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"The newspaper, with the law, should assume the accused innocent until proven guilty; should be the friend, not the enemy of the general public; the defender, not the invader of private life and the assailant of personal character. It should be, as it were, a keeper of the public conscience."-Henry Watterson.

DAILY EDITION.

Square.



THURSDAY, JUNE 29

### EDITING THE CANNED DRAMA

In appointing a Board of Censors to censor the moving picture films sent for exhibition to Ontario, the Ontario Government has performed a duty that of late had been forced upon it. Obnoxious as all legislative interference is to the lover of liberty, it is very obvious that dangers lurk in the unhampered and unedited moving picture show.

This is no reflection on the value or usefulness of the moving picture entertainment. It is an outcome of the great place which the moving picture show now occupies in the world of entertainment. H. Johnston Cow Creek P.O. Box 187 From the early films showing horses jumping, soldiers marching, and ships sailing, etc., the moving picture show has come to be a vehicle of drama. Whole companies of well paid actors are permanently employed in acting vivid dramas before the bioscope. One big firm We've just received from Cassidy's, advertises for plots, and many a newspaper man in the bigger cities turns over a ten dollar bill by dramatising little incidents of the street for the moving picture shows. This has opened up a new field of entertainment and with it new dangers.

A few weeks ago in Prince Rupert among a number of interesting and instructive series of drama-pictures was one that portrayed an attempted rape and a successful murder. No notice was taken of it by the police authorities. It was a child's description of how a woman Linoleum split a man's head open with a hatchet, until the blood ran down his Enamelware face that induced us to go and see what the subject really was. On Blinds that occasion the audience was principally composed of children. Possibly the underlying horror of it did not deeply impress them—it Blankets did not appear to do so-but no one will question the impropriety of Mirrors allowing such a film to be exhibited.

Most of these films come from abroad, where perhaps the sensibilities of audiences are less keen than in English-speaking countries. The limit was certainly reached by the Parisian show house that exhibited a film showing the Caesarian operation as a special feature to the general public. The plea was advanced that it was an educational film. So perhaps it is, for the student of obstetrics, but for no other witness If mere argument that "it shows you how it's done," is sufficient to determine the educational character of a film, even the rape and murder type of picture drama might qualify as educational.

In Toronto the moving picture shows have been under a police censor for over a year with marked benefit both to the interesting character of the films shown, and to the patronage. Parents need not question whether the subjects will be unsuited to children's minds. Skeens Land District District of Coast Range & The character of the show is assured them. The rigorous application | sington, occupation merchant, intend to apply to permission; o purchase the following described of the law has ensured the Toronto moving picture houses from being Commencing at a post planted made the dumping ground of a lot of foreign films with little to commend | mile them save that they dealt with highly spiced episodes.

Drama, the psychologists aver, is necessary in this age of economic more or less. struggle, as an outlet for the emotional feelings. That is why in the Pub. April 21, 1911. toiler. The man or woman who is leading an heroic life, or a life richly flavored with dramatic incident, has no need to seek second hand lands:

Skeena Land District—District of Coast Take notice that William McTavish of Vancouver, B. C. occupation physician, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: great cities it is patronised chiefly by the idle rich and the struggling emotion in the opera house. But for the millions who lead drab, unemotional lives some form of dramatic entertainment is needed. And the moving picture show has become the peoples' drama.

Because the moving picture show fills so large a place in the mental life of the people, and especially of the young people, care should be taken to see that improper subjects are not portrayed upon the screens.

The action of the Ontario Government will commend itself to B.C., occupation married woman, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described thoughtful people who perceive the potency for good or evil that lies in the moving picture entertainment.

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GRACE McTAVISH Fred W. Bohler, Agent

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JAMES DUNLOP Francis S. Preston, Agent

MARY CARIN Dated April 20, 1911. Pub. May 13. Francis S. Preston, Agent

Skeena Land District-District of Coast Take notice that I, William Melville Corley Toronto, Ontario, occupation clerk, intend apply for permission to purchase the following

Dated April 6, 1911. WILLIAM MELVILLE CORLEY Pub. April 29.

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BELL HALL KENNEY John Haverty, Agent

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Take notice that Christian A. Tervo of Stikine,

Oated Feb. 10, 1911. CHRISTIAN A. TERVO

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