

BIG WAR GAME OFF NEW ENGLAND COAST



WORKING THE 12 INCH DEMOLISHING GUN

The big naval and military war game, which has stirred the whole country, has drawn to a close and the decision of the judges as to whether the attacking fleet was more or less successful in its operation than the defending forces, is eagerly awaited. This decision will be arrived at in the most careful and logical way, every separate point of the contest being given due weight. The basis upon which the contest rests is mainly "discovery zones." That is, the attacking and defending forces which got nearer to the enemy than would be safe in real warfare, scored a point for every march stolen. Discovery by the foe, on the other hand, meant the loss of a point. Every time the forts discovered a battleship within gun range the ship was considered disabled. Thus the searchlights and war balloons played an important part in the contest. A graphic conception of the realistic nature of the maneuvers may be obtained by a glance at the above pictures of actual maneuvers.

progress, crossed the stage, carrying a box, and continued talking. The stage director promptly called them down, and they walked on, looking somewhat surprised. In one act when the throne was not used, a couple of the company. It is needless to say (he and she) climbed up, sat down and enjoyed a whispered conversation. The director was very particular about the position of the players on the stage and the different ways to enter it. When the entry or position did not suit him, he promptly said so and compelled them to do it over until it was done right. In one part it is necessary for one of the characters to kiss the princess. He did it with the vim of an impassioned lover.

In the play "Granstark," then under rehearsal, a throne is necessary. This was very much in evidence.

There are drops and curtains, on which are painted scenes, and flowers, which under the dim glare of many lights, look very real. With rugs, chairs, tables, etc., a stage can be arranged to resemble a fifth avenue drawing room. With a quick change of scenery, it can be made to look like a prison, a mining camp, a mountain gorge.

The players were nonchalant and ap-

parently unconcerned and went through their parts with ease and naturalness. The play is a German story, full of fire and love, and was dramatized by Miss Grace Hayward, after several others failed in the attempt.

Many funny incidents occurred during the rehearsal. For instance, when the man who was supposed to have been shot rushed in on the stage, he did not bother to go through the formalities of falling, deferring that until an audience could witness it. The men who will be conspicuous in uniform the night you will sit near the front to applaud, were not on dress parade. All through the rehearsal there prevailed a quietness and order that betokened discipline. The people who so severely criticize actors little think what an effort it is for a player to learn parts, and adapt themselves to different characters, to go over the same pieces night after night before strange audiences, and all sorts of cranks. Perhaps if they did, there would be less fault found, and more praise given.

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GREEN GABLES.



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