

LINDER, NOTED MOVIE ACTOR, KILLED AT FRONT

French Comedian Was Leading Man of Pathe Freres Studios.

By Central News of London.

ROME, Sept. 30.—A report from Berlin says that Max Linder, the leading comedian of the Pathe Freres moving picture studios in Paris, has been killed in the battle of the Aisne where he was fighting on the French side.

Max Linder was regarded as one of the leading comedians of the French stage, and he certainly was the highest paid moving picture comedian in Europe. Al-



Max Linder.

though only 29 years old his contract with Pathe Freres brought him \$70,000 a year, and his whole income amounted to over \$100,000 a year.

While a school boy in Bordeaux he won honors for declamation and was still in his teens when he met Charles le Bargy, secretary of the Comedie Francaise, who promised him an opportunity to go on the stage. Soon thereafter he became a member of the company at the Theatre des Varieties.

Pathe Freres offered him a contract for \$20,000 a year eight years ago, and since then he has been their leading comedian. Although he not only acted but wrote scenarios and directed productions for the movies, he appeared regularly on the legitimate stage and won a European reputation. He was asked to play in Russia, and on his first trip there, about two years ago, received \$600 a day for two months, and on his second trip to that country his popularity was such that he received \$24,000 in one month.

Nearly all of the French Pathe Freres players are on the firing line. Two of them are in Verdun, and Escoffler, a Pathe actor, was one of the first men to be awarded the military medal by Gen. Joffre.