

Paper to Celluloid

653

LS

The door bursts open. Without a moment's hesitation, Jeannine flings herself across the room and into Philip's arms.

↓ FOLLOW SHOT

654

CU

She quotes
"Love can
never die"

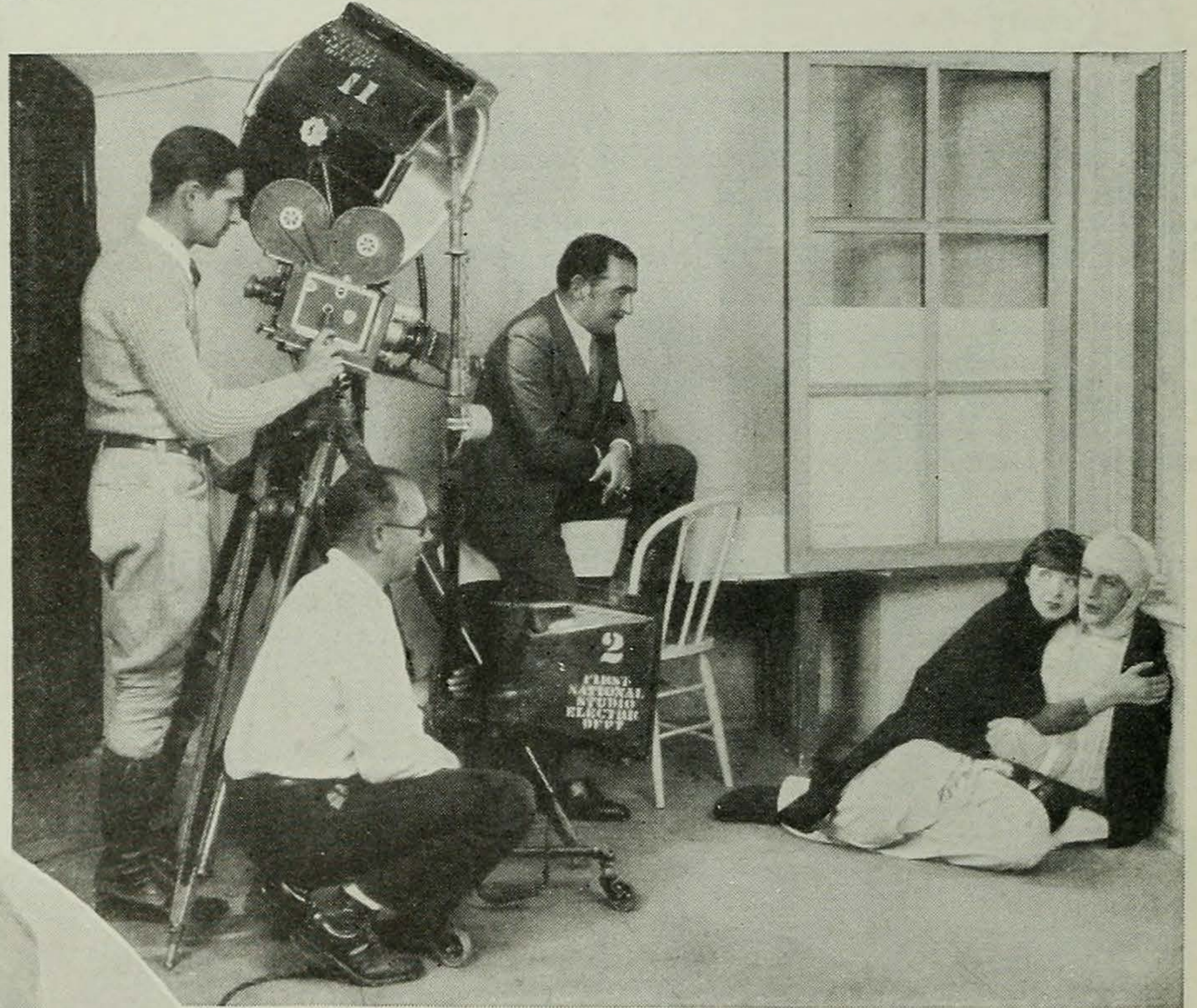
Philip is still crouched helplessly on the floor as Jeannine comes into his arms. She is hysterical - sobbing - half out of her mind with joy and emotion. She clutches him desperately and despite his weakness he finds strength to slip his arm about her. His eyes half close. She is murmuring ecstatically over him and to him. They clutch each other desperately as if anxious to convince themselves that this wonderful, magical thing has really occurred. Then a little smile trembles across Philip's face as Jeannine murmurs:

TITLE: "Lilac Time - it is our Lilac Time - ~~forever~~ of youth"

BACK TO SCENE: Jeannine's eyes close. She chokes with emotion and clutches him the tighter. FADE OUT.

Illustrating how the director and players translate a big scene from words into action

Above you see the big moment in "Lilac Time," as described by Carey Wilson in his script. The figures in the margin are the scene numbers. LS means long-shot and CU is, of course, close-up. The close-up dovetails into the action of the long-shot. Scenario writing is as much a technical as a literary job



Here is the way the scene would look if you were watching it from the side-lines. The setting is a base hospital in France, in which the lovers, played by Colleen Moore and Gary Cooper, are re-united. Director George Fitzmaurice is sitting on the table. Notice the two lights, the smaller one placed close to the floor to get the right lighting on the faces



This is the close-up of Miss Moore and Mr. Cooper, as you will see it. It is the moment when Colleen speaks the title in the script. Does it fit in with your idea of the written description?