

MISS MASON YET FOND OF STAGE

Popular and Diminutive Actress Longs for the Old Footlights

BY ADELAIDE CALDWELL.
The little girl had on a hat of dark blue velvet gracefully trimmed with blue and gray ostrich, the blue emphasizing the lovely color of her eyes, and a big fur coat which emphasized her adorable smallness. She looked like a "flapper" in her first grown-up clothes and not a bit like one of our most famous young movie stars. For Shirley Mason isn't five feet tall, has the cutest brown bobbed hair, wavy, and impresses one as not being "big as a minute."

She came to attend the moving picture exposition and will go from here to Los Angeles, Calif., where she has her home, and where her studio is. She is a native New Yorker, and has been on the stage all her life.
"Even when I was only two-and-a-half I appeared," said Miss Mason, "but my first speaking part was with William Faversham in 'The Squaw Man,' and I created the role of 'Little Hal.' I adore the stage! Of course I also like the movies better, but for anyone who has ever been on the stage, there's always that little longing to get back, and I suppose that I, too, will some day want to go back. My main reason for preferring the movies is that I like the change of roles. You learn a part, act it, and you're through with it, and then there's always a new one equally as interesting to be taken up. Now on the stage, it's the same, old story every night for months, and maybe a year or two. 'The Poor Little Rich Girl,' in which I starred was such a success that it ran for two years, and really, towards the end, I knew that play so well that I began to forget my lines!"

"But in the movies, don't you miss the applause?"
"Why, not at all," said Miss Mason with a giggle, "for you see, when you expect applause and then don't get it, it is so much worse than not ever getting any at all."
"Which are my favorite roles? Really, I haven't any. I like each succeeding one a little better than the one before, maybe because I feel that with the experience of each my acting improves a little bit. But I don't think that way when I watch myself act on the screen. Oh, I think I'm terrible!"

HER FIRST PICTURE.

"My first picture for the Fox Corporation was 'I Joined Fox Two Years Ago.' Yes, I am married," as the interviewer's eyes fell on her left hand, where she wore on her fourth finger a beautiful square diamond set in platinum and a small hoop of diamonds, "and have been for four years, to Bernard Durning, one of Mr. Fox's directors. And I am Viola Dana's sister, you know. All movie stars have their hobbies, I guess, and mine is dogs. My husband and I have two wonderful ones, a Belgian police dog, and the sweetest Boston bull terrier."
"My latest picture, which won't be released for about two months, is taken from the book, 'Little Allens,' and the name has been changed to 'Loved Ones.' My last picture to be released is an English story, 'Jackie.'"

Miss Mason is just as sweet and cute and girlish as she looks. She wore a frock of navy blue tulle, embroidered, short of skirt. "I know that skirts are getting longer," she said, "but I simply won't have 'mine lengthened.' Long skirts are too uncomfortable, and I'd look like a kid playing 'dress-up' in her mother's clothes, anyhow. But in New York, one sees skirts almost dragging the ground, and at the horse show, almost all the gowns were long. But it's the reason for anything and everything."

UNCLE BEN, OLD SLAVE, MISSING

Disappeared Off Streets of Charlotte Where He Was in Charge of Team.

After a futile search of 24 hours by the local police and other interested parties, the strange disappearance of Uncle Ben, aged servant in the Allison family, 15 miles out on the Beatty Ford road, is still puzzling the most clever heads.
Uncle Ben has been in the Allison family for 67 years. He belonged to the grandfather of W. P. Allison, of Beatty Ford road, and has been retained in the family by W. P. Allison during his life. He has proven himself the most faithful of servants during the long years of his service.
It was Wednesday afternoon that Uncle Ben drove a team of two mules hitched to a wagon into Charlotte from the Allison home. He attended to some business for Mr. Allison and then got his team in readiness for the return trip.

It was at this point that he met Mr. Allison on the street. He immediately complained to Mr. Allison that he was feeling bad.
"Well, take this money and go buy yourself something to eat," advised Mr. Allison, as he gave him some change.
Uncle Ben refused the money, declaring that he felt too sick to eat. He left Mr. Allison, however, with the intention of setting out for home. Mr. Allison was to return home with Uncle Ben, he waited on the sidewalk for the team to arrive. The minutes passed. Finally an hour had gone by. Mr. Allison became worried and began to investigate. He searched many parts of the city, but could find no trace of Uncle Ben. He immediately got in touch with his family and learned that Uncle Ben had not gone home. Since that time both Mr. Allison and the police department have searched every nook and corner of the city. Not even a clue as to the whereabouts of Uncle Ben and the team can be found. He did not return home Wednesday night. The Beatty Ford road has been searched for traces of him. Every place that he could possibly be has been visited—and the mystery of his disappearance has not been solved.
"Uncle Ben has been in the family 67 years," explained Mr. Allison, "and it is ridiculous to think that he would attempt to steal the mules and wagon. He has driven them into Charlotte scores of times. I would willingly trust him with a wagon load of money to take home. What has become of him is a riddle beyond my comprehension. He has simply disappeared off the face of the earth. We have searched every nook and corner in vain. It seems that we could at least find the mules."

Search by the police department continued throughout Thursday morning, but the case only became more of a mystery than ever. Has Uncle Ben dropped dead in some out-of-the-way place? Has he been killed? Did the team run away with him? Is he lying sick in some dingy place of shelter? Such questions as these have been pouring through the minds of those who have received knowledge of his disappearance. No one has yet been able to offer a solution to the puzzle.
Monkey fur continues to be the most popular trimming, and fringe seems to be going out. Black is the predominant color—one sees it everywhere, in costumes of every sort. Beads are still widely used as trimmings, and I have even seen some evening frocks which resembled beaded bugs, just beads all over.

Miss Mason will remain in Charlotte until Friday, when she goes to Wilkesboro, to make a personal appearance in a moving-picture theater there.

RAMA CHARTER NULL AND VOID

Supreme Court Rules That Community Corporation Was Illegally Obtained.

The Supreme Court in the case of the State of North Carolina against the Rama Rural Community of this county, not only affirmed the decision of Judge Bis Ray when he lately ruled that the State had a right to bring the action, this point being determined in denature the proceedings, but the higher tribunal went the full distance in the case and annulled the charter without further litigation in the minor courts.
Thus is brought to an end a matter which has been the subject of an effort made on the part of certain citizens in Crab Orchard and Sharon townships to create a community school district independent of and not subject to the jurisdiction of the county board of education. W. J. Craig has been president of the Rama Rural Community since its inception.
The Rama Rural Community was chartered in February 1921 upon representations purporting to be in conformity with a special statute enacted some years ago by which rural communities embracing at least one regular school district might receive a charter from the secretary of state for various purposes of community betterment, for building of schools, roads, bridges, and other public works, and various other benefits more or less constructed at present to urban life.

OPPOSED CONSOLIDATION
The movement to get a charter was instituted by number of citizens living in the Sardin and Oak Grove schools districts as a preventative method to keep the school board from including their territory in a consolidation of the entire school districts which would create one large seven-teacher school, centrally located, to serve those three districts. Objection being raised against the consolidation, the school board proceeded to file an application for a charter of the community school district, still the charter had been granted by the State and although the court would be forced to recognize it he ruled. He recommended that the school board institute proceedings to have the charter cancelled on the grounds of the illegality of the consolidation.

STATE BRINGS ACTION
The school board immediately asked Attorney General Manning, who must bring all such actions in the name of the State against the board, to move in this direction and this case came up for hearing two months ago before Judge Ray. Attorneys for the rural community immediately filed a demurrer, contending that the State had not made out a complaint sufficient to warrant action from the court. Judge Ray ruled that the attorney general had recited all the facts and that, if justly argued and on this decision, the attorneys for the defense appealed to the Supreme court. This court, handing down its decision Wednesday, not only held the consolidation of the schools correct, but went further and without awaiting any other litigation in minor courts, declared the charter null and void. The defense admitted in the numerous proceedings that the constitution of the State as to what constituted the boundaries of the community was right, that the Rama Rural Community did not include one entire school district, but did include parts of three school districts.
The State has contended in all of these hearings that if such a charter as this were allowed to obtain, the school board would be stripped of its authority in creating school districts and exercising authority over them.

What further action, if any, the promoters of the rural community plan to take is not known and could not be ascertained Thursday from their attorneys who are Clarkston, Tallaferrero and Clarkston, T. L. Kirkpatrick and H. L. Ray. The attorneys for the State were Edgar W. Pharr, John M. Robinson, James A. Bell, attorney for the county board of education, also appeared in the hearings.

ROMAINE COMES IN CONCERT HERE

Next in Series of Entertainments of Oasis Shrine. Patrol December 6.

Margaret Romaine, prima donna soprano of the Metropolitan Opera company, will appear in concert at the city auditorium Tuesday/Dec. 6 in the third concert of a series arranged for the Fall and Winter by members of the Oasis Shrine patrol and band.
Of the young American singers who have joined the Metropolitan Opera company within recent years Margaret Romaine stands out as one of the most successful. Not so many years ago out in Utah a little seven-year old girl was singing in the family choir, and her self, dreams of being a world renowned cellist floated through the youthful musician's mind. But it was by singing that she has become today one of the prizes of the Metropolitan company.
Margaret Romaine has duplicated Rosa Ponselle's achievement and is the second world-famous American girl to scale the heights of the Metropolitan. Miss Romaine first studied in London, then in Paris where she appeared in the Opera Comique. Returning to America her concert appearance and light opera tours brought her to the attention of Gatti-Casazza, who realized that America had produced another sensational soprano and engaged her for the Metropolitan.

Miss Romaine has made a brilliant name for herself outside of the opera house and strings of engagements in concerts stretch across the continent. These concert appearances have really brought her most fame, for in them she is at her best.
Her concert repertoire is most diversified and extensive and she has been hailed by critics and the public alike as an unvarying success.
Reservations for season tickets can be made at Beatty's Drug Store Monday and Tuesday, Mrs. Charles Norman, executive secretary of the concert, announced Thursday.

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HIGH SCHOOL CLASS VISITS COURT ROOM
The Thursday morning session of the court was enlivened by an unusual procedure, the visit of a class in civil government from the Charlotte high school. The class came to the court room under the guidance of Miss Cora Annette Harris, its teacher, to study the procedure in court.
Attorney D. E. Henderson, during an interval of the morning session, explained to the class the main principles governing the operation of civil court and Judge Ray later talked to the class on the same subject.

PICTURE STARS WILL BE GUESTS

Chamber of Commerce Will Be Host to 600 at Banquet Thursday Evening.

Pretty movie stars and prominent directors and officials of filmdom will be guests of honor at the Chamber of Commerce dinner Thursday night at 6 o'clock in the Chamber's assembly room.
Mrs. Mary Carr, portrayeur of "mother" roles and Miss Shirley Mason, pretty Fox Film star, will occupy seats of honors at the tables when the diners gather for the banquet, which is being given by the Chamber of Commerce in compliance to visitors and officials of the Southern Motion Picture Exposition now in progress here.
The 27 most popular young ladies of the North and South Carolina, winners in the beauty contests conducted by theaters in the two states, will also be guests at the dinner, occupying tables together.
Short talks will be made by Miss Mason and Mrs. Carr and exposition visitors including the following: V. Moses, director of advertising and publicity for Fox Film corporation; S. Cohen, president of Motion Picture Theater owners of America; J. J. Walker, New York state senator, counsel of the M. P. T. O. A., and Monte W. Sloan, editor of 'The Exhibitors' Trade Review. Unique movie stunts will be given during the evening, it was announced, and many interesting features will be staged to the delight and astonishment of the diners. A motion picture will be taken of the banquet, and the waves in the lecture which is being made here with the young ladies taking part.
In addition to the speakers the other guests will include the following: Miss Laura Carr, daughter of Mrs. Mary Carr; Miss Freeda Minden, who is with Miss Mason; Mr. and Mrs. Kalkfield, Master Louis and Miss Clavie Kalkfield; L. Boynton owner and publisher of 'The Exhibitors' Trade Review; Freeman H. Owens, director of the motion picture being made here; E. J. Smith, of Philadelphia, district manager of the Universal Film corporation; Samuel Morris, general manager of Selznick Pictures; E. M. Saunders, New York City, special representative of the Metro Film corporation; E. T. Walters, Dallas Texas, director of M. P. T. O. A.; H. C. Wales, secretary of the Motion Picture Exposition; H. B. Varner, Lexington, director of the M. P. T. O. A.; and A. F. Sams, of Winston-Salem, North Carolina state senator.
Tickets to the dinner were being offered to the general public Thursday morning and indications point to one of the most elaborate and interesting dinner meetings held by the Chamber of Commerce. Nearly 600 persons are expected to attend.

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NEGRO BRAKEMAN IS KILLED ON TRACKS

Lester Phillips, negro, brakeman of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, was instantly killed at 7 o'clock Wednesday morning in the Seaboard station yard when he missed his footing in mounting a shifting engine. He fell in such a way as to land in front of the engine, which passed over his body.
Coroner Frank Hovis made inquiry as to the facts surrounding the man's death but found it unnecessary to hold an inquest. There were several eyewitnesses to the accident, all of whom testified that the negro lost his footing as he started to mount the "cow catcher" of the engine to ride up the track a little way. The man had been employed by the Seaboard for some years and was a resident of Charlotte.

NEGRO IS PLAINTIFF VS. FOUNDRY CONCERN

Civil court, over which Judge J. Bis Ray is presiding here, has been engaged since Tuesday on the suit of Lawrence Mayo, negro, against the Charlotte Pipe & Foundry Company, in which the plaintiff is seeking alleged damages of \$10,000 claiming that an injury he received while in the employ of the company was due to the company's negligence. Both sides to the case have rested with no more evidence to be introduced than a few character witnesses.
There was no session of the court Wednesday because of illness in Judge Ray's family.

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December Victor Records Are Here Today

	Number	Size	Price
Sophie Braslau	64996	10	\$1.25
Emilio de Gogorza	64997	10	1.25
Mischa Elman	66008	10	1.25
Amelita Galli-Curci	74718	12	1.75
Orville Harrold and Eva Gauthier	74716	12	1.75
Marcel Journet	74519	12	1.75
John McCormack and Fritz Kreisler	87576	10	1.50
Titta Ruffo	86643	12	1.75
Ernestine Schumann-Heink	87330	10	1.25
Arturo Toscanini and La Scala Orchestra	64999	10	1.25
Reinald Werrenrath	74719	12	1.75
Walter C. Kelly	45255	10	1.00
Walter C. Kelly	45257	10	1.00
Merle Alcock	45257	10	1.00
Olive Kline and Lambert Murphy	18811	10	.85
Irving Kaufman	18811	10	.85
Irving Kaufman	18812	10	.85
Peerless Quartet	18812	10	.85
Peerless Quartet	18812	10	.85
John Steel	18813	10	.85
John Steel	18813	10	.85
"Black Face" Eddie Ross	18815	10	.85
"Black Face" Eddie Ross	18815	10	.85
Joseph C. Smith and His Orchestra	18816	10	.85
Joseph C. Smith and His Orchestra	18818	10	.85
Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra	18818	10	.85
Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra	18818	10	.85
The Benson Orchestra of Chicago	18819	10	.85
The Benson Orchestra of Chicago	18819	10	.85
The Benson Orchestra of Chicago	18820	10	.85
The Benson Orchestra of Chicago	18820	10	.85
Henry Burr and Peerless Quartet	18821	10	.85
Arthur Fields	18821	10	.85
The Benson Orchestra of Chicago	18823	10	.85
The Benson Orchestra of Chicago	18823	10	.85
Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra	18824	10	.85
The Benson Orchestra of Chicago	18824	10	.85
Gilbert Girard	35711	12	1.35
Gilbert Girard	35712	12	1.35
Trinity Choir	35712	12	1.35
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