



THE UNSEEN FAIRY OF THE BALLROOM FILM

Have you ever wondered over the beauty of the gowns which the Vitagraph players wear in the various pictures? I am sure you have, since they are far too wonderful to escape notice.

THE YOUNGEST AND BULKIEST TACKLE.



WILBUR HENRY.

Wilbur Henry is one of the youngest, bulkiest and best of tackles. He's busily engaged right now in fighting for the honor and glory of Washington & Jefferson.

MR. KELLER TO SPEAK.

New Officers Will Be Installed This Afternoon.

Mr. Oscar Keller, the new physical director of the Wilmington Young Men's Christian Association, will speak at the Boys' League at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

Mr. Keller has already won a warm place in the hearts of the boys and will bring them an interesting message.

The new officers elected last Sunday will take their places tomorrow—William Ek, vice president, and Robert Williams, treasurer.

One enjoyable feature of these boys' meetings is the lively, snappy singing.

All boys over 12 are cordially invited.

use the modern, small extinguishers that hang on the wall, which should not be placed so high that the children cannot reach them.

This is the absurdity of the logic of some parents. They leave matches where baby can set himself on fire, but they hang the extinguisher so high that none of the children can get at it.

Each hour that passes brings a fire loss in the United States of more than \$50,000. Men insure themselves and their business establishments and their homes against monetary loss.

The annual monetary loss from fire in the United States is estimated at \$250,000,000. Added to this is an equal sum spent in the maintenance of Fire and Water Departments for fire-fighting, making a total cost of \$500,000,000 annually.

At this rate we burn up in the United States \$60,000 every hour and \$1,000 every minute. In plain figures this waste is not only appalling, but it is criminal when we compare our fire loss with that of the leading countries of Europe.

At her home in Brooksville, Florida, August 15th, 1916, MRS. SALLIE HOLMES OWEN, widow of the late John W. Owen, in the 72nd years of her age.

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SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4TH 25c Each Share

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Shares in the Co-Operative are 25 cents each a week. For each share, you get \$100.00 in about six years. The best way ever invented to buy Real Estate, to save money. Take shares, pay systematically each week and you will have a valuable, easily saved fund for the much needed use that is sure to come.

A free booklet explaining Building and Loan is yours for the asking. Everyone—men and women can become shareholders.

We want you! Put your name on list of shareholders during the week.

EIGHTY PER CENT OF FIRES START IN HOUSE

(St. Louis Republic.)

The scientific authorities on fire prevention have handed down a sweeping, serious indictment against the American mother. It seems cruel, but these men who are sincere and who know what they are talking about say it is based on cold, accurate statistics, compiled from the fire records of every state in the Union, and quite without regard to the fires that are stated by the carelessness of men.

"Mother," they say, "is an unintentional incendiary. Fire records show that 80 per cent of the fires in this country are in homes and the mothers start the majority of them through carelessness."

Every hour of every day six homes worth on the average of \$5,000 each, are destroyed by fire and mothers are accused of being responsible for four out of the six fires.

More than 1,000 little children have been burned to death every year since these fire statistics have been compiled. The mothers of these babies, it is said, must assume responsibility for the fires that burned 809 of them annually.

Worse than this, these fire statisticians hold that the mothers are also, through negligence, teaching their babies to start fires which burn them to death or disfigure them for life.

For her own convenience and the convenience of the father of her children the mother places matches in every room in the house, frequently where even the smallest of her little ones can get at them when she is out or not watching them.

Mother cleans house, in the majority of cases, they say, by piling the rubbish, often inflammable, into a dark closet, garret or cellar. Two days later when she wants something which she has discarded she may go herself or send one of the children into the rubbish room with a match or candle to find it.

Mother is held responsible for the frequent blocking of the fire escape of her own home through her own inattention or by permitting others in her household to be careless in this regard. Many fire chiefs, who are working in harmony with the present movement for more fire prevention and less expense for fire fighting, say that the mothers who raise families in city tenements have been permitted by our lax laws to become so lazy and careless in the protection of their children from fire they will never reform until they are punished by fines or jail sentences.

Here is a serious problem. How are you going to punish a careless mother with a family of small children to care for? Fine the mother and the children may starve.

But it is not merely among the poor and ignorant mothers that "passive" or "unconscious incendiary" exists. Women who know the danger of using volatile fluids near an open flame rave when they hear that an ignorant servant has burned up a family by lighting a kitchen fire with kerosene. The intelligent woman will at the same time use these volatile fluids for cleaning clothes in a room where there is a burning gas jet or lamp.

It is said in the indictment that practically every state and all large municipalities offer free, abundant printed and oral advice to the mother about fire prevention, and that she, in the majority of cases, passes it by

unheeded.

Mothers, it appears, fear fire, but they do not "think fire" before it happens. Their carelessness develops into cruelty to their little ones. A fond mother will put her baby to bed in warm weather, open the window of the bed chamber that the child may get fresh air. Near the window is a gas jet turned low and on the window is a loose curtain. The mother leaves the room for a few moments and when she returns the breeze has blown the curtain near the gas and the room is in flames. Sometimes the child is saved, but not always. The mother suffers because she did not "think fire."

Mothers allow a broken gas jet to go unreplaced. A servant or one of her children light the gas, the flames rush out uncontrolled and a fire loss, possibly a death follows.

There are many mothers, of course, who are cautious enough to safeguard their homes and their families within the four walls of their house or apartment, but they are not cautious enough to find out if their neighbor or their landlord has done his part to protect their interests. In some of the tenements of the large cities, say these authorities on fire prevention, some landlords are grossly negligent regarding protective measures.

It is pointed out that tenants who pay rent to such landlords can at least report such negligence to the city authorities.

In those homes where kerosene is still used how many mothers, when buying a lamp, consider first its safety features? Too often serviceable features are disregarded for style and up-to-dateness. The lamp may be top-heavy and dangerous, but if it is in fashion it is purchased. Decorative paper shades are inexpensive, but they often prove most costly in the end.

In the homes which have graduated beyond the kerosene and gas age of electricity the mothers are prone to regard themselves and their children as perfectly safe. It is yet beyond them to "think fire" where electricity abounds. They trust ignorant janitors and servants to make electrical repairs and adjustments, little realizing that through their carelessness they are allowing these men to make possible the kindling of flames which may some day destroy their homes and possibly their children.

Cloths which have been wet or saturated with oils are hung in damp places or in the sun where they easily cause spontaneous combustion. Ashes from stoves and furnaces are dumped in wooden boxes or near wooden partitions.

Where gas stoves are used the rubber hose connections are often faulty, which is a positively criminal condition.

Mothers frequently sit at home and worry lest their husbands should be burned to death while at work. They fret because the buildings in which the men are employed may not be properly protected by fire extinguishers. But how many homes are protected with fire buckets or extinguishers? All parents should see that at least a small extinguisher, of the quart type, is in their home, and they should teach their children how to use it.

Too frequently the mother is absent from home when the baby catches fire and the older children cannot save it unless they risk their own lives. A child years of age can be taught to

Wilmington Monday Nov. 6

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