

MAJESTI Theatre

TO-DAY

MARY PICKFORD

With all her glorious curls, her smile and cheerful spirit comes to you in

"The Love Light"

It moves and cheers—it softens and refreshes—it stirs and gladdens—it charms and appeals—it presents "Our Mary" as an Italian girl in a melodramatic story, so human that you will leave the theatre with the exclamation: PERFECTLY WONDERFUL!

MAJESTI Theatre

TO-DAY

Moving Pictures of Submarine Life.

(From the Wide World Magazine.) The astonishing development of the "moving picture" as an entertainment has to some extent overshadowed its possibilities as a genuine aid to general knowledge. One interesting aspect of the film picture is its power, by variations of speed, of slowing down or speeding up natural processes or movements, so that we can watch the beating of a fly's wings, or perceive the growth of a plant. But a fresh interest has been given to the cinematograph by the recent enterprise of Mr. J. E. Williamson, who has succeeded in taking actual pictures of undersea life.

The February number of the Wide World Magazine contains a vivid account of this novel achievement, written by Mr. A. Hyatt Verrill, and by the courtesy of the editor we are enabled to give some extracts from this article, with a selection from the illustrations.

"As in many another case," says Mr. Verrill, "Mr. Williamson's achievement was made possible almost by accident, and by means of apparatus designed for a totally different purpose. His father, Captain Charles Williamson, a noted marine architect and inventor, realised the necessity for devices for salvaging sunken ships, and designed a practical apparatus for the purpose. This consisted of a heavy steel chamber, which was lowered into the sea and connected with the float or ship by means of a flexible sectional steel tube. Descending through this tube to the water-tight chamber, the salvager could locate wrecks through heavy glass windows through which the beams of a powerful searchlight were cast. Instantly it was constructed, his son, who was then a news photographer, saw other possibilities in the apparatus.

"With alterations and improvements he transformed the steel chamber into a camera room, and let the marvels of the ocean's floor and the teeming life of the depths were his to record."

At first the idea was regarded as not feasible. It was said that no light could reach the sea's bottom, and that the exposures would have to be so long that the taking of the film-picture would be out of the question. But actual trial proved that the depths were illuminated "by a clear bluish light of high actinic value"; the beams of the electric light were even more effective than on land. And so the work began in earnest.

"Selecting the Bahamas as the scene for his operations, Mr. Williamson prepared to take the first undersea film, a marvellous series of pictures of submarine life entitled 'The Williamson Submarine Expedition.' These photographs depicted masses of living coral, vast forests of sea-fans and sea-roids, schools of strange fish, and an ancient wreck. To add thrill and realism to the scene, a

diver was pictured as he moved about upon the ocean's floor amid the fishes."

For public and popular appreciation, however, this was unfortunately "too slow." Something had to be done to "give things up" a bit; and the Bahaman sponge-divers were introduced—plunging in after coals tossed overboard. The idea of getting a shark to "pose" as a subject might seem far beyond credibility; yet Mr. Williamson managed this apparent impossibility. He secured the carcass of a horse, anchored it near the chamber, and waited patiently for discovery. "Contrary to all popular ideas and stories, the creatures did not turn on their sides to bite!"

The next development seems to show that Mr. Williamson possesses as much courage as ingenuity; but for the exciting account of his battle with a shark—in the interests of science—we must refer our readers to the Wide World Magazine itself. Obviously, further elaborations of this extraordinary and fascinating science-sport could be thought out. That story which enthralled our youthful days, Jules Verne's "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," presented opportunities not to be neglected; it was reconstructed, octopus, Nautilus and all complete, and successfully "filmed." Other sets followed this, in which Mr. Williamson's skill was shown, and the preparation of these, with the dangers accompanying the work, is fully described in the article.

Still more risky happenings came when the pioneer of undersea motion-pictures began to use a "self-contained" diving suit, which has none of the usual pipes or air-lines, but is supplied with air by chemical means.

Mr. Williamson, realising the important advantages these suits offered, decided to use them, but he was totally unfamiliar with their operation and could find no diver who had any more knowledge of the matter than himself. By chance he learned that the United States Navy had adopted the suits and that naval divers had been trained in their use. Through friends he succeeded in inducing the authorities to lend him these trained men. When all was in readiness for their departure for the Bahamas, word was received of the sinking of a United States submarine near Honolulu. The navy divers were immediately ordered to the spot, and Mr. Williamson found himself with the self-contained suits, his company, his outfit, and not a man who could use the suits!

There was nothing to do but go at it blindly, trusting to luck, and that he or his men were not killed is a miracle. Though no one died while experimenting, there were some

mighty close shaves. One man, for instance, rose to the surface waving his arms wildly, and was drawn hastily into a boat sent to his rescue. As his face-plate was removed a flame burst from the helmet, but the man survived. By accident he had got a few granules of oxylyth on his lips and then, while below water, had leaned sideways until the water touched these granules. The sharp pain of the burning chemical caused him to release his mouthpiece, the water entering the oxylyth tank, and instantly poisonous gases filled the helmet. Realising that death stared him in the face the man managed by superhuman efforts to release his weighted belt, and even tore off one of his lead-soled shoes, before he lost consciousness. This was all that saved his life.

After describing several narrow escapes which make the reader hold his breath and shudder, Mr. Verrill concludes by saying that "in one respect, at least, Mr. Williamson is perfectly safe—he need fear no competition in his own field. Even if some clever individual should devise an undersea device which did not infringe the Williamson patents, there are few who would care to undertake submarine motion-pictures. It is rare indeed that a man combines the qualities of an inventive genius, a scenario writer, a photographer, and a deep-sea diver with those of an accomplished actor, and is, in addition, absolutely devoid of fear. Mr. Williamson, however, is all these and more, and it is this combination of qualities that has made his submarine pictures possible."

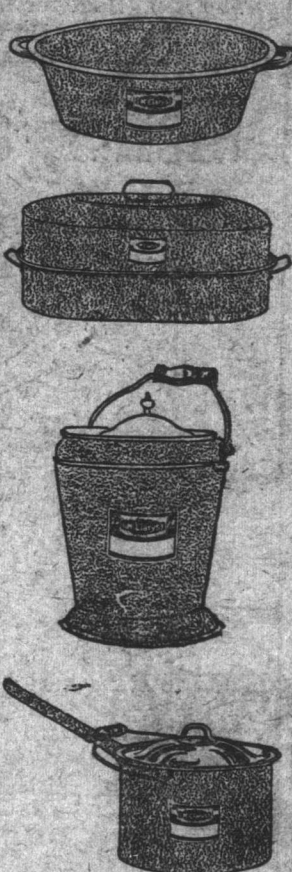
Runaway Car Kills Child in New York.

New York, June 8.—A runaway trolley car killed 12-year-old Margaret McLaughlin, and injured three other persons last night, when it dashed to the foot of a hill on 125th street, and crashed into a five-story tenement house. The car and lower floors of the building were wrecked. The child was not a passenger on the car, but was playing in the street when it struck her. Slippery rails, caused by a heavy rain, were believed to have caused the accident.

Noted Chinese Engineer.

Jeme Tien-yu, better known among Chinese as Chan Tien-yu, died recently at Hankow. He was the builder of the Peking-Kalgan railway, the only purely Chinese railway, and has held many important posts in connection with China's railways and the ministry of communications. In building the Kalgan road he made a record for efficiency and success in doing good work at small cost not yet equalled by any foreign engineer in China in any large undertaking. He was American-trained.—Far East-Bureau Bulletin.

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Germany Brings Old Spinning Wheels Back.

Spinning wheels are coming to life again in various German linen districts, as a sign of the high prices for inland textile prices. No less than 240 small, hand-operated linen factories have lately been opened in the rural districts of Oldenburg, Bremen, Lüneburg, and further west, prompted by the reported increase of flax cultivated area in the North German districts, which is stated to be 40 per cent. larger than it was last year. The estimated number still existing, or again coming to life of hand-operated spinning wheels in Bavaria is 500,000. Similar conditions obtain in the Saxon and Silesian linen districts, where factory-made linen can hardly compete with hand-made qualities.

Such is the surprising comment of the German Department of Labor, which recently carried on a systematic census of the home industries in Germany! Whereas only a year ago the spinning wheel was merely a

relic of olden and long-forgotten times, a blossoming industry has sprung up which bids fair to be a close, albeit not a powerful, competitor of the German mechanical linen mills.

Many of the smaller consumers are in this way obtaining an adequate supply of good linen and the business of the large mechanical mills falls so much short of what it might be if prices were in any way more reasonable. Far-seeing linen producers, according to the Association of German Linen Manufacturers, with headquarters in Berlin, have assured a better supply of home grown flax, supposedly for themselves, by propagating the need of more and better flax at low inland prices, but they have unwittingly played into the hands of the farmers, who realised their chance and took it by organising an extensive system of home-operated spindles.

At St. Bon's Sports there will be 500 reserved chairs. Tickets (20c.) may be had at entrance. June 12, 21.

Just Folks.

By EDGAR A. GUEST.

THE GENTLE DEEDS.
Who would be loved needs neither wealth of fame
Nor robe of glory. He has but to find
Room in his heart for gentle deeds
And kind.
Men's eyes shall glow at mention of his name.
Revering joys which blossom when he left behind.
The stamp of worth is printed on the mind
In lasting letters which cannot claim
A gentle way when sorrow hides the sun.
A kindly voice when all the thoughtless sneer.
A heart forgiving when a wrong is done.
These are the traits which all mankind reveres.
Who would be loved on earth has but to find
Room in his heart for gentle deeds and kind.

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