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The Daily Movie Magazine

THE MOVIE FAN'S LETTERBOX

By HENRY M. NEELY

J. G. Wallace writes: "What has become of Pauline Frederick? Has she abandoned the screen or have her activities been directed into some other channel of reflective activity?"

"Reflective activity" is good. Evidently you don't read our theatrical columns or you would know that our beloved Polly has temporarily deserted the screen and is appearing on the stage in "The Guilty One." She'll be here soon. Incidentally I understand that Polly's desertion of the screen will not be permanent if she can carry out some ideas of her own. She is another star who has revolted at the present suicidal system of quantity production to meet schedules regardless of quality. I understand that since her recent marriage, she and her husband have formulated plans for going into movie production on quality basis, even if it means only one picture a year. If every one of our stars would do this, the movies could soon begin to rank with the legitimate arts.

I have always been a great admirer of Pauline Frederick and this brief letter convinces me that my admiration was not misplaced. My intention is that she's looking for a studio where she can work absolutely independent and, if the cut-and-dried shot will resume making pictures at the end of her present stage contract.

Just Somebody—I'm sorry your first attempt to get into the family will seem so discouraging. Trouble is, you say, everything you say in your letter has said here so often but not by me. Besides, I really think we ought to drop the Valentine controversy now. It was great while it lasted, but too much isn't half enough.

Margaret M. S. McE. writes: "Don't laugh, please, if the motto I am going to take about the 'Guilty One' is 'I say what I say.' I say what I say, and I say it again, of course. Madeline Hamilton was my star, but Elvina Hausestein starred."

"The Prisoner of Zenda" was good, too. Alice Terry is a beauty. I'm glad to hear about Kenneth Harlan's marriage. He is a dear, sincere star.

I'm longing to see him again.

Elvina, I say again, is a star to me. Please tell me where and what is Katherine MacDonald's latest news.

I often wonder what the fans would do if they could exchange places with the movie people. We can't get a call-down for what we think, can we?

Mr. N. S. McE. writes: "The last time I wrote to you I invited you to come out and get some uses when in the neighborhood. However, you're forgiven if you come out next time."

I'll make a date now, that I'm in the neighborhood at 4:30 P. M. on June 5 next. I'll stop in and get those uses. It won't, we'll try to make it fit.

Katherine MacDonald's last release was "The Scarlet Lily." She is working now on a picture called "Refugee" a story of romance laid in a difficult situation in Central Europe.

E.A. Admire writes: "Some time ago on released me, H. M. N. I felt offended and decided to punish you severely again in contributing to your column, but on second thought came to the conclusion that the punishment will be more severe if I do contribute one of those gems of mine every now and then. So here I am."

"With your permission, I will have a little intimate talk with R. D. H. and you, please, don't listen in. It certainly would be good to hear you handle our H. M. N. You did not use very white gloves for the occasion, did you? And you did not use any foreign language either. Just our plain United States."

"But, say, don't you think the man is sort of a puzzle? By the time you get good and mad at him for chaperoning Frenchy he goes to work and makes no feel ashamed of yourself for miss-judging him. Now you know how you showed him up in your letters. Please nothing in the world to prevent him from throwing it in the wastebasket, he goes to work and prints it. This act of his is an art, and it certainly reminds one of the old H. M. N. But, say, just before our last interview trouble started, and you feel an attack of softening of the heart coming on you and begin to kindly like him again; then, suddenly, under the name of "Being Fair to Frenchy" Rudy gets a nasty little stab or a well-aimed blow, and your blood gets to boiling again.

"Supposin', just supposin', of course you know what I mean, that he wants to keep make them, that he wants to appear in person and have a little talk with those silly things and tell them to let up on Frenchy. Would you show your respect then, R. D. H.? I would, a nice big one, made of chisels! That's all."

"Now you can listen, H. M. N. or rather, I'm sorry to say, you can't, though enough to explain. You frequently state in your column that you will be glad to print pictures at the request of fans. I don't know whether any one ever asked you for Gloria's sultry or Cecil De Mille's dimensions, but I do know that little Bessie G. is that classical letters of hers, in the event possible, which I can't get a picture of her because Rudy, and he and behind, some same day appeared the grinning visage of Frenchy."

"Life is just one queer coincidence after another, isn't it? And little Bessie G. did not get her Rudy. I could feast my eyes on Galdano's self, if you'd kind enough to give him to us. And now, most sincerely, a very merry one, and a very happy one."

My dear E.A. Admire, I can't keep printing the same man's pictures over and over again. De Rochester's picture was new; it was what all the fans were waiting to see. I'd be very glad to print a picture of Valentine if I could get one with some element of news value in it. I did print one not long ago showing him dancing with his new girl.

What makes you think I've invited Valentine to come over here? I haven't said so. Maybe I only invited him to have lunch. As a matter of fact, I have an engagement to lunch with him next week, but it's in New York, so

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pendently

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