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COMMENT

service man, when he finished reading an article in the American Legion Weekly, written by a French war bride, "blew up." And when he had finished, a number of spots had been knocked off that cherished idea. Here's the way part of it goes:

"I have often heard that the French only knew how to be absolutely polite and courteous. After having been in contact with American soldiers in France I thought this adage was true, for a great many of the Yankee boys acted just terribly in streets, restaurants, or theatres. Since I am in America, my opinion has changed for a better one towards American manners, though I dare say the French remains far above in that question.

"The American is altogether a too busy man to be gallant with the women; besides, women here have a too big aspiration to act and to look

like men to pay attention to their gallantry if they had any.

Americans are just polite without the desire to please, neither to flatter or to pay a compliment. When a man salutes a lady, that's exactly what he means, to salute her. When a Frenchman does the same salute there is something else in his act—there is a compliment for her dress, for her looks, for herself, the woman. In France the salute of a man is always an homage to the weaker but loved sex.

I have many times noticed men talking to women here without removing their hats or smoking cigarettes. I have also seen may staying comfortably seated in a street car while a lady is standing and struggling to keep her balance. I have noticed this without any thought of blame, because the lady in question is almost all the time a young and healthy one, and I often think that the man seated is coming back from his work tired and hungry, and the lady has probably been spending her afternoon shopping or visiting friends. I want to say that I have never seen an elderly lady or a lady with children standing up."

By temperament, the Frenchman is a woman. He likes to bow and scrape. He simply eats up ceremonies of any kind. Nothing pleases him more than an opportunity to palaver about something or anything. He shrugs his shoulders and waves his hands; he sighs and smiles. These outward signs have been accepted the world over as genuine evidence, according to this ex-soldier, who denies that the ordinary Frenchman is more polite, take him on the average, than anyone else.

When a Frenchman is well-bred, he is undoubtedly about as nice a person as you could meet anywhere. Within the bosom of his family, he is a gem. To the smallest child or his great great granddame, he is the very epitome of courtesy. But this is also true of the well-bred Englishman, the well-bred American, or the well-bred pirate.

But take the same Frenchman out on the street. If another equally well-bred Frenchman should jostle him on a street corner, he will roll his eyes, wave his hands, go through all the rest of his motions, and then proceed, in exquisite French, to administer a bawling-out to the man who bumped into him. And the old woman who runs the little cafe nearby will come out and listen, and half a dozen of her brood will gather round, and passers-by will stop, and before long there will be quite an audience. In our cities, a cop would put an end to the argument, but in France these little wordy wars continue until one of the parties runs out of breath.

Well-bred people are usually as polite as they know how. That's one of the evidences of good breeding. Perhaps the well-bred Frenchman puts on a little more dog than the well-bred gentleman of other nationalities. It's due to his temperament. You couldn't picture an Englishman rolling his eyes or shrugging his shoulders. They weren't made that way. But the common Frenchman, like the common Englishman or Irishman, isn't a bit more polite than other people, no matter how many mannerisms he may have. That's the chief trouble—we've mistaken mannerisms for manners.

The ordinary Frenchman—and many a well-bred one outside the family circle—isn't any more polite than the average goat. Suppose there is a crowd of people, and he is on the outside and can't see what is going on. He will calmly elbow his way to the front—and he'll elbow hard. Other people will bawl him out, but they don't make an impression on him. He goes where he wants to, and is in turn elbowed aside by someone else. If a line of people are waiting to buy theater tickets, it's a not uncommon sight, to see someone forcing his way to the head of the line, over the loudly-voiced protests of everyone else.

In the street cars or subway, a Frenchman will politely arise and give his seat to someone else—not on your tintype, Angelina. He might give it to his grandmother, or to a real pretty girl, but even the most polite Frenchman will often sit and read his Matin calmly though the car were full of standing women. Here the Frenchman's manners are not a bit better than those of anyone else. And, when you get right down to it, as a rule you'll find this the case.

So, when you read stuff like this French war bride writes, don't get alarmed over the terrible manners of your compatriots. Remember that the war bride is likely to be temperamental, too. As for the kind of dope she is spreading, you would call it plain bunk if it were written by anyone but a war bride.

The ones who really suffer in campaign year are the babies that are kissed.

Imperial Theatre

--Tonight--
FRIDAY OCTOBER, 8

WM FOX presents **GEORGE WALSH IN**
"The Beast"

George as a Western bad man places him in a new role but one fitted to him. It's full of thrills, fun and pep.
 Billy West in "HIS DAY OUT"
 LATEST CURRENT EVENTS
 ADMISSION, 15 and 30 Cents.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

One Day Only Matinee, 3 p. m. Night, 7:30 and 9:15
MACK SENNETT'S SPECIAL FIVE-REEL SENSATIONAL COMEDY

"Down On the Farm"

Get those old thrills again, get back to grand old nature. It's a riot of rural romance and revelry. It will give you all the benefits of a three months' summer vacation in an hour of fast and furious fun.



SCENE FROM
MACK SENNETT'S
 Five Reel Comedy Sensation
DOWN ON THE FARM

SNUB POLLARD comedy, "ALL IN A NIGHT"
 MUTT AND JEFF, in "HOME SWEET HOME"
 ADMISSION—Matinee, 15 and 30c. Night, 20 and 40c.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

BILLIE BURKE, in
"Away Goes Prudence"

TWO-REEL COMEDY.
 ADMISSION, 15 and 30 Cents.

Owing to close train connections in Denver the serial, "HIDDEN DANGERS" will be finished on Mondays—Third Episode, Monday 11th.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

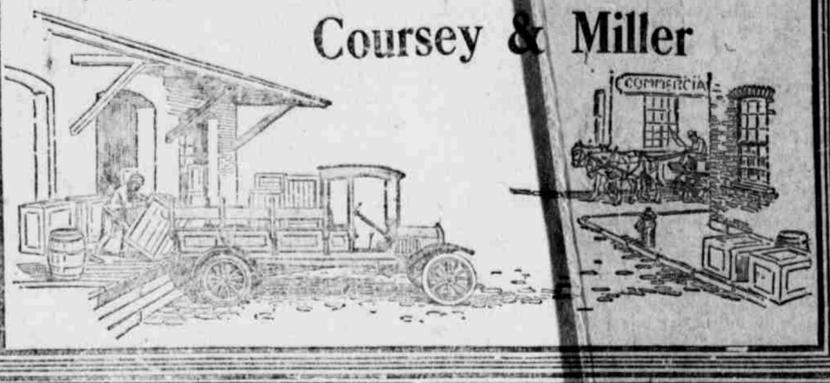
MARY MILES MINTER, in
"Judy of Rogues Harbor"

Charlie Chaplin, in "BEHIND THE SCREEN"
 Third Episode of "HIDDEN DANGERS"
 MATINEE AND NIGHT, 15 and 30 Cents.

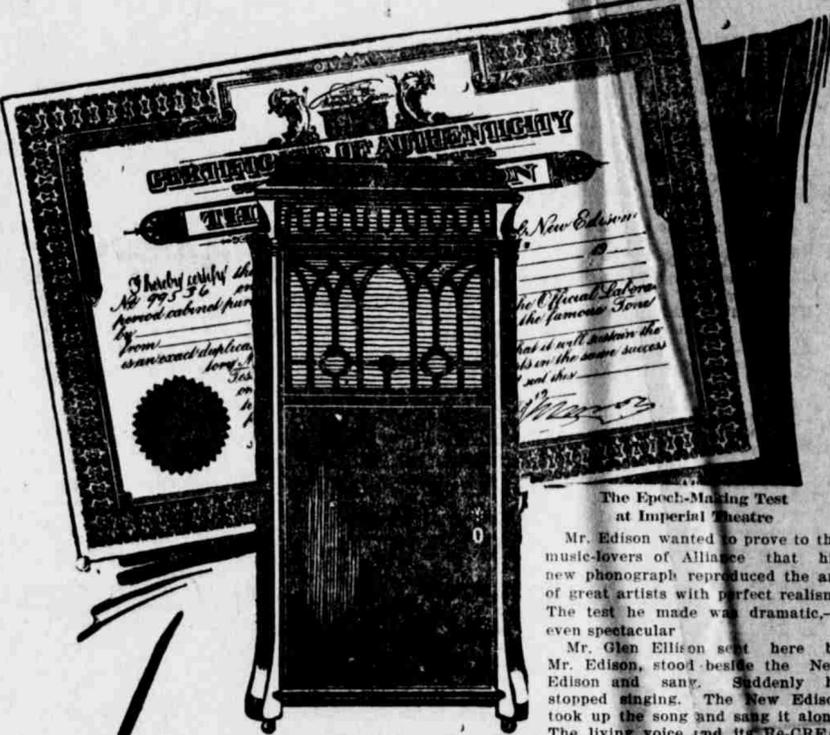
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