

Another Chapter In Life of Movie Actress

By JEANNE JOHNSON.

I had confidence my second day at the studio, but how I wondered what I was going to do.

It's the waiting that wears one out. I waited for the director to arrive at the scenes in which I was to appear until 3 o'clock in the afternoon, though of course we adjourned for luncheon.

At 3 Mr. Browning told me what I was to do. "You're to be Miss Dean's friend," he said, referring to Priscilla Dean, who was starring in the picture. "Now here's the continuity; look it over." And this is what I read:

"121—Med. C. U. of Dean and friend.
"122—L. S. friend watches Dean disappearing into boudoir; registers suspicion.
"123—L. S. friend following Dean."

It was all Greek to me. I must have looked what I felt, for Mr. Tyler, the assistant director, came over and asked if there was anything he could help me with.

"Why, yes," I told him gratefully. "Will you explain what I have to do?" He did. It seems that Med. C. U. meant "medium close up" and L. S. was "long shot."

Mr. Tyler coached me a bit and before I knew it I was on the set and at work. I was horribly nervous inside, but assured that my exterior did not give me away. Indeed it didn't seem so difficult, now that I was really "working."

Disillusionment came. I had been used on the "boards" at high school to walking about to my heart's content, even to improvise "business of the scene." But here acting evidently was a matter of "lines" and the cinema to which I refer most emphatically were not spoken words but the technical restrictions of the action. In other words, both Miss Dean and myself were obliged to remain always in focus of the camera and deviation of even a foot from the "side lines" pointed out by Mr. Browning, it was told me, would ruin the scene. I confess that the immensity of this faux pas unnerved me to the extent of stumbling but I guess this misdemeanor being "in character" was overlooked. Indeed, I felt complimented (or was I already becoming conceited in my newsphere?) for most scenes, according to my experience, are repeatedly rehearsed and sometimes retaken by the camera before the director announces himself satisfied.

I will pass over the details of my debut as a real "picture actress," for extraroom. I assure you, is no warrant for that designation, and tell you what happened afterward.

Upon being told by the director that I was not to be used further except in the extent of retakes, I repaired with greatunction to the Universal City cafeteria, where I mingled with filmdom's elite with a full sense of my newly acquired importance as a member of the "colony."

"Bits" No Longer Allure Me. I think I left you at lunch time. I neglected to invite you along. Well, you must forgive me, for before me there was a wonderful vista of opportunities. But the sun of success, which was just approaching its apogee for me, has quickly changed its course—for the casting director has just "looked me over"—and found me wanting.

At least so it seems to me, for when I asked him if he thought I could fill any of the roles for which he was hiring, he said, quite bluntly indeed: "Haven't done anything yet, have you?"

"Oh, I had a 'bit' with Mr. Browning," I replied.

"Then you had better continue doing 'bits' until one of the directors himself picks you for a part in his production. I don't doubt that you are a little more, er, well, seasoning."

"Seasoning?" I said to him—a weak attempt, so he must have thought at a pun. "Do you mean pep, dramatic genius, or what?"

"Experience," Miss Casting Director was very laconic. "Bring me your photograph," he continued as he moved away toward his office, "and your address and phone number for my files."

Well, after that I just sort of took to hanging round the casting director's office. Playing extra seemed far beneath me. I had hitched my historic wagon to the moon and nothing less would content me. I saw on the silver sheet of my imagination another Nazimova and a second Dorothy Phillips, maybe a counterpart of the popular Priscilla Dean who knows? And the picture was self.

But they were disappointments. I suppose hundreds of girls before me went through my present experience and hundreds more will after me.

My career of the last few days seemed to have assured me of a start in my chosen profession, for by the time, you must have noticed, I had firmly decided that my future lay in motion pictures, and that Venus, my regnant constellation, had destined me for a cinema star.

There is an old joke that the three best ways to spread news rapidly is by telegraph, telephone and telling a woman, but the war has shown that women can keep secrets even better than men. Perhaps the American woman who had in her possession the most vital secrets was Miss O'Neill of the British and allied transport service at New York. She knew in advance the dates of sailing of every transport, the number of men on board, and what route the transport would follow. That information given to German agents in America might have prolonged the war for another year or so, but needless to say it never got past Miss O'Neill.

A record of service that probably has few equals is that of Miss Harriet P. Houghton, who has been in the employ of a Lynn, Mass., bank for 50 years.

Mrs. Annie Gale, the first woman in Canada to be elected a city alderman, has now been chosen promayor of Calgary for the next three months.

Here are a Few of the Laughing, Crying Baby Boys and Girls Among Hundreds Entered in Last Week's Contest at Rialto



Babies—over 600 laughing, cooing, dimpled, adorable bits of humanity—participated in the Rialto theater baby contest held last week. The baby show was held under the auspices of the Rialto theater and the Brandeis stores. Two prizes were awarded each day to the most popular baby—one to a boy and one to a girl.

Babies from one to six months old held sway on Monday. On Tuesday the largest number of babies of any day during the entire week was present. They were from six months to one year old. Wednesday babies from one to two years and Thursday from two to three years of age vied for applause. Three to four-year-old children entered the contest Friday.

It was difficult to tell whether the audience or the babies enjoyed the show most. Had Mary Pickford, darling of thousands of movie fans, and showing in "Daddy Long Legs" at the Rialto last week, been present in person to see baby, with a single twist of his mouth, throw the entire audience into laughter and bursts of applause, she might have felt a pang of jealousy. For baby swayed the audience as no movie star could.

Nor was it the most beautiful baby, or the most richly dressed, that drew the most prize-winning applause. One tiny infant spied a small rocking chair on the stage, squirmed from its mother's arms, crawled into the chair and rocked happily—ignoring the breathless audience completely. It received sufficient applause to win a prize.

On one day the audience proved itself very fickle by choosing Edgar Milton Hylen and overlooking Edgar's twin sister. But sister didn't mind, and was just as amiable after her twin brother received his prize as before.

Dorothy Byers, tiny daughter of Sergt. H. H. Byers, 1620 Pinkney street, overseas eight months with the 61st infantry, won the girls' prize on one day. Her soldier-father was

present to congratulate her. Mothers generally accompanied their babies to the stage, but on one occasion several fathers marched bravely up. They were greeted with salvos of applause. On this occasion the applause for two baby boys was so near the same that two prizes had to be awarded.

The babies from the South Side won prizes, and four from the vicinity of Pinkney street, in the north part of the city, were picked as prize winners by the audience, showing that vicinity had nothing to do with popularity.

Yesterday all prize winning babies assembled to compete for the grand prize.

Frederick F. Pechac, jr., 2 years and 11 months old, was chosen yesterday for first grand prize from the group of 41 prize winning babies present. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Pechac, 5012 North Twenty-eighth street.

Geography All Changed In Europe and Must Now Be Relearned.

The geography of Europe will have to be unlearned and relearned now that the articles of peace have been signed. How many people have known what Lithuania is, where it is, who the Lithuanians are, and what their history has been? Not many, and yet Lithuania has had a dramatic, if a rather unchronicled, record.

Lithuania is the northernmost barrier between Russia and Germany, a strategic position, which, if it is independent, shuts the gate between East Prussia and Russia, and if it is overwhelmed, opens the gate. Lithuania is north of Poland with a sea coast line of 100 miles on the Baltic sea.

Lithuania has retained its national characteristics in spite of hundreds of years of attempted de-nationalization by Germans, Poles, and Russians successively. Edicts against its language, its religion, its customs, political repression and economic tyranny have all failed to keep down the little racial nation of 7,000,000 people.

Lithuania's people are neither Teutonic or Slavic, but are a separate branch of the Indo-European

Special Registration for Women Voters:

An opportunity will be given to the women voters of Omaha to register in the vicinity of their homes on Tuesday, June 3, 1919, from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M. at the school houses having jurisdiction over children in that vicinity. This special registration is to accommodate women so they will not have to come to the Court House to register. When a woman is once registered to vote, she will not have to register again until she changes her residence or in case of change of name by marriage or otherwise.

The Central Schools adjacent to the High School in Omaha and on the South Side, will not be used. Go to the High School instead. In addition to the High School registrations will be taken in the Fire Hall, Dundee, and in the Election Commissioner's office at the Court House. The office of the Election Commissioner is open every business day of the year for the purpose of registering voters and revising registrations.

In order to register, women must be citizens. Foreign born women must be naturalized either through their own naturalization papers, those of their father taken out before the daughter is 21 years of age, or naturalized by husband. First papers are not sufficient to vote on in Nebraska since the recent Constitutional Amendment.

There will be a special registration in the South Side City Hall on June 7th to accommodate new voters on the South Side and for revision of old registrations.

A special County Bond Election is to be held on June 24th throughout the County. The last day of registration for all voters before this election is on Friday, June 13th, at 9 P. M. The Election Commissioner's office will be open evenings for registration on June 11th, 12th and 13th.

Mid-Summer and Sport Hats

Just arrived, a new assortment. Come and look them over. You will be pleased with both the styles and prices.

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There Is Possibly Nothing That Will Help Him More Than One of These

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A line that is unequalled in the city for variety and value. We feature:



THIS PULLMAN SLEEPER
\$28.50
No. 381—Exactly like illustration on left. Reed loom body and hood upholstered. Full size body, with adjustable back.



THIS PULLMAN SLEEPER
\$29.50
No. 330—Like illustration; reed loom body, semi-upholstered. Steel running gears and wheels, have rubber tires. Easy springs. Very substantially constructed, and a big value.



THIS PULLMAN SLEEPER
\$45.00
No. 336—Reed loom body, reversible. Upholstered with corduroy and has adjustable back, coil springs, artillery wheels, foot break and reinforced frame.



THIS PULLMAN SLEEPER
\$55.00
No. 342—Old ivory finish, reversible body with adjustable back, with corduroy hood with windows, artillery quick detachable wheels, double action springs.



THIS PULLMAN SLEEPER
\$59.50
No. 9684—Gondola design body of genuine reed, with inverted roll in hood and body. Upholstered with corduroy, mattress cushion. Artillery quick detachable wheels.



THIS COLLAPSIBLE SULKY
\$18.50
Can be folded with one hand, reed body with waterproof hood, adjustable back, fitted with very sensitive springs, a very desirable feature for a vehicle of this type.