

The Daily Movie Magazine

WONDER WHAT THE SECRET IS?



Tom Moore is whispering something to Lila Lee, and from the expression on her face, she seems to be very interested. The picture was snapped between scenes on the films in which Tom and Lila are appearing.

THE MOVIE FAN'S LETTERBOX

By HENRY M. NEELY

"TNT" writes: "Your tiny 'Lentol' is sometimes less than the snap and fire that your active correspondents give their contributions. It seems yours is a moon-like splendor—reflected. If you are not careful you might find yourself some sleepy morning in the fix you handed Miss Aggie Ayres—misty and dim.

"Come out from behind your little huckeberry and say still more abrupt what you think. For Philadelphia you do go quite a way along the gravel of outspokenness, but wake up the old hant—the mummy has been dead a long time.

"Whether I like your stick or not I read it, and after all you want readers more than admirers, don't you? If every one agreed and loved you your life would be almost heaven, and press men have that only to look forward to. Having hidden my depressed bosom I'll to my peev.

"Why all this rant about 'Foolish Wives'? Did I reach the controversy by freight? Is there much I don't know about what has been said? But—I saw the picture, and why all this sallow horror?

"It was artistic as the movies go; it had it all over some of the things 'Cotton' has put over recently. 'For Those We Love,' for example, pardoning the digression, seemed to love every one but the harassed audience. That Eric, he was willing to play an unattractive part and did it to the Queen's taste. Then the story seemed to fulfill some of the ancient requirements. I did not note that he was rewarded with any grandeur for his iniquity—did he not get his, as they have it?

"Evidently you did not like it from a lot of pictures. Why do you go to the movies or the theatre or anywhere that lays a claim on amusement as a forte? Did you ever stop to think why a lot of us go? Surely it is for amusement—pure if possible, but usually simple, so that the hackneyed pure and s. holds.

"Has the stage been an uplift agent? That ought to start an argument. It seems to have raised our raven-haired R. V. from a trundler of soiled plates to the lap of luxury, but you in your gratis chair and me in my thirty-eight cent seat, do we get nearer heaven or a good deed after we have had an hour and fifty minutes of Mae Murray's exquisite shapeliness and little else to focus on?

"It seems rather unfair to go on a man hunt in the movies—a man is there to do what some one else tells him. Get him in a dark alley with a brace of Philadelphia's best on his neck and he may pull something entirely surprising. A director may and may not be a benefi.

ward eagerly to 'The Prisoner of Zenda.' Have you seen it? It is to be here June 12, a special performance."

"I certainly put my foot in it in regard to that 'Wally' Reid he-man business. Funny thing is that for once I wasn't guilty.

"The screen has a number of leading men and character actors who always have titles of 'virile,' 'manly' or 'red-blooded.' They generally have hairy chests and arms which they take particular delight in exhibiting. They are at home in slouch hats and outdoor yams, and in dress suits they look bewildered and worried.

"You know the type—Mix, Sills, Farnum, Kirkwood, Carey.

"And there is another group, typified by such a bully young actor as Jack Holt, who in addition to out-of-door roles is perfectly at home as the 'successful business man,' the 'hard-headed financier,' etc.

"I like 'Wally' Reid, too, and have always gone out of my way to say so, but his boyishness and the smile that always lurks in his eyes preclude his inclusion in the thirty-third degree 'he-man' group.

"All my biographies of Alice Terry give the lady's hair as blonde, but, having never met her, I can't say for sure."

Wanna Lou writes: "What reason, outside of a personal prejudice, could you possibly have in refusing to classify Wallace Reid in the he-man group? Did you really mean that or were you just trying to get a bunch of indignant letters from the many Wally fans? I think it was the latter."

"There is certainly no one on the screen more deserving of being placed in that group than this fine, athletic young fellow. There are so many things to be said in his favor. Want to hear a couple of the main ones? No? All right, here they are: To begin with, he is one of the most sincere, likable players on the screen, is a clever comedian and seems to be absolutely unspoiled by success. I've been watching Wallace Reid's work since the days he was leading man for the delightful Dorothy Davenport (now Mrs. Reid) and have seldom been disappointed in one of his pictures. Perhaps they wouldn't always please the sky-high-brows, but they are mighty good entertainment. I do wish you'd explain your refusal. Honestly, I'd like to know your reason."

"There's a certain very charming little girl out there in 'Califilma' who isn't getting half the praise and attention she deserves. I refer to Elinor Field. She has been in comedies and serials, but never has much of a chance, though she is often much more interesting and attractive than the 'star' of the picture. Where are all those 'big directors' who are continually looking for 'finds'? They couldn't discover a bet-

ter one than this pretty little blonde. If Mildred Davis is really going to resign as Harold Lloyd's leading lady (which is doubtful) he couldn't find a better one than Elinor. I wish Connie Palmer would write something about Miss Field. Will you ask her to please?"

"Here's a question you didn't answer in the first letter I wrote. Do you know if Mary Hay is coming back to the movies? Have you met her personally? Mary would be wonderful as a screen comedienne, but I suppose she prefers the stage.

"And just here I'd like to say that your answer today to 'Just Landed' was the funniest ever, particularly that certain little matter of 'Julio.' Any one who tries to kid H. M. S. is bound to skid."

"I'll say the same to you that I did to 'M. F. C.' I like 'Wally' Reid, especially his comedy work, and since he changed over to that three or four years ago and ceased being a leading man in fashion plate, he has been wrong for him. And in 'Peter Ibbotson' I admired him a lot.

"Nape, I'm really not trying to start a deluge of letters. Not this time. I'll refer your query as to 'Why not star Elinor Field?' to Connie Palmer, as you suggest."

"I do hope you find Mary Hay back in the movies very soon. Her success this spring in 'Marjorlane' was too notable. I'll try to print those pictures."

CLAIRE WINDSOR IS TO PLAY IN FILM WHICH WON PRIZE

By CONSTANCE PALMER Hollywood, Calif.

CLAIRE WINDSOR has been added to the cast of "Broken Chains," the Goldwyn Scenario Contest prize story. Colleen Moore will have the leading feminine role and Allen Holubar will direct.

Harry Myers will do a comedy part in "Captain Blackbird," R. A. Welsh's first directorial job for Goldwyn. The only other members of the cast yet selected are George Seigmann and William V. Mong, both character actors of great ability.

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Mildred Davis young, of the, Jack, has decided on a film career, and says he won't be satisfied until his name is in electric lights. The family has always had a difficult time getting him up in the morning, but Mildred says that now he is an actor, his three alarm clocks go off simultaneously at 6 A. M. and there is no peace in the house after that until he is safely on his way to the studio.

May Macavoy and Lois Wilson took their first airplane ride the other day. They were up for an hour flying over Hollywood, Los Angeles and the beach cities. They both got a great thrill out of their trip, but admitted feeling thankful to find themselves on solid ground again.

A photograph of Gloria Swanson was sent from London to Altadena, a suburb of Pasadena, Calif., in fifteen minutes by the new telephotography. The occasion of the demonstration was a meeting of the Cosmos Club, at which about eighty members witnessed the performance.

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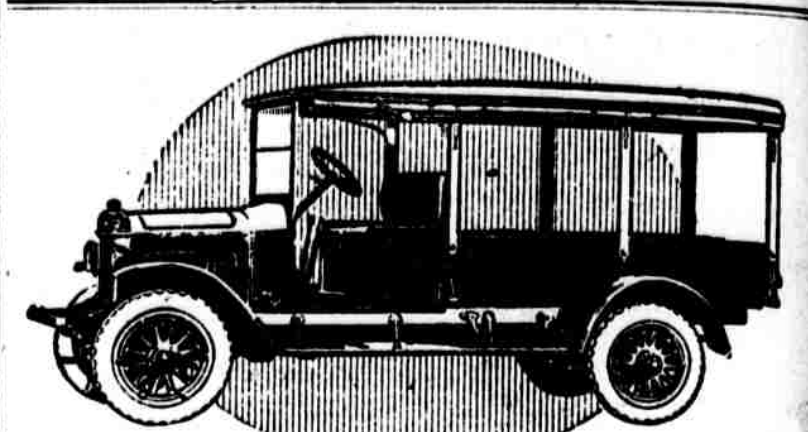
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