

Stars Over London.

AND talking of Marlene Dietrich, her English trip is now definitely arranged. She will arrive in London on August 1, and will begin work immediately on her new film for Alexander Korda. She will appear in "Knights Without Armour," from the book by James Hilton. In August, too, Merle Oberon will return from America to England to make a film for Korda, the man who discovered her. At the present time she is making a Technicolor film, "The Garden of Allah," in Hollywood. Robert Donat has been signed up by Korda, and it is possible that he will play opposite Marlene Dietrich.

£500,000 Studios.

ALEXANDER KORDA is having a particularly busy time at the moment. His new £500,000 film studios at Denham are now in full working order, and are considered the finest in the world. (If anyone had said to the moguls of Hollywood 10 years ago that England would be putting up half-million-pound studios in 1936, they'd probably have roared with derisive laughter). Charles Laughton

is now making "Rembrandt," the scenario for which has been written by a famous German, Carl Zuckmayer. Erich Pommer, another German, has now arrived from Berlin to direct "Fire Over England," in which Flora Robson will play the part of Queen Elizabeth. In August Charles Laughton will start work on another new picture, an adaptation of Robert Graves's book, "I Claudius." Korda has plans for the making of an elaborate musical along the lines of "Broadway Melody."

For The Farmer

LAST March President Roosevelt was present at a private screening at White House of a film that showed the farmers of America at work. Brimming with enthusiasm, the President sowed the idea for another picture. That picture is now complete, and it is as different from the dry-as-dust educational films that school children and bored adults have got used to as cheese is from chalk. It is called "The Plough That Broke the Plains," and its actors are the farmers themselves acting out the tragedy of happy farms overcome first by drought and then by dust. The

finish of the film shows how the Resettlement Administration is transplanting 4500 stranded families to new houses on small farms in ten States.

Modern Magician

"WE'RE holding a special screening of "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," Columbia's latest film, in honour of Mr. Badger when he gets to Sydney," said Mr. Frederick Davies, managing-director of National Studios, Limited. Sydney, to the "Radio Record" last



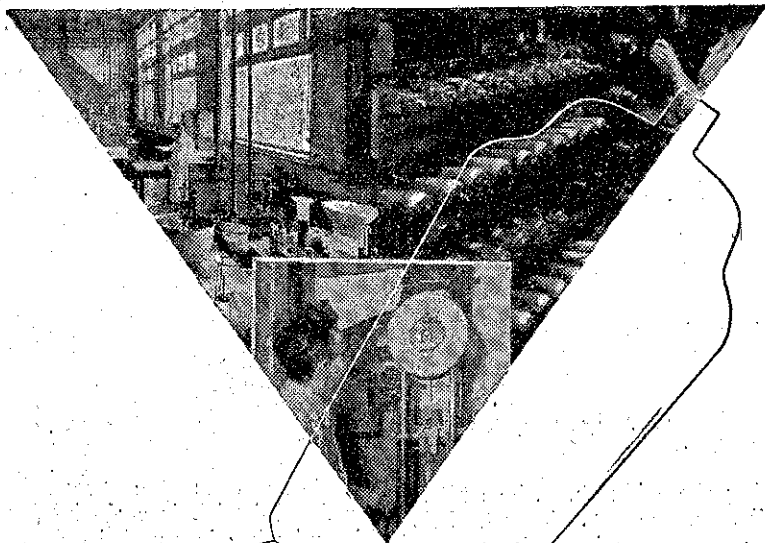
FREDERICK DAVIES

First he was mad, then he was a magician.

week. Mr. Davies travelled from Australia to Wellington to meet Mr. Clarence Badger, the famous American film director, who was en route from Hollywood to make a film in Sydney. Mr. Davies is one of the men who pioneered talkies in Sydney. He was connected with the wiring of the Prince Edward Theatre and the Lyceum Theatre in December, 1928, when the opening picture was "The Jazz Singer." "We were told we were mad," smiled Mr. Davies, "but, when the theatres were soon making terrific money we were regarded as magicians."

John Q. Dohp

DAVID OLIVER, who has cranked a handle for Universal newsreels for more than 18 years, has suddenly found fame—and a new name. He is now John Q. Dohp, and he made his first appearance before the camera in a newsreel showing the drawing of the Irish Hospitals Sweepstakes. John Q. Dohp wagged his head in foolish disappointment and explained that he had been buying sweepstake tickets for many years, but had never won anything. Universal, having put David Oliver into this newsreel as a last-minute inspiration, has decided to retain his services for newsreels. He has made a second appearance since



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