

MARY GREINER, AT SEA, INTERVIEWS BROADWAY ACTOR

By MARY GREINER

EN ROUTE TO NEW YORK ON BOARD THE S. S. DIXIE, June 15.—(Special Correspondence)—Down the yellow Mississippi on the good ship Dixie, piloted by a New Orleans native, who is said to understand every mood of the erratic stream we were deserted suddenly by this guardian angel, who got off into a rowboat, waved a genial farewell and made for a larger boat headed for Pilot Town.

Then we slid into the Gulf of Mexico, and the muddy river was overcast gradually by the deep, silent body of indigo blue, the sultry atmosphere became delightfully balmy and still. The southern plantations that ornamented the banks of the Mother River gave way to a clean-cut horizon, and we were chopped off from the world.

From then on it has been "water, water everywhere." And that where the Ancient Mariner comes in. Dressed in a white yachting suit, he sat at a table near the center of the dining room; a small curly-haired, blue-eyed man of 49, with a straight, sensitive mouth. His slender, tapering fingers tapped a gentle tattoo on the table, and his gaze wandered through the porthole opposite, far into the distant horizon, as the conversation of the passengers surrounding him ebbed from many a relative sprang into a swirling stream of irrelevant chatter.

When addressed directly he came to rather spasmodically, and although the student of Coleridge's famous poem might have expected to be held by a glittering eye at this juncture, the deep blue eyes of E. J. Ballantine the original Ancient Mariner of the O'Neill production of this name, merely sparkled.

There is a simplicity and a small-boy wistfulness about E. J. Ballantine that makes him unusually interesting to interview, and when he reviews his successes on Broadway and his connection with the greatest stars of this country before he had come into prominence, there is not the slightest attempt at emphasizing his own ability or importance. Fate was kind to him, that is all. He admits that he never had any great ambition. Cast in roles, he gave himself over to them, much as the Spiritualist medium might become the interpreter of the spirit of one who has passed beyond, and forget the material life of life in so doing.

This actor was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, 40 years ago. Interested in the theater, he was sent to Sir Herbert Tree's dramatic school in London, where he remained three terms, only to get his walking papers because he was considered devoid of talent by his instructors. Shortly afterward, he tried out for and secured the leading part in a Scotch comedy, "Bunty Pulls the Strings," which was then making a tour through

England and Scotland. His part called for a Scotch dialect, and the young Scotch lad made such a success of it that he was retained by the English company, playing a variety of roles until 1912.

At this time he was doing George Bernard Shaw's "Philander" and was invited by Granville Barker to play the part in a New York production. He has remained here ever since, playing occasionally with such artists as the Barrymores, Richard Bennett and Pauline Lord. He first won outstanding recognition in his characterization of the dwarf in "The Jest," starring both John and Lionel Barrymore, which ran for 45 weeks on Broadway. Ballantine, who looks like a smaller John Barrymore, interpreted in this part the spiritual side of the character portrayed by Barrymore.

The delicate beauty and sympathy with which the curly-haired Scotch youth enacted this role won him an everlasting place in the hearts of Broadway theatergoers. From this engagement he stepped into a steady stream of successful roles, specializing in Shakespeare, which is his truest forte. Ballantine, like Susan Glaspell, the playwright, is a charter member of the Washington Square and Provincetown Players, to which groups he donates his services in the summer-time.

It was in the old Wharf theater, a building which fishermen used to store their nets, that the Provincetown group first "discovered" Eugene O'Neill, who was rumored to have a trunkful of plays none of which had yet been produced. O'Neill, who had just completed his now famous one-act piece "Bound East to Cardiff," was asked to read it before the Little Theater group. He became so panic-stricken over the idea of reading his own play that the manuscript was read by Frederick Threl, one of the actors. The Little Theater personnel accepted the play to a man, and it was produced with considerable success in the old Wharf theater, with Ballantine a member of the cast.

Ballantine is just returning to New York from New Orleans, where he was asked to direct the workshop of La Petit Theater Du Vieux Carre, a Little Theater movement for the developing of acting and writing talent. These young authors are urged to submit manuscripts, and their efforts are given a trial in the theater workshop. One play in particular proved to have considerable merit, and the manuscript is being taken back to New York by Ballantine, who will attempt to market it. The play, written by a young novelist, William H. Pollock, is entitled "The Everlasting Apple." It will be interesting to watch its entrance and exit in the city of white lights.

WARRENTON—Crawls being canned and held in cold storage.

HELEN—Farmers' Mutual elevator nearing completion.



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SOUNDING THE KEYNOTE



Senator Simon D. Ross of Ohio makes the opening address at Republican national convention in Kansas City.

drive. Lloyd was a graduate this year from the Oregon State college and will teach next year at Colton, Ore.

Thelma Perozzi is home from Eugene to spend the summer with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Perozzi, on Granite street.

W. M. Barter of Granite street has traded a residence property at the corner of Granite street and Strawberry lane to Mrs. Nellie Power Johnson for a house and lot in Medford. The deal was made by H. C. Gale. Mr. Gale also reports the sale of the C. W. Winne residence on Sherman street to Mr. John Cadzow. The Cadzow family will move into their new home on Friday of this week.

Helen Dunn of the Bellview district is a guest at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Lee Port, in Little Appleton.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hastings and daughter, Jeanette, left Wednesday for Monmouth, Ore., to visit at the home of Mr. Hastings' brother, The Hastings family will go on to Portland to locate permanently.

Louise Ruger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ruger of Alida street, will arrive in Ashland Saturday. She has been a patient for several months at the Pacific Christian hospital. Miss Ruger is somewhat improved.

Robert Redwine is expected in Ashland this week to spend the summer here. Robert will play in Dom Provost's dance orchestra.

Miss Emma Jenkins and Mrs. Sam Jordan have gone to San Francisco to spend a vacation.

Thomas H. Simpson left Wednesday night for Portland to look after business interests.

Ontario building permits for five months totaled \$116,310. Close to 1,000,000 pounds wood will be sold this year at Crane.

SHELL OIL CO. TO BUILD NEW ASHLAND PLANT

ASHLAND, June 15.—(Special)—A new storage plant will be erected soon in Ashland by the Shell Oil Products company. The company has secured a lot at the intersection of Oberlin and Laurel streets. The new plant will cost approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000. It is expected that two wagons will be required to take care of the distribution.

Mrs. H. O. Anderson will represent the Ashland group in the Jackson County Health Association at the National and State Tuberculosis association convention which will be held in Portland June 18-22.

J. N. Dennis, for twenty years a resident of Ashland, died at his home on the Boulevard on Thursday morning at 4:45. His death was due to an apoplectic stroke with resultant paralysis. The attack was so severe that the outlook that no hope had been held for his recovery. Mr. Dennis was 65 years old and had lived in Oregon since he was four years old. He is survived by his widow and one daughter, Mrs. Joseph Osker, of the Applegate district. Funeral services will be held at the Dodge funeral chapel Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will be made at the Mountain View cemetery.

A good-sized crowd gathered in Little park Wednesday evening to listen to the first hand concert of the season given by the Ashland band under the leadership of Ward V. Croft. Fifteen members were present and appeared in an hour's program.

A general exodus of Ashland people has taken place this week. About 200 normal students have gone to their homes for the summer vacation. Some twenty boys and men left for a vacation at the Lake of the Woods camp. Sixty-four men are attending summer camp at Fort Stevens.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hopper and son, Earl, are spending the week in Portland, where they will attend the Rose Festival.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Klum arrived this week from Honolulu to spend the summer visiting in Ashland at the home of Mrs. Klum's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Applegate, on Granite street. Mr. and Mrs. Klum have been touring for several weeks throughout the east. They plan to return to Honolulu in time for the opening of the University of Hawaii, where Mr. Klum is athletic coach.

Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Hardy entertained with four tables of bridge Wednesday evening, June 13. Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Claycomb won first prize and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Crow held low score. At midnight the hostess served a delicious supper which was spread on prettily decorated tables in a color scheme of pink and white. Guests for the pleasant affair were Messrs. and Mesdames John E. Enders, Henry G. Enders Jr., Andrew McGee, Earl Crow, Herschel L. Claycomb, Geo. M. Green, Clifford J. Read and Mrs. Harry K. Tomlinson.

Mrs. J. R. Wick, Miss Florence Allen and Miss Nina Emery entertained at the Wick home Thursday evening, honoring Miss Minnie Poloy, a bride-elect. Miss Poloy, who has been teaching in Oakland, Cal., returned recently to the home of her mother, Mrs. Josephine Poloy, on Vista street. Miss Poloy was a former Ashland teacher and has a large number of friends in this city.

C. H. Vaupel, well known citizen, is seriously ill at a Portland hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Vaupel had started out with Mr. and Mrs. Gwyn Butler on an Alaskan trip when Mr. Vaupel was stricken while they were en route to Seattle to board ship for Alaskan waters. Mr. and Mrs. Butler went on to Seattle by airplane in order to take the boat.

Lloyd Shriner visited for a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. N. L. Shriner, on scenic

PRIZE WINNERS IN SWIMMING CLASS NAMED

Tonight people of Medford are invited to attend a big demonstration at Merrick's natatorium by students who have taken part in "Learn to Swim" week, under the direction of George Huhaling. Events will start promptly at 7 o'clock.

Water stunts, including novelty races and diving exhibitions, are on the program, which will feature swimmers of all ages from seven-year-old youngsters to their grandmothers of 50.

Life-saving emblems will be awarded the following boys and two girls who qualified in tests given Thursday morning by the swimming instructor: In the junior division are Preston Card, Harry Robinson, Bill Woodford, Dick Sletter, Russell Brown, Helen Davis, Alton Lindley, John Gribble, Lloyd Hammock and Albert Gaddis. Senior life-savers in the group include Lloyd Schrey, Clyde Sturker, Charles Barnes, Orville Smith, Delbert Bliton and Eric Pierson. Miss Golda Boone and "Bud" Rathje assisted in the examination yesterday.

Two season tickets for swimming in the Merrick tank will be given as prizes tonight in the free style races, one for those under 15 years, including anyone who

wishes to enter, regardless of whether he has attended classes or not, and another contest for swimmers over that age. Other attractive prizes will be awarded winners in various competitive events.

In an examination of 160 beginners, Mr. Huhaling selected 55 boys and girls who had been present every day since June 5 for a special test. Of this number only three failed to swim across the tank. More than 90 per cent of the others have learned to swim.

Classes will be conducted Saturday morning from 9 to 10:30 for all groups. Next week Mr. Huhaling will leave here for Grants Pass, where he will have charge of another Red Cross swimming class.

LIGHTNING KILLS PRINCETON MAN

NEW YORK, June 15.—(AP)—A one day heat wave in the central Atlantic seaboard states had been broken today as a result of severe electrical storms that caused the death of one person and the injury of seven.

Robert W. Patterson, Jr., of Pittsburgh, an alumnus of Princeton class of 1914, was killed by a lightning bolt as he stood under a tree at Princeton, N. J., where he was attending his class reunion. The class cancelled all further activities for the day and held a memorial service.

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