warming story of beauty and talent meeting with early success, achieving the final triumph of a happy marriage and then deciding to surrender at its very peak a career of glamour and fame for the less glamorous but more abiding role of a good, full-time wife.

Her beauty and proficiency as a dancer brought her to the notice of producers and her vivacity, verve and vivid personality made her an instant success on the screen. Whenever a film called for an exotic, ebullient and eye-filling dance, Vijayalakshmi became the obvious choice.

Although Vijayalakshmi is not yet among the lengendary stars of the South, and although she has not played many leading roles, yet she is definitely listed among the successful younger stars of the South. Many a film has achieved popularity and turned into a box-office success because of Vijayalakshmi's gay and exciting dance, her happy impact on the audience.

Vijayalakshmi is a multi-lingual star. She is popular on the Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Hindi screens. After all beauty and talent talk a universal language. The shackles of language or region do not limit the appeal of stars like her. And this has been proved dramatically by her recent marriage to Mr. Dutta, an affluent Bengali.

The marriage has set the studios humming with arguments about her future plans. Her friends are certain that she will leave the screen to devote her entire time to make her marriage as happy

set.

In the interview to "Star & Style" Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Dutta discussed this subject very frankly. And her decision is to bid goodbye to acting, and become a full-time wife.

"I have almost decided to leave this line," the pretty star told "Star & Style" and there was a note of regret in her voice. After all it is going to be a wrench to pull out her roots and begin an entirely new life in a new milieu. She wants to do this immediately after she completes her present film assignments. She hopes to do so by the end of August.

"Can't you manage both?". I asked hopefully. After all so many stars have continued their screen career after being married and are also quite happy as wives.

"No," was her firm reply. "My husband is in Manila in the Philippines now. He is busy working at the International Rice Research Centre. I will join him there, and, who knows, might stay there permanently."

Of course, as continuing in films will mean separation from her husband, one can appreciate the need for this decision. "I do not want my film career to eclipse my new career as a wife." Vijayalakshmi explained.

No one in the film industry had expected either her sudden marriage or the consquent decision to retire from films. Since a couple of years Vijayalakshmi has been achieving wider popularity and higher status and today she can

development which has taken the industry by complete surprise. Dismay in those circles is therefore natural.

Her film career is hardly a decade old. She made her screen debut in the popular Tamil movie, "Kalathur Kannamma", in which she gave a lovely dance number. Immediately after this, she gave another equally charming performance in the Telugu movie, "Sipayi Kooturu" in 1959. Quick success as a dancer, however, did not blunt her ambition as an actress. She knew she had the talent and finally won a chance in the Tamil film "Alukoru Veedu". She played the leading role for the first time, sharing the stellar honours with Satyan.

The number of films in which has appeared exceed 75. Some of her more recent films in which she had the heroine's role raised her popularity to a new peak and she was no more a mere embellishment to the South Indian screen, but a promising actress.

She has no illusions that all the 75 films in which she has acted were models of film art. In each language only a few films have given her the opportunity to display her talents. Among such are "Gnanasundari" (in Malayalam), "Ramudu-Bheemudu" (in Telugu) and "Taya Pillai" (in Tamil). Her outstanding performances as a dancer were in "Bhakta Prahlada", "Kakum Karangal", "Engaveettu Pillai", "Jagadekaveeruni Katha" and "Lalla Majnu".

As she herself feels, her success on the screen is mainly due to

brought me from
to enter me in
she recalled. S
dance programm
age of ten and
was none other
film personality.
Since then, she
eus performance
institutions an
causes.

Her mastery of
Bharat Natyam
Kathakali. She
ern dances too.

In spite of all t
ent, wide fame
and glittering
success, wealth
Vijayalakshmi
sion to bid good
career.

Has she attain
artiste?
When "Star
question, the
little uncerta
She had no
success, but
faction were
a short pass
thing is certa
acted in abo
them has gi
display my
eyes of the
mainly a da
"Then why
films until y
tion of perfo
role?" I ask
Again her
No, No. . . ."
Well, after
Indian scre
for her lea