

### CIVIC HONOURS TO MEMORY OF BRITISH MOVIE INVENTOR.

Acting on behalf of the British Film Industry, film and stage star Michael Redgrave today unveiled a tablet on the former home of British movie inventor William Friese-Greene, in Middle Street, Brighton. The tablet was placed there by the Brighton Municipality and is the first time civic honours have been accorded to the founder of the cinema industry who died in 1921.

Michael Redgrave is one of over sixty British stars who donated their services to "The Magic Box", the film industry's co-operative contribution to the Festival of Britain 1951, which is based on the life story of Friese-Greene.

Present at the Unveiling Ceremony were the Mayor of Brighton, Alderman Eric Sims J.P., and members of the Town Council. Representing the film industry were Major R.P. Baker, Chairman of the British Film Producers Association and John Boulting, director of "The Magic Box". The inventor's family was represented by Graham Friese-Greene, one of his sons.

# COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON

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Brighton Honours Townsman,

William Friese-Greene

Inventor of Cinematography.

On Monday, 10th September at 12 noon Brighton will pay tribute to the late William Friese-Greene, a townsman famous in the world of cinematography, but hitherto almost unknown to the general public. It was at 20B Middle Street, Brighton, between the years 1907 and 1910 that Friese-Greene, recognised as the inventor of cinematography, carried out his experiments which led to a world-wide industry, in fact, the small shack in the garden of the house in Middle Street could in some ways be regarded as the first film studio in the world. Friese-Greene, who was born at Bristol in 1855 and died in tragic circumstances in 1921, spent the years between 1905 and 1916 in Brighton and Hove.

A film of the life of Friese-Greene entitled "The Magic Box" has been produced co-operatively by the whole British film industry as a contribution to the Festival of Britain and will shortly be shown as a world premiere in London. On the screen Friese-Greene is portrayed by Robert Donat, who is at present undergoing a serious operation.

To commemorate Friese-Greene's close association with the Borough, the Brighton Corporation have fixed a Memorial Tablet to the wall of the house at 20B Middle Street and an imposing ceremony for the unveiling has been arranged. The unveiling will be performed by Michael Redgrave, who is one of the 60 British film stars who volunteered their services in supporting roles in the Festival film "The Magic Box". He will be introduced by His Worship the Mayor (Alderman Eric Simms, J.P.), supported by members of the Publicity Committee of the Council, dressed in robes. Also present will be Major Reginald P. Baker, Chairman of the British Film Producers Association; Mr. John Boulting, the Director of the Festival film "The Magic Box"; Mr. Graham Friese-Greene, third son of the inventor; Miss Ray Allister, author of the original book on Friese-Greene "Close Up of an Inventor"; Mr. Andrew Neatrou and many other personalities.

After the ceremony the guests will be entertained at luncheon by the Mayor at the Royal Albion Hotel. Mr. Redgrave will leave Shoreham Airport at 3 p.m. to fly to Stratford-on-Avon, where he is appearing in the Festival season of Shakespearean plays.

The ceremony will be recorded by five Newsreel Companies and by Television.

Speeches during the ceremony will be broadcast from amplifiers for the benefit of the public.

With the compliments of the  
Director of Publicity.

Press Notice.  
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