



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Herbert W. Carleton Motion Picture Stills Collection

NMAH.AC.0465

David E. Haberstich

1997

Archives Center, National Museum of American History

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Herbert W. Carleton Motion Picture Stills Collection
Date:	1912-1919
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0465
Creator:	Carleton, Herbert W., d. 1992 Carleton, Herbert Oswald
Extent:	1 Cubic foot
Language:	English .
Summary:	A collection of motion picture publicity stills collected by Herbert O. Carleton (1887-1962), cameraman during the Silent Era of filmmaking.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Apparently these stills from H. O. Carleton's films were passed on to Herbert W. Carleton at the former's death. They were donated to the Archives Center by Herbert W. Carleton on October 9, 1992.

Processing Information

Collection processed by David Haberstich, 1997. Compiled by Julie Buck, 1995 and preliminary attributions by Laura Murray, 1993.

Preferred Citation

Herbert W. Carleton Motion Picture Stills Collection, 1912-1919, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Herbert Oswald Carleton was born in Rochester, N.Y. In his early life he worked as a mechanic and small time inventor, then worked as a motion picture projectionist before getting involved in camera work. Not a cinematographer in the modern sense, Carleton worked primarily with one director and shot only what the director asked for. The height of his output was 1915, when he photographed a number of Francis X. Bushman films. His career tapered off quickly after the release of *Birth of a Race*, the most expensive,

but poorly made film of the silent period. Carleton later turned up doing short films and feature length documentaries in the 30's, before disappearing from the film scene.

Scope and Contents

The Carleton Collection is a series of 461 feature film still photographs taken during the years 1912-1919. The stills are arranged alphabetically according to film titles. Most of the stills are in excellent condition, although some are torn or cracked at the edges. Only two of the films (The Awakening of Helena Richie and Birth of a Race) from which the stills were taken appear to exist. The stills are probably most notable for the wide array of early screen and stage actors from the period, including Lionel and Ethel Barrymore, Francis X. Bushman and Beverly Bayne, and a very young Frank Morgan.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically and by title.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Motion pictures -- History -- Photographs -- 1910-1920
Silent films -- Photographs

Types of Materials:

Film stills
Motion picture stills
Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- Silver gelatin -- 1910-1920

Names:

Barrymore, Ethel (actress)
Bushman, Francis X. (actor)

Occupations:

Cinematographers

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	The Awakening of Helena Ritchie . Rolfe Photoplays Inc. Featuring Ethel Barrymore., 1916
Box 1, Folder 2	Birth of a Race. Birth of a Race Photoplay Company. Featuring Louis Dean, Jane Grey, George Le Guerre., 1918
Box 1, Folder 3	Birth of a Race. Birth of a Race Photoplay Company. Featuring Louis Dean, Jane Grey, George Le Guerre., 1915
Box 1, Folder 4	Brand of Cowardice. Rolfe Photoplays Inc. Featuring Lionel Barrymore and Grace Valentine., 1916
Box 1, Folder 5	Call of Her People. Columbia Pictures Corporation. Featuring Ethel Barrymore., 1917
Box 1, Folder 6	Fighting Bob. Rolfe Photoplays Inc. Featuring Orrin Johnson, Olive Wyndham, Edward Brennan., 1915
Box 2, Folder 1	The \$5,000,000 Counterfeiting Plot. Dramascope Co. Featuring Detective William Burns., 1914
Box 2, Folder 2	The Gray Towers Mystery. Vitagraph Co. Featuring Gladys Leslie and Frank Morgan., 1919
Box 2, Folder 3	The High Road. Rolfe Photoplays Inc. Featuring Valli Valli and Frank Elliot., 1915
Box 2, Folder 4	The Light of Happiness. Columbia Pictures Corp. Featuring Viola Dana, Robert Walker, George Melville., 1916
Box 2, Folder 5	A Magdalene of the Hills. Rolfe Photoplays Inc. Featuring Mabel Taliaferro., 1917
Box 2, Folder 6	Man and His Soul. Quality Pictures Corporation. Featuring Francis X. Bushman, Beverly Bayne, Edward Brennan, John Davidson., 1916
Box 3, Folder 1	One Million Dollars. Rolfe Photoplays Inc. Featuring William Faversham and Henry Bergman., 1915
Box 3, Folder 2	The Right of Way. Rolfe Photoplays Inc. Featuring William Faversham, Jane Grey, and Edward Brennan., 1915
Box 3, Folder 3	Satan Sanderson. Rolfe Photoplays Inc. Featuring Orrin Johnson and Irene Warfield., 1915
Box 3, Folder 4	Shame. John W. Noble; Duplex Films. Featuring Zena Keefe, Lionel Belmore, Paul Doucet, and Niles Welch., 1917

Box 3, Folder 5	The Three of Us. B.A. Rolfe Photoplays. Featuring Mabel Taliaferro, Creighton Hale, Master Stuart, Edwin Carewe, and Irving Cummings., 1914
Box 3, Folder 6	The Wall Between. Quality Pictures Corporation. Featuring Francis X. Bushman, Beverly Bayne, John Davidson, Edward Brennan, and Robert Cummings., 1916
Box 4, Folder 1	Miscellaneous photographs, probably not from films. Possibly photographs of director John W. Noble or cameraman Herbert Oswald Carleton., undated
Box 4, Folder 2	Various unidentified stills of Francis X. Bushman., undated
Box 4, Folder 3	Unidentified film stills., undated
Box 4, Folder 4	Unidentified film stills., undated
Box 4, Folder 5	"First Singing Picture." No additional information can be located on these stills., 1912