

Wallace Reid Runs Amuck! Biff, Bang! \$30,000 Gone!

Star of "The Affairs of Anatol" in Cecil B. De Mille's Big Picture "The Affairs of Anatol."

Securing \$30,000 worth of furniture for a single interior setting and then smashing the outfit before the camera produces photoplay realism, but at a well-nigh prohibitive cost. Yes, that is what Cecil B. De Mille did in his Paramount production, "The Affairs of Anatol," which will be shown at the Nickel Theatre next Monday.

The setting in question serves as a background for a part of the story portrayed by Wallace Reid, Gloria Swanson, Elliott Dexter, Bebe Daniels, Wanda Hawley, Theodore Roberts and other all-star players. It is an ultra-luxurious apartment and Howard Higgin, production manager for Cecil B. De Mille productions, was instructed to spare no expense.

The result was an attractive suite designed by Paul Irtbe—furnished with approximately \$30,000 worth of furniture. This included a valuable set of Louis XVI chairs, a magnificent carved photograph case of unique design, a grand piano, lamps, mirrors, tables, a desk, lounge, pictures and bric-a-brac.

At the climax of this episode, Wallace Reid was instructed to run amuck, smashing everything breakable in the set. The orders were comprehensive and Reid obeyed them to the letter. Not one stick of furniture remained in its original shape when the vandalism was complete! Using the small pieces of furniture as bludgeons, Reid shattered everything in sight while the camera clicked just out of range of his blows. Mirrors, lamps, chairs, phonograph and piano were demolished one by one. As a conclusion to the scene, the husky star seized the huge overstuffed divan and hurled it bodily through the French doors at one end of the set.

From Poverty to Fame.

GENIUS WHO INVENTED COAL-GAS LIGHTING.

There is no more inspiring story in the annals of science and invention than that of William Murdoch, the Scotsman who, by his discovery of coal-gas lighting, won fame, but not a fortune.

The son of a millwright of Old Cumnock, a village in Ayrshire, Murdoch was born more than one hundred and sixty years ago in a low-roofed thatched cottage. In his youth he showed ingenuity in mechanics, and a wooden horse of his own contrivance, on which he and his brothers rode to school at Cumnock, is claimed as the forerunner of the modern locomotive.

At the age of twenty-three the young inventor came to England and entered the service of Messrs. Boulton and Watt, of Birmingham. He changed the spelling of his name from Murdoch to Murdock, out of consideration for the Englishman's natural inability to pronounce the guttural.

Field #1 a Week.

In Birmingham he made the acquaintance of another genius, for the Watt of the firm was the famous inventor of the steam-engine.

It was when he found it necessary to light his way on his walk home from work that Murdoch began to experiment with the distillation of various classes of coal, with the result that he made his great discovery. After that he used to carry at night a gas-filled bladder under his arm. He squeezed the gas out with his elbow, and it burned at the end of a pipe attached to the bladder.

It was in 1798 that Murdoch constructed apparatus for lighting the

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Birmingham works—a step which marked the beginning of the use of coal-gas for industrial purposes. Until after his forty-fourth year he was never paid more than £1 a week. But to a man of his temperament money mattered little. However, he earned £1,000 a year before he died in Birmingham at the age of eighty-five.—TH-Bits.

What one of the Best known Travellers in Canada Says:—

"Now I am going to give you an unsolicited testimonial as they say in the patent medicine advertising. Heretofore I have had a profound contempt for patent medicines, particularly so-called liniments. Perhaps this is due to the reason that I have been blessed with a sturdy constitution, and have never been ill a day in my life. One day last fall after a hard day's tramp in the slush of Montreal, I developed a severe pain in my legs and of course like a man who has never had anything wrong with him physically, I complained rather boisterously. The good little wife says: 'I will rub them with some liniment.' I have 'Go ahead,' I said, just to humor her. 'Well, in she comes with a bottle of Minard's Liniment and gets busy. Believe me the pain disappeared a few minutes after, and you can tell the world I said so.'"

FRANK E. JOHNS, Montreal.

People Who Eat Poison.

The Only Arsenic Mine in the World. Several years ago, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, a farmer cleared some new ground for pasture. Noticing that his cattle became sick and that one of them died, he had the water from a spring in the field analysed, and it was found to contain arsenic. The discovery resulted in the development of an arsenic mining and refining plant.

This plant, at the little town of Brinton, is the only one in the world devoted solely to the production of arsenic. Other refineries produce it as a by-product in refining silver, antimony, and other ores.

Pure arsenic is a steel-grey metallic substance, but the poison is better known in the form of an oxide, the white arsenic usually produced by the refineries. At Brinton ore is found running in small veins through a grey mica quartz formation.

Increases Weight and Appetite.

When taken from the mine, it is put through a crusher and then placed in an iron tube known as a calciner. Here, for forty-five minutes, it is subjected to a heat of 3,000 degrees F. The resulting gases deposit arsenic in the form of an oxide on to "baffle" plates in a fine 319 ft. long. The deposit, a dirty grey powder full of impurities, is placed in a refining furnace, and eventually the pure oxide is ground to a powder and placed in barrels by an automatic machine, after which it is ready for shipment.

The arsenic has no ill effect upon the workers in the mine. On the contrary, they are said to benefit by contact with it. Though it is poisonous both in the metallic state and in most of its compounds, a relatively large amount must be taken to be really dangerous.

Some people, notably the Styrians of Austria, have developed the arsenic-eating habit, which is said to result in increase of weight, strength, appetite, and a clear complexion.

Where Legislation Is Taught.

The London School of Economics and Political Science, where anybody, whether he has matriculated or not, can study, has just moved into a new home in Houghton Street, Aldwych. It is not necessary for a student to do a full university course, but, if he wish, he may attend this school after his day's work.

There he can study accountancy, economic theory, mathematics, and statistics, commercial and industrial law, logic and scientific method, economic history, and all the many subjects that may enable anybody to become the economist or legislator of the future.

The school is less than thirty years old. It began in October, 1895, in two rooms at John Street, Adelphi. Seven years later it moved into bigger premises in Clare Market, Kingsway. The foundation stone of the new building was laid by his Majesty the King on May 28th, 1920. It is now complete except for one wing.

In addition to the London building, the school has a large athletic ground near Malden, just outside London; and at Midhurst it has a country mansion, with an estate of about one hundred and sixty acres, which is available to the students for holidays and private study.

Consumption Decline.

IMPROVED TREATMENT RESULTS.

The Cambridgehire Tuberculosis Colony at Payworth, was visited by Sir Alfred Macleod, Minister of Health, who opened 31 new cottages, and the nurses' home there.

Sir Alfred said Tuberculosis was declining; he found that the death rate was 2000 per million in 1877; in 1907 was 2000 per million, while in 1920 the number had been reduced to 840 per million.

As the result of negotiations between the British Red Cross Society and Dr. Henri Spillinger, the Swiss bacteriologist, consumptives in Great Britain will have the benefit of the latest tuberculosis vaccine sooner than would have otherwise been the case. Invented by him in 1913, the serum, it is claimed, eradicates all trace of bacilli and stops fever.

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LAND THAT CANNOT BE CULTIVATED.

It may seem absurd to talk of deserts in a small and over-populated island like our own; yet if by deserts you imply a considerable area of wild, uncultivated land, you can find quite a number in the country, and two within a moderate distance of London itself.

The nearest, of course, is Salisbury Plain, which has so thin a soil that it never has, and never will, pay for cultivation. The other is much less known, and in a way much more interesting. This is the Great Heath of Dorchester, which stretches from Poole and Canford Magna in the east to Looe in the west.

As desolate as Dartmoor. A waste of heather, gorse, and bracken, it has remained unchanged for at least twenty centuries. Its most curious natural features are certain great pits or hollows, the best known of which is called Culpepper's Dish.

Here is an enormous concave pit of considerable depth, of which the origin remains unknown. But it must be natural, for there is no sign of earth heaped around the rim, as would be the case had it been excavated by man.

Devon and Cornwall possess considerable areas of absolutely desert country. The largest of these is the Forest of Dartmoor, a vast tableland, roughly twenty by twenty miles. It covers 140,000 acres, and lies at an average height of 1,700 feet above sea level. Yet it has no summits which exceed 2,000 feet. It is, in fact, the worn-down stump of an ancient mountain range, its strongest feature is perhaps the copse of ancient oaks standing above the West Dart, and known as Wistman's Wood.

Cornwall's desert is Bodmin Moor, which, if not so high and rugged as Dartmoor, is at least equally desolate. Its moors are even worse than those of Dartmoor, Crowdy Bog having a particularly evil reputation.

Wales has the great waste of Snowdon, the northern side of which still remains a virgin chaos of crag and cliff. In Cardiganshire is a great stretch of wild, uninhabited country, a tract perhaps less known to the tourist than any other in the British Isles.

The largest desert area in England is that of the Northumberland Fells. Here roads are scarce and railways scarcer, and in winter the shepherds, isolated by snowdrifts, lead an existence which, for sheer loneliness, is comparable only to that of a trapper in the depths of the forest of the great North-West.

The only sand desert to be seen in the British Isles is Culbin Sands, which cover a large area in Nairn and Elgin, on the south side of the Moray Firth. Yet this country, which, only a few centuries ago, was rich, well-cultivated land.

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