

STUDIOS

The Screen :: ::

picture program at the Ambassador's Theatre, which includes "Branded," a British Screencraft production, adapted from the novel by Gerald Biss. This correspondent says that this is, he believes, the only British film that has been exhibited in Alexandria within the last twelve months, in spite of the fact that there are heaps of English people in Alexandria at the present moment very keen to see British pictures.

Noble Help.

Usually it is difficult to persuade members of the British aristocracy to grant moving picture companies the loan of their houses for "shots." However, a remarkably fine mansion exterior has been secured in "Greenlands," the beautiful property of Viscount Hambleden, near Henley-on-Thames, for J. S. Robertson's production, "Perpetua." With its white-coloured frontage and velvety stretches of wide green pastures stretching down to the river's edge, "Greenlands" well deserves its reputation as the finest show place in the district.

Harma's Latest.

The final scenes in "The Corner Man," which Einar Bruun has directed for Harma, were taken during the week-end. The most important included a garden fête at night, for which the charming grounds at Albury House, Surbiton Hill, were placed at the disposal of the director. The many guests were all in fancy dress, and some very effective shots were secured. The grounds were gorgeously illuminated with hundreds of Chinese and other lanterns; there was a big display of fireworks; there was an orchestra on a specially constructed bandstand—indeed, everything was carried out on a most elaborate scale.

A School Classic.

The latest film to come from the Granger-Davidson studios is "The Fifth Form at St. Dominic's," from the world-famous school story by Talbot Baines Reed. The film, with its healthy British atmosphere, tells of keen,

manly sport, and should appeal to old and young alike. Some juvenile talent is revealed, notably that of Ralph Forbes and W. Freshman. Phyllis Shannaw plays the leading part, and the direction of the production has been in the hands of A. E. Coleby, of "The Call of the Road" fame. Of course, a film story of this description calls for numerous appearances of the juvenile members of the cast, and these rarely fail to respond to the demands made on them. Ralph Forbes, who plays the hero, Oliver Greenfield, has been out of college but a few years, and so could enter into the atmosphere of the story appropriately. He has played for Famous Players-Lasky, Stoll, Minerva and Progress. Percy Field, who is 18, spent six years in U.S.A., as well as serving as a cadet during the war. He plays Horace Wrayson. W. A. Freshman is Australian born, and has been on the studio staff of Gaumont. Maurice Thompson is only 14, but has played for Stoll and other companies. He plays Stephen Greenfield, the much-harried "fag" in "Fifth Form."

A Diminutive Orb.

Peter Dear, who will be remembered in the part of Theo. Denzil in "The Fruitful Vine," has been playing for Gaumont in "Class and No Class," and has now returned to Stoll again for a part in Maurice Elvey's "The Passionate Friends." He is a most attractive-looking boy, and has a pleasing screen appearance.

A Hepworth Change.

Donald Nicholson has, we hear, severed his connection with Hepworth Picture Plays, Ltd., with whom he has been associated in publicity work for nearly nine years. He served as lieutenant in the King's Royal Rifle Corps in France and Belgium. His future plans are not yet settled, but his long experience in the pioneer British Film Producers should prove useful in any capacity with which he may in future be associated in the film world.



Judd Green and Pauline Johnson in "Class and No Class" (Westminster)

Ambassadors.

Cecil M. Hepworth and Alma Taylor arrived in New York on Monday, October 17, on the *Berengaria*. Mr. Hepworth, who has been making pictures for 21 years, expects to be back well before Christmas. He is thoroughly studying conditions in U.S.A. and Canada, being convinced that a first-hand examination is the only reliable one. He feels that there must be a market across the Atlantic for the right kind of British pictures, and will spare no efforts to find out just what the American and Canadian public want. All those who have at heart the welfare of British production will wish him success. It is interesting to note that many copies of Hepworth films circulated regularly and extensively in America ten and twelve years ago, and that the first of the large Broadway theatres opened with a week's run of one of them.



"The Fifth Form at St. Dominic's" (Granger): (1) W. A. Freshman. (2) The theft of the examination papers discovered. (3) Phyllis Shannaw.