

OCT 1962

LEADER

OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER

Group

9-5

TARGET - 1,000

The demand for the first issue of LEADER far exceeded the number actually printed. For this reason, this issue will be the first to be received by many members.

After only four weeks in existence, the Group has now nearly a hundred members - proof indeed of the necessity for such an organisation. Application forms for membership have been turned out as fast as possible during the last fortnight (about 2000 in all) and special thanks are due to the many dealers and manufacturers who have undertaken distribution of the forms.

This, the second issue of LEADER, is smaller than we had originally envisaged, as not enough contributions for publication have come to hand. I repeat, the newsletter cannot hope to carry on if all the articles originate from a small clique of members, however good they may be. Comments and suggestions for improving the publication will be especially welcome.

Several members have written expressing the hope that LEADER will eventually fill the gap left by the disappearance of the "Pathoscope Gazette". Well, that should be our ultimate aim, but it should be pointed out that it is not possible to get a magazine printed economically without a minimum circulation of a thousand. So let all your nine-five acquaintances know about GROUP 9.5 at once - the national 9.5m/m club which aims to put the gauge back where it should be -- at the forefront of amateur movie-making.

NEWSFLASH

October 6th is the date of the VINTAGE FILM EVENING presented by the Vintage Film Circle in association with "Amateur Movie Maker", to be held at the Holborn Assembly Hall, London W.C.1. Tickets are available from the Hon Sec. of the V.F.C. - Mr. E.O. Walker, 33 Gartmore Road, Goodmayes Ilford, Essex - price 3/6d.

The Hon. Secretary of GROUP 9.5 is accompanying a well-known London dealer on a visit to Paris early this month, with a view to improving facilities for obtaining 9.5m/m films and equipment in Great Britain. Full details will be given in the next issue of LEADER.

OCTOBER - 9.5m/m SILENT FILM RELEASES

S/9027* Alaskan Hero (Star Laurel) 1 x 300ft. reel
S/9001* The Haunted Manor (Harold Lloyd) 1 x 300ft. reel
S/9028* It's a Gift 1 x 300ft.
A re-issue of Snub Pollard's famous farce.
M/9029* Soaked to the Skin (Mack Sennett) 1 x 200ft.
S/9030* The Great Sioux Chief (Buster Keaton) 1 x 300ft.

Films marked with an asterisk * are titled in French.
Film releases in English will be available in due course,
including many interesting new subjects ranging in length
from 60ft. to 300ft.

Prices

300ft. films ("S" refs.)	= 75/-
200ft. films ("M" refs.)	= 50/-
100ft. films ("C" refs.)	= 25/-
60ft. films ("D" refs.)	= 12/6

Available during October from L.G.P. (Cine), 1 Bowrons Avenue,
Wembley, Middx.

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ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S FILM QUIZ

1. Finlay Currie features in "A Brief Case" (2 reels)
2. Charles Laughton appears briefly as an irate diner
in "Piccadilly" (3 reels silent)
3. The Taxi-boys - Billie Gilbert and Ben Blue.
4. Jean Negulesco wrote the script for "Swiss Miss".
5. "Turn of the Tide" (available in sound & silent versions).

"TAPESPONDING"

Several members have suggested that "tapesponding" might
appeal to other members owning tape recorders. It occurs
to us that this would be an excellent way for those in
the Regular section to get to know loneworkers, some of
whom may never be able to attend a meeting. Tapes could be
played back at the weekly get-together.

Any loneworker who would like to take part in such
scheme should contact the Hon. Sec.

THE COLLECTORS PAGE

A Group Library ?

It has been suggested that GROUP 9,5 should sponsor the formation of a 9mm5 Film Library to preserve good prints of famous silents, many of which are not available on other gauges. Films like Baroncelli's "Fishers of the Isle" and the U.F.A. "Tale of Grieshuus" spring to mind. Prints in good condition of films like these are becoming increasingly difficult to find, and it would seem that all copies are doomed to decay or to storage in inaccessible private collections.

The suggestion was that the Committee of the Group should allocate a certain amount of money each year for the purchase of suitable films. These, after any renovation that might be required, would be offered on loan to interested clubs and groups.

Any comments ?

A Silent Film Catalogue

Mr. Alan Richardson (a member of the Group) has compiled a useful list of early Pathescope Super-reel releases. This covers nos. 525 to 887, the length and the 9.5m/m release date being shown.

A useful aid for the keen collector, it is available from Mr. Richardson (at 1/- to cover printing costs) in typewritten duplicated form at 34 Yarmouth Road, Watford, Herts.

The Vintage Film Evening

As you can see from the news item on Page 1, the V.F.C. in conjunction with "Amateur Movie Maker" are presenting an evening of silent films on October 6th. The main feature will be the 5 reel 9.5m/m version of "Casanova"; but other attractions will include original 35m/m prints and a display of vintage equipment. Clearly this is an event not to be missed!

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The meeting on September 14th was attended by nine members - an increase on previous weeks. Due to a mishap, it was not possible to show the night's film - Laurel & Hardy's "Swiss Miss" - in its entirety, but as the show stopped at a very appropriate exciting moment, perhaps a serial can be made out of it!

TEST DEPARTMENT

The reintroduction of Kodachrome I in 9.5m/m prompted us to do a comparison test between this stock and Pathescop Colour Film which is, as we all know, Ferraniacolor.

The camera used was an "H" with f1.9 fixed focus lens, and the same subjects were filmed with both stocks under the same weather conditions (cloudy/bright) to test colour rendering.

P.C.F. This stock produced good colour rendering, but definition was somewhat soft. Flesh tones were well reproduced. An annoying fault was a scratch running the length of the film on the base side - definitely done during either processing or spooling, probably the latter.

Kodachrome I. The definition of this film was marginally superior to that of the P.C.F. But the colour rendering was noticeably over-yellow, and faces came out looking very jaundiced. Subsequent films taken have all suffered from yellowy greens.

Processing was beautifully clean - it is now done by Kodak Ltd. at Hemel Hempstead. Although booth chargers were posted off at the same time, the Kodachrome film took two weeks to come back from processing, as against 8 days for the P.C.F.

And now the 64,000 dollar question... is Kodachrome worth the extra 5/9 per charger? Generally speaking, we would say no. One can't help feeling that Kodak-Fathe in France are getting rid of their existing stock of Kodachrome I on the English market, now that they have introduced Kodachrome II in our gauge. If the new film, when it does become available over here, could be marketed at the current price for K.I (25/4), we think that the extra would be well spent, judging by results obtained on other gauges.

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FIRST OF THE MANY? by Paul van Someren.

I was present recently when an 8m/m enthusiast of many years standing, and secretary of an 8m/m club, bought a Son projector. He complained of the atrocious quality of most 8m/m prints - and his wife even remarked on the superior quality of the reel being run through the Son as a test (a not-so-wonderful recent copy of "Piccadilly")

Is this a sign that some 8m/m users are becoming dissatisfied with the picture quality obtainable with their gauge? If so, nine-fivers should make a point of showing films to all their 8 mil acquaintances - including good quality 9.5m/m printed films - and no worn-out Chaplins.

ODD LENGTHS

The Sales Manager of Pathescope (London) Ltd. has expressed his willingness to come along to one of our meetings to demonstrate the new equipment that the firm is to market, and also to answer any queries that members may have. He suggests a Saturday evening, so we hope that Lone Workers within a reasonable distance of London will be able to come.

A date in late October or early November, so any members who think that they will be able to attend should write to the Hon. secretary. All your nine-five acquaintances will of course be welcome.

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In future, all subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer of the Group - Mr. Andrew Gledhill of 27, St. Lawrence Ave., Bidborough, nr. Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Cheques and postal orders should be crossed and made payable to "GROUP 9.5"

Mr. G. Ramsden, a member of the Group, has an early film encyclopaedia which gives the casts, stars, etc. of all the main films from 1922-32 and masses of other information. He offers to supply any information from this book to members who would like to send in queries. His address is:- 9 Chepstow Close, Croes-y-Celliog, Cwmbran, Mon.

Those of you who are also members of "Amateur Cine Operators" will have seen the article by Mr. K.J. Finch about a "Ninefivers Society." Mr. Finch has decided to join GROUP 9.5 as he feels that the Group can meet the proposals outlined in his article.

Due, perhaps, to insufficient publicity on our part, the Group seems to be regarded in some quarters as just another club. We emphasise that this is not so. A club has usually no other purpose than that of being of help and use to its members. While that is also one of our aims, we intend to do more - to further the use of 9.5m/m and to stimulate interest in the gauge. It would be a pity if the Group were to become a club consisting of an atrophied bunch of cranks - busy, perhaps, converting gas meters into kinematographs.

ERRATUM

Those of you who were all agog to get the results of last months quiz will have noticed that the answer to Question 5 has been left out on Page 2 of this issue. The Hall Room Boys are of course better known to nine-fivers as James and George (or Alfred and Jules, George and Henry, Gussie and Archibald -take your pick!)

Published by GROUP 9.5. Hon. Sec.= P. van Someren, 39 Lansdowne Gardens, London S.W.8, to whom all contributions and correspondence should be sent.

2-10/62