#### THE MOVIE FAN'S LETTERBOX

By HENRY M. NEELY

"Roxborough Reader" writes: "The Letter Box' reminds me of a battle-feld where words are used instead of feld where words are used instead of powder, gas and machine guns. The public divides into two sections, one rooting for Jim Jam and Sally Dudhead and the other half opposing them. You come along, in the guise of Joan of Arc and attempt to lead the scattered forces in the right direction.

"When the column started you seemed to be rather an aggressive person. You certainly did slam! Now at

seemed to be rather an aggressive per-sen. You certainly did slam! Now at times you are really lamblike, and seem to be anxious to avoid slapping and bit-Of course, it may be due to indiion, or perhaps to fatigue caused

gestion, or perhaps to fatigue caused by reading so many letters. "Don't lose your pep and don't allow the knockers to bother you. Brace up and go to it! Stand by your colors! You are a clever chap—you know how to avoid trouble. You let one fan wallop another and you stand by and match them. It is a good stunt to do watch them. It is a good stunt to do this now and then, as it gives you a chance to rest up and get your breath.

"It seems to be customary to write and ask you to solve movie problems. Here is mine; see what you can do

decided months ago that I would evoid all 'punk plays' and see only the ones that are really 'worth while.' I commenced to make note of the plays entioned in your column and the vari-

against the lady and four new votes in favor of Carol Cloyd, which places him at the head of my list. I consult the billboard at the movie bouse and find that Carol will appear as leading man in next week's play.

wait until next week-the opening day arrives, I clasp my money in my hand, dash to the candy store for a box of crackly peanut brittle and then I start for the movies. Before buying my ticket I glance at the LEDGER—and ge gods!—five votes against Carol and your zippy criticism stating that his new play is a mess.

"Instead of going to the movies I slowly wander home, where I sit on the front steps and crunch the 'brittle' while I read the bargain sales listed in the LEDGER. Can't you persuade the fans to agree for a week or two? Seems to me that I'll never get to the

movies at this rate!
"I save a certain amount of my salary for movie tickets and the bank is overflowing. I had to spend some of the money to make room for this week's contribution! Now the bank is crammed full and there is thirty-five cents left over. I don't know whether I should buy another bank or spend the money for candy. What do you advise me to do?"

ether you'd better devote your eve- picture. nings to the Dorcas Society and the church sewing circle. It is really out-ragous of you to ask me to make my directed it, because the title sounded 'd have to work for a living

The "portrait" you inclose is a marness of me, considering that you have hairs on the head where I have but you show it.)

Tessie Mailet writes: "I hear that foreign producers are studying the advanced American box office methods, but Lubitsch missed a good bet or two when he didn't call his picture "The Loves of Faro," and play a type thing by sure thing by cutbacks (or cut ups), to a modern gambling joint with all

its strange, clusive appeal.

No big spectacle picture can be called a feature unless it take a swing through a couple of ages, knocking off a few high spots as it merrily, dizzily leaps from age to age.
"That old-fashioned entertainment in

De Mille's 'massacre' was awfully naive. Did you notice that young man in a bear skin trying to make a giggling young ancient flapper tipsy, by squeez-ing a bunch of Belgian grapes all over her face, and missing her mouth most of the time? Imagine any of the girls standing for that stuff today. "And poor, sensible Tommy Meighan had to stand in the courtroom and use

it as an example! "But there was one fine example of directorial foresight. Where the Patrician comes coweringly graceful down the steps to the Buffalo Bill barbarian; the steps to the Buffalo Bill barbarian; notice how she dragged her long velvet gown on the steps so when the Barbarian drags her up, she won't skin by lovely knees? But it ought to be worth any one's time to see it a coupla times. De Mille is offering \$5000 to any one proving the auto accident a fake.

"But he isn't placing money on anything else."

anything else.)"

(Thing I like most about your letters.

Tessie, is that I don't have to answer 'em. If I had enough correspondents like you, I'd just be a reader of the Letter Box and draw a salary for it.)

The MARION DAVIES in "THE YOUNG DIANA"

Raymond Brennan writes: "That William S. Hart, the well-known

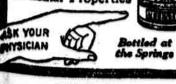


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For Film Fan's Scrapbook



LUCY FOX The charming young vamp of Barthelmess' "Sonny" has returned to her first love—the thrilling serial will be seen again with "Speed" Hutchinson

mentioned in your column and the various remarks about the actors, etc.
"Every now and then I counted the
votes, and perhaps I find that Bolivia
Blonson is in the lead. I immediately
decide to see her in the new play. Before going to the movies I glance at the
latest edition of the EVENING PUBLIC
LEDGER and find there are three votes

LEDGER and find there are three votes
scalnst the lady and four new votes in
scalnst the lady and four new votes in

"You see. I made a bet with a

"You see, I made a bet with a young lady, who—so far—hasn't been rescued by Willie, that he (William S.) would meet his ultimate end, via enthusiastic assassination,

"Just think, too, that this same triggergedian used to 'Romeo it' with Julia Arthur! How Bill ever put Tybalt out without shootin' irons is too intricate fer I. How he ever escaped gittin' pinched is even more intricater. His Device have have been weet then Romeo must have been worse than 'Slidin' Billy Watson's King Lear would have been in Shukespeare's clever play of the same name.

"But then mebbe I am sportin' an impenetrable epidermis—an' don't know it."

Billy Dew writes: "I notice a lot of alk in your columns on 'The Loves of Pharach,' and judging from your com-ments I believe you feel sort of hope-less as to just what most of us want. "Now, I did not see this picture, but it wasn't because I didn't want to

see it, for had I known what I know now I certainly would have missed 'Manslaughter' and gone to see this one. There may be others who have missed it under circumstances similar to mine (I'm afraid you're up against it. If you want to avoid punk pictures alto-"Yes, I saw it advertised, but I never

readers agree unanimously. If they did like another of those impossible things we get stung with so often. No one velous approximation to a genuine like- from our midst, but that may be due to you and those very few others who saw Only you place five it not being close friends of mine. "Nevertheless, had I known that it hairs on the head where I have but three, and my mustache is curly and white, and not black and straight, as sion' and 'Deception.' and that Emil Jannings was the same actor who played King Henry, why, you can bet I would

to see it as I paid to see 'Manslaugh-ter.' I must say I more than enjoyed 'Passion' and 'Deception,' seeing them both twice. But I did not bother to notice who directed these two pictures or who was in the cast. So when 'The or who was in the cast. So when 'The Loves of Pharach' came along, why, I did not know enough about it to

think it was any good. "But like 'Scream Face,' I'also want to know if there isn't a chance of it coming back. If there isn't, as you seem to think, then I hope I will get to see it somewhere else. And I also hope you get about 10,000 letters asking about it and who might really want to

(The 10,000 letters sent to me wouldn't do a bit of good. But if they were sent to 1214 Market street they might. In all fairness, I want to say that the movie folks themselves knew they weren't going to make any money out of "Pharaoh." One of them made that prediction to me before it came here. "It's a great picture, y'under-stand." he said. "but we'll lose money on it. Still, we're going to show it because it's a part of our business to give movie lovers a chance to see all that is best in pictures.'

Ten thousand letters would mean that the film would be shown again

Ben: Carol Dempster was undoubtedly charming in Sherlock Holmes, but I think Griffith and his camera man were much kinder to her in "Dream Street." She's a clever girl and a mighty nice kid personally and I'm glad you liked her. Peggy Bayfield was the girl who jumped off the rocks. I've never heard of her in any other picture so I can't tell you anything about her. I am told that Virginia Valli herself made the cance scenes in "The Storm," and refused to have a double. Mighty good work all the way through that picture—eh? the way through that picture-eh?

SAYS ART IS NO FRILL

A Vital Force for Americans, Declares Dr. S. W. Woodhouse

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