

## GIVES LIST OF THE TEN BEST PHOTOPLAYS PRODUCED IN U. S. DURING THE YEAR JUST ENDED

(Richard Watts, Jr., in New York Herald-Tribune.)

Here it is time again to make out lists of the ten best pictures of the last year; the ten best performances, and all the other arbitrary selections no cinema critic would think of avoiding. Perhaps you will think the whole thing something less than necessary, but it does have its advantages. For to the overburdened reviewers, faced by a deluge of new works that make the word "holiday" something of a jest, the idea is not unpleasant. It is so much more fun making up lists than it is thinking up ideas for stories that it comes as a sort of semi-vacation.

Before offering my selections, however, I would preface them by the usual apologies. In the first place, the films and people picked express only my feeling at the moment. I am sure that if I made my lists tomorrow there would be changes in them. I am certain, too, that I must have over-looked a few pictures and performances that should have been mentioned. If you press me, I will even confess that I have no other basis for my choices than these feelings and recollections of the moment.

With these explanations, then, I offer my list of the ten best photoplays of 1927:

"Chang."  
"Stark Love."  
"Service for Ladies."  
"Resurrection."  
"Blonde or Brunette."  
"Twelve Miles Out."  
"Underworld."  
"Man, Woman and Sin."  
"The High School Hero."  
"The Way of All Flesh."

My selections a year ago were: "Potemkin," "Variety," "Faust," "The Grand Duchess and the Waiter," "So This Is Paris," "Beau Geste," "The Waltz Dream," "Upstage," "The Fire Brigade" and "Hands Up." With regret I must confess that the newer

list cannot compare in quality with the works of 1926.

Here are the ten performances of 1927 that I remember most vividly: Janet Gaynor in "Seventh Heaven," Ivan Moskvina in "Polykushka," Dolores del Rio in "Resurrection," Ernest Torrence in "Twelve Miles Out."

Lawrence Grant in "Service for Ladies."

George Bancroft in "Underworld," Eve Southern in "Wild Geese," Emil Jannings in "The Way of All Flesh."

Greta Garbo in "Love," Greta Nissen in "Blonde or Brunette."

Among other portrayals that may well dispute the title of those selected for the first group are Charles Farrell in "Seventh Heaven," Rod La Rocque in "Resurrection," Richard Arlen in "Wings," Marion Davies in "Quality Street," Louis Wolheim in "Two Arabian Knights," Phyllis Haver in "The Way of All Flesh" and John Gilbert and Jeannie Eagels in "Man, Woman and Sin."

Next comes the list of the ten directors whose work seemed to me the most interesting and important of 1927:

Harry d'Arrast.  
Karl Brown.  
Cooper and Schoedsack.  
Edwin Carewe.  
Josef von Sternberg.  
Frank Borzage.  
Monta Bell.  
Victor Fleming.  
David Butler.  
Tod Browning.

If you point out that the above list contains the names of eleven rather than ten directors, I can only plead that the work of the Messrs. Cooper and Schoedsack cannot well be divided, so I have taken the simplest way or regarding them for the present purposes as one director.

As for the ten players who seem to

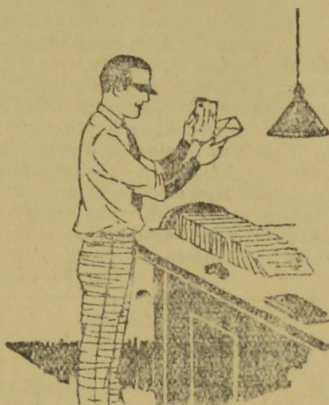
me to have made the greatest strides in ability and popular regard I would name:

Greta Garbo.  
Janet Gaynor.  
Billie Dove.  
George Bancroft.  
Laura La Plante.  
Phyllis Haver.  
Charles Farrell.  
Alice White.  
Leila Hyams.  
Dolores Costello.

If you care for reminiscences you may conceivably be interested in the following list of the ten performers selected in these columns a year ago as making the greatest strides in 1926: Harry Langdon, Clara Bow, Wallace Berry, Lois Moran, Greta Garbo, Vilma Banky, William Powell, Ricardo Cortez, Victor McLaglen and Gertrude Astor.

H. H. Hatfield, R. B. Hagerman, Frank A. Allen and H. J. Allen of Hartland, Fred J. Boyer of Victoria and S. J. Hatfield of Peel have been granted letters of incorporation as the Hartland Silver Foxes, Ltd., with a capital stock of \$16,000.

### BLUNDERS



#### WHY IS THIS WRONG?

One of the many annoyances that the postal service has to contend with is the receipt of bundles of carelessly sealed letters, many of which are stuck together. Since letters can be run through the cancelling machines only one at a time, all those stuck together must first be pulled apart by some postal employee. This may result in mutilation of the addresses or in placing the letters to one side until mail has been handled.

## TORONTO MAN, WHO ATTACKED HIS FAMILY WITH AN AXE, IS A FORMER ARMY OFFICER

Toronto, Jan. 16—"I loved them. That's why I killed them—to save them from their hopeless misery."

This was the simple statement made by George F. H. Deighton, aged 34, talented linguist of Toronto, when asked by the Toronto police why he had slain his son, Bernard, aged 4, and severely wounded his wife, Barbara Mary, aged 31, and his daughter, Joan, aged 7, with a hatchet in their home early on Saturday. Mrs. Deighton is lying in a critical condition in Grace Hospital, with six compound fractures of the skull and other terrible injuries, while Joan is in the hospital for sick children with a broken skull with slim chance for life.

Mrs. Deighton is being kept alive by stimulants. She is unconscious, but showing extraordinary vitality. Joan, following a delicate operation last night, was given blood transfusions, and is showing a little improvement. The body of Bernard was removed to the morgue, where an autopsy to be followed by an inquest will be held. Deighton who is being held in custody will appear in Police Court today to answer the charge of murder laid against him.

#### Deighton's Story.

Deighton's story of the killing and the circumstances which led up to it was told with little variation to at least six different police officers. Deighton, who is holder of the Military Cross and a former Major in the British Army, stated that the attack was the culmination of a four-year fight against adversity. Wounded in battle, gassed, and discharged from military service in a disabled condition, the sight of one eye gone, he migrated to Canada, hoping to recuperate his health and finances.

After his arrival in this country Deighton did not meet with much success and he gradually sank into a morass of debt. He decided that things could not continue in this fashion and after a night of wakefulness during which time his frenzied mind sought to find a legitimate way out of the difficulty, Deighton came to the decision he told the police that the only solution was the killing of those he loved.

Deighton said that it was shortly after six o'clock on Saturday morning, that, his mind made up, he crept into the cellar and gained possession of a hatchet with which he started out on his terrible mission.

#### His First Victim.

His first victim, Joan, his daughter, was already in the basement bathroom. The child stood in the room performing her ablutions Deighton struck her down then proceeded upstairs to the room in which his baby son slept, his chubby hands clasping the mechanical comfort of childhood, a toy train and aeroplane, Christmas gifts from "Santa Claus." One stroke was sufficient to instantly kill the little boy who never suffered the agony of his mother and sister, Mrs. Deighton was found unconscious in a back room of the house, her head terribly battered and the bed in disorder.

The tragedy was apparently committed in grim silence. People living in the flat above the Deightons heard nothing unusual.

Deighton, after committing the deed, walked aimlessly about the city streets, until, he apparently came to realize the seriousness of his crime. He walked up to a police officer to whom he confessed. The officer thinking Deighton was not quite right in the head sought to humor him, but finally took him to the police station, and there again, Deighton was not believed until officers who went to investigate reported that his story was only too true.

When he walked up to the police office on Avenue Road, Deighton, ironically enough was carrying two books by the late Thomas Hardy. This writer's books are noted for the cruel manner with which fate plays with the lives and happiness of his heroes and heroines. The episode in Jude the Obscure in which Jude's 13-year-old boy, tired of life, takes the lives of his little brothers and sisters, is regarded as one of the most ghastly in all fiction.

#### Home in England.

Deighton's home was in Doncaster, England, and his wife came from Sheffield, Yorkshire, England.

Both he and his wife taught French in classes they held in their home here. Deighton also secured intermittent employment at a number of Toronto business institutions as an interpreter of foreign correspondence. He had also done work for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in this line. Those who knew him described Deighton as "rather easy-going and genial."

That the Deighton family felt the pinch of poverty is evident from the surroundings. It is thought that the immediate cause of his act was the fear of arrest for passing two cheques for which there were no funds.

Neighbors stated that the Deighton family always seemed happy. Only on Friday night the music of the gramophone was heard, and the shouts of glee as the father romped with the children.

E. P. Deighton, of Fernwood Park avenue, this city, is a brother of Deighton, and when notified of the affairs he could shed no light on the matter other than financial difficulties.

#### Remanded For a Week.

Toronto, Jan. 16—A remand for a week was made when George Deighton appeared in court today on a charge of murder, in connection with the attack on his wife and two children on Saturday, when his four-year-old son Bernard was killed and the two others seriously injured.

While Deighton, British Army veteran and accomplished linguist, appeared in police court his wife and seven-year-old daughter lay in a critical condition in different hospitals. Deighton believed he had killed all three when he surrendered to police on Saturday afternoon, saying he had attacked them with an axe because he was poverty-stricken and he wanted to put them out of their misery.

Mrs. Deighton today was still unconscious in Grace Hospital, with six compound fractures of the skull and her death is feared.

Little Joan Deighton at Sick Children's Hospital is in better condition than her mother but today remained in a dangerous state. She has a broken skull and blood transfusions have been administered. She retains consciousness.

#### TIGER MAY FIGHT SOON.

Dempsey May Meet Sharkey, Heeney Or Risko at Garden Soon.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 18—The Illustrated Daily News said today that Jack Dempsey will meet Jack Sharkey, Tom Heeney or Johnny Risko in Madison Square Garden, New York within 90 days.

The bout the News said will be a preliminary to a Tunney-Dempsey fight in June if Jack wins from his opponent.

## RESTORED TO GOOD HEALTH

Mother of Eleven Children Praises Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

#### Her Interesting Experience

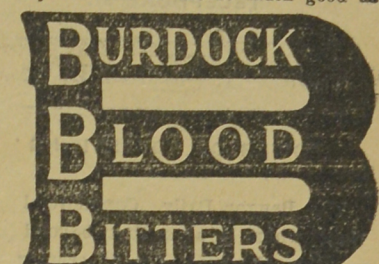
Buckingham, Quebec.—"I am the mother of eleven living children, and my baby is five months old. I am only 38 years old and I have taken Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for weakness and my nerves. I knew of it from my sister, Dame Edouard Bellefeuille of Ramsayville. For five years I was in misery and was always ready to cry. Now I am so happy to have good health. My daughter, who is 18 years old, has also taken it and will be happy to recommend it to all young girls."—Dame WILLIAM PARLANT, Box 414, Buckingham, Quebec.

Why suffer for years with backache, nervousness and other ailments common to women from early life to middle age, when Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will give you relief?

In a recent country-wide canvass of purchasers of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, over 250,000 replies were received, and 98 out of every 100 reported they were benefited by its use.

## INDIGESTION Troubled Him For Two Years

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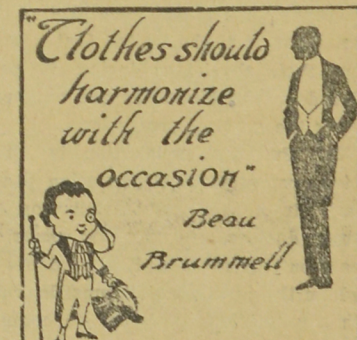
- 6 Argyle and York Sts.
- 7 Victoria Hospital.
- 8 Children's Aid Home.
- 12 Westmorland and Aberdeen Sts.
- 13 Northumberland and Saunders Sts.
- 14 Brunswick and Smythe Sts.
- 15 Charlotte and Smythe Sts.
- 16 George and Northumberland Sts.
- 17 King and Northumberland Sts.
- 21 Queen and York Sts.
- 23 York and George Sts.
- 24 Queen and Westmorland Sts.
- 25 Brunswick and Westmorland Sts.
- 26 Charlotte and Westmorland Sts.
- 27 King and York Sts.
- 28 Saunders and York Sts.
- 31 Queen and Regent Sts.
- 32 Neesham and Regent Sts.
- 34 Queen and Carleton Sts.
- 35 Brunswick and Carleton Sts.
- 36 Charlotte and Carleton Sts.
- 37 George and Regent Sts.
- 38 King and Regent Sts.
- 43 St. John and Aberdeen Sts.
- 44 Queen and St. John Sts.
- 45 Brunswick and St. John Sts.
- 46 Brunswick and St. John Sts.
- 46 Charlotte and St. John Sts.
- 51 King and Church Sts.
- 52 George and Church Sts.
- 53 Union and Church Sts.
- 54 Shore St. and University Ave.
- 55 Brunswick St. and University Ave.
- 56 Lansdowne St. and Waterloo Row.
- 57 Grey St. and University Ave.
- 112 Smythe and Aberdeen Sts.
- 113 Argyle and Northumberland Sts.

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