

(continued from previous page)

names amid arrow-pierced hearts. It has rejected the fly-spots, ink-stains, grease-marks, and clouds of chalk dust which are the normal surroundings of student life.

This youngest of large French Colleges is installed in a special building with big windows and high ceilings. The electric lighting has not the harshness reserved for youth in sombre schools. Here the light is not thrown down directly, nor is it shut up in shades of stiffly bureaucratic design, but diffused from airy globes.

Work at the I.D.H.E.C. is none-the-less hard. I was somewhat perturbed by the requirements of the courses. The Institute has followed the rule that the student shall work to his limits (always extensible), without ever reaching them. It has gone so far as to cater for all



"With their minds now broadened and deepened and enriched . . ."

branches of cinematographic activity other than that of acting, and has opened five courses for the following types of film workers: Directors and Producers; Sound Technicians; Property-Men; Cameramen; Dress Designers and Costumiers.

Refining Process

A short time ago a film director was regarded as a gangster in a check coat and dark glasses who yelled orders through a megaphone, hurled insults at the stars, or kissed their hands while tossing off glasses of champagne, completely under the control of his unmentionable passions—all this being done under the disguise of inspiration. But the Institute wants to produce film directors as skilled as engineers or doctors.

For the entry examination, the future producer or director will have studied the *Princesse de Clèves*, *Phèdre*, and *Sylvie* (French literary classics). He will have had to read Faral's *Daily Life in the Time of St. Louis* and Plutarch's lives of Aristides and Themistocles. For the school year he will examine thoroughly "Gothic Art in France to the End of the 19th Century"; and in aesthetics, the Epic and "The Child in Literature and Art."

The sound technician will have to be acquainted with Moivre's formula and know how to resolve a polynomial into a product of real factors. The dress designer will know how to make in 12 hours a costume for the *Princesse de Clèves*, whose voice will be recorded by the sound technician and whose tears will be filmed by the cameraman.

Every cameraman, make-up or lighting expert will lose his former savage aspect and rudeness, which sometimes concealed intelligence. The Institute intends to civilise these savages, polish them, provide them with a general cul-

tural background. The most learned professors of Paris will take part in the refining process, just as though it was a matter of preparing students for graduation. M. Reinhardt, professor in charge of courses at the Institute of Political Studies, will teach them Social History; and Mlle. Rousseau, negotiating agent for the National Museums, will teach them the History of Art.

Armed with a knowledge of human geography, theatrical history and comparative literature, they will sharpen their critical faculties and dissect the films already produced which are laid before them. And with their minds now broadened and deepened and ordered, enriched with a variety of associations and equipped with a bristling array of the necessary weapons, they will abandon their naive reactions of yesteryear, and be able to draw up a film script.

They will know how to swing the panorama through the full circle, "beginning by the couple entwined on the balcony of the Grand Theatre, then dwelling a few moments on the fateful black wall, before disclosing the cruel grin of the spying villain, Lacenaire, who thereby becomes all the more sinister."

They will know how to co-ordinate montage and plot development in a harmonious whole, how to study the problem of the long film which en-

tails an increase in the price of admission and the curtailment of "shorts," how to take due account of the comments of the man in the street ("The ending leaves you in the air"), and how to quote Shakespeare.

The Institute has not yet sent out into the world its first brood of film experts. We may expect to recognise them by their work in a few years' time, work which should be most successful. Culture has always aided genius more than it has suppressed it, in fact has often honourably concealed its absence. The Ecole Normale Supérieure created Giraudoux's delicacy of touch and Peguy's rusticity, eternally redolent of the soil. The Institute, we hope, will create the Giraudoux and Peguys of the cinema, who will no longer owe their success to their "connections" or to string-pulling, but to their natural gifts and to hard work.

Wild Flowers of Speech

"DUE TO"

How CAN the penman, so acute and knowing, ignore the difference between "due" and "owing"?

A literary crime, from which, you'd think, The raw beginner, horrified, would shrink.

"Due to" the drought, the farmer is in trouble, Which is to say, "the drought produced the debtor."

"Due to" his luck, the gambler wins his double, Which is to say "the luck produced the better";

"Due to" his folly, Brown has lost his money, His folly was his father, obviously;

"Due to" her industry, the bee gets honey, That is, the industry begot the bee;

"Due to" old Goebbels' lying propaganda, The average German got no information, The fellow, therefore, was a product and a Mere effect of Goebbels' propagation;

"Due to" the efforts of the kind Dominions, Shortage of food is not so bad in Britain, That shortage, you perceive, no two opinions, To the Dominions' debit must be written.

—Arnold Wall

UGLY STAINS?

GERM LADEN
IMPURITIES?

on

FALSE TEETH

Keep your false teeth as thoroughly clean as when first fitted . . . sparkling and attractive . . . by a 10-minute immersion in double-strength KEMDEX. You'll be amazed at the difference! Just rinse before replacing. So easy! KEMDEX will not harm the most delicate fitting. And . . . how fresh and thoroughly clean your mouth will feel!

KEEP YOUR FALSE TEETH

COMPLETELY
CLEAN

with

Kemdex is non-injurious to modern dentures.



KEMDEX
CLEANS FALSE TEETH

Manufactured by reg. user, Salmond & Spraggon Ltd.,
a Customhouse Quay, Wellington. 5.6

DON'T BE SKINNY!

If you are thin and anaemic you should try a course of "YIM," the Yeast, Iron, Malt Tablets. This amazingly triple Tonic puts on firm, healthy flesh quickly. "YIM" Tablets give clear, radiant skin, freedom from indigestion, nervousness and constipation. "YIM" helps build new strength, power and pep.

4/6 (double size 7/6).

POST FREE from

CHEMISTS' SUPPLIES CO., LTD.,
139a Worcester Street, Christchurch.

FOR QUICK
Extermination
of
RODINE
(POISON)
PHOSPHORUS



All Chemists
and Stores

The World's
Greatest Rat-trap

N.Z. Agents: S. A. Smith & Co. Ltd., Auckland