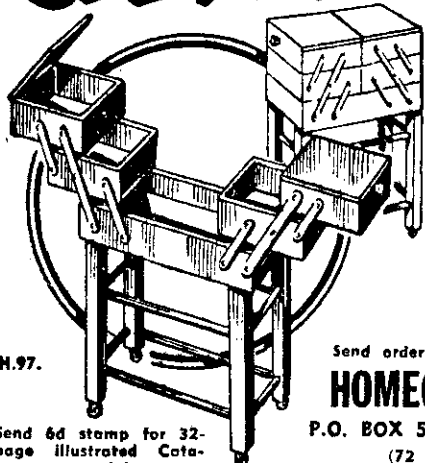


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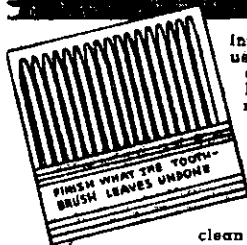
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FILM REVIEWS, BY F.A.J.

Zola in Modern Dress

THERESE RAQUIN

(Paris Film-Lux Film)

A Cert.

THOUGH Zola might not have liked all the changes made in filming *Thérèse Raquin* in a modern setting, Marcel Carné has at least maintained a detachment in telling his story that the old master could have approved; and he would have been interested in the background given to the important new character, a young sailor turned blackmailer to set himself up in business. "War can be so educational," he says, explaining his lack of scruples.

Introduced in a few economical shots which tellingly set the scene, *Thérèse Raquin* is the story of a woman caught up in marriage with the weak, pampered son of a possessive mother. Madame Raquin still lives with the couple, still pampers.

Yet, not blaming her husband (why should she?), Thérèse is unwilling to leave him even when she has been unfaithful. She, too, no doubt, is a Zolaesque victim of her past, for in any other terms her scruples are not easy to understand. Anyway, it's her lover.

BAROMETER

FINE: "Thérèse Raquin."
FAIR TO FINE: "The Solid Gold Cadillac."
MAINLY FAIR: "Love Me Tender."

the handsome truck driver Laurent, whose passion leads them to a violent resolution.

Those early shots not only set the scene—they establish with good writing, direction and playing the characters of Thérèse (Simone Signoret), Camille (Jacques Duby) and the mother (Sylvie). Simone Signoret has to play Thérèse mostly in a low key, but her response to Laurent in the more tender scenes of a love affair that at first seems to develop rather abruptly are beautifully modulated. Laurent is played by Raf Vallone with a masculine vitality which contrasts with the weakling husband; and as the blackmailer Roland Lessafre is impressively cocksure. Mother and son are brilliantly acted—the mother's paralysed, accusing stare in the later part of the film is quite horrifying.

(Continued on next page)

"THE LISTENER" CROSSWORD

(Solution to No. 857)

P	E	R	S	O	N	A	L	P	E	R
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N	A	C	R	E	O	U	S	R	N	
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I	N	S	I	D	E	E	N	S		
T	T	S	P	E	R	I	D	O	T	
C	A	P	E	P	P	I	N			
S	H	A	L	L	O	W	T	L	B	
I	L	P	D	I	V	I	N	E		
O	C	T	O	P	U	S	N	N	A	
K	W	P	O	I	S	O	N	E	D	
F	E	V	E	R	B	E	E	E		
N	D	I	S	O	L	A	T	E	D	

Clues Down

- Under a tree, it's heavenly! (7).
- Suitable refreshment for a boxer who is so drunk? (5).
- and 16 down. You spread the first, drink the second, and eat the whole (6, 6).
- Yet I can roar (anag.) (11).
- His part is to pull the strings (7).
- You find me in a confused struggle over shelter (5).
- The final rag makes the former petticoat (11).
- One train you might travel in (6).
- You might cure Alf if you're cautious (7).
- See 3 down
- "Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A ——— so touching in its majesty"
(Wordsworth) (5).
- Gloomy portion of the long-awaited rearmament proposals (5).

No. 858 (Constructed by R.W.H.)

1		1			3		4		5		6
7				8			9				
10							11				
12		13					14				15
							16				
17									18	19	
20									21		
22							23				

Clues Across

- Literally, it's the longest month (9).
- Peg can be taken away from the champagne, but she still has something to eat (3).
- The advantage of having been fit? (7).
- Such a fool may be wise for 364 days of the year (5).
- The substance of an Olympian blood transfusion? (5).
- Twist in a transparent wine-glass stem (7).
- Hearty mixture, but grossly material (6).
- One sort of licence one doesn't have to pay for (6).
- Cast in a diabolical mould (7).
- It would naturally inspire one with dread (5).
- City of no age (5).
- "Love ——— last:" ("Henry VIII," Act 3, Scene 2) (7).
- One of ten (3).
- Lasting a very short while, but it might be ample here (9).

N.Z. LISTENER, JULY 19, 1957.