

Electricity and War in the Films

THRRILLS, thrills and still more thrills! seems to be the slogan behind the majority of motion pictures on the screens in these tempestuous times. Surprising it is indeed the extent to which producers will go to secure the "reel" hair raisers, and in nearly every instance Science plays the all important rôle.

In the wonderful advance made by the photoplay in the last few years, the small and intricate details have come to receive more and more attention. The critical public has learned much in recent years; therefore it would not do to make use of scientific apparatus nowadays without some regard for its correct appearance and application. Foremost amongst the new films may be mentioned Thos. H. Ince's latest production "The Zeppelin's Last Raid." Mr. Ince has had a phenomenal rise in the motion picture field and must be complimented on this splendid

service post by telephone. Another scene shows the up-to-date radio equipment on board the Zeppelin.

The mammoth Marconi wireless station located just outside Los Angeles, Cal., recently taken over by the U. S. Government, was made use of in filming some of the important scenes.

The third photo shown is taken from a later episode of the gripping film drama—

THE TELEPHONE MOUTHPIECE—HOW TO USE IT.

Science and experience have combined to determine the shape and size and material to be used in the proper construction of the most efficient mouthpiece.

This part of the telephone is designed to gather the sound waves of the voice, and will do so more efficiently when the lips of the person speaking are about half an inch from, and directly in front of it.

It is designed exactly for the purpose of most efficiency by accommodating the sounds from close proximity and excluding the distant sounds which would interfere with the transmission. Did you ever stop to consider how you hear only the speaker and not the other sounds of the room in which the speaker is?

When speech is directed to the mouthpiece at an angle, or from a distance of from six inches to a foot away, the person at the other end of the line cannot hear your voice distinctly.



Above—Two Teuton Plotters Operating a Spy Radio Set in the Woods in "A Daughter of Uncle Sam."

Left—Preparing Zeppelin Bombs for Action by Means of Magnet in "The Zeppelin's Last Raid."

Right—Another Scene on the "Zep," Showing the Radio Instruments and the Operator.

and timely picture. A word would not be amiss regarding the work he has done to advance the motion picture along the path of big things. Five years ago he was next to being down and out, but he had an idea and struggled along till the chance came to produce on a big scale, his foremost and initial photoplay sensation being "Civilization," which cost thousands of dollars and employed hundreds of people to produce. "The Zeppelin's Last Raid" shows vividly the danger that the United States is exposed to, and to save us if possible from the lesson that was so bitterly learned by Belgium, France and England.

The story is woven around Mr. Hickman, the commander of a Zeppelin, and Miss Markey, a young and pretty girl who, with hundreds of others, is secretly working in an effort to rouse the populace against Kaiserism. The commander, like many other officers in the army and navy, is also a member of the same organization. The attack of the Zeppelin upon the defenseless British hamlets is one of the most strikingly realistic scenes ever converted to the screen. The biggest thrill comes when the commander of the "Zep" dynamites it, at the moment the crew attacks him for refusing to hurl bombs upon the defenseless city below. And the nerve-stirring scene of the flaming dirigible rushing downward to destruction is one not easily forgotten. The "Zep" is complete in every detail and in one of the photos herewith may be seen the releasing of the powerful death-dealing bombs. The orders are given to the men from the main ob-

"A Daughter of Uncle Sam." showing the inner workings of the German spy system in this country. The action abounds in many stirring scenes and the one illustrated shows two German plotters secretly operating a concealed Radio station in the woods.

HUN RADIO AT NIGHT DARES U. S. TO STRIKE.

Commanders and crews of the American destroyers operating in European waters are talking about a grim piece of Hun humor. Nearly every night the commander of one of the destroyers receives by wireless a message reading:

"My position is (so many) degrees north and (so many) degrees west. Come and get me. I'm waiting for you." The message is always signed, "Hans Rose."

Rose is the German who took a submarine into Newport two years ago. According to the story past around by the men engaged in the thrilling and hazardous task of seeking submarines, the captain to whom is directed the nightly messages of the German sub-sea craft, sank two. The commanders of both were intimate friends of Rose. He has sworn vengeance.

It is disquieting for the American commander, but he has no fears. Twice, it is stated, he has swiftly guided his craft to the location described by his enemy, but has found nothing. Still the mysterious wireless dispatch comes every night, no matter where the destroyer may be. Others catch it, and thus the weird story is told wherever the hornets of the sea are seen.

The best results will be obtained by speaking directly into, and close up to, the mouthpiece in a clear, not-too-loud tone of voice.

WIRELESS FOR ST. PETER'S IN ROME.

The establishment of a wireless station on the dome of St. Peter's in Rome has been suggested to the vatican so that it may secure independent transmission of foreign messages of diplomatic character in code and also receive confidential and reliable reports from the vatican's representatives abroad. The question of speed is involved since at present wire transmission from France and England consumes 24 hours while much longer is required to receive messages and news from the United States.

It is pointed out that the wireless would have the advantage of dealing with Switzerland, Austria, Germany and Russia. The vatican never has been able to rely upon newspaper reports for quick news.

The Italian Government is not likely to raise decided objections because the vatican never has paid tolls on its messages.

ELECTRIC LIGHT TO MARK AERIAL ROUTES.

Electrical companies and town councils in the United States are offering to provide the "lighthouses" necessary to mark the aerial routes between Dayton, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Ind., and other cities to be used by the aviation corps of the United States Army in training students for this service.