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THE SPY

(GERMAN MADE)

London, June 10.

Original story by Thea von Harbou. Directed by Fritz Lang. Photography by Fritz Arno Wagner. Censors' certificate "U." Previewed at the Palace theatre, London, May 31. United Kingdom distribution, W. & F. Film Company. Running time, 130 mins.

Max Haghi.....	Rudolph Klein-Rogge
Sonia Barranikowa.....	Gerda Maurus
Miles Jason.....	Craig Hall Sherry
No. 328.....	Willy Fritsch
Dr. Matsumoto.....	Lupu Pick
Colonel Jellustle.....	Fritz Rasp

Nothing of the former type of Fritz Lang's work, as in "Metropolis," shown in this film. Intention was to make this a popular melodrama, and it may have succeeded according to the tastes of Continental audiences. As shown here, it is more like a cut-down crime serial.

Characterization is good, especially in the cases of Lupu Pick's representation of a Japanese diplomat who falls for a hard luck story told by a girl, loses the draft of the secret treaty as a result, and commits hari-kari.

Fritz Rasp, who ran away with "Lusts of the Flesh" recently, is outstanding, and Klein-Rogge makes an unbelievable master crook almost credible. Story is so confused it is difficult to tell what it's all about. There is a banker who is the head of a gang of international crooks, and a secret service couple. Stolen treaties, abducted maidens, mysterious murders, etc.

Direction is good, and many of the shots and sets are both novel and attractive. One sequence has a boxing ring in the center of a cabaret floor and staging a fight between each dance.

Too Continental and discursive for this country and it won't mean much in America. Fred.

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