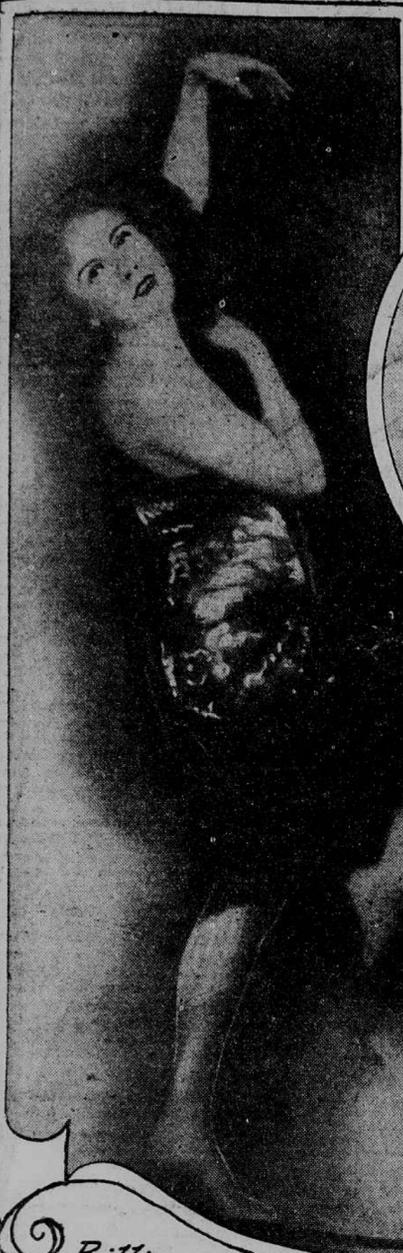


The Stage and Its People



Billie Holiday in "The Whirl of New York" MA D. SCHWARTZ PHOTO



Hattie Darling, New Brighton CAMPBELL STUDIOS



Florence Darling in "The Last Waltz"



Marcine Larrimore in "Nice People" WHITE STUDIO



Mary Eaton "Ziegfeld Follies" ALFRED CHENEY JOHNSON PHOTO



Ann Pennington in "Scandals of 1921" EDWARD TRAYER HANCOCK PHOTO



Frank Craven in "The First Year" WHITE STUDIO



Alice Fessenden in "Snapshots of 1921" PHOTO BY "ABBS"

France Honors Hackett

American Gets Decoration for Playing Macbeth; Elsie Janis and Others in Paris

By Wilbur Forrest From The Tribune's European Bureau

PARIS, July 1. Now that James K. Hackett is en route home, via England, with a little red ribbon in his boutonniere, Paris looks forward to an American stage invasion.

However, Elsie Janis is still invading Paris with some success, and now comes Kay Laurell, described by the Paris papers as the "plus jolie femme de Ziegfeld."

Paris, nevertheless, is having its new weekly thrill which sounds American, but isn't. This time it is Signor Russell, just up from Italy with twenty-nine or thirty new musical instruments which the world—or that part of it which inhabits the Champs Elysees theater tonight—is seeing and hearing for the first time.

In the meantime Paris cannot forget the war. The handsome young American officer who paraded the boulevards not so long ago is yanked back as the villain of the piece in "The Fire That Did Not Burn," a comedy by Jean Jacques Bernard, son of Tristan Bernard, one of France's most famous playwrights.

Andre Merin, a young French officer, prisoner in Germany for four years, comes home full of hope and finds Blanche apparently sharing the heartache with the attractive young son of Uncle Sam.

The staid old Comedie Francaise, that most rigid arbiter of artistic merit, now gives Paris something to talk about by swinging open the doors to Ibsen.

Stage Gossip

A PERFORMANCE that is bound to be unusually interesting will be given at the Shubert Theater Thursday at midnight, when thirty prominent members of the Lambs, Friars, Players and Green Room will stage the "All Star Idlers of 1921."

Included in the cast of the "All Star Idlers of 1921" are Ed Wynn, Wallace McCutcheon, Herbert Corthell, Tom Lewis, Fred Walton, Will Morrissey, William B. Mack, Ned A. Sparks, Victor Morley, Wellington Cross, Robert Woolsey, Lieutenant Gitz-Rice, Joe Allen, Jed Prouty, Effingham Pinto, Stuart Wilson, Robert Pitkin, Reginald Barlow, Tom Walsh, Frank Belcher, Cyril Ring, Jack Rutherford, Robert Armstrong, Harry R. Allen, Harold Wolf, Adin Wilson, Adrian Rosley, Harry Short and Fred Manatt.

The East-West Players have been organized for the coming season, which they are planning to make a very active one, beginning early in the fall.

Well, evidently Ibanez gave America's foremost romantic actor a regular old-time rosy reception, for Mr. Skinner writes that he hasn't had a chance to do any resting since he's been there.

New Theatrical Offerings

MONDAY—At the Liberty Theater George White will present "Scandals of 1921," featuring Ann Pennington. The supporting cast: Aunt Jemima, Olive Vaughn, Victoria Herbert, Jean Ford, Myra Cullen, Christine Welford, Darry Welford, Geraldine Alexander, Phoebe Lee, George Le Maire, Lou Holtz, Lester Allen, George Bickel, Charles King, Harry Rose, Bert Gordon, Lloyd Garrett and James Miller.

Castled Spain Interesting, but Not Restful, Says Otis Skinner

IF OTIS SKINNER comes back to America all tuckered out, Blasco Ibanez will be to blame for it. Mr. Skinner is to appear next season in "Blood and Sand," a play by Tom Cushing, founded on the novel of that same title by Ibanez, and so, as soon as his last tour in "At the Villa Rose" ended in May, he set sail for Spain to visit the famous novelist and get some pointers first hand on how a real champion bullfighter ought to act.

Besides Madrid, he has visited San Sebastian, Seville and Granada, and they are all hot but worth seeing. He has picked up a lot of costumes and properties of various kinds—all the real thing—that will be used in the production of the new play, with which Charles Frohman, Inc., announces that the season at the Empire Theater will be opened on September 20.

New Plays

GEORGE WHITE'S "Scandals of 1921," the third of the series that has become a hardy annual, will open at the Liberty Theater Monday night, a week ahead of schedule. In a six-day tryout in Atlantic City the production was handled so quickly and played so smoothly that Mr. White yielded to the golden lure of Broadway.

For subject matter Mr. White has selected current topics to scandalize and sloop idiots to joust. There are some twenty scenes and the spectator will have to do some imaginary traveling to get it all.

Ziegfeld's "Midnight Frolic" is the next member of the midsummer group—which also includes the "Greenwich Village Follies"—to fall due. The Frolic is to have more of speed and less of staidness, according to the specifications vouchsafed—more of the jazz and less of the saraband.

Although born in the Hub, Mears has always lived on the rim of things. He travels fast and life for him is one big whirl.

John Henry Mears

The Three-Whirl Man; "Midnight," "Broadway" and the Whirl Around the Earth in Thirty-five Days

THIS isn't exclusively a theatrical story, although it is dramatic enough, for John Henry Mears kept a world-wide audience of the anxious seat for more than a month just eight years ago while he whirled around the earth in thirty-five days and thereby broke all speed records, besides utterly disproving Einstein's theory of relativity long before it had been announced, by landing right back on the same spot from which he departed.

Although born in the Hub, Mears has always lived on the rim of things. He travels fast and life for him is one big whirl.

To be more exact, life for him just now is the "Broadway Whirl" that he set spinning at the Times Square Theater some weeks ago.

Mears always finds something to keep busy about. He had just got over the excitement of a New York premier when he discovered that he needed a pair of twins to add to the singers, dancers and comedians who support Richard Carle, Blanche Ring, Charles Winninger, Winona Winter and Jay Gould.

After graduation Mears got a position as usher at the Park Theater, in his home town, and rose to assistant treasurer. But Boston was too small for him, so he came to New York and started as office boy at Daly's Theater.

Within a year he had become treasurer of the theater, and finally road manager of "The Runaway Girl." That appointment came on Mears' twentieth birthday. Then Mears went to Chicago where he was treasurer of Powers Theater, but the road lured him away and he joined the forces of Charles Frohman and was for several years manager for John Drew's tours.

No idle jaunt, this. Time tables proved mere fables. Foggs and accidents threatened more than once not only to make the record impossible, but to end the career of the adventurer. He left the Sun Building with a suitcase, a camera and an overcoat, and fourteen minutes later was on the steamship Mauretania, which he caught by a margin of less than a second. He arrived in London on July 8, and reached Paris on August 6.