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The Daily Movie Magazine

WHO IS HE? THREE GUESSES



You're right, it's Harold Lloyd, but without the famous "goggles." Makes a big change, doesn't it? Harold might just as well have entered the leading man sweepstakes with "Wally" and "Boyz."

THE MOVIE FAN'S LETTERBOX

By HENRY M. NEELY

"Vendetta"—Norma Talmadge's husband is Joseph Schenck and the Schenck of the vaudeville team of Van and Schenck is Gus Schenck. It is Connie Talmadge who is suing for divorce, not Norma.

"C. B. S." writes: "I note that the discussion agent 'Foolish Wives' still rages in your column, and I also note that you take a most uncompromising attitude in regard to it."

"When your objections are analyzed they appear to be that the photoplay in question teaches no useful lesson. This argument is unanswerable from the standpoint of the didactic in art, but similar arguments can be adduced to the disadvantage of many other plays and pictures."

"Your argument, as I remember it, was couched in a rather technical form, and proposed that, inasmuch as the punishment of the villain was not locally worked out, the picture was morally reprehensible. This is a fine point, but one not readily grasped by the rank and file of our movie public."

"I think you are combining artistic and moral objections in a rather unwise way. We are not concerned, for the moment, with the artistic aspects of the case, but purely with the moral considerations on which you lay so much stress. I think we can agree that the most dangerous form of artistic seduction is where vice is rendered attractive."

"In other words, I consider that the moral of the story is negligible as far as an intelligent, or even a grown, person is concerned, and at any rate no more objectionable than many other sugar-coated stories of the kind that are eagerly gulped down by a not too discerning audience."

"I have not the knowledge that you profess to have of Von Stroheim's inner convictions, but I do not think that the villain he portrays is of a kind to seduce many from the paths of righteousness. It is decidedly of the 'opera bouffe' kind, which, together with the extensive advance notices that preceded this picture, make the whole adventure of a decidedly 'dime novel' character."

"I do not think that many of your correspondents' feet will be taught to stray as a result of this picture, though if such there be, I should like to hear of it. If the picture proves anything, it proves the tremendous force of advertising that will induce us to accept things for what they are claimed to be."

"A picture claims to be shocking and forthwith it shocks beyond measure. A man sets himself up as hateful and he receives hate in overflowing bounty. If the critic will not scrutinize a wild claim of this kind, but adds to the desired horror and repobation, who will lead us into the light and expose this pseudo-villain for the imposture that it is?"

"To sum up, I think that Von Stroheim's claims to villainy should not be accepted on his mere say-so, and that if the picture fails, it is not living up to advance notices. Much as I would like to be able to thrill to its total depravity as you seem to, I am still skeptical, and feel that the whole action of the story could have occurred many times without bringing down the wrath of heaven."

neterize the "tropical love" as sordid indulgence, the flouting of convention as vice, and the languor of laziness. Of such is "The Cruise of the Kawa," written by "Dr. Traprock," and a smaller but increasing number of other volumes.

"The undeniably romantic flavor of this region has made it the scene of a number of motion pictures. However, it has been the aim of their authors and directors to present life as it is, and to avoid argument or preaching."

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Liquor-law violations reported to this league will be investigated and turned over by us to the prosecuting authorities. Prompt action is promised upon affidavits of two witnesses. Protect your family and home by telling us of violators who come within your knowledge. This is every citizen's duty.

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COLONIAL 6th & Maplewood Ave. ETHEL CLAYTON
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