

The Film World

ACCEPTING Lord Byng's official invitation, Mae West declared that she would attend the King's Jubilee celebrations in London in May.

IN "Roadhouse," the Gaumont-British picture, with Gordon Harker and Violet Lorraine, there are two widely different theatre scenes. One is a huge

a mere reclaimed viaduct archway crowded with vociferous Cockneys who greet each "turn" (it being "amateur night") with cheers, jeers, and even missiles.

A TALENTED cast of screen players has been assembled in the new British drama, "No Escape." They are Ian Hunter, who was recently signed to make pictures in Hollywood, and Binnie Barnes, Molly Lamont and Ralph Ince. Molly Lamont, a comparative newcomer to the screen, is becoming more and more popular, and big things have been predicted for her in the screen world.

ZASU PITTS, who plays the role of Miss Hazy in Paramount's "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," is keen on detective stories. She spends much of her spare time reading mystery thrillers.

HERBERT MARSHALL, stage and screen star, who has been under contract to the Paramount Studios for three years, has signed a new contract with the company, whereby he will make three pictures during the current year, and one in 1936. His first under the new contract will probably be "Morning, Noon and Night," an unproduced play by Marcella Burke, with Sylvia Sidney in the feminine lead.

AN interesting visitor at the "Sun-Telegraph" Airways Exhibition (Sydney) last week was Alan J. Williamson, special representative in Australia of the Gaumont-British Picture Corporation, whose younger brother, Colin M. Williamson, C.B.E., is not only the managing director of the English company that manufactures Eagle aerial cameras, but is also the inventor of this camera, an example of which is on view at the exhibition.

IN her new Paramount picture, "Now I'm a Lady," Mae West will conform with the title, and will sing an operatic aria. She has selected the beautiful "My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice," from Saint-Saens' "Samson and Delilah" for her flight into higher music. Just who will sing the famous duet with Miss West has not been determined, but it probably will be one of her numerous leading men.

B. E. F. have to announce some really exceptional films in their 1935 line-up. This year promises to show great films from all over the world, and B.E.F. are proud to state that they have a large number of fine pictures to distribute. Heading the list, is Charles Dickens's immortal classic, "The Old Curiosity Shop." This book, which is, perhaps, the most famous of all Dickens's works, has been faithfully reproduced by B.E.F., making it an exceptional film. Hay Petrie, the famous character actor, gives a most remarkable performance as Quilp.

PLANE TO PLANE CONVERSATION

THE first two-way radiophone conversation between two aeroplanes to be accomplished successfully in Australia has been achieved by Brisbane members of the Wireless Institute of Australia. Members of the institute who took part said that they conversed as easily with the occupants of another aeroplane, six miles away, as if they were talking over the telephone.

This conversation was the outcome of a series of experiments by Brisbane members of the institute to establish two-way radiophone communication on a wavelength of five metres. After they had succeeded in making contact between a car and ground stations, com-

"Radio Parade" Stars—

RONALD FRANKAU

Below is the first of a series of brief biographies dealing with the well-known radio stars featured in British International Pictures' "Radio Parade of 1935."

RONALD FRANKAU, of course, scarcely needs any explanation. You've probably played his records when your great-aunt has been out of the room for a moment. (And she's done the same when you've been absent.) Ronald is a brother of Gilbert Frankau, of book fame, and a nephew of the author of "The Geisha," that popular musical play of a bygone day. After leaving Eton Ronald went to work in his uncle's cigar factory—the factory that gave brother Gilbert the title for "Peter Jackson, Cigar Merchant." But he preferred his cigars in club smoking rooms so he went into journalism, and soon discovered that he couldn't afford to smoke cigars at all. The stage called and he succumbed. Organised "The Cabaret Kittens," now known as "The Frankau-Optimists." Went into broadcasting in 1927 and since then has never believed that any of his broadcasts have been successful—until he gets another contract from the B.B.C. He has sold more than 100,000 of his famous records, and has appeared in 19 talkies.

munication was established between an aeroplane in flight and a car, and later two-way radiophone communication between two aeroplanes in flight was established.



SHE'S GETTING PLACES!—Since film producers have discovered that Myrna Loy is capable of playing more than siren roles she has blossomed forth as one of the most charming actresses on the screen. "The Thin Man," one of the best pictures of 1934, was made great by Miss Loy's acting, and now she comes back in a picture that should earn a place as one of the brightest talkies of 1935—"Broadway Bill." It opened its New Zealand season at the State Theatre, Dunedin, last week.

West End theatre reminiscent of the Alhambra, in which Miss Lorraine sings "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning," one of the famous songs "Push and Go," which set the world humming during the war. The other is a tiny, ill-lit East End music-hall—