

# LATE HENRY B. HARRIS' CHIEF ASSET CONSISTS OF LOANS IN MONEY TO ACTORS AND ACTRESSES

Transfer Tax Appraisal of Estate Reveals Fact That Manager-Producer, Thought to Have Been Well Off, Really Left Nothing—Folies Bergere Big Losing Venture and Plays Supposed to Have Been Notable Successes Return Small Income, If Any at All—"The Temptress" Has Odd Illusion.



Marion Sunshine in "The Beauty Shops"



A Group in "The Beauty Shops"



Miss Ethel May Davis, in "The Beauty Shops" \$22,000



Ruth Shepley, in "10 Days to Adventure"



Miss Anna O'Neil, in "The Beauty Shops" \$10,000

BY LLOYD F. LONERGAN.

NEW YORK, July 11.—(Special.)—Probably the best illustration of the extreme bad conditions existing in the theatrical world is afforded by the discovery that the estate of Henry B. Harris is \$20,000 worse than nothing.

Mr. Harris was one of the victims of the Titanic and was regarded by the general public as being well off. He owned two Broadway theaters, had a number of extremely successful plays and it was thought that the income from these had more than exceeded the amount he had lost on a number of losing ventures during the season 1911-1912.

It developed from the transfer tax appraisal of his estate that the chief reason for the insolvent condition of the estate was a loss of \$24,000 sustained by Mr. Harris in building the Folies Bergere in West Forty-sixth street on the plan of European music halls. The venture lost money from the start, and the house was finally renamed the Fulton Theater and turned into a legitimate house.

The decedent's only real estate was the Harris Theater in West Forty-second street and the Hudson Theater in West Forty-fourth street. The latter had a market value of \$600,000, but mortgages and taxes amounted to \$515,239, leaving an equity of \$84,761. The Harris Theater had a market value of \$370,000 when Mr. Harris died, but mortgages and taxes of \$201,787 left an equity of only \$168,213. The total equity in real estate was \$252,974, which was reduced to \$190,424 by the widow's dower interest of \$62,554. The appraisal indicates that this is all Mrs. Harris received from her husband's estate.

**Loans to Players Assets.**

Mr. Harris' assets included sums due for loans to a number of the actors and actresses under contract.

The decedent's interest in a number of his productions included \$6000 in "The Quaker Girl," in which William Harris had a half interest; \$2823 in "Maggie Pepper," in which Mr. Harris had a little over 50 per cent and Rose Stahl had a third interest; \$1500 in "The Traveling Salesman," in which James Forbes had a half interest, and \$1875 in "The Talker," which was sold later to Tully Marshall for \$2500. No value was appraised for the decedent's interest in "The 24th of Hoaxy B. Harris

and Jesse Lasky, which conducted the Folies Bergere. The debts of the partnership were \$98,381 and the assets only \$2778.

Mr. Harris' interest in his plays which were being produced in stock at the time of his death was appraised as follows: "The Third Degree," \$2000; "The Lion and the Mouse," \$2000; "The Commuters," \$500; "The Chorus Lady," \$500; "Such a Little Queen," \$200; "Strongheart," \$200, and "The Country Boy," \$3000.

F. Howard Schuebe, general manager for Mr. Harris, who began in his employ as an office boy, in testifying concerning the profits of Mr. Harris on various productions said that while "The Quaker Girl" was a New York success it failed in Chicago and it was closed there. Mr. Harris later organized a company to produce it on the road in the West and the company lost \$10,000. The production cost more than \$20,000. Mr. Harris "broke even" on "The Country Boy," but "The Arab," which cost \$18,000 to produce, yielded an income of only \$110. Other plays, popularly regarded as great successes, he said, yielded proportionately small profits.

In view of the revelations afforded

## GRAPHIC STORY OF NORDICA'S LAST DAYS AND FINAL TRIUMPHS TOLD

Franklin Holding, Young Violinist in Late Diva's Shipwrecked Company, Gives Thrilling Account of Horrors on Thursday Island—Singer Revealed as Great in Closing Hours of Tragic Tour.

BY EMILIE FRANCES BAUER.

NEW YORK, July 11.—(Special.)—Franklin Holding, the young American violinist who was engaged as a member of the company accompanying Mme. Nordica on the tour which was to have taken her around the world, returned to New York last week. Mr. Holding looks much worn and exhausted from the hardships through which he has passed since he sailed from San Francisco just one year ago. Mr. Holding told graphically of the very great success which the company met throughout the early part of the ill-fated tour and he said that the beloved singer had never been in more glorious voice and had never been received with more enthusiasm and joy. The company had an ideal two weeks in Honolulu, where they gave two concerts.

From Honolulu they went to Sydney, where they arrived to find smallpox raging. Notwithstanding this condition, they gave five concerts there, after the first of which the party was compelled to undergo vaccination. At this juncture it may be said that Mme. Nordica never regained a normal condition of health. She was very ill from

the vaccination and suffered almost a complete collapse of nerves and general aches. The concerts were given in a large hall, which during the day was used as a hall wherein from three to four thousand people were vaccinated daily, and the fumes from the disinfectants were almost overpowering to the artists as they attempted to fulfill the programme.

However, they gave five concerts in Sydney and five in Melbourne, going from there to New Zealand, where they appeared in Auckland, Wellington, Christ Church City, Dunedin, Timaru, meeting with tremendous success and nearly everywhere turning away large audiences.

**Social Position Won.**

Mme. Nordica, too, established for herself a tremendous social position and was entertained everywhere. The party then went on to Tasmania, appearing in Launceston and Hobart. From here they returned to Melbourne for a second series of concerts. By this time Mme. Nordica began to give way under the tremendous strain, because the vaccination had poisoned her system completely and her nervous system shattered. When she sailed from Sydney

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were free from the reef the sea was so furious that it would have been impossible to transfer the passengers from the boat to the collier and the captain planned to run the ship back onto the reef had it shown signs of sinking, but with the aid of the pumps they were able to control the water so that they could proceed under their own steam, although very slowly. By the time they arrived at Thursday Island the ship Tasman was in a shocking condition and the entire frame work was so badly bent that it was necessary to put in a new hull in Batavia.

**Severe Cold Contracted.**

Mme. Nordica, owing to the condition of her system, took a very severe cold during this voyage and it affected the pleura and lungs. The weather being very hot and moist, she was much weakened and when she landed it was absolutely necessary to take her to the hospital immediately. This was the manner in which she celebrated New Year's day of 1914 and there she remained until March 28. Although the accommodations at the hospital were almost unspicable, she had everything she could desire by human power. She had brought a nurse from Melbourne and she was accompanied by Mrs. Baldwin, her assistants and the entire staff of the hospital were devoted to the great singer and never was she more truly a great woman than when these trying conditions, as she lay in the most unhealthy, unhappy surroundings, away from the home of luxury and affection.

**Green Grass Removed.**

Miss Elis, at the close of her dancing, either for the sake of variety or from excessive temperment, removed her green grass skirt and appeared with only a thin pink scarf over her exhausted shoulders.

Franchetti's opera, "Germania," is being shown in the moving pictures at the Strand Theater. The Casa Ricordi, the oldest music publishing house in Italy, and an institution of historical importance, has allowed certain of the operas it has published to be made into so-called picture plays by one of the Italian companies. The first of the reels is "Germania," which had a few productions at the Metropolitan Opera-house. It is one of the lame ducks of opera, but the story lends itself well to the uses of the movies.

**Sleep Almost Impossible.**

Mr. Holding described the suffering of the entire party as something appalling. It was January, the first month of the monsoon season and the heat was overpowering. They suffered much from prickly heat, insects of every description and particularly mosquitoes. The nights were made hideous not only by these blood-thirsty insects, but there were millions of frogs surrounding the entire hotel.

The noise came in great waves of sound and made sleep impossible. Repeatedly the frogs sang their full accompaniment and secretary, and Mr. Holding wandered around the hotel nightly trying to kill the frogs so that Mme. Nordica could sleep. When it rained, countless numbers of these pests were swept up onto the verandas and the waters surrounding the hotel were filled with man-eating sharks, alligators, lizards, and altogether Thursday Island was a place of horrors.

They succeeded in taking Mme. Nordica from here to Java, a few weeks' journey to Batavia and the trip seemed to improve her condition so that when she arrived they thought it would only be necessary to remain a few days and of her ultimate recovery. But they were doomed to a bitter disappointment when she was only there for a few days and after five weeks of long continued suffering she died.

The great news was very brave to her end and through all her suffering she seemed to feel that she would recover. She even laid her plans to go

directly to Italy to recuperate where she expected her husband, Mr. Young, to meet her.

After her death the party arranged for the transportation of the body to Marseilles where they were met by Mr. Young and his brother Charles Young.

The funeral services were held in Kings Weigh House Church, Mayfair, where just five years ago Mme. Nordica was married to Mr. Young. The body was cremated and the remains will be brought to America for final disposition.

## PUBLIC INTEREST HOLDS IN LONG ISLAND MURDER

Mysterious Killing, Involving Woman, Love and Jealousy, Keeps Front-Page Notoriety—New York Workmen's Compensation Law Chafes.

BY LLOYD F. LONERGAN.

NEW YORK, July 11.—(Special.)—The local newspapers are always glad of a hot-weather sensation, and the mysterious murder of a doctor's woman patient at Freeport, Long Island, is getting plenty of room on the crime page. The uniqueness of the crime, the fact that a woman is the victim, and the further fact that the only person suspected of the killing is also a woman, have tended to keep up interest in a story of mystery, love and jealousy.

It is only in a murder case like that of Mrs. Louise Bailey that interest can be long sustained, at least in this section of the country. When a man is slain by another man, experienced news gatherers realize that public attention will very speedily flag. This was best illustrated a number of years ago in the case of a man who was brutally murdered. It happened, however, that the victim was a man, the suspect was a man, and no compensation figured in the case at all. In consequence the papers that tried to keep playing up the story found they lost circulation, as no one cared what happened in the case.

Business men throughout New York are complaining bitterly because of the workmen's compensation law, which adds heavily to their expenses. In many cases of business that are non-hazardous the rates are as high as 10 per cent a year of the salary of employees.

Aroused by the comment, the State Insurance Commission has issued a statement denying that the rate for liability insurance had been unduly loaded or that the department had advanced the public rate.

The Workmen's Compensation Commission announced that the rates as set by the department might be reduced about 10 per cent and still be equitable to the companies.

The statement that the "partial calculation made by the actuaries of the state fund" indicates that the liability underwriters did not follow strictly the pure cost shown by Massachusetts' experience for the purpose of arriving at the prospective pure cost of New York. This fact, it says, was well known to the state insurance fund, and the New York insurance department had determined the public rate.

"The pure cost for compensation insurance," the statement reads, "determined by the committee of liability underwriters was carefully scrutinized by the insurance department and received approval after the department was satisfied as to the correctness and reasonableness of the pure cost determined by such committee."

"Generally speaking, the Massachusetts' experience was sufficient in volume and character to form a proper guide for New York rates. In classifications where the volume of payroll in Massachusetts was insufficient the committee necessarily searched for data in other States, principally New Jersey and Illinois."

Another interesting announcement was that F. Spencer Baldwin, manager of the state fund, expects to establish a business-getting department, which will get under way in a short time.

The Boylan and Anti-Drug Law.

which is now in effect, makes unauthorized possession of habit-forming drugs a misdemeanor. It also makes it a misdemeanor for the Department of Correction to confine persons arrested for violation of the act with other prisoners as strict enforcement of the law would mean many arrests. Commissioner of Correction Davis is worried over the situation.

One plan to cope with the conditions while more hospital accommodations are being prepared has been suggested by Ernest Coulter, the personal agent of Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt in the Anti-Drug campaign. Mr. Coulter proposes that drug-users be sent to the Farm Colony for inebriates at Warwick, as under the state laws of 1910, by which the Board of Inebriety was established, drug-users came under the classification of drunkards.

The Boylan act makes it unlawful for physicians to issue prescriptions for drugs except after a physical examination and in the treatment of disease, injury or deformity, and the prescription must be made out on the official forms furnished by the state. The doctor signing the prescription must affix his name in full, his office address and office hours and telephone number, and the name, age and address of the person getting the prescription, with the date of issuance. It is unlawful for any person to fill the prescription without first verifying its authenticity by telephone or otherwise or for a person to have drugs in his possession without authority.

Criminal prosecutions for drug-selling number 568 up to date this year, as against 450 for the whole of last year. A special bulletin issued by the Health Department says that there has been an enormous increase in the drug habit in New York City in recent years.

## Motorist Killed Leaves Wealth.

NEW YORK, July 11.—David Lober, Bruce-Brown, automobile driver, who was killed in a preliminary race at Milwaukee, left a net estate of \$1,800,000. The sole beneficiary is Mrs. Ruth A. Bruce-Brown, his mother. Mr. Bruce-Brown owned large realty in New York City, in the financial district. The rest of the estate consisted of stocks, bonds and mortgages on New York property.

## A Home Recipe for Wrinkled, Saggy Skin

The famous sabote lotion recommended by beauty specialists for removing wrinkles and for reducing distended pores, can be easily made at home. Ask your druggist for the following ingredients: 1 oz. and 3/4 pint witch hazel, and 1/2 pint rose water. Dissolve the powder in the witch hazel and bathe the face, neck and hands in the solution. Results are remarkable, and instantaneous. The skin is naturally freshened and the wrinkles, as well as creases or folds about the neck, cheeks or hands, the tissue beneath the skin also becomes firmer and more solid. One feels much refreshed and exhilarated after using this truly wonderful and harmless wash lotion. Its continued use once a day for only a short time makes the average person look ten or fifteen years younger.