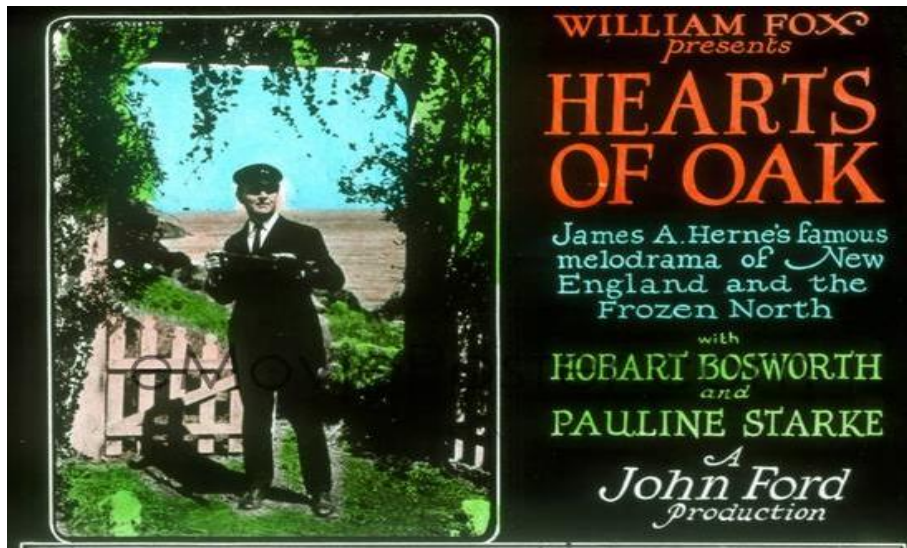


Hearts of Oak

Filmed on location on Bailey Island, Maine
in 1924

Directed by John Ford

Written by James A. Herne and Charles Kenyon



Distributed by: Fox Film Corporation

Release date October 5, 1924

Running time 50 minutes

Cinematography: George Schneiderman

Cast

Hobart Bosworth as Terry Dunnivan
Theodore von Eltz as Ned Fairweather
Francis Powers as Grandpa Dunnivan
Francis Ford

Pauline Starke as Chrystal
James Gordon as John Owen
Jennie Lee as Grandma Dunnivan
Frances Teague as Bridesmaid

Terry Dunnivan, a retired sea-captain living in Marblehead, Massachusetts, adopts two children, Chrystal and Ned. As the girl grows to womanhood, Terry realizes his fatherly-love had grown to something stronger. He asks her to become his wife.

Chrystal, who is in love with her foster-brother, consents rather than destroy Terry's happiness. On the day of their marriage, Ned returns from a long voyage with the intent of making Chrystal his wife. And, he, too, rather than destroy the happiness of his adopted-father, leaves to embark on an Arctic voyage that might mean his death. When Terry learns of the sacrifice both Chrystal and Ned are making on behalf of his happiness, he takes Ned's place on the voyage and gets both to pledge that if he does not return, they will marry each other.

Hearts of Oak is a 1924 American silent film drama directed by John Ford. The film is considered to be “lost”. On July 9, 1937, a major fire broke out in a 20th Century Fox film storage facility in Little Ferry, New Jersey, United States. Flammable nitrate film had previously contributed to several high-profile fires in film industry laboratories, studios, and vaults, although the precise causes were often unknown. In Little Ferry, gases produced by decaying film, combined with high temperatures and inadequate ventilation, resulted in spontaneous combustion. One death and two injuries resulted from the fire, which also destroyed all of the archived film in the vaults, resulting in the complete loss of most of the silent films produced by Fox Film Corporation before 1932.



John Martin "Jack" Feeney known as **John Ford** was an award-winning American film director who received a record of four Academy Awards in his field as a director and two others for his films. **Feeney** was born on **February 1, 1894**, in **Cape Elizabeth**, Maine to John Augustine Feeney and Barbara "Abbey" Curran. He was the tenth child of eleven by his parents. He was educated at Portland High School, Portland, Maine. While there, **John Ford** played fullback and defensive tackle, earning the nickname, “Bull”.

In 1914, he moved to California, where he started working in film production and acting in productions of his older brother Francis. This was when he adopted the name John Ford for his professional career.

John Ford left for California in 1914, where he started working with his brother Francis Ford, a multi-talented movie actor and director and owner of the production company(101 Bison) at Universal. **John Ford** worked as a handyman, stuntman and briefly as an actor in his brother's films. The year, he appeared in his brother's production, The Mysterious Rose. **John Ford** later became the chief assistant of Francis and also served as a cameraman within three years.

John Ford's first decade in film directing saw him direct more than sixty silent films including western productions from 1917 to 1928. However, just about ten of them survived in their entirety. He became one of the most sought after directors in Hollywood.

James Gordon: Actor James Gordon was born on April 23, 1871 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was an actor and a director, known for [The Last of the Mohicans](#) (1920), [Hearts of Oak](#) (1924) and [The Sea Wolf](#) (1920). He died on May 12, 1941 in Hollywood, California. He died on May 12, 1941.



Actor **Pauline Starke** was born on January 10, 1901 in Joplin, Missouri, the daughter of George W. Starke and Edythe Edna Starke (née Bruce). Pauline left school after completing the 5th grade and accompanied her mother to Los Angeles where she caught the attention of D. W. Griffith while her mother was working as an extra. Selected as one of the WAMPAS Baby Stars (Western Association of Motion Picture Advertisers) in 1922, Starke starred in a number of films from 1916 to 1935.

She made her acting debut as an extra in *The Birth of a Nation* (1915) and appeared as a dance extra in *Intolerance* (1916). She continued to play bit parts until director Frank Borzage started casting her in leading roles, beginning in 1917. She scored several lead roles in films, establishing her as a prominent silent-film actress during the 1920s. She starred as Chrystal in *Hearst of Oak* in 1927.

On Broadway, Starke portrayed Sylvia Clayton in *Zombie* (1932). Starke married producer/director Jack White on September 4, 1927, and they divorced in 1931. In 1932, she married actor George Sherwood. Starke died from the aftermath of a stroke on February 3, 1977 in Santa Monica, California.

Starke has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame for her contributions to Motion Pictures.



Francis Ford (born **Francis Joseph Feeney**; August 14, 1881 – September 5, 1953) was an American film actor, writer and director. He was the mentor and elder brother of film director John Ford.[1] He also appeared in many of the latter's movies, including *Young Mr. Lincoln* (1939) and *The Quiet Man* (1952). Ford was born in Portland, Maine. He was the son of John Augustine Feeney, who was born in the village of Spiddal, County Galway, Ireland, on June 15, 1854. His mother was Barbara "Abbey" Curran. By 1878, John had moved to Portland, Maine, and opened a saloon, at 42 Center Street, that used a false front to pose as grocery store. John opened four others in following years.

After service in the United States Army in the Spanish–American War (In *Pappy: The Life of John Ford*, Dan Ford wrote about Francis Ford and the war, "The Army soon discovered that he was only fifteen and sent him home."),[2] Francis left home. He drifted into the film business in New York City, working for David Horsley, Al Christie and the Star Film Company's San Antonio operation under Gaston Méliès. He adopted the name Ford from the automobile.[3] From San Antonio, Francis began his Hollywood career working for Thomas H. Ince at Ince's Bison studio, directing and appearing in westerns.

Ford's younger brother, John M. Feeney, nicknamed "Bull," was a successful fullback and defensive tackle on a Portland High state championship football team. In 1914, "Bull" followed Francis to Hollywood, changed his name to John Ford and eventually surpassed his elder brother's considerable reputation.

Ford's son, Philip Ford, was also a film actor/director. Francis Ford died after being diagnosed with cancer.

