

## CANADIAN FILMS.

It has long been a subject of regret and of some surprise that more enterprise has not been exhibited by Canadians in producing national moving pictures. With unrivalled scenery, a history exceptionally romantic, teeming with adventure, pathos and thrilling incident, all the ingredients for gripping pictorial dramatization are present, and yet this rich field has remained practically neglected, and we are dependent on alien producers, out of touch with the genius of the country.

At last a real attempt is to be made to remedy this defect. The Canadian Historic Features, of Vancouver, are about to produce a "made-in-Canada" film, which ought to supply the long-felt want. The subject chosen for the first experiment is founded upon the Rev. R.G. MacBeth's well-known book, "Policing the Plains," the graphic story of the North-West Mounted Police, which has been read and admired by all who love their country and its institutions and has received the highest praise from literary critics. Mr. MacBeth wrote from an intimate personal knowledge, and has produced a book of absorbing interest.

The story of the Mounted Police, as it will be presented in the picturization of this narrative, is the story of the settlement and growth of Western Canada. It is a topic which appeals to young and old alike, an epic of courage, of endurance, of virile achievement. The dangers and tragedies of the early days, the noble accomplishment of the great pioneers, the railway builders, the gold-seekers; the suppression of rebellion and the tracking down of criminals - it may well be believed, as the prospectus claims, that such things "properly portrayed as a living panorama, with the Mounted Police as the central figures, will dwarf into insignificance the fictional productions."

It is hoped that other works of prime interest to Canadians will be produced later, and all will wish for the success of the enterprise. If the company holds to its intention to produce a series of educational films of this character, presenting authentic history in a manner to entertain and impress itself on the minds of the audiences, it will be doing a serviceable work for cinema patrons, and at the same time will be contributing to an important national movement. We have been too long fed from extraneous sources, and are becoming surfeited with that kind of diet.

(Hamilton Spectator)

*Editorial*