

Ideal Films, Ltd.

Directors (Managing): H. ROWSON and S. ROWSON, M.Sc.
Producers: THOMAS BENTLEY, A. V. BRAMBLE, FRED GOODWINS, and FRANK DENTON.
Scenario Editor: A. WEINER, M.A.
Camera Experts: CLAUDE L. McDONNELL, WM. SHENTON, V. A. ALDER, and —. WHEDDON.
Stage Manager: Mr. BARNARD.
Studio Manager: Mr. KENDRICK.
Publicity: S. GILBERT, B.A.
Studio: BOREHAM WOODS, Elstree.
Registered Offices: 76 & 78, Wardour Street, W.C.

Happy is the producing company that includes on its staff three such artistic and capable producers as Messrs. Thomas Bentley, A. V. Bramble, and Fred Goodwins, and thrice happy are the producers who find themselves enabled to "carry on" under such ideal (no pun intended) conditions as those which obtain at the Boreham Woods Studios. Here everything that can aid the art of the photoplay producer has been installed, and with the services of only first-class artists retained to interpret the works the task of the producer becomes a pleasure, if not indeed simple. That the general studio staff are thoroughly competent becomes abundantly clear when one indulges in a little conversation with Mr. Barnard, who with quite justifiable pride directs attention to the fact that his staff had arranged eighty-two settings in sixty-seven working days. And when we remember what work some of the settings in recent Ideal productions have entailed, we can only gasp and faintly whisper: "Some record, Digger."

But to return to the studio, or rather studios—for there are two at the Boreham Woods establishment. In the first and smaller of the two which we visited we found Mr. Fred Goodwins with his merry band of performers, including Daphne Glennie, May Hope, and Hayford Hobbs, engaged with scenes from the Geo. R. Sims play, "The Ever Open Door." This studio, if small is admirably equipped, the lighting arrangements consisting of twelve overhead Westminster arcs, six gallions, and three spots, being adequate and well controlled. And here mention may perhaps be made of the fact that Mr. Procopides, who is in charge of the electrical arrangements, has placed all his resistances outside the studio, with the result that the amount of heat generated inside is very materially reduced.

Mr. Claude L. McDonnell, the camera operator in this studio, is no new comer to the producing world. Starting work in this direction twelve years ago, he already has 217 pictures to his credit, with the further honour of having made one trip with Shackleton.

In the large studio, in which, by the way, we had the pleasure of watching Mr. Thomas Bentley taking scenes in the production of "Beyond the Dreams of Avarice" (Walter Besant), the lighting installation is on a much more ambitious scale as compared with the smaller apartment. Here we find everything of the most up-to-date order. Overhead a complete range of enclosed Westminster arcs running on grids, whilst movable side lights of all descriptions and almost innumerable are provided. In addition, the lighting equipment includes two large movable search-lights, adjustable up to 16 ft., and a number of spot lights.

Piloted by an old friend in the person of Mr. V. A. Alder, whom we remember with Albert Smith and Charles Urban in Kinemacolor, we inspected the various developing, fixing, washing, tinting, and toning departments. And it may serve as some guide as to the amount of work this plant is capable of dealing with when we say that in the drying room we noticed three drums, each with a capacity of 1,200 ft. of film. In the perforating room machines of the Bell Howell, Williamson and Moy patterns are installed, whilst the printing room is well equipped with a complete range of Williamson, Lumiere and Moy machines. In near proximity to the printing department are the joining and winding rooms, where we noticed the latest clamp joiners in operation, the film editor's cutting room, and a charming little projection room.

The organisation is of the best.

BRITISH STUDIOS

Barker Motion Photo- graphy, Ltd.

Directors: C. J. FORD, W. NEALE, J. BENSON.
General Manager: Captain J. SMITH.
Registered Offices: Grafton House, Golden Square, W. 1.

Studios, Works and Offices: Ealing Green, W. 5.

This company, by hiring out their three finely situated and well-equipped daylight studios at Ealing Green, are supplying a long felt want. That the demand for such accommodation existed has been abundantly proved since Captain Jack Smith (his company having given up for the time being production work on their own account) started to accept tenants at the studios.

At the date of our visit we found production proceeding merrily in No. 2 studio, in the occupation of the STERLING FILMS, LIMITED, for whom Mr. Percy Nash was producing "Won by a Head," a fine sporting play with many dramatic scenes.

In the No. 3 studio Mr. Fred Paul was having a strenuous time with the production of "Uncle Dick's Darling," which he is producing for the

BRITISH STANDARD FILMS.

The No. 1 studio had, up to the week prior to our visit, been in the occupation of

THE EROS FILM PRODUCING COMPANY,

49, Old Bond Street, W. 1, for whom Mr. Edgar Camiller had been kept busy for some weeks in the production of a photoplay based on the novel by that well-known author, Jeffery Farnol, "The Definite Object."

This is a particularly fine studio, admirably adapted for a variety of productions, provided as it is with a huge tank and numerous trap doors. Although a daylight studio, blinds are provided, by means of which it is possible to darken the whole or any part of the building as may be required.

The electric arc lamps installed throughout the studio are of an entirely new pattern, and incorporate a device, for which a provisional patent has been secured by the inventor, Captain Jack Smith, by the use of which the natural and artificial lights are more readily assimilated.

Captain Smith has placed some of the knowledge he acquired whilst serving with His Majesty's Forces at the disposal of his company, and in this direction we find he has added to the already very considerable dressing-room accommodation by the purchase and erection of a number of Army huts, which, having been divided into cubicles, are admirably adapted for the purpose to which they are now being put.

The property rooms are completely filled with furniture and props of every description, ranging from the most costly furniture to the common deal table and the cheap, and in some instances, damaged culinary utensils, such as are only to be found in the cheapest lodging-houses or homes of the very poorest description. In the wardrobe-rooms may be found costumes, armour, weapons, etc., of all ages and conditions, and exacting indeed must be the producer who cannot find well-nigh all he requires here.

Nor is it necessary to go far afield when the ordinary simple exteriors are required. In the grounds are some delightful bits of sylvan scenery, and during the past few months, a full-size tennis court has been provided.

The exterior of one portion of the permanent building has been so constructed that it provides an ideal setting for two country cottages.

In this portion of the establishment are situated the developing, drying and printing rooms, a very charming little projection room having also been added recently.

The many advantages which an establishment such as the Barker Motion Photography Studios offer producing companies, who have not yet acquired studios of their own, will be at once manifest. To such as these, Captain Smith says, "You provide the producer and the company. I will do the rest. Here you will find lighting, scene shifters, carpenters, scenery, furniture, props., costumes, and the hundred and one other things you may require immediately to your hand." And the result of our visit enables us to say that the producer who cannot be satisfied here will be difficult to please.