

Ovvious Troublemakers: Lest We Forget

(Continued from page 1)



ROUND AND ROUND the square we go. Where they shoot from nobody knows. This is a coffee party?

photo by Carl Nishimura

FOR A CHANGE—Gateway staffers will take time out for studies. No Tuesday issue. See you Friday next.

provided so that even he may have some, huddle yet closer to his miserable contemporaries, and chant (in perfect unison) "They wouldn't be there if they didn't know what they were doing . . ." . . . the age-old lie. Illegitimus non carborundum. "Anyway," continues the voice of reason, emanating from a squawk box provided by the Ministry of Propaganda, "The Prime Minister knows what to do. He even looks the part. He went to Public School." Three cheers and a paper bag full of water for the PM.

Lady Twig from Loud Cuckoo Land dons her tweeds, brogues and floppy felt hat, grasps her stout cherry-wood stick, gives the Royal Wave, and, followed by a pack of baying English hounds (after all chaps, we are British) she takes her place in the august ranks of the Forward England movement and marches off midst Union Jacks and rude screams from the plebes into the future. Forward England . . . backwards.

The rest of the crowd applauds politely, and on completion of their show of nationalism, they replace their hands in each other pockets.

Some protest still, crying: "There's no such thing as a sane "nuclear" policy. Let's just have a sane policy. Disarm the bombs." These "obvious troublemakers" are quickly removed by a police force under a young lieutenant who orders a whiff of grapeshot. The young lieutenant is roundly commended as a hero of the status quo (or staus low), and is awarded the Reaction Medallion, a fitting reward for a young man who had the foresight to abandon thought in favor of his career.

Unfortunately, there are still a few who try to undermine the security of the nation and its citizens by perpetrating fear in the form of protests against the politicians' efforts—sincere and unfagging efforts even though founded on pecuniary interest and corruptive ambition—but again the "obvious troublemakers" can be dealt with. After all, they are still young men and no doubt youthful, albeit misguided, enthusiasm will eventually give way to mellow-

ed complacency, smug self-satisfaction, and orthodox Babbitry. So let all remain secure in their insincerity. Let all remain sincere in their insecurity.

As for those who cry too loudly, there are places to send "obvious troublemakers" who misbehave themselves and are heard and seen too often in the wrong locales. Full investigations and all that sort of thing. A nasty business, but necessary. We knew all along that they were commies, fellow travellers, reds! Hang them all!

Let us not forget the unborn. Let us not forget our children. Do they protest their dismal future? Of course not. Give us a boy until he is five, say the Jesuits, and we've got him for life. Same game; same rules; larger field. LET US PLAY (for "L", read "R").

Without applause,
C.D.E.



BASIL RAZZLES MATHEWS

I regret that I was out of the city at the time your issue of October 26 appeared, and therefore missed for some days the pleasure of reading the calm and philosophical discussion of my remarks before the joint meeting of the Philosophical Society and the Humanities Association by Mr. Robin Mathews of the English Department.

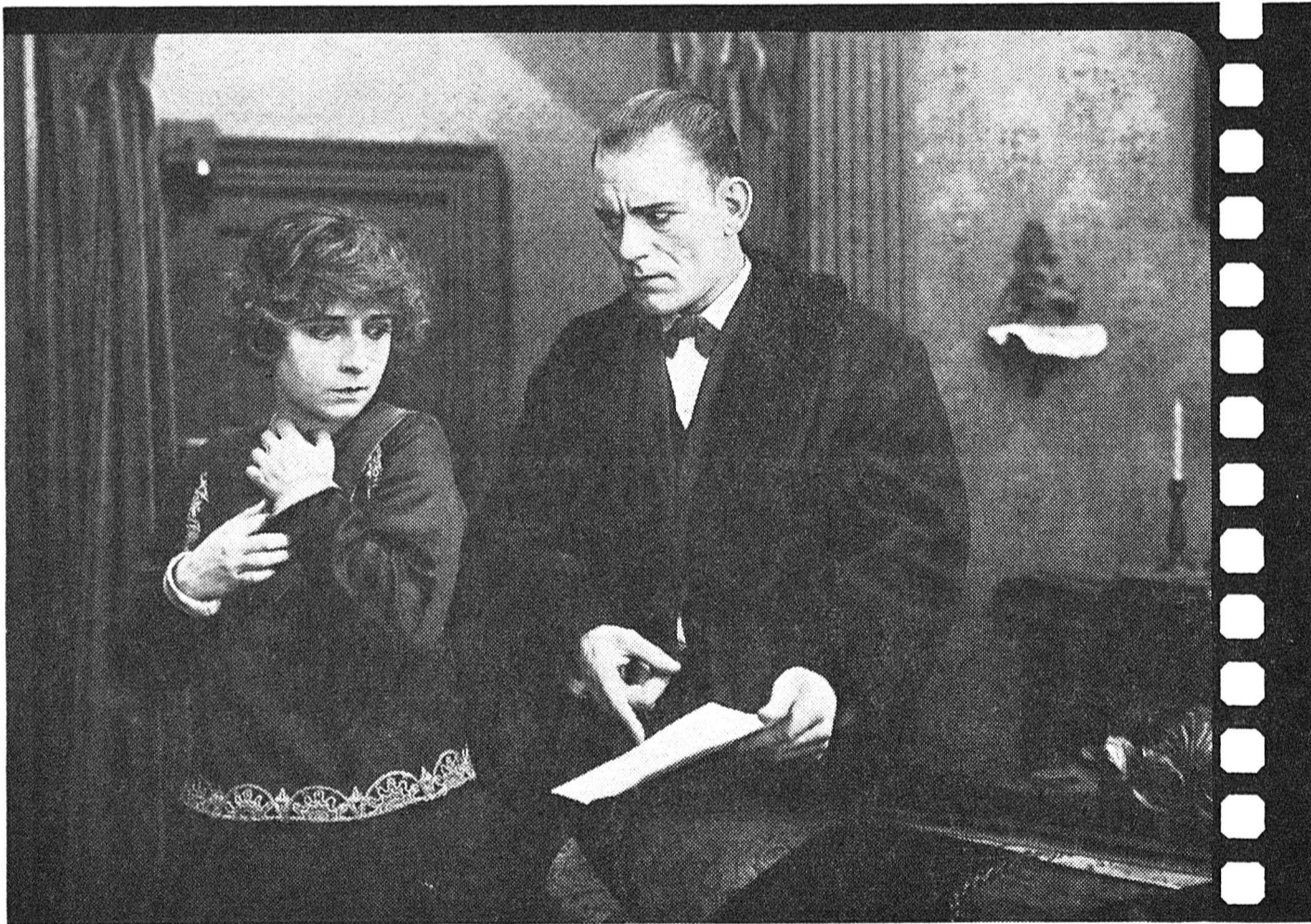
I venture to say that I have not encountered such dispassionate objectivity since the late Mr. Adolf Hitler addressed the Nuremberg rally in 1939. It is good to know that members of the faculty of our university are capable of approaching the issues of our time in this cool and contemplative manner.

Mr. Mathews is, I think, at his best when he condemns me for a number of assertions which, as they are stated in his letter, are properly to be condemned by all right-thinking men. The only slight criticism I have of his condemnation is that I did not make the assertions to which he refers.

If, for example, I had said that I intended to use my power as a publisher to stifle the voice of opposition, Mr. Mathews would have every right to be much less objective than he was. But I did not say this. On the contrary, I made rather a point, as I recall, of observing that a newspaper has a duty to print the news and to report opinion of all varieties: I said further that I hoped in time to develop on the Journal a page once or twice a week which would provide a platform for dissent. I added that there are at the moment some technical difficulties involved in doing this, which we shall work out as quickly as we can.

I am sorry if Mr. Mathews has been accused of insulting me. I have made no such accusation, either publicly or privately. The fact that he finds some shortcomings in my conduct of the Journal and in my explanations of that conduct is relatively unimportant alongside the fact that he is competent, and more than competent, in the job which he is paid to do. I am sure that it would be unreasonable to expect that, in addition to possessing this considerable virtue, he should display good manners as well.

Basil Dean,
Publisher,
The Edmonton Journal



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