

AMUSEMENTS

THE STORY OF IDA ST. LEON'S CAREER

Popular Actress Began Work On Stage When Two Years Old And Is Star At 18

The story of beautiful Ida St. Leon, endeared to thousands of theatergoers as "Polly of the Circus," has all the charm and the lure of romance. Though she is only 18 years old, she will have appeared on the stage a full 16 years, when she comes to the Academy of Music Wednesday afternoon and night, December 18, in her latest vehicle, "Finishing Fanny."



Ida St. Leon in "Finishing Fanny," Wednesday, Matinee and Night December 18th.

When her father, Edward St. Leon, a theatrical magnate of Melbourne, was traveling through the larger cities in that territory with the first show ever taken there. The rigors and dangers of traveling made it impossible for Ida and her mother to be sent back to Australia, so they were impelled to take the entire trip through southern China and Japan with the circus. Even this was precarious at the best. When they were in Hong Kong the enmity of the Mongolians to anything "white" made it necessary for Mrs. St. Leon and her children to live in the French settlement across the river. One morning when they had reached the Hong Kong shore in one of the small native pontoon boats which was propelled by boat-girls, one of the larger of the boat-girls grabbed little Ida, then only a year old, and ran down one of the narrow winding streets. Mrs. St. Leon and an older daughter gave chase, finally catching

up, just in time to see the native girl gleefully entering a low pagoda with the stolen child. Desperate, Mrs. St. Leon broke into the frail door, and was amazed to find that the girl was stripping the baby before the curious gaze of half a dozen women. They had merely wanted to see what a "white baby" looked like. As soon as their curiosity was satisfied, they hospitably insisted that Mrs. St. Leon remain for tea.

The following summer the St. Leons returned to Australia, and it was while in Melbourne that Ida made her first appearance in a popular melodrama of those days entitled "Across the Plains," in which her mother had a prominent part. Her wonderful sense of mimicry and her love of appearing on the stage, caused her father to make her a regular feature of his post-circus concert.

She begged, however, to be taught to walk a wire, like one of her elder sisters. He consented and her astounding nimbleness led her parents to have her taught the whole routine of acrobatics. So unusual was her skill, too, that for the time being they lost sight of her remarkable sense of mimicry in recitations and small

sketches.

About the age of 12, however, she had occasion to take part in a production of "Little Lord Fauntleroy," in Sidney, Australia, and so instantaneous was her success that Mr. St. Leon made it a part of his traveling troupe. In Japan she played it before the foreign legations in Yokohama and Tokio. It was in the latter city that she was summoned to appear in an act of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" by the late Mikado, who showed an extreme interest in western art and drama. She had the distinction of being the first white woman to appear on the stage before the Mikado.

Almost immediately after this, she came to America with her parents. Her first appearance in this country was in the circus, and it was through this that she was chosen for a non-speaking role with Mabel Taliaferro in "Polly of the Circus" in which she eventually made the most sensational rise in theatricals that has yet been



Mr. George Damerel, formerly "Prince Danilo" in "The Merry Widow," who will be seen here in "The Heart Breakers" at the Academy of Music today, matinee and night.

chronicled on the American stage. At the age of 15 she suddenly stepped into the leading role of the piece during an illness of Miss Taliaferro, and made such an astounding success that a second company was formed and she was placed at the head of it to tour the entire country. Her notable work in this role caused her manager, A. S. Stern, to decide to star her, and she has secured for her stellar debut, a remarkable play called "Finishing Fanny."

Thus it is at the age of 18, she has reached stellar heights and achieved the honor of being the youngest star in America or Europe.

"SCHOOL DAYS"

Play Said to be Filled With Laughs Calculated to "Draw Nails from the Coffin."

If, as it is claimed, each hearty laugh draws a nail out of our coffins, then those that do not see "School Days," which is coming to the Academy of Music Wednesday, December 25, as the special Christmas attraction, will be in rather a bad predicament on the arrival of the gray reaper, as "School Days" was created for laughing purposes only, and it fulfills its mission to the very letter. Yet there is one drawback to "School Days." By many it is claimed that the incessant laughter during a performance makes the face weary. Whether that is an argument for or against "School Days" is a question. Suppose you try it, the experiment would at least be unique. On the other hand, "School Days" has proven itself the one best bet as a sure cure for a grouch and an antidote for the "blues." There are many people in this old world of ours that never learned how to laugh. Are you among that number? If so, you will find "School Days" a good elementary school. Should you be an accomplished laugher, this play will develop all your talents. It tore the

gay New Yorkers "wide open" for one year, and Boston, Chicago, Pittsburg, Cleveland and Cincinnati gave it a rip-roaring welcome. And there is a reason. It is in the first place, uproariously funny, good clean wholesome fun. It leaves a clean taste in the mouth. Women especially like it, for there is no cause for a dropping of the eyelids at any suggestiveness, and the theme is one that interests all, marriage. A visit to the theater to see "School Days" will make you feel younger; laughter always makes us feel better and when an audience laughs incessantly from the first rise of the curtain to its final fall, one can easily imagine why the play is a success.

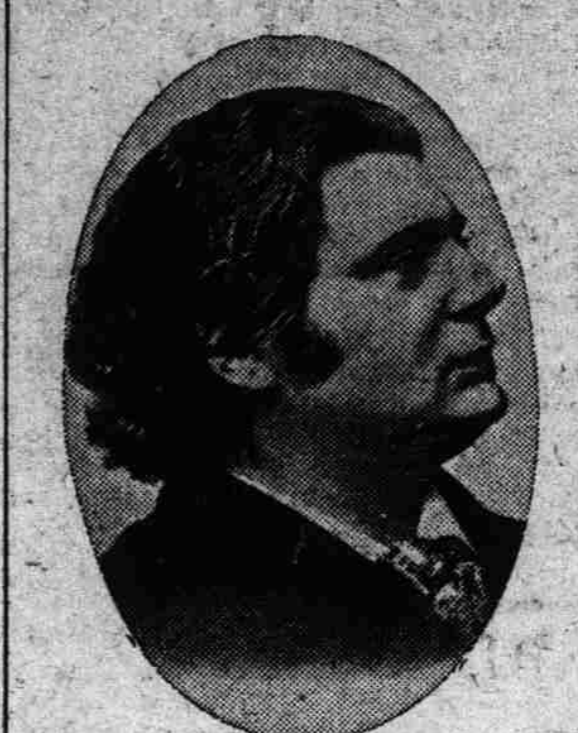
Margaret Illington.

"Kindling," by Charles Kenyon, a vivid episode in the life of some real people from the tenement district, portraying elemental human emotion, and in which Miss Margaret Illington will appear here shortly at the Academy of Music, perhaps is the only play that has been produced on the American stage and by the human appeal of its story was the inspiration that banded together a group of some of the most famous literary, dramatic critics, magazine writers and newspaper men of our land to send forth an appeal or endorsement for the people of this country to attend "Kindling," and contribute to its success, not only as a play of dramatic value, but because of its great educational qualities. Miss Illington is said to have scored the greatest triumph of her career in "Kindling." She is surrounded by an original cast, and her appearance here promises to be the dramatic event of the season.

"The Heart Breakers."

"The Heart Breakers," the much discussed musical comedy that Mort H. Singer will present at the Academy of Music tonight at 8:30 will serve to introduce a new recruit in the ranks of stardom, namely, George Damerel.

last seen as the Prince in the "Merry Widow." Mr. Damerel is well known to the amusement loving public of the country, but this will be the first time that he will be seen in a comedy role that fits him like a glove. Among those who have helped to make this latest of musical comedies a big hit are Miss Myrtle Vall, the latest find of Manager Singer, a young lady whom he saw in Europe on his last visit. A more than interesting love story has been woven around a group of wealthy young men, who having banded themselves together for their mutual protection against the wiles of all girls who are flirt, find themselves in a quandary, as their leader who is known as a confirmed woman-hater has finally lost his heart to one girl whom they have been stung by. Complications follow each other in rapid succession but like all musical comedies everything is finally straightened out and all ends well. Manager Singer has sent out a large and capable acting company to support Mr. Damerel and the chorus, both male and female, have been chosen with great care.



Yease, the renowned violinist who appears here under the auspices of the Charlotte Musical Association.

Yease is simply a wonder, there is no other word for it, and year by year his power seems to increase. His breadth and depth of tone are such as are rarely, perhaps, never equaled and one feels that there is a wealth of subdued passion, which, however powerful it may be, never leads the player beyond the limits of artistic taste, never suggests that sense of untamed frenzy which is so out of place in music. It is doubtful if this reserve force that lends to Yease his unparalleled power over his public.

Season tickets for the series, Yease and Oltzka, McCormack and Preston and Mills, please go on sale Monday at 10 o'clock at Jordan's.

Man Coughs and Breaks Ribs.

After a fitful coughing spell in an in Neenah, Wis. felt terrible pain in his side and his doctor found two ribs had been broken. What agony Dr. King's New Discovery would have saved him. A teaspoonful and a late cough, while persistent use routs obstinate coughs, expels stubborn colds or heats weak, sore lungs. "I feel sure it is a Godsend to humanity," writes Mrs. Eric Martin, Columbia, Mo. "For I believe I would have consumption today if I had not used this great remedy." It's guaranteed to satisfy, and you can get a free trial bottle or 50-cent or \$1.00 size at Jno. S. Blake Drug Co.

ACADEMY

Today, Matinee at 3; Tonight at 8:30. Mort H. Singer Presents the Favorite Singer and Dancer.

GEORGE DAMEREL

(Late of Merry Widow)

The Heart Breakers

The Musical Comedy with a plot and a perfect Princess Chorus. Seat sale now on at Hawley's. Prices, Matinee, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c. Night, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c.

Trustee's Sale.

Under and by virtue of the power contained in a deed in trust executed to me by Sara F. McMichael and husband, J. M. McMichael, on December 1st, 1910 and recorded in the Register of Deeds Office for Mecklenburg County in Book 274, page 66, to secure a certain indebtedness therein described, and for default in the payment of such indebtedness the undersigned Trustee, will on Monday, January 6th, 1913, at 12 o'clock M., at the Court House Door in the City of Charlotte, offer for sale to the highest bidder, at public auction, for cash, the tracts of land described in said deed in trust, situated in the County of Mecklenburg, Long Creek and Charlotte Townships, and more particularly described and bounded as follows:

FIRST PIECE: A tract of land lying in Long Creek Township, Mecklenburg County, State of North Carolina, adjoining the lands of J. F. Wilson, R. D. Withers and others, lying on west side of the Charlotte and Beattie's Ford Road, about eight miles from the city of Charlotte, containing 64 acres, and being the same tract of land in all respects which was conveyed to E. M. McCoy by R. C. Miller and wife by deed which is recorded in Book 144, Page 156 in the Register's Office for said County, and conveyed by deed of even date herewith by said E. M. McCoy and wife to the Carolina Realty Company, and this day conveyed by said Carolina Realty Company to said Sara F. McMichael, to all of which deeds reference is made for a more particular description.

SECOND PIECE: Being in the city of Charlotte, in said County and State and known and designated as Lot 5 in Block 8 on the map of Piedmont Park which is recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for said Mecklenburg County in Book 146, Page 206, and being the same lot of land which was conveyed to said Sara F. McMichael by F. C. Abbott and wife by deed which is recorded in said Register's Office in Book 212, Page 388.

THIRD PIECE: Being in the City of Charlotte in said County and State and known and designated as lots 9 and 10 and the Western half of 11 in Block 22 as shown on the map of the Suburban Realty Company's property which is recorded in Book 202, Page 485 in said Register's Office, and being the same lots and parcels of land which were conveyed to said Sara F. McMichael by M. E. Boyer and wife by deed recorded in Book 257, Page 119 in said Register's Office, to which deed reference is made for a more particular description.

The lots of land described above as "Second Piece" and "Third Piece" will be sold subject to the prior lien of two deeds in trust recorded in Book 258, Pages 172 and 206 in the Register's Office for said Mecklenburg County.

This the 3rd day of December, 1912. F. R. MCNINCH, Trustee.



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Authorities agree that a good kerosene oil lamp is the best for reading. The Rayo is the best oil lamp made, the result of years of scientific study. It gives a steady white light, clear, mellow. Made of solid brass, nickel plated. Can be lighted without removing chimney or shade. Easy to clean and rewick.

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ACADEMY Wednesday, December 18th, Matinee and Night.

A. S. Stern Presents the Beautiful and Talented

Ida St. Leon

The Youngest and Most Fascinating Star on the American Stage in

"FINISHING FANNY"

A Comedy Drama in Four Acts.

By Lee Wilson Dodd

Better Than

"Polly Of The Circus"
In Which She Played to Over a Million People.

Seat sale begins Monday morning at Hawley's.
Prices—Matinee \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c
Night \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c

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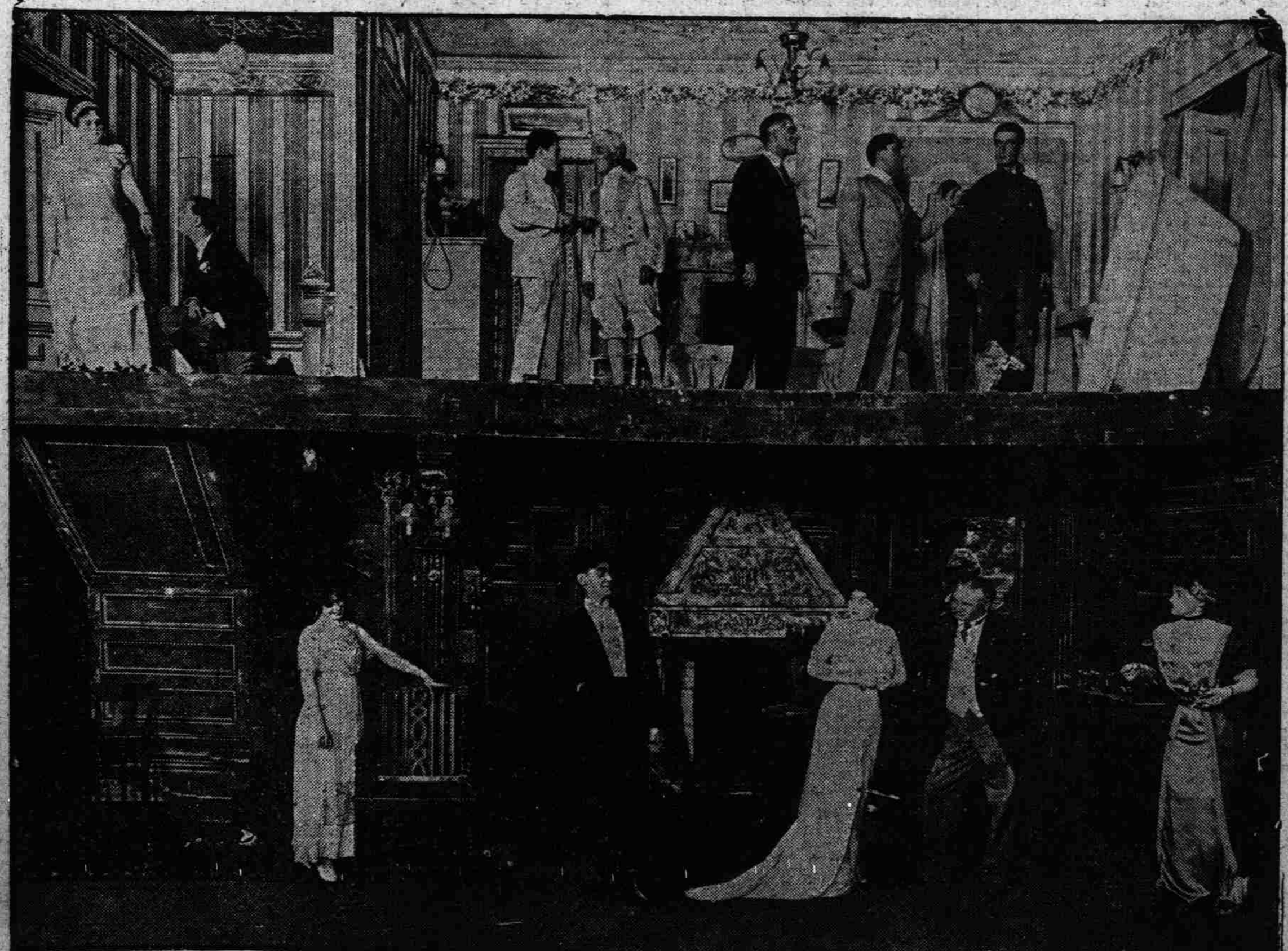
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Scene from the tremendously successful musical play "The Heart Breakers" which is coming to the Academy of Music today, matinee and night with Mr. George Damerel as the star.