

BRITISH STUDIOS

Peeps Behind The Screen

"Scotch" Scenes in Somerset.

What is one country's loss is another's gain. Intending to produce Ian Maclaren's famous book and stage play, "Bonnie Briar Bush," in its natural environment of the Scottish hills, the Famous Players-Lasky British Producers company went to Scotland to secure the requisite locations. Disappointment awaited them, however. It was found that the cottages which should have provided the picturesque setting had lost their thatch, and had been roofed with corrugated iron! A wig can never be as good or look as well as natural hair, and Scotch cottages with corrugated iron roofs were unthinkable. So, hoping to find the right article, Donald Crup resorted to the West-country, and discovered in the pretty little village of Selworthy, which has been described as the most beautiful village in the kingdom, the ideal setting for his picture. The charming country round Minehead, too, with its wooded coombes, heathy hills, and old-world dwellings, is declared to possess unlimited possibilities for film production.

In a Wilde Manner.

Milton Rosmer's brilliant study of that polished cynic, Lord Illingworth, in the film version of "A Woman of No Importance" is the second Oscar Wilde character which he has acted for the screen, his performance of Lord Windermere in "Lady Windermere's Fan" being scarcely less successful. Mr. Rosmer is, in fact, one of the few film actors who can successfully create that atmosphere of brilliance and breeding which is so essential to the proper presentation of a Wilde play, and his success is a proof not only that he can do this sort of thing supremely well, but by its contrast to such characters as the labour leader in "Demos" and the self-made plutocrat in "The Twelve-pound Look," is a clear demonstration that Milton Rosmer is one of the most versatile of British picture stars.

Picture Making at Brixham.

Cecil Hepworth has adapted several of Eden Phillpott's books for the screen, and still another of the well-known Devonshire author's novels is to find its way on to the silver sheet. This is "The Haven," which removes the locale from Dartmoor to the sea. Brixham, the quaint, old-world fishing port

on the fringe of Torbay, where William of Orange landed when he came to conquer England, has been selected for the exterior settings, and arrangements have been completed for a large portion of the Brixham trawling fleet to be included in the picture, in which, of course, many fishermen will also appear. A novel feature will be the "shooting" of night scenes of fishermen at work, and it is hoped to film some big "catches." Francis Innys is to play the leading role, and Elizabeth Brandt, the well-known Swedish actress, will be the leading lady. At Brixham Urban Council last week the clerk stated that he had received an application for facilities for the production of "The Haven," and announced that the producing company would require to place a five-ton lorry on the breakwater, and also extensively to use the pier and harbour property. The council unanimously decided to grant the necessary facilities. John Giddon is the director of the production, which will be issued under the title of "The Night Hawk" by International Artists.

"Land of My Fathers."

George Leyton has now returned from Wales, where he has been personally directing the production of "Land of My Fathers," with Fred Rains as producer. The story is original, and is based upon the Welsh National Anthem, and the greatest care has been taken throughout to preserve the native atmosphere of that country, while many of the exteriors have been taken amid many traditional and interesting spots. Mr. Leyton has been additionally fortunate in securing the advice and assistance of many prominent Welsh celebrities. The cast has been carefully chosen, including, as it does, Edith Pierson, Yvonne Thomas, Florence Lynn, John Stuart, Fred Rains, and George Leyton, while L. G. Egrot is responsible for the photography.

All Scotch!

Now playing the important part of David Morgan in "Land of My Fathers," the latest Glen production, John Stuart is a thoroughbred Scot. Born of Scottish parentage in Edinburgh 23 years ago, he served with the famous Black Watch in 1917 and with the Seaforths in 1918. A year later he was "demobbed," and at once took up his screen



John Stuart

work. He played juvenile lead in "The Chinese Puzzle," and then the title rôle in Broadwest's "Her Son." This was followed by juvenile lead in "The Great Gay Road" for the same company, and juvenile lead in "Lights of Home" for screen-play. Then he went to Aberystwyth for Glen Productions, where his abilities as an all-round athlete stood him in good stead.

Elvey's Latest.

Maurice Elvey is now in the thick of his latest production for Stoll, "The Fruitful Vine."

A Matter of Recognition.

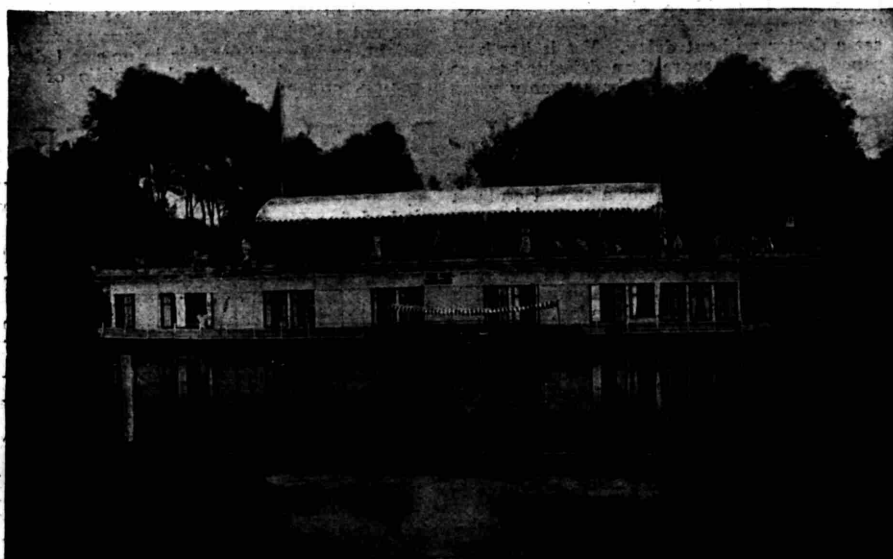
In "The Pointing Finger," which George Ridgwell is directing for Stoll, Milton Rosmer plays three different parts in five different make-ups. Madge Stuart figures in the photoplay as Lady Susan.

At Henley.

Captain Calvert and his company of "British Screencraft" players have been having quite an enjoyable time on the houseboat, *My Silver Lining*, at Henley, which is being used for scenes for "Roses in the Dust." The boat is one of the largest on the river, and is beautifully furnished and decorated throughout, giving opportunity for some excellent scenes. Quite a goodly proportion of the picture is given over to Henley Regatta and the party on the houseboat, so these scenes ought to be a distinct feature of the picture. Many racing shots will be included, and on the Friday of the Regatta Captain Calvert was accorded the privilege of taking his company right up the course between races, for a scene in the film. The authorities kept within the rules and regulations by taking the company up in the umpire's launches, two beautiful boats worth £2,000 each. Calvert and the cameraman went up in the first launch, taking pictures of the houseboat party in the second launch. The part of Dr. Temple in the picture, quite an important rôle, has now been given to David Hawthorne. Captain Calvert and the company have now gone to Eastbourne for another series of "exteriors."

A Smashing Success.

As Lady Violet Holme, Stoll's "The Woman with the Fan," Mary Massart was supposed to lose control of a car she had just learned to drive, crash into a wall, and become disfigured for life as a result of the accident. As this accident is of the utmost importance to the story, the director was naturally anxious to make it a realistic



Captain Calvert Working on a Houseboat