

now only 18 years of age, she has, during eleven of those years, worked on the stage. Her first appearance was little short of sensational. She went along with her mother to try and get a part in the pantomime "Cinderella," but the cast had been filled. Isabelle, however, insisted on showing the manager what she could do. Perseverance won the day, and she was engaged to do a song-and-dance number. On the opening night in a costume which included very high boots, Isabelle, aged seven, put all her kicking talents into action to such good effect that a large

boot flew off and landed right in the audience. The incident got such a good laugh that it was retained throughout the season and the foundations of a successful career were well and truly laid. Now Isabelle is a real star. All the time she was working on the production of "Splendid Fellows" she was also playing the lead in the J. C. Williamson production "Gay Divorce." Her performance has delighted the critics here and it appears that she is destined to play a big part in future Australian film productions.

Eric Colman, who plays the leading

male role, has had many opportunities to "break" into talkies by virtue of his brother's influence in Hollywood and Elstree. But Eric has consistently disdained such assistance, being determined to 'stand or fall on his own merits. Thus it remained for Mr. Beaumont Smith, ever on the look out for new screen talent, to give this independent, handsome young man, with one of the most cultured voices ever heard on the screen, his opportunity to prove to an expectant world just what he can do, by casting him as the "Flying Padre," one of the starring roles in "Splendid Fellows." How Eric grasped his big chance with both hands by giving a sterling, human performance that will establish him as a real favourite, and a real star of the future, is now screen history. During the world war, Eric Colman was an "ace" pilot in the Royal Air Force, winning great honours with his skill and daring in the air. A serious crash at the front, however, cut short a brilliant career, and found him fighting for life, after being unconscious for four whole days.

"I'll never fly again," he said, when at long last he was on the road back to health. And this resolution has been strictly adhered to. However, he readily accepted the role of the Pastor pilot and all its dangers when Beaumont Smith approached him with this big opportunity to make a name for himself in motion pictures, to which his illustrious brother, Ronald, is such an adornment. Eric was called upon to pilot a real crash. This is one of the most realistic aeroplane sequences ever seen in films. A great credit to Eric's cool daring and to Mr. Smith's directorial genius.

PLANS are now advanced for the production of another comedy starring George Wallace, the famous Australian comedian, to be made at Eftée. F. W. Thring, George Wallace and Frank Harvey are now at work on the script, and it is possible that shooting may be started this month. It is planned to hold up further release of Dorothy Brunton's "Clara Gibbings," which has been very well received, until the Wallace film is made, and then to bracket these pictures on a double bill. This will be Wallace's fourth film for Eftée, the others being "His Royal Highness," "Harmony Row" and "Ticket in Tatts."

KEN HALL, who is chief of production for Cinesound, sailed for Hollywood from Australia on December 15. He will return early in March, and in the meantime studio operations are suspended, though there will be no hold-up in the making of the popular Cinesound Review newsreels. Now that Mr. Hall has finished "Grandad Rudd," which is to be released shortly, he feels that he can spare the time for a visit to Hollywood, the object of his trip being to finalise the purchase of some new equipment, and also to study at first hand the latest technical developments in talking-film production.

"THE SILENCE OF DEAN MAITLAND," which was released in New Zealand earlier in the year, is being distributed in England by RKO-Radio, and a great deal of publicity is being given to the production. Bookings for the film are said to be very good.

Now Playing to Capacity Houses at the Regent Theatre, Wellington.

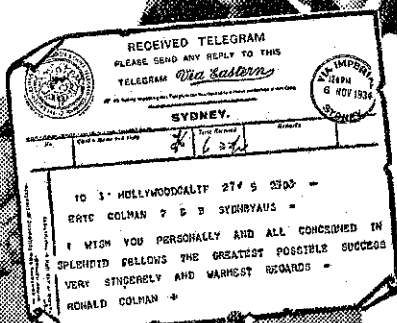
Starting REGENT, AUCKLAND, DEC. 21

Starting REGENT, DUNEDIN, JAN. 18

Starting PLAZA, CHRISTCHURCH, JAN. 19

J. C. Williamson Pictures Present
BEAUMONT SMITH'S
Epoch-Making Production

Eric COLMAN
Brother of Ronald



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A BEAUMONT SMITH
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