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*** White Hell of Piz Palu**

(GERMAN MADE)
(Silent)

Berlin, Nov. 25.

Sokol Film directed by Dr. A. Franck and O. W. Papst. First run at Ufa Palast am Zoo, Berlin.

Despite "Singing Fool," this comparatively inexpensive German silent film will probably be the big money-maker of the season over here. It fits the German taste with complete accuracy. In New York it cannot hope to play the big first runs but it will bowl them over in the sure seaters and fill in nicely on a double feature program. Technically, and from the angle of action and direction, it rates well up in the international ranks.

Frank has already produced several films, all of them successful, which played in the same milieu, namely mountain climbing in the Bavarian alps. This is unquestionably his crowning effort. The scenario is more simple and more human, the actors keep real by the sensitive direction of Papst, who handles this end of the megaphone waving.

It is a simple fable concerning a mountain climber who has lost his wife on the Piz Palu, a dangerous Alp, and who since then climbs in

the mountains alone. He encounters a young married couple in a shelter and the youth, without cause, becomes jealous. So he decides to go along on a dangerous ascent. But the girl will not be left out and forces her way into the party. An avalanche throws the youth down to the end of his rope and the older man in rescuing him breaks his leg. So the three are trapped half way up an ice wall. After three maddening days, rescue comes but too late to save the older man, who freezes to death as he has given his sweaters to save the other two.

Photography of the mountains is always interesting and often awe-inspiring. Actors deliver a first-class performance from the sporting angle, and Gustav Diessl is undoubtedly a leading man who would appeal in Hollywood. Leni Riefenstahl, formerly a dancer, is a typical German sporting type but too buxom for the average American taste—more on the line of Gertrude Ederle.

Trusk.