

EVENTS IN HOLLYWOOD

Voting on Annual Motion Picture Awards —News of Stars and Films—

HOLLYWOOD, CAL.

PERHAPS there is no community of equal size throughout the civilized world that is so prolific of news as Hollywood. Even if the affairs of the motion picture industry are necessarily confined to the routine of the business at hand, yet the importance of the motion picture in the modern scheme of things gives the Hollywood hall-mark a stamp of ubiquitous appeal. There is literally something happening every minute to be set down by the faithful chronicler in the cinema capital, and of a range of interest that runs the gamut from the most casual social item to the most intimate technical announcement from the laboratories.

The annual voting for the Motion Picture Academy awards is in progress, and it is always interesting to find out what Hollywood thinks of itself when put to the question. Certain departments, such as the camera and technical groups, will be hard put to find something to single out as the best contribution to the work at hand during the past year. In the days when such photographic masterpieces as "Sunrise" were being made in Hollywood, it was not difficult to single out a man like Karl Struss for his incomparable handling of the cameras. Today, with sound pictures dominating the situation, the screen has edged away from its responsibilities as a pictorial art. While many of the best films are pleasing to look at—whichever handled the photographic end of "They Had to Sea Paris" and "The Dawn Patrol" made unusually agreeable footage to watch—there is little invention in the camera game or little attempt to do more than to give the plain facts of the case. Perhaps the most interesting item to come to light technically this year is the new Radio-beam microphone which R-K-O used recently in filming its new railroad epic, "The Record Run." Mr. Struss, who was at the cameras during this experimental use of the new instrument that records certain sounds in the line of the radio beam to the exclusion of other sounds, has testified to its possibilities and prophesies its extended use.

News Reel Theatre.

Los Angeles is the latest city to fall in line with a news reel theatre of its own. It is being operated under the West Coast management and is apparently as successful in catching the attention of the man with an hour on his hands as in any other community. The Orpheum Theatre, where "The Dawn Patrol" is playing, gave the night crew an extra vigil by recently keeping its doors open for thirty-eight consecutive hours. The Filmarte Theatre, the only house in Greater Los Angeles to harbor foreign and experimental films, recently brought to light one of the first all-color feature pictures, "The Glorious Adventure," made in England, with Stuart Blackton directing and Lady Diana Manners starring.

The much talked of "Reaching for the Moon" that Irving Berlin has written for Douglas Fairbanks and Bebe Daniels is still in the process of readaptation. Edmund Goulding and Mr. Fairbanks are in daily consultation and production is now scheduled for the first week in October. Miss Daniels, with several weeks on her hands, has been spoken by First National and is to do "Ex-Mistress" at once. Mr. Fairbanks continues his daily touring of the local golf courses. Mary Pickford and Sam Taylor are likewise in daily conference over her forthcoming talking version of "Kiki." Miss Pickford seems to have a predilection for taking on parts that Norma Talmadge once enacted on the silent screen. Her third talking venture is an ambitious one, considering the requirements of the part, but she has little to worry over as regards the French accent that is the most important element in characterizing the new "Kiki"—she is now to be a French girl in a New York setting—as Miss Pickford speaks French as normally and fluently as English, a true basis for an authentic accent. Yvonne Vallee, otherwise Mme. Chevalier, has just made her Hollywood debut in talking pictures, playing opposite her famous husband in Paramount's French version of "The Little Café." They are both vacationing in Paris prior to starting on the Winter's program in Hollywood. Mme. Chevalier, having preceded her husband by some ten days in order to reach her mother, who is ill in Paris. Maurice Chevalier, after a triumphant farewell dinner in his

honor at the Roosevelt, at which he kept a notable company of film celebrities regaled for more than an hour, followed on by himself in enforced and unusual solitude, for the Chevalliers are one of the most inseparable couples in the film colony.

Following the vogue of the popular M-G-M dog pictures—the latest of these hilarious canine burlesques is "The Big Dog House"—comes a similar type of short picture acted by monkeys. All the clichés of the old-fashioned Western melodrama are crowded into this simian gambol that is packed as full of laughs as any two-reeler could comfortably be. Some of those fascinating microscopic insect studies that Sol Lesser used to release might be made over with dialogue and sound to good advantage; and how about a talking advancement of Kipling's "Jungle Books,"

with Mowgli and all his woodland pals.

D. W. Griffith's "Lincoln" has had its initial showing at the United Artists studios before a group of officials and, according to all reports, he has produced a very handsome transcription of this undying chapter of American history. Sheridan's famous march to the sea serves to give the famous Griffith climactic touch to the picture, and he has stressed the sentimental side of the great emancipator, in his own particular way. After lying fallow for several years, since the departure of the Lasky-Zukor forces to their present holdings off Melrose Avenue, the historical Paramount lot, the site of the original motion-picture studio in Hollywood, where Cecil de Mille contrived "The Squaw Man," has at last gone the way of all lots, and is being decked out with a thirty-six hole miniature golf course. Fancier and fancier they grow, and somewhere in this far-flung city there is a mammoth affair under way that will spread a grand total of seventy-two tricky holes before the ambitious putter.

RALPH FLINT.



Adolphe Menjou and Claudette Colbert in "L'Enigmatique Monsieur Parkes," the Audible French Version of "Slightly Scarlet."