

PHOTOPLAY

February, 1931

The National Guide to
Motion Pictures

Close-Ups *and* Long-Shots

By

JAMES R.
QUIRK



EUROPE has, at last, acknowledged a debt to America. Says the *Sunday Express* (London):

“If one were to write a history of cinematography one would almost have to begin by acknowledging the world’s enormous debt of laughter to America.

“Hollywood’s unfailing stream of fun and high spirits has kept the lamp of optimism

burning in Europe.

“While German films were steeped in menacing morbidity and Russia wallowed in psychopathic horrors; while Swedish producers turned to Calvinistic frigidities, and Britain floundered in apologetic ineptitude, America’s inexhaustible comedy resources kept the spirit of gaiety alive in our cinema theaters, until Europe decided to smile again.”

That’s more than all the peace conferences have ever been able to accomplish.