

Early Release In N.Z.

German night club gives La Dietrich plenty of scope in which to display her dramatic ability. In some ways the picture is reminiscent of "The Blue Angel," a German picture which first brought this star to the notice of the public and gave her her first big chance in America. "The Blue Angel" was banned by the censor in this country.

Although it has been screened in Auckland, where it enjoyed a remarkably successful season, George Arliss's latest talkie, "The Working Man," has not been generally released in the Dominion. It is a new Arliss who comes before the public in this picture—an Arliss who kicks up his heels, wears wrinkled clothes, takes part in a drunken orgy and appears barefooted! Bette Davis, who made her talkie debut in another Arliss film, "The Man Who Played God," has a part in this new picture.

"The Good Companions," a British picture made by Fox from J. B. Priestley's famous book, has been spoken of by English critics as the finest British picture yet made. The honours would appear to go to Edmund Gwenn (who played such a splendid part in "The Skin Game") for his interpretation of the part of Jess Oakroyd, that delightful York-

shireman. "The Good Companions" is a hefty book with a fair measure of incident. Something had to be sacrificed in the picture, but the choice of the directors has been wise and there are few theatre-goers who will be able to find fault with the inclusions or omissions. Jessie Matthews, star of the "Man from Toronto," plays a leading part.

Two more British pictures, both entirely different in type, and yet both immensely successful in Europe, are Paramount's "Lord of the Manor" and B.D.F.'s "The Little Damsel." The former stars Fred Kerr (who died a month or so ago), and Betty Stockfield, and concerns a family seat and the conservative, hot-headed, not-very-intelligent lord of the manor. It is a case of "the old order changeth," and the nose-in-air Boveys are forced to treat some down-and-outs as their guests. The whole picture is deliciously amusing with just that English sense of comedy and incongruity that makes this type of picture extremely popular in this country.

"The Little Damsel" introduces to New Zealanders a new star, Anna Neagle. The director was Herbert Wilcox (Continued on page 19.)



MYSTERY, COMEDY AND DRAMA.—Even the most disgruntled theatregoer could not accuse film producers of being stereotyped in the big talkies that have been turned out in the last month or two. Here are scenes from outstanding films which will be seen in New Zealand within the next month or two: (1) Warner Brothers' thriller, "The Mystery of the Wax Museum"; (2) William Powell and Ann Harding in a scene from R.K.O.'s "Double Harness"; (3) "College Humour" is the title of the Paramount comedy from which this scene is taken; (4) Paul Robeson, the famous negro actor, in a shot from Eugene O'Neill's world-famous play, "The Emperor Jones," which United Artists is making; (6) Jean Harlow and Wallace Beery together in M.G.M.'s super-film "Dinner at Eight."