

DEFENDS ENGLISH STAGE PROFESSION

Is Serious Career—Chorines Object to Criticisms

London, March 24 (AP)—When John Beckett, Laborite Member of Commons, referred to the bejewelled peeresses at the opening of Parliament as a vulgar, garish mob of underdressed women, and compared them to chorus girls, he started something in the theatrical world. These days one may say almost anything he likes about the nobility and escape unscathed, but the land of stage. Of course, Mr. Beckett, who has achieved fame by wearing a huge sombrero which has perhaps the widest brim in the country, was not attacking the stage. He was after the nobility. But indirectly he hit the stage hard enough to get a sharp reaction.

"It seems an amazing thing, and a wicked thing, that frequently when people have something particularly easy to say about somebody they compare their victim to theatrical people," declares Miss Fay Compton. "In this country the stage is a serious profession, and our chorines are filled with well-bred, highly educated girls who are working hard and honestly to make careers."

Miss Compton is one of the leading actresses in England and is one of the most beautiful women on the stage today. She is best known for her work in Shakespearean roles and other "straight drama."

Miss Compton also has served her time in musical comedy, and there is not much she does not know about chorus girls.

"Garish and vulgar," repeated Miss Compton. "Why, our chorines have not the money to be garish and vulgar even if they were inclined that way, which they aren't. They are hardworking girls with small pay and most of them can't afford to dress better than I am dressed now."

Miss Compton glanced down appreciatively at an exceedingly modest outfit of very ordinary material which she was wearing. She was dressed for the impersonation of a girl of the East End.

"The great majority of our chorines have no inclination to vulgarity for the simple reason that they come from good families and are well bred," continued Miss Compton.

"We take the stage very seriously. Ambitious girls study the chorines merely a means to the end. They must start somewhere in the profession, and the chorus is the logical place for those intending to get to musical plays. The majority of our girls have no time to think about 'fin' clothes. They have no time to disappear then even if they had them. They work from morning until midnight. When they are not on the stage, they are rehearsing and taking lessons in singing and dancing. They are a very earnest lot."

"So far as our chorines believe in and wish on the stage, that is equally untrue. Responsible producers don't stage vulgar and garish scenes in this country."

Answering the general discussion, Miss Compton referred to the fact that she is a member of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. "I have had much reference to the Royal Academy."

"The Royal Academy is the most prevalent in the country. It is in any other section of the community, she declines to be added with a little smile.

"I believe you refer to it as the Royal Academy in America?"

"If you wish to learn how our girls are trained, you should visit the Royal Academy club, which has another name in London," Miss Compton said. "Miss Maynard Compton, the mother, who has been a great actress. There are hundreds of chorus girls throughout the country, and all of them, especially hardworking girls who are being on the stage, and who are a constant source of their own advice every night, or as soon after that as their theatrical engagements permit. While anybody, like at all a Labor leader, should refer to them by derogatory terms is beyond comprehension."

She was joined by a present physician for the time being, and Miss Compton said that she was waiting for the first time in the country, but she was not the appearing on the stage. She prefers the "straight" plays and her profession.

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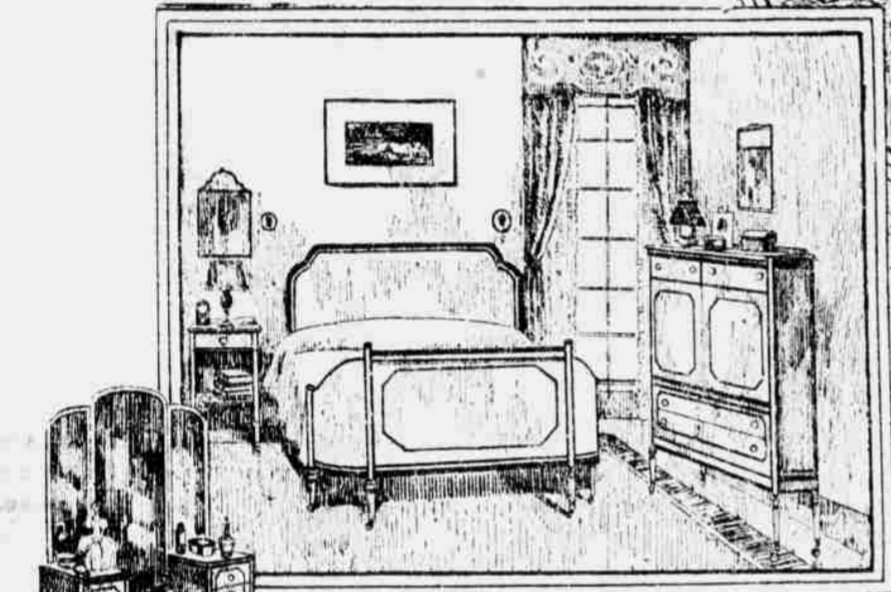
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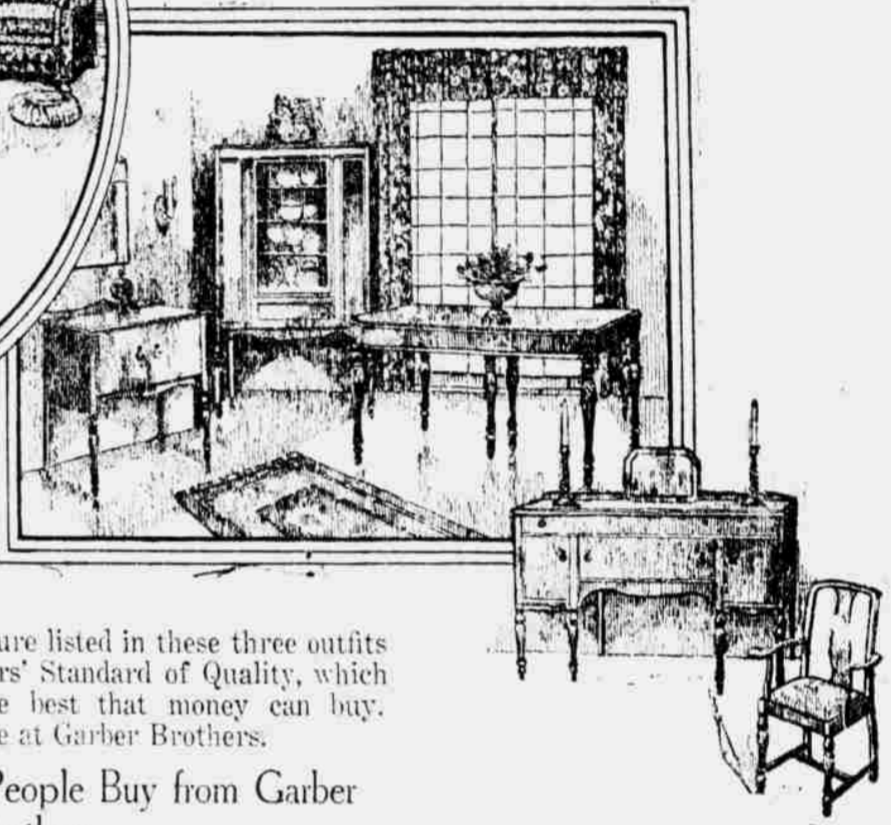
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3-Piece Custom-made Jacquard Suite—Davenport—
Club Chair and Wing Chair.
8-3x10-6 Axminster Rug
Davenport Table
End Table
Bridge Lamp
Davenport Table Scarf

The Dining Room Comprises
8-Piece Huguenot Walnut Suite, Buffet—China—
Server—Oblong Extension Table—Five Chairs and one
Arm Chair.
8-3x10-6 Delcraft Rug
Buffet Mirror
3-Piece Console Set
26-Piece Silverware
18-Piece Dinner Set

The Bed Room Comprises
5-Piece Huguenot Walnut Suite, Consists of a Dresser
—Chiffonette—Vanity—Bow-End Bed and Bench.
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The Bed Room Comprises
3-piece Duo-Tone Walnut Suite consisting of Dresser—
Chiffonette and Bow-End Bed.
1 Guaranteed Sanitary Spring
1 Wool Mattress
1 Boudoir Lamp

The Breakfast Room Comprises
A Drop-Leaf Table and 4 Chairs
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