# PATHÉ SCOPE MONTHLY

THE REVIEW FOR THE 9·5 m.m. CINEMATOGRAPHER.



MARCH 1931

# editorial

AT last, we are nearing the first days of Spring, and after the dark months, we can welcome longer days again. Those of us who, during the winter, have let our cameras lie idle, will be starting movie making. March does not lack topical subjects. On the 21st we have the Oxford and Cambridge boat race, the Grand National will be run on the 27th, and if you are fortunate enough to see the race, some splendid shots can be added to your collection. The following few tips should be remembered when filming. When 'shooting' fast-moving objects, take your subject at an angle. Try and get in such a position that your subject will be moving towards you.

If panoraming, do not move your Camera too fast. So many otherwise excellent films have been spoilt by the Camera having been swung round rapidly; the Camera should be moved very slowly. When 'shooting' keep your arms pressed well in to your sides; this will give you extra support which is necessary for obtaining steady pictures.

It is most important that the guideway of the Camera is kept perfectly clean; if this precaution is disregarded, particles of emulsion are liable to collect on the running edges of the guideway, and scratch the emulsion of the film.

Brush out your Camera after exposing a charger, and use your bone scraper on the film track after a day's 'shooting.'

When loading, if you find that the charger fits a little tightly, do not force it; you may break the shoulder that holds the core of the film and this would mean a fogged film. Also, as soon as you have taken the charger from the Camera, after exposure, wrap it in the paper it came in, as an extra precaution against fogging, and pack the charger carefully before sending it through the post; it is made of ebonite and a hard knock will break it.

You will see on page 10 a criticism of the film "When Scouting Won." This splendid amateur film is being shown all over the country to people interested in scouting. Those who have seen the film have sent letters full of praise both to Mr. Martin Cross and ourselves. It shows what amateurs can do these days! Moreover, the 5 Super Reels are being let out on hire; thus, movie making can not only be a fascinating hobby, but also a profitable one.

If you find your 3.5 Camera not fast enough for your requirements, the Zeiss Triotar 2.9 is a very good investment. The Triotar, a genuine Zeiss lens, is sold at the exceedingly cheap price of £14 - 14 - 0. Your local dealer will probably arrange to part exchange your present Camera.

# film releases

## "THE VERNAISON VALLEY"

**1224** **(One 30ft. Reel)** **TRAVEL**

One of the loveliest spots in a country famed for the beauty of its countryside. Follow the camera man as he takes you through France and along the River Bourne. Admire the spectacular grandeur of a rapid river, flowing between high cliffs capped with trees and masses of undergrowth, villages nestling at the foot of imposing mountains and roads hewn out in solid rock. This little travel picture is a good, interesting item to include in your programme.

## "IN PALESTINE"

**3026** **(One 30ft. Reel)** **TRAVEL**

Showing you two ancient towns in Palestine; Tiberias, which was capital of Galilee, and Nazareth. Much local colour is introduced into this film. You are shown the ancient streets of the towns, the Lake of Tiberias, through which the Jordan flows, Bedouins bringing home flocks, and in the market place of Nazareth, a typical character found in these regions, and many other interesting items.



## "A HUNTED HUNTER"

**10231*** **(Three 60ft. Reels)** **FARCE**

**Featuring SNUB POLLARD.**



Somewhere in a far-off tropical land, Snub is big-game hunting. He and his companions have hair-raising adventures while shooting ducks that chase them and playfully peck at the seats of their trousers. They even encounter a lion, but when a strange kind of monkey appears, the shock proves too much for our intrepid hunters. They rush for safety to the nearest town, and hide in what turns out to be the local sheik's private Palace. The sheik, a romantic man, has for years wanted to add a European lady to his collection of wives, and that morning he had kidnapped a charming young person who had wandered too near his palace. Snub's accidental intrusion saves the lady but . . .

You must see the film! It's a really good slapstick farce.

## "DESERT PREY"

**10355*** **(Three 60ft. Reels)** **DRAMA**

**We very much regret that owing to an accident at our Paris factory, the negative of "Desert Prey" has been ruined, and as this was the only negative, we are unable to obtain supplies of this film; we are, however, releasing S/526 "Our Lady of Love," and will give you a summary of this film in our next monthly issue.**



Gerard is not present at the hunt; nearby, he awaits the arrival of his chaffeur, who is to decoy Violette to a lonely spot, where Gerard is



waiting with his car. So far, the plot is a success. Violette is obliged to enter her cousin's car, and is in his entire power. Meanwhile, Lucy is thrown from her horse, and being badly hurt tells Robert, Violette's fiancée, what has happened. Robert hurries to the rescue, and succeeds in saving the girl of his heart. A good film of Algerian life.

# " LES MISERABLES "

## CHAPTER 1.

S/690 (Three Super Reels) DRAMA

## FANTINE.

### VICTOR HUGO'S IMMORTAL CLASSIC.

**Featuring SANDRA MILOWANOFF and M. GABRIEL GABRIO.**

Victor Hugo's great epic, beautifully reproduced on the cinematograph screen. We do not read about, but we actually live through, the sufferings of his famous characters. Here we see Jean Valjean, the escaped convict, a mighty figure, full of strength, Monseigneur Myriel, whose goodness regenerates Valjean, the pitiable Fantine, and appealing Cosette, Javert the police inspector. All these characters stand out with striking sincerity, giving you that emotion which Victor Hugo gave us in his book. The story is as follows :



On the way to Digne plodded a lonely and wild-looking figure, Jean Valjean, ex-convict, who had just been set free after spending nineteen years behind prison walls. Footsore, hungry and weary, the poor outcast at last finds shelter and food at the house of the Bishop of Digne, Monseigneur Myriel, who welcomes him in and even treats him as a guest of honour, ordering his servant to place on the table some silver candlesticks, which were used on special occasions only, and giving instructions for a bed to be prepared for the newcomer.

Unaccustomed to the softness of a bed, Jean Valjean fell into troubled dreams of his past. Awaking Jean remembers the silver, and depraved by the life he had to lead, he takes the basket containing the Bishop's knives and forks, and makes his departure. However, he is soon caught by the police, and hurried into the presence of the worthy Bishop, but, much to everyone's astonishment, the Bishop is quite unperturbed, and states that he has made his visitor a present of the silver—not only that which he had taken, but of the candlesticks as well. Jean Valjean left the Bishop's house a redeemed man, and richer in more ways than one.

One day, as Madame Thenardier, an Innkeeper's wife, was sitting in front of her inn, a pretty young girl came by, carrying a small child in her arms. The girl was Fantine, and her child a little girl named Cosette who had never known a father. While the child played with the Innkeeper's two little girls, the two mothers entered into conversation.





the attention of Javert, an ex-warder, and now police inspector, who connects it with the convict he had known previously; he also knows that Jean Valjean was required for a further crime, and decides to keep watch on Monsieur Madeleine.

Fantine, meanwhile, was obliged to write through a public writer to the Thenardiers, in order to send the necessary money for her child's upkeep. The staff of the factory soon heard that Fantine had a child, and turned her away.

The poor girl had now no money to send the Thenardiers and a fresh demand from the Innkeeper for money and clothes for Cosette drove her to extremeties. She sold her hair, but after that she had nothing more to dispose of. There was no choice for her. A woman driven to extremes. Fantine was troubled. She wanted to return to her native town of Montreuil-sur-Mer, and find employment there, but what could she do with the child? Would Madame be willing to look after Cosette for a certain sum ? The matter was fixed, and Fantine parted with her child, and set out alone to find work. Jean Valjean had started life afresh, and now, as Monsieur Madeleine, resided in Montreuil-sur-Mer, where luck had turned his way, and he had eventually risen to the position of Mayor and owner of a glass-ware Factory. It was to this Factory that Fantine came to seek work.

One day Monsieur Madeleine helps to extricate a man from beneath a cart. His great strength attracts



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### FILM CLASSICS.

Sub-standard cinematography is one of the means of preserving film classics. It is a pity that various films which helped to build the industry as it stands to-day, get entirely lost to the outside world. A movement has been afoot for some time for the re-issue of these films but, unfortunately, the intervention of " talkies " has stopped further developments, among the general public. We are glad to be able to announce that we have come to an arrangement with Messrs. Ufa Films, and will be able to release in the future, some of the " pillars " of the film industry.

Just to give you an idea of the films which will be available, you will be able to see in your own home, such films as The Nibelungen Saga, The Spy, Manon Lescaut, Metropolis, and others.

# "WINNERS TAKE ALL"

**S/603** **(One Super Reel)** **FARCE**

**Featuring PAUL PARROTT.**

Somehow Paul never could love a girl without someone else—generally bigger and better looking—butting in. It was a shame; but this time he determined to take the bull by the horns and actually challenge his rival—to a three-round contest of which the girl was to be the prize.



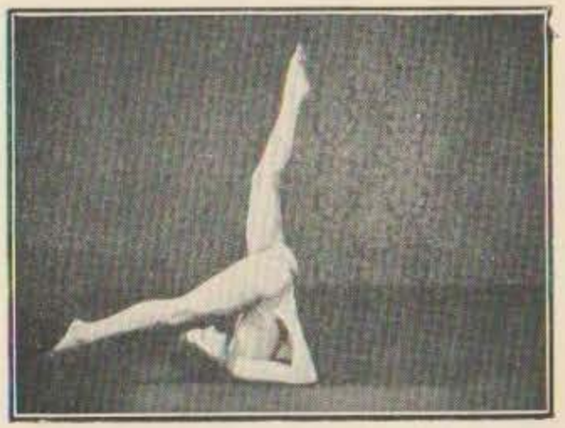
First diving . . . splash, bang, wallop, etc., etc. Then a most exasperating round of golf, in which a rabbit's little white tail has a way of resembling the ball whenever Paul is going to make a hit. Perhaps we had better leave you to see for yourselves what the third round consisted of.

You will probably enjoy the film all the more for not knowing what's coming next.

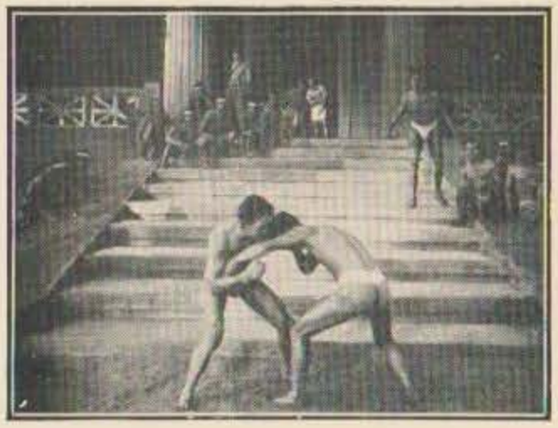
# "STRENGTH AND BEAUTY"

**S/719** **(One Super Reel)** **EDUCATIONAL**

Physical culture is the best means of keeping fit. People who cannot take sufficient exercise, become tired and weary and lose their zest for living. They become weak and ill, and the evils of this unhealthy mode of living, are reflected in their children.



In contrast, we are shown a sturdy baby who is made to exercise daily, and bonny youngsters who delight in such healthy exercises as pole climbing. Crawling exercises for the development and strengthening of weak spines, are demonstrated, and many others, while special attention is drawn to the dangers of wearing tight clothing. There are exercises for man and woman, as well as for the younger ones, which could be carried out by many, to great advantage. A film all should have for its great educational health value.



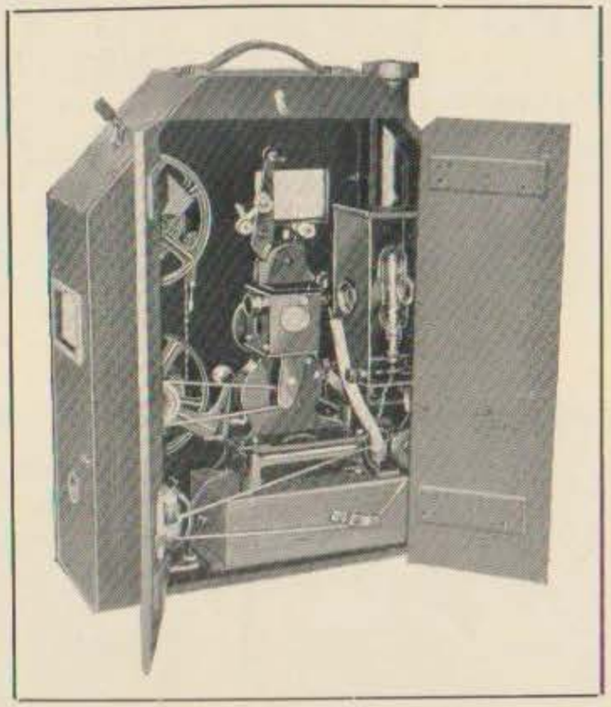


# amateur activities

We have received a most interesting description of an "elaborated projector" built by Mr. Anderson of Newton Mearns.

Mr. Anderson, an enthusiastic Pathé user, has embodied his Projector in a wooden case and thus, by an ingenious method, been able to use a larger lamphouse, and more powerful lamp. An air cooling device is fitted to this machine so that although a 200 volt 100 watt Osram projection lamp is used, there is no danger of buckling the film.

Mr. Anderson claims that it is possible to illuminate fully a picture four or five feet wide, when required, without over-running the bulb, and that, in use, the outfit is practically dead quiet. Below you see a photograph of the machine.



Mr. W. J. Austin, of The Stores, Queen Adelaide, Ely, Cambs, has sent us a very interesting description of a proposed attachment to the Projector, which would enable one to show ordinary lantern slides. Briefly, Mr. Austin's suggestion is that a lamp working on the lines of an ordinary lantern slide Projector, could be fixed in line with the Cine Projector, and used for the showing of announcements, slides and 'stills,' by making slide holders the width of a microscope slide the lantern could be probably used for micro projection.

Should any of our readers be interested, Mr. Austin will be pleased to give them particulars of his suggestion.

In January, we included a paragraph in our Monthly about the amateur film "When Scouting Won." We have now had an opportunity of viewing this film, and would like to congratulate Mr. Martin Cross on his excellent production. This film, practically all of which was taken out-of-doors in Somerset—a most appropriate setting for the subject—is exceedingly well carried through. Mr. Cross was lucky to have some very good actors at his disposal, and the main part, which was played by Cyril Chant, is exceptionally fine. The only criticism which we think we should mention is that parts of the film would gain by 'cutting.' It is very often to a films advantage to shorten certain actions, thus giving more vitality. The photography is good all through, except in one or two parts where, unfortunately, the film is slightly over-exposed. On the whole we think this film a most creditable production, and it will be certainly of interest to people connected with scouts, and we hope to see more of Mr. Martin Cross's productions in the future.

# SONODISC FILM PRODUCTIONS, Speldhurst, Kent.

The following article, dealing with experiments on synchronisation, has been submitted to us by Messrs. Sonodisc Film Productions, and as, at the present time, "talkies" are in fashion, we think that the details given in it will be of interest to our readers.

Sonodisc Productions have, since 1928, been experimenting on sound in conjunction with 9.5 m/m film, and now put before you the results of their work in this branch of a very fascinating subject.

Sound may be recorded satisfactorily on film, disc or wire. The latter two have been tried, and so far disc has shown itself the better method for amateurs.

Before attempting sound, an amplifier which will give undistorted reproduction, must be obtained, the one used by Sonodisc was part of the Company, so for the first test a record already made was used. We set our Camera up, and had our pick-ups ready to play back the sound as our "Star" had to act to both. Our engineer had many doubtful moments after the film had been 'shot' and much discussion took place as to the amount of latitude permissable; however, when the film was projected it was found possible to show same by simply hand-cranking or using the motor-driven Projector. The film was in synchronisation all the time. This proved that it was not beyond the amateur to give his films a talking sequence. We spent many late nights discussing various methods of sound recording. The one we most favoured was the Phonograph, from which we obtained quite successful results; however, our sound engineer had something else up his sleeve. Messrs. Cairns Morrison were giving us the first two sets of their "Home Recorder," these duly arrived, and were soon fitted up for use. We thought we would be successful at last, but we had underated various outside noises. Again we argued, and eventually adopted the system of taking the sound first, and then the film with the actors acting to the sound played back.



author's Wireless Transmitting Station, but the low frequency side of an ordinary radio set will be found quite satisfactory.

The next requirement is a gramophone turntable, two if possible, at our own testing projection room, two are used, but when a public show is being given, we generally use three, which are all connected up to a suitable switch board. This subject however, we must leave to your own inclination. Having started our apparatus running, we are now ready to start our film. Sonodisc were lucky to have an artist who had recorded for a Gramophone



Having obtained your apparatus, suppose you wish to make last year's holiday film into a "Talkie" travel; run the film through your Projector, make notes as to the points of interest, then, after having started up both Projector and Recorder, speak into the microphone the various notes just mentioned. When finished, you will have a film accompanied with your own voice. After attempting a film of this nature you will realise how easy it is, providing a little care is taken, to make your own "Talkie" shorts. At some future date we hope to be able to describe the method of handling both microphone and film simultaneously; in the meantime, however, should you be interested and wish to obtain further information, we invite you to write to us direct, addressing your envelope to the writer of the article, and marking it "SOUND," (W. G. Bennett, "Salus," Speldhurst, Kent).



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## FILMS WITHDRAWN.

You have noticed in last month's issue that we were withdrawing a certain number of films. These withdrawals are necessary from time to time, owing to the fact that the negative from which the film is obtained, becomes worn, and therefore the prints will not conform with our usual high standard.

You may be interested to know that certain films which have been catalogued and withdrawn, have now risen in value, and we have had cases where a higher price has been paid, for films of this description, than their original value.

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## LAMPS.

May we draw your attention once again to the importance of not overvolting your lamps. This does not only shorten the life of the lamps, but will also blister your film. The pointer on the ammeter should be kept slightly below the red line, and if your lamp is properly centered in the Projector, you should get a perfectly even white screen. Remember also that it is advisable to lower your lamp house immediately you finish projecting your film.

# LIBRARIES.

For the convenience of our customers, we will be publishing from time to time names and addresses of film libraries which are conducted all over the country.

**London :**

Messrs. A. W. Gamage, Ltd.,
Holborn, E.C.1

Messers. Service Co., Ltd.,
289 High Holborn, W.C.1

Messrs. City Sale & Exchange (1929) Ltd.,
52 Cheapside,
London, E.C.2.

Messrs. Photographia,
873 Finchley Road,
N.W.11

**Provinces :**

Messrs. Riley Bros., Ltd.,
31 John Street,
Bradford, Yorks.

Messrs. Boatman & Co.,
Prudential Buildings,
Market Road,
Chelmsford.

Messrs. Will R. Rose,
3 Promenade,
Cheltenham.

Messrs. Lizars,
101-7 Buchanan Street,
Glasgow.
381 Sauchiehall Street,
Glasgow.
6 Shandwick Place,
Edinburgh.
27 High Street,
Paisley.
14 West Blackhall Street,
Greenock.
12 Muir Street,
Motherwell.
171 Union Street,
Aberdeen.
8 Wellington Place,
Belfast.
71 Bold Street,
Liverpool.

Mr. H. G. Thompson,
5 Northampton Street,
Leicester.

Messrs. Battles,
Lincoln,

Messrs. Jarrold & Sons,
London Street,
Norwich.

Messrs. Bathes,
24 Fleet Street,
Torquay.

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**TIPS FOR THE AMATEUR PRODUCER.**

If you intend producing a film, remember that one of the chief difficulties of a producer who has not the convenience of a well-equipped studio, is trying to produce too complicated a story; therefore, it is advisable to choose the simplest possible story, requiring the least amount of setting, and you will find that the finished results will be much more to your satisfaction.

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**OF INTEREST TO TITRA OWNERS.**

**We have stocks of a new accessory which will be found most useful for those who make their own titles. This consists of a box divided into 66 compartments, for holding the characters used in titling. The accessory is called " Sectional Rack," and will be sold at 12/6.**



# amateur societies

**ACE MOVIES.**

We have received the following news from this club; " How Drinkers are being saved," a film of unusual interest, good photography, and sincere acting, has just been completed by the 9 m/m unit of Ace Movies.

The story, a satire on an advertisement in Old Moore's Almanac, is directed in a most interesting manner by North; this film tells its own story, no sub-titles are used, and the photography is excellent. Any London Society or reader of the Monthly, wishing to view this film, is invited to write to the Studios, 119 Mitcham Lane, S.W.16

The Society is starting on a new 9 m/m production, " Fire," by Ian Fox of ' Film Weekly.'

**APEX MOTION PICTURES.**

In the semi-darkness of a North London drawing room, a group of people watched what is, without doubt, the most ambitious amateur film to date. " The Whispering Army," Apex Motion Pictures " Unfinished Symphony " was being shown. It was only the rushes, and yet it held its audience. On the screen the quiet peace of country lanes was followed by the hurley-burley of the Alhambra, flaming with Hitchcock's " Murder," a life-size crucifix, against a background of rolling Kentish uplands, is followed by grim scenes at the Central Criminal Courts, Old Bailey. It is doubtful when this all-talking, all-sound film will be finished; Lewis Stringer, its leading man, has left London on a prolonged tour of the provinces with the "Middle Watch" Company. Meantime, Apex plan to start work on another picture and shelve " The Whispering Army " until such time as its hero returns. The programme referred to above included the units " For Crying Out Aloud," a comedy short which occasioned roars of laughter, and " Delirium," kindly loaned by Ace Movies of Streatham. The latter film had a very good reception, and the members commented on its capable direction.

Apex meetings are to be held regularly every fortnight. All communications to the Society should be addressed to the Secretary, Miss Louise Johnson, at 50 Harrington Street, N.W.1

**LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.**

The above Society has recently formed a section for members interested in Cine Photography, the exhibition in which awards will be given extra class in the forthcoming exhibition in which afards will be given for the best pictorial film not exceeding 100 feet sub-standard. Should any readers of the " Pathéscope Monthly " be interested, they are invited to write direct to George T. Herbert, Esq., 40 Brazil St., Leicester.

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**

Disabled officer would welcome the loan of Pathé films, amateur or otherwise, all types gladly received. Greatest care taken. Quickly returned. All postage paid. Fee if required.

Gardiner,
Officers Hospital,
Scio House,
Roehampton, S.W.15

## THE WIMBLEDON AND DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB.

251 West Barnes Lane,
New Malden,
Surrey.

We read with great interest in the "Pathéscope Monthly," of the Wimbledon Cine Club, and would like to take this opportunity of wishing them every success, and to also state that a branch of the above named Club has been actively engaged on the production of 9.5 m/m films for the past two years.

The results of our labours have been shown at our annual Exhibition. Last year we produced a film with a model railway flavour called "The Stolen Superheater," this film, together with one dealing with light railways in Wales, and made during the Whitsun Holiday 1930, was shown from December 11th—13th, to audiences totalling nearly 400. Plans are afoot for this year's production. Anyone having a combined interest in railway and cine productions will be welcomed.

We meet on the first and third Mondays of each month at Red Cross Hall, Church Road, Wimbledon.

Further particulars from the above address.


# ZEISS TRIOTAR f/2.9

LARGER APERTURE BETTER DEFINITION



The Triotar, a Motocamera fitted with a genuine 2.9 Zeiss lens, is sold at the exceedingly low price of **£14 - 14 - 0**



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