he received the Order of the Chevalier of the Legion of Honour from the









"Lady Hamilton.



It was Nelson, in which he played the title role. His next was a talkie, Dreyfus, which he made in 1930. Among his best known films are Jew Suss, Becky Sharp (his first Hollywood film, which you may remember, was the first full length film to be photographed in Technicolor), Stanley and Livingstone, On Borrowed Time, Beware of Pity, for which he returned to England after six years in America, and his latest, Nicholas Nickleby, Ivy, Personal Column, and Mortal Coils.

In 1947 Both Ralph Richardson and Laurence Olivier were knighted. Ralph Richardson was born of Quaker parentage in Cheltenham in 1902, and his father, a landscape painter, sent his son to study art at a school in Brighton. Ralph, however, already had a leaning towards the stage, and at a little theatre in Brighton, talked himself into a scene-painter's job, rising through "props," mechanic and electrician to a walking on part, and finally leading actor. In 1932 he began his screen career. The Ghoul was his first film. The war found him a

lieutenant-commander in the Fleet Air Arm, but he made three films during that time, The Lion has Wings, The Silver Fleet, and School for Secrets. He made a most welcome post-war return to the screen in Anna Karenina. He followed

this with The Lost Illusion.

Laurence Olivier, like Ralph Richardson, is closely connected with the Old Vic Company. The son of a clergyman, he was born in Dorking, Surrey, in 1907. He studied for the stage and made his bow at the Shakespeare Festival Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, in 1922. He went to Germany to appear in his first talkie, The Temporary Widow. Three British-made films followed, then came his Hollywood debut in Friends and Lovers. The clouds of war were already hanging low over us when he and Ralph Richardson appeared in two films together—The Divorce of Lady X and Q Planes. He was in America when war broke out, and returned to this country to follow Ralph Richardson into the Fleet Air Arm. During his years of service he was temporarily released for two films, 49th Parellel and

his years of service he was temporarily released for two films, 49th Parellel and

The Demi-Paradise. His first post-war film was the sensational and courageous Henry V and he has followed it with his production of Hamlet.

The other two knights of the screen you see here are producers—and

both are practical dreamers.

Alexander Korda, Hungarian-born, worked in the studios of four Continental capitals, then in 1930 came to England, and following the success of his first film here, Service for Ladies, founded London Film Productions. Many fine pictures have been his product including the latest version of Anna Karenina, and Bonnie Prince Charlie. He was knighted in 1942.

Sir Michael Balcon, born in Birmingham, has been associated with British films over a quarter of a century. Ealing Studios, whose destiny he guides, have given us such outstanding productions as





Sir Seymour Hicks. In circle: With Carla

Lehmann in "Fame is the Spur." Below: With Edmond Breon and

Margot Grahame in

"The Love Habit."

Sir Michael Balcon, on the set of "Scott of the Antarctic," talks to a recent "discovery," James Robertson Justice, who scored a hit in "Vice Versa" and "Against the Wind."



## LAUGHING LOVE

GREGORY PECK and ANN TODD as husband and wife in *The Paradine Case*, the new film version of Robert Hichens' novel. It is a strong drama of a famous lawyer who falls in love with the woman he is defending on a charge of poisoning her husband, although he knows her reputation as a wanton before her marriage. He sets out to prove her innocence by proving a manservant's guilt, but the woman, without explanation, opposes this line of defence. He persists—and when the manservant

commits suicide, the woman confesses her guilt. As the K.C. Gregory Peck has yet another chance to prove his versatility, already shown us in his roles as the missionary in Keys of the Kingdom, the wild young Texan in Duel in the Sun, and the toiling Florida farmer in The Yearling. Ann Todd went to Hollywood to play the part of the loyal wife, after scoring over here in The Seventh Veil and Daybreak.



## Britain's Most Popular Romantic Team-

By popular vote and box-office takings, film-goers have shown that the romantic screen team of Anna Neagle and Michael Wilding has captured their imaginations and won their hearts. It all started with Piccadilly Incident. This film, if you remember, was the story of a meeting in an air raid, love and trouble for the lovers growing out of it. All the world loves a lover, and if there's anything they love more, it's lovers in trouble—possibly because it is nice to help them out of it. Anyway, tall, blue-eyed Michael Wilding wooed and won not only tiny, golden-haired Anna Neagle, but the great British public as well. And Anna was the girl they liked him to woo and win.

The success of that film brought Michael Wilding a

ANNA NEAGLE

contract, and since then Anna Neagle and he have costarred in *The Courtneys of Curzon Street* and *Spring in Park Lane*, in which the romantic troubles took place in an atmosphere of gay comedy and the luxurious background of London society.

Anna Neagle and Michael Wilding have one thing in common. Fame did not come easily to them. They have both worked hard for it. Anna Neagle was born Marjorie Robertson in London, and her first steps on the road to fame were dancing steps. She taught ballroom dancing, danced in cabarets, and then became leading lady to Jack Buchanan in Stand up and Sing—for the first time using the name she has since made famous. The show was still running when Herbert Wilcox was preparing to film Good-night Vienna, in which Jack Buchanan was to star. He went along to discuss the

question of a leading lady—saw Anna Neagle in the show, and that not only settled the leading lady question, but started Anna on her new career as a film star. The Little Damozel, Bitter Sweet, Nell Gwyn, Peg of Old Drury, Limelight, Victoria the Great, and Sixty Glorious Years—they have all lifted her steadily to her present pinnacle of popularity. She has played many roles, and there is one quality which is apparent in all of them—sincerity.



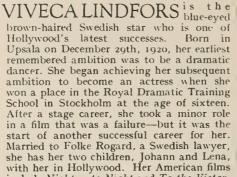
















## JOHN LUND

tall, fair and handsome, made a hit in his debut screen role in To Each His Own, after a resounding success in "The Hasty Heart" on the New York stage. He has since been in Variety Girl, The Perils of Pauline, A Foreign Affair.

He began acting only in 1940 with an amateur society. Born in Rochester, New York, on February 6th, 1913, he is of Norwegian and Irish-American extraction.

## KIRK DOUGLAS

was born in 1916 in Amsterdam, New York, of Russian parents, and school shows gave him the desire to act professionally. He worked at odd jobs during his dramatic training, and was carving a successful Broadway care er when he was given a film contract. The Strange Love of Martha Ivers was his first film, and he has since been in Build My Gallows High and I Walk Alone, the lapse of time after his first film being accounted for by his service in the U.S. Navy.

















## Domesticated Siren

B LONDE, tall and graceful Greta Gynt was born little, chubby and brunette Greta Woxholt, in Oslo. She came to England at the age of three with her parents, stayed until she was sixteen, returning to Norway to begin her stage and film career there. In 1936, however, she was back, to appear by special request as leading dancer in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," at the Open Air Theatre in London's Regent's Park. Shortly afterwards came her film debut in Second Best Bed. She was then still a brunette, but on finding that she was becoming typed as a vamp or beautiful spy, and foreseeing little future in it, she dyed her hair blonde—and blonde she has remained ever since.

Off the screen she is as gay and charming and lovely as she is on, but her sophistication is only screen-deep. She is domesticated, and runs her lovely little London flat overlooking Hyde Park with only a char's help. Here you will see her collection of Swedish glass, and here she likes to cook the Norwegian dishes in which she specialises, and which are heartily appreciated by her friends. For breakfast she drinks anything up to six cups of coffee, but she has nothing to eat. Eating, in fact, she considers, should be done when you're hungry,

and not because the clock says that it is a certain hour of the day.

As all those who have seen her know, she has a flair for clothes. She has a perfect figure, and realises the importance of dress on the screen. She hates bright colour in her own private wardrobe, and her clothes are in her favourite pastel shades, black or grey. She likes tailored suits or slick, sophisticated evening gowns. This flair for clothes, by the way, is inherited. Her mother was trained as a dress and set designer under Reinhardt, the famous stage producer. Greta has inherited her gift of choosing exquisite and unusual clothes, and says that if her original choice of a career had not been successful, she would have been a dress designer.

Among her best known films, all of which have been made in this country, are The Common Touch, It's That Man Again, To-morrow We Live, Mr. Emmanuel, the film version of Louis Golding's novel, in which she played the role of Elsie Silver, London Town, the Technicolor revue starring Sid Field, Take My Life, Dear Murderer, Easy Money, The Calendar, Mr. Perrin and Mr. Traill.

















## No Conventional Hero

BURGESS MEREDITH is no conventional hero. He's neither tall, dark, nor very handsome, but he has a rare sincerity, intense quietness, vitality and intelligence. He is slender, lively and sensitive, with a shock of thick brown hair, keen blue eyes, and an impish smile that lights up his whole face.

As a child he had a beautiful soprano voice and sang as a choirboy, which may partly account for his control

of his speaking voice.

He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, son of a clergyman, and confesses to his inability to make a living at any of the jobs he first tried, starting as a newspaper reporter and working through a selection that included partner in a haberdashery business with his brother, a seller successively of ties, vacuum-cleaners and roofing material, Wall Street runner, and finally sailor in a cargo ship. It was after a trip to South America that he knew what he really wanted to do—and that was to act. Trying to persuade theatrical managers to let him do it however, was so unrewarding that he resorted to cunning.

friend lied unblushingly on his behalf, and his tale of Burgess Meredith's dramatic achievements won him a job as apprentice actor (unpaid) in Eva Le Gallienne's Civic Repertory company. Two seasons later, in 1939, he got himself a paid job and he has been getting better and better paid during the ensuing years. He came to the screen in Winterset, playing the role that had lifted audiences to their feet when he had appeared in it on the New York stage—the role that made him. His films since then have included Of Mice and Men, Second Chorus, Magnificent Doll.

He has never given his heart entirely to the screen, for he still prefers stage work, but he has given us some really fine performances, and one of his best was in his British film, Mine Own Executioner, as the psychiatrist who was himself in something of a mental maze. When he was not working, over here, he spent his spare time wandering round antique shops and salerooms, for he converted his interest in antiques into a business affair about three years ago, and opened an antique shop in

the little American town where he lives.



Tran greenwood









# CROWN

Tudor, Stuart, Hanoverian the Kings and Queens of England have reigned again on the screen.

courtiers, the Earl of Essex, promising him that if he ever needed her help, he had only to return the ring with his request, and she would grant it. The Earl of Essex did require her help, when he was in prison awaiting death. The sentence was for treason.

Through treachery or carelessness, the ring which the Earl had sent with a last minute plea for help, did not reach the Queen until too late. Elizabeth's cry, when she learnt the truth, "May God forgive you, for I never can," has been handed down through the years.

#### Varied Stories of Elizabeth

THE newsreels of to-day will be a great help to future historians who aim to give a true picture of our present King and Queen, for the stories that surround the monarchs of the past have been very varied.

In The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex made by Warner Bros., Bette Davis is pictured as an imperious jealous queen, and Errol Flynn as the Earl of Essex, an equally imperious lover. During one of their quarrels the Queen orders his arrest for treason for which he is to be executed. At the last minute she relents and offers to pardon him if he will share her throne with her, but the Earl chooses to keep his pride—and goes to the executioner's block.

Drake of England, a British film, centred on the man who gave the film its title—Sir Francis Drake (Matheson Lang), one of the men who helped Elizabeth, daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, to raise England to the highest rank among the nations. It was he who crushed the sea power of Spain by destroying the Spanish Armada, and who laid the foundation of the British Navy. In this film the role of Queen Elizabeth, who reigned from 1558 to 1603, was superbly acted by Athene Seyler.

Fire Over England, another British film with Flora Robson as Queen Elizabeth, was mainly a fictional romance in which Laurence Olivier was a Lieutenant of the English Admiral, Sir Francis Drake. He wooed and wed one of the Queen's ladies-in-waiting, played by Vivien Leigh. This was the film in which Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh had leading roles and was shown three years before their marriage in 1940.

Right: Lyn Harding as King Henry VIII in "The Pearls of the Crown." He played the same role in an early silent film.

Below: Charles Laughton in "The Private Life of Henry VIII."



Left: A scene at the court of Queen Victoria, in "The Courtneys of Curzon Street," with Anna Neagle and Michael Wilding as the Courtneys.

Desmond Tester as the boy king, Edward VI, with Sir Cedric Hardwicke and Arthur Goullet in "Tudor Rose."





Merle Oberon and Allan Jeayes in "The Scarlet Pimpernel."

And yet another was that of Frank Cellier in Tudor Rose. This film had Desmond Tester as the young Edward VI, son of Henry VIII by Jane Seymour. After the death of Henry VIII the country was at the mercy of ambitious men who plotted to become the power behind the frail little boy King who succeeded to the throne in

It was in this film that Sir Cedric Hardwicke gave a brilliant study of the ambitious Earl of Warwick, and Nova Pilbeam was the ill-fated Lady Jane Grey, who reigned as Queen of England for nine days.

#### Romantic Reign of Charles II

BUT from a romantic point of view perhaps the most popular with writers, playwrights, and film producers of all the Kings of England is Charles II, who reigned from 1630 to 1685.

History has given us many romances but few are so dear to the heart of the British people as the love story of the King and the Orange Girl, Charles II and Nell Gwyn, played by Cedric Hardwicke and Anna Neagle, in the 1935 film, Nell Gwyn.

A similar film was previously made and shown in 1927 when Dorothy Gish, then at the height of her fame, came from America to co-star with Randle Ayrton (Nell Gwyn and Charles II).

The first film in England to be made in colour was entitled The Glorious Adventure, its chief thrill being the historic fire of London. Victor McLaglen was Bullfinch, a convict whom Lady Diana Manners, as Lady Beatrice Fair, married in Newgate Gaol, to escape her debts.

In the episodes of court life in this film, William Luff had the role of Charles II, and the Hon. Lois Sturt had the role of Nell Gwyn.

Penn of Pennsylvania was the story of the Quaker who founded the great American province named after him. Clifford Evans had the role of William Penn, Deborah Kerr, the girl he married; Dennis Arundell was Charles II.

the Archbishop in "Henry V." Cecil Parker as the Prince Regent, self-styled "the first gentle-man of Europe," in "The First Gentleman," adapted from the

successful stage

play.

princess and Felix Aylmer as

Below: Peter Graves as the Prince Regent and Joyce Howard as Mrs. Fitzherbert, whose unhappy love affair was the subject of "Mrs. Fitzherbert."











GOING on location for the making of British pictures is a serious and expensive problem because of our vari-

able climate. And other countries, too, can provide headaches for the Executive Departments of our film productions.

It can rain just as hard on the sunny Riviera, on occasions, as in Manchester! Floods have descended on Morocco; earthquakes have played havoc in Turkey—colourful backgrounds for the makers of pictures.

It is always a gamble, wherever we cast our nets, to capture out-door sequences without heavy financial loss. Of course it is possible to hoodwink the most sophisti-

cated of picturegoers, for film-makers are artful and ingenious! Sets have been successfully built for a remarkable Indian setting on the lot at Pinewood which have deceived the supercritical. I have seen a realistic farmyard on a studio floor, complete with hens — which laid eggs for a grateful unit!

Yet, in spite of all these brilliant attempts at make-believe, there is nothing in the world so effec-

The Archers' camera unit shooting from the bridge into Monte Carlo station. All exteriors for "The Red Shoes" were made in Paris and the South of France. Backgrounds are all important in films. Edith Nepean takes you to other countries with the film-makers,

Home &

tive as the real thing! What a thrill one experiences at the sight of a turbulent sea—the Cornish coast on the screen, or the beauty of an English vale; the ever-fascinating merry-go-round of Piccadilly; the glory of Welsh mountains; the jewelled lakes of Ireland, and the moors of Bonnie Scotland!

There is quite a lot of work to be done before the unit and stars go off on location for a picture. The location is discussed by the Art Director and the Director of the film. When possible, they career around in a car until they find what they want; or a member of the unit whose business is to know about locations, sets forth and later returns and reports on the subject.

as Victoria and Robert Helpmann as
Boleslawsky. A scene from "The
Red Shoes."

Can provide Director, about matching-up the strips of film taken on

Director, about matching-up the strips of film taken on location, with those "shot" in the studio.

Lermontov Ballet, watch the rehearsal

of a pas de deux by Moira Shearer

Production is frequently held up if one day is dull, even if it does not rain and the next day is sunny. The settings must have the same values in light and shade for the continuity—or the result is disastrous.

the continuity—or the result is disastrous.

Sometimes "back projection" is used, such as a mountain scene, a romantic lake, or stormy sea, filmed when on location. A perfect reproduction of the foreground is built for studio sequences in the picture.



and tells you of the trouble taken reconstruct foreign scenes in British studios.

#### To Monte Carlo for "The Red Shoes."

ICHAEL POWELL lucky, as far as weather was concerned, when he took his unit for The Archers film of The Red Shoes-to Monte Carlo on The film features in location. Technicolor a full-length ballet based on the Hans Andersen fairytale of the same title, with Walbrook, Leonide Anton Massine, Marius Goring, and auburn-haired Moira Shearer,

twenty-one-year old ballerina of Sadlers Wells Ballet. Robert Helpmann, Esmond Knight, Albert Basserman and Ludmilla Tcherina, of the Monte Carlo Ballet, are also in the cast.

Carrying camera

equipment up Swiss mountain slopes for "Scott

of the Antarctic."

Exterior "shots" were filmed in Paris, Monte Carlo and London, the interiors at Pinewood, Bucks.

In one sequence, Moira Shearer commits suicide by throwing herself from the famous Terrace at Monte Carlo, which is one of the most romantic in the world, standing above the blue waters of the Mediterranean, and with the burnished sun-burnt rocks of Monaco encircling the harbour. A box was built below the terrace, into which Moira Shearer, as "Victoria Page," falls when she takes her leap to death.

In Paris, filming Ludmilla Tcherina crossing the streets with her "Pincher" dog tucked under her arm, it was

difficult to control the interested crowds.

#### For "Scott of the Antarctic"

IN sharp contrast to the glorious weather experienced by The Red Shoes unit at Monte Carlo, were John Mills's adventures on location, for Sir Michael Balcon's film, Scott of the Antarctic. .

Preliminary scenes were "shot" in the Antarctic; by two cameramen, Osmond Borradaile and Bob Moss. The location sequences followed, with John Mills in the name



Left: One of the husky dogs used in the film.







moments when the British film unit were in their city—watching the sequences as they were shot with intense interest. The unit next went to Blenheim, near Oxford, for further sequences, and exterior shots were taken in the grounds of Blenheim Palace, seat of the Duke of Marlborough, and Winston Churchill's birthplace.

The film was produced by Sir Michael Balcon, and directed by Basil Dearden.

Nearly six hundred costumes were taken from Ealing to Prague, and the local people of Czecho-Slovakia appeared in the film.

#### David Niven as "Bonnie Prince Charlie"

THE British Lion Technicolor production— Bonnie Prince Charlie—produced by Edward Black, was directed by Anthony Kimmins.

David Niven starred as "Prince Charlie," and

David Niven starred as "Prince Charlie," and Judy Campbell was "Clementina Walkinshaw."

Many fine "shots" were made in Scotland, among them being Holyrood Palace. There was a real gathering of the clans, too. Finlay Currie and Margaret Boyd, as "Tullibardine" and "Jenny Cameron," headed a crowd of clansmen. The clash of arms, and Highland reels, also had their place in this historical romance. their place in this historical romance.

### An International Film

A BEWILDERING variety of accents greeted me on location, during the filming of Against the Wind, another Ealing Studios' production, directed by Charles Crichton and Sid Cole.

It is perhaps the most international film we have made. The locations were largely made in Belgium. Sybilla Binder, the distinguished Aus-Belgium. Sybilla Binder, the distinguished Austrian actress, is in the cast. She plays opposite Robert Beatty (a Canadian), Paul Dupuis (a French-Canadian), Simone Signoret and Gisele Preville (French), Peter Illina (Turkish), Phile Hauser (Czech), Leo de Pokorny (Hungarian), Terry Van Caille (Belgian), Gordon Jackson (Scots). England's contribution to the cast includes Jack Warner. When the unit was on loca-

An outdoor scene for "Blanche Fury," showing Stewart Granger, Valerie Hobson and Michael Gough.

Suzanne Gibbs, Valerie Hobson and director Marc Allegret enjoy an ice-cream cornet between scenes of "Blanche Fury."



tion in Belgium, John Slater, as "Emile," and Robert Beatty, as "Father Philip," had some exciting parachute descents. The latter had a narrow escape in the film, with Gordon Jackson, when a platoon of German soldiers passed their cart. Simone Signoret, as "Michele," also made a parachute descent in Belgium.

Blanche Fury, the Technicolor Cineguild film, was produced by Anthony Havelock Allen, and directed by Marc Allegret. The producer's wife, Valerie Hobson (whose dark hair became a glorious auburn for the production) co-stars in the film with Stewart Granger—a half-gipsy character in the picture.

There are location sequences with colourful gipsy settings. The Pennine Chain was chosen for some of the mountain shots. The story hinges around a country house and estate and the machinations of the various characters who covet it. After Anthony Havelock-Allen had searched England for a suitable house, he found what he was looking for in Wootton Lodge, a seventeenth-century manor-house, set in a particularly beautiful landscape. There was tremendous co-operation from the local people. Horses, small-part players, and fields in which to set up the camera, were provided cheerfully and willingly; in fact the unit were almost embarrassed by the generosity of the villagers, who insisted on bringing out tea and coffee and home-made cakes, as soon as anyone in the film appeared! Valerie Hobson, mounted side-saddle on a beautiful chestnut mare, shows her superb horsemanship in the film.

Desmond Dickinson, who obtained such beautiful camera work for *Men of Two Worlds* and *Hungry Hill*, was selected for the work of lighting *Hamlet*. He is an expert on trick photography and special effects.

Laurence Olivier, who became fair-haired for his role of "Hamlet" for Two Cities, strove for the artistic integrity of Shakespeare's play. There is spaciousness and sombre beauty in the corridors of Elsinore Castle—the costumes magnificent in their contrasts and designs; Eileen Herlie, one of the greatest tragediennes of the modern English theatre, is "Queen Gertrude." Jean Simmons, eighteen-year-old star, is "Ophelia."

On location, at eight o'clock one morning, Laurence

(Top of page)
Getting ready to drown
Ophelia for "Hamlet" are
Laurence Olivier, Roger
Furse, and Desmond
Dickinson.

(In circle)
Basil Sydney as the King
in "Hamlet" gives Stanley
Holloway, as the tramp in
"One Night With You," a
light for his cigarette.

Below: One of the many lovely country scenes in "Esther Waters," with Kathleen Ryan and Dirk Bogarde.







John McCallum, on the Epsom racecourse for sequences in "The Calendar," has a chat with a jockey.

Right: Dennis Webb in "The Flamingo Affair," filmed in Broadfields Garage, Cockfosters.

Rank organisation. Having completed her role as "Ophelia," Jean Simmons flew with her director, Frank Launder, to Australia to star in The Blue Lagoon, followed by twenty members of the location unit. They went on to Suva, the Fijian capital. Rations were supplied from Australia.

The Blue Lagoon was filmed on a tropical island, two hundred miles from the nearest port. The unit lived on a specially chartered steamer.

For the Wessex Productions' film, Esther Waters, a screen play of the famous Victorian novel by George Moore, produced and directed by Ian Dalrymple and Peter Proud, location work covered the 1881 and 1885 Derby Days, and shots of the reconstructed race of 1885 were made on the Derby course. Other parts of the 1885 race, which owing to modern developments were not practicable at Epsom, were taken at Wing Aerodrome. Many locations were also shot on the Downs near Eastbourne.



Guy Middleton, Hugh Wakefield and Bonar Colleano Jr. chat during a break in filming "One Night With You."

Top right: Patricia Roc and Nino Martini with the Pekinese chosen to appear in "One Night With Scenes for the film were You.' shot in Italy.

On the lot at Pinewood, there was an all-night session; the lake was lit up with fairy lights and fireworks, for a reproduction of the Swiss Gardens at Shoreham, famous last century for its Pleasure Grounds; and this is the background for love-scenes between Dirk Bogarde as "Will Latch," and Kathleen Ryan as " Esther."

Wonderful sets were built on the lot of the London Film Company's Studio grounds at Chertsey for Anna Karenina, Sir Alexander Korda's great picture of Tolstoy's masterpiece, with lovely Vivien Leigh in the name part, Sir Ralph Richardson as her husband, and Kieron Moore as "Vronsky," her lover.

The film was directed by Julian Duvivier. Venetian scenes were built on the lot, and a wonderful Russian scenes were built on the lot, and a wonderful Russian schurch. The stately Hyde Park Corner location set seen

church. The stately Hyde Park Corner location set, seen in An Ideal Husband, was used, although unrecognisably, in a Russian snow scene for Anna Karenina.

The Calendar, a screen adaptation of Edgar Wallace's famous play, is another instance where Epsom and the Downs were used for location shots-a background for lovely women, well-tailored men, jockeys and marvellous



Peggy Cummins and Rex Harrison snapped between scenes of "Escape" in the little Devon village of Harburtonford.

Left: On the Devonshire moors, director Mankiewicz goes over a fishing sequence with Rex Harrison before "shooting" the scene.





horses. Arthur Crabtree directed this Gainsborough picture.

The Grand National film, The Flamingo Affair, introduces us to a new blonde—attractive Colette Melville, who stars with

the clever young actor, Dennis Webb.
Tempted by her, he almost becomes a gangster but repents in time. Location scenes were shot in a garage at Cockfosters.

The Two Cities film, One Night With You, produced by Josef Somlo and directed by Terence Young, stars Patricia Roc and the famous Italian tenor, Nino Martini, with a strong supporting cast.

Many sequences were shot in the old Market Square of Bergamo in Northern Italy. A pekinese, "Floppy," which is now Patricia Roc's very own property, plays an important part in the picture. Shots were made at Milan railway station, and on the lovely shore of Lake Maggiore. This is the first romantic musical comedy to be made by Two Cities Films.

Escape, made by 20th Century Fox at Denham, was directed by Joe Mankiewicz and Freddie Young was the lighting camera-man; the film stars were Rex Harrison and Peggy Cummins, who returned from Hollywood to make the picture. Many location sequences were made around Dartmoor, and the little village of Harburton-ford, Devonshire. The arrival of the unit caused great excitement for the holiday-makers, and Peggy and Rex were followed around by a host of admirers when they worked on various location scenes.

Michele Morgan, with Rajah, the baby elephant, photographed during location work at the London Zoo for "The Lost Illusion."

Right: The London Zoo was also used for sequences in "Miranda," and filming the sea-lions drew a large crowd of sightseers.









Laurence Olivier and Eileen Herlie in the Royal Bedchamber scene. Hamlet, having gone to speak to his mother, is disturbed by a noise behind the arras and draws his dagger, saying "How now, a rat?"

it is black and white.

brother and Hamlet's cousin) and Hamlet, which is the climax of the play, took fourteen days to film. The film itself was seven months in the making. Unlike  $Henry\ V$ 

Centre: Laurence Olivier and Jean Simmons in the famous scene in which Hamlet tells Ophelia that he no longer loves her. Top right: The Duel scene between Laurence Olivier and Terence Morgan that is the climax of the play. Fought with rapier and dagger, Laertes attacks Hamlet with a poisoned pointed sword and dagger before the Danish court.

Right: Laurence Olivier speaks one of Hamlet's soliloquies:

"It is not, nor it cannot be good But break my heart, for I must hold my tongue."









On the Up

YEARS come and go but each year brings a number of new aspirants to screen stardom—some have played important roles in their very first film, some may have been stars of the stage and so commenced their film careers as stars, others have had only small parts, but they all have one thing in common, they hope they are on the up-and-up and will reach the top rungs of the film ladder of fame.

BARBARA BEL GEDDES is one of those who achieved stardom with her first film—The Long Night. Born in New York City on October 31st, 1922, she became ambitious to become an actress through her early association with the stage, her father, Norman Bel Geddes, being a famous stage designer. "Deep Are the Roots" was the play which brought her fame and a film contract. After The Long Night she went straight into I Remember Mama with Irene Dunne. Barbara is married and has a daughter, Susan.

WENDELL COREY is another who commenced his screen career with an important role—one of the five leading ones in *Desert Fury*. His mother hoped that he would follow in his father's footsteps and become a minister, but he had other ideas. At one time he thought he would like to be a professional tennis player, then he switched his choice to that of lawyer. When he left

school, however, he got a job in a department store. It was while visiting a friend who was rehearsing with a repertory company that he became interested in acting. He came to England to appear on the stage in "The Voice of the Turtle" with Margaret Sullivan.

CHRISTINE NORDEN is the girl who was discovered in a cinema queue by an American photographer who took pictures of her and showed them to Alexander Korda. The result was a film contract. She was groomed for a year, and then in the twelve months that followed she played in four films—An Ideal Husband, Mine Own Executioner, Night Beat and Idol of Paris.

Ash-blonde, green-eyed, Christine has been an entertainer since she was fourteen. On December

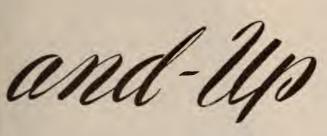
13th, 1947, she married Jack Clayton.

Wendell Corey.

At top: Barbara Bel Geddes.

Right: Christine Norden.





HELENA CARTER had no dramatic experience whatever before coming to the screen. She was studying to become a teacher when she found model work so lucrative that she could not afford to overlook it. A fashion photographer thought her beauty deserved to be seen in something besides photographs, and he told a Universal-International executive about her. A screen test and contract followed. She was given a dramatic role in Time Out of Mind, was then cast in Something in the Wind, after which she played her first lead opposite George Raft in Intrigue. Helena was born in New York City on August 24th, 1923. She has bluegrey eyes, red hair, and is 5 feet 51 inches.

Prior to coming to the London stage in "Annie Get Your Gun," BILL JOHNSON played on the New York stage, and it was when he was appearing in "Something for the Boys" that film talent scouts decided that he was just what the screen needed. His first test proved them right, and he was cast with Lana Turner in Keep Your Powder Dry, and with Sonja Henie in It's a Pleasure. Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Bill Johnson commenced his career as a vocalist with an orchestry.

his career as a vocalist with an orchestra. He is married—his wife has the unusual name of Cvrl.

It was a game of tennis that brought MARILYN NASH to the screen. She had been invited by a friend to play on the court of Charles Chaplin's estate in Beverly Hills, and while she was playing she caught the eye of Charles himself. She was invited into the house and asked if she would like to read a passage from Shakespeare, with a view to playing in a film. A few weeks later she was under contract, and a year of coaching followed, which was preliminary to making her debut in the Chaplin film Monsieur Verdoux. 5 feet 6 inches in height, with large hazel eyes and ashblonde hair, Marilyn is married to Philip Yordan.



4t top: Helena Carter.

Left: Marilyn Nash.

VALLI had made thirty-four Italian films before she went to Hollywood to play in David O. Selznick's *The Paradine Case*. In *Miracle of the Bells* she co-stars with Frank Sinatra, and she says she would like to persuade him to go to Italy to make a film. Valli would like to keep making pictures in Hollywood, but she also wants to help make films in Rome, where, she says, co-operation is needed so badly.

STEPHEN MURRAY, who won great praise for his interpretation of the unpleasant Zebediah Crowther in *The Master of Bankdam*, knew that he wanted to be an actor from early childhood, but as his father, the late Rev. Charles Hay Murray, did not approve of his choice, he tried to follow in the footsteps of his elder brother, who went to the Foreign Office. The lure of the theatre, however, was too much for him, and eventually his parents agreed to send him to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, where he won many awards. Some of his stage appearances were made at the Stratford-on-Avon Memorial Theatre, the Old Vic, and the Westminster Theatre in London, and with the Birmingham Repertory Company. As well as stage and screen work, Stephen also broadcasts. In 1937 he married Joan Butterfield, and they have a daughter, Amanda.

It took only one film appearance to gain a ten-year contract for NIGEL BUCHANAN. That was in *The Woman in the Hall*, in which he played the part of Toby Walker, who fell in love with Jay Blake (Jean Simmons). He was an insurance clerk, but after six months he decided he did not like City life, and joined a touring theatrical company. After five years in the R.A.F. he returned to the stage, and this led to his film test. He has dark hair, brown eyes, and is 6 feet in height.

PAULE CROSET'S father, a Swiss-Frenchman, and her mother, an Englishwoman, were globe trotters, and it was while they were in Papeete, Tahiti, that she was born on October 20th, 1924. When she was nine months old the nomadic Crosets were off once more on their travels. In 1941 the Crosets turned up in New York, and Paule had a brief fling of acting in summer stock and a Broadway run of several months. Although she was in Hollywood with another film company, it was Douglas Fairbanks who really discovered her for the screen when he chose her to appear opposite him in The Exile. 5 feet 3½ inches tall, she has blonde hair and green eyes.

Before he achieved success on the screen, STEVE COCHRAN led a rough-and-tumble life, having been a cowpuncher, a railroad hand, a fireman, a store detective, a shipyard worker, and a carpenter.



Valli.





SUSAN SHAW is one of the graduates of the J. Arthur Rank Organisation's Company of Youth. Born in West Norwood, London, on August 29th, 1929, she did model work on leaving school. She was given a test by Sydney Box which resulted in her appearance as a dancer in London Town, after which she joined the Company of Youth. Her films since then have included The Upturned Glass, Holiday Camp, It Always Rains on Sunday, Double Pursuit, and when Patricia Roc gave up her role in London Belongs to Me she was given this star part.

PATRICIA PLUNKETT, who was born in Streatham, London, and was evacuated to Ashford, Kent, during the war, made an overnight hit in the London stage presentation of "Pick-Up Girl," when she had not completed her course at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. She was signed for a leading role, that of one of Googie Withers' two step-daughters in It Always Rains on Sunday, and was cast as a little work-room hand in Bond Street.

STEPHEN DUNNE inherited his acting talent from his father, who was once with the famous Abbey Players. Stephen was born in Northampton, Massachusetts, on January 13th, 1918. His first job was as secretary to a government official in New York. Later he became a radio announcer and studied acting at the Maria Ouspenskaya school. Seen by a screen talent scout, he set off for Hollywood. His films have included Mother Wore Tights, Son of Rusty, When a Girl's Beautiful and The Woman From Tangiers. He has black hair and brown eyes, and is 6 feet 1 inch. Is married and has three children.

It was just six years after leaving her native Czechoslovakia as a refugee from the Nazis, that SUSAN DOUGLAS made her screen debut in *The Private Affairs of Bel Ami*. She did not know a word of English when she arrived in America, and she studied the language by going regularly to see films. Later she got into radio and summer stock and then made her Broadway debut in "He Who Gets Slapped," from which she went to Hollywood.

At the age of twelve ALLENE ROBERTS won a contest for "America's Most Charming Child," but like many such contests, once the interest had died down nothing further came of it. She remained in Hollywood, however, and four years later she was discovered by a talent scout, playing in a little theatre, and made her film debut in *The Red House*. She is tiny—only 5 feet r.

Allene Roberts.





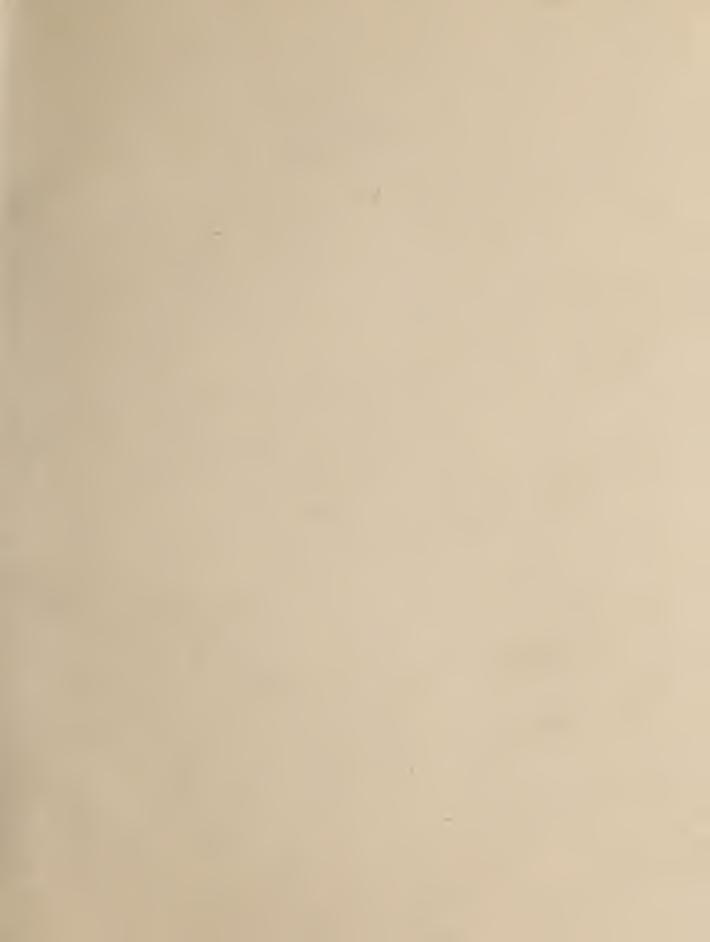


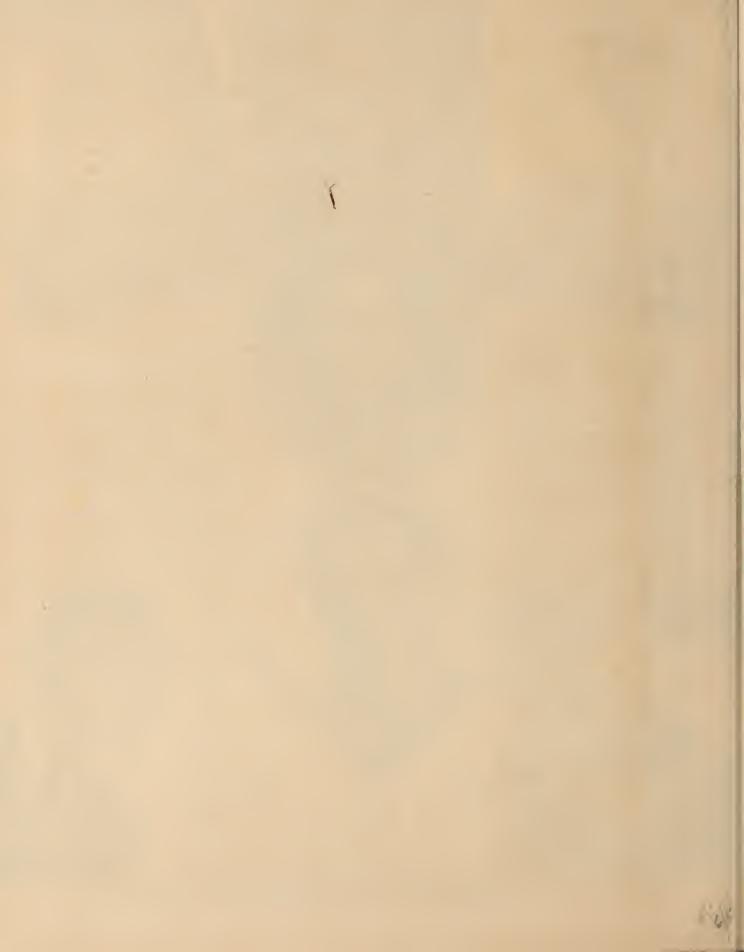


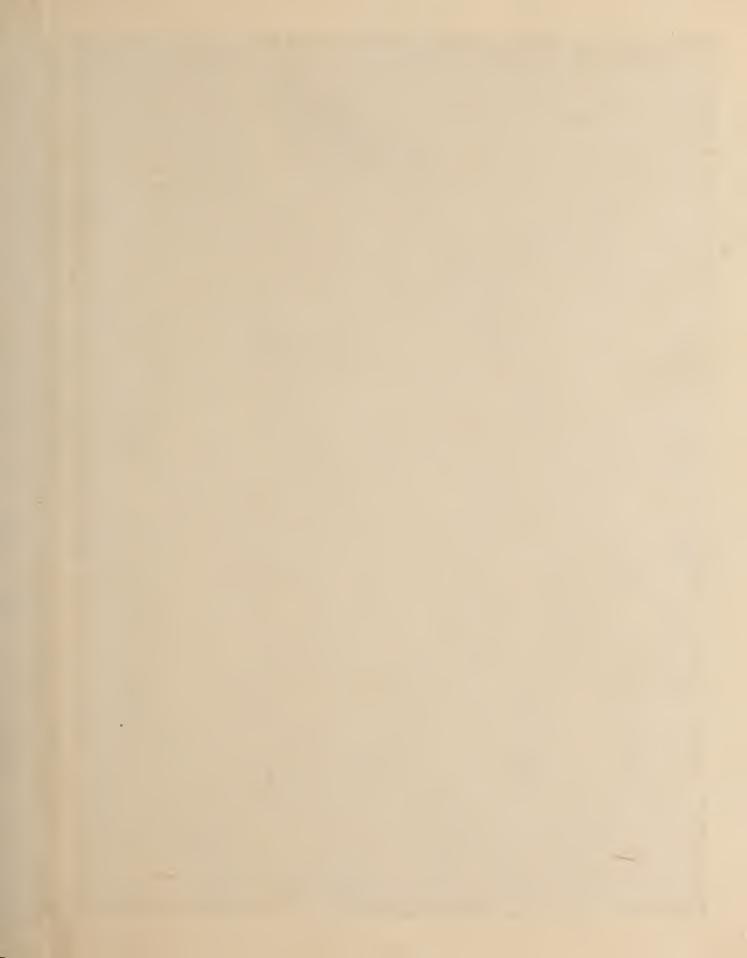


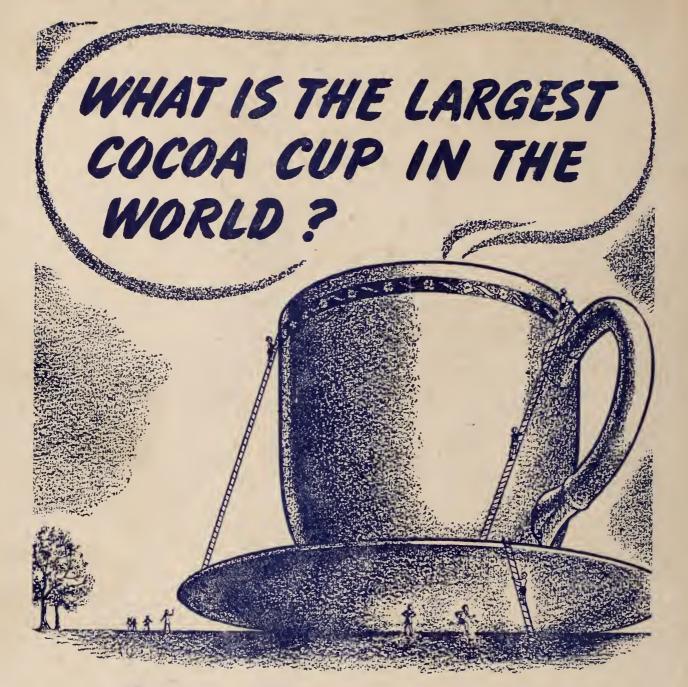


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