

Elsie Janis, Most Romantic Figure on Stage, Gets \$3,000 a Week for Making Faces

A Veritable Cinderella Who Prefers an Automobile to a Pumpkin Coach, and Who Owes Her Rise to Devoted Mother.

Special to The Sun.

COLUMBUS, O., June 8.—The story of Elsie Janis, the newest star in the theatrical firmament, who is now spending part of her vacation at her home in Columbus, is the romantic tale of a little girl who could make faces, and by making faces in imitation of others has risen in seven years from a little unknown, in whose home it was sometimes hard to make both ends meet, to one of the most talked of stars on the stage, and to wealth.

It's a story like another Cinderella, only Elsie has chosen an automobile instead of the pumpkin coach of the fairy tale. Now, Miss Janis has all that heart can desire, and she says, "I often rub my eyes and wonder how it has all come about—sometimes I think it must be a dream."

Seven years ago she made her stage debut with a stock company in Columbus, her home city, and got nothing for it, unless the privilege of appearing being counted.

Now she is one of the foremost stars of the land, is independently well off, and constantly growing richer. She gets \$3,000 a week when she works.

Then she was 11; now she's 18.

Miss Janis and her mother spend their vacations in Columbus, at Elsie's cosy little home, El Jan, on N. High-st. It was bought with money earned on the stage. Much of the little star's money is invested in real estate. While in Columbus she divides her time between El Jan and her automobile—about half and half.

"I'm crazy on automobilizing," she says, "and I call my machine Gray Streak. Yes, sir; I run it myself. You see when I'm at home I rest like this: I get up at noon, then play the piano and make everybody miserable until they send me out in the automobile. Then it's the Gray Streak for mine the rest of the day."

She is to go to Philadelphia soon and appear in vaudeville in Klaw & Erlanger's Preston-st house.

"We are going to make the trip from Columbus in my auto, if the weather is good," she said. "My engagement in Philadelphia is for three weeks, at \$3,000 a week.

"And the \$3,000 a week salary is straight," put in Miss Janis' mother, who is also her daughter's business manager and constant companion. "There is no per cent to be paid back from it, and I am told that it is the largest salary ever paid any individual on the stage, outside of grand opera."

In Philadelphia Miss Janis will appear in an act about 30 minutes long, twice a day, six days a week, for three weeks, and get \$3,000.

Think of it—\$12 a minute!

Back of the rise of Elsie Janis to stardom is the care and earnestness of a mother's devotion. "Elsie could imitate



SNAPSHOT PHOTOGRAPH OF ELSIE JANIS AT THE WHEEL OF "GRAY STREAK" AND IN ONE OF HER CATEST SMILES.

anybody from babyhood," said Mrs. Jane Bierbower (the little star's real name is Elsie Bierbower), "and I always had to be very careful of her company, because she falls naturally into imitating those about her. I saw that this talent could be used to make money, and her first engagements had no salary attached. It got her before the public, and that was an

important step. Her first New York engagement was in vaudeville at the Casino, at a salary of \$75 a week, but we never got a cent of it. The first real money she earned was \$100 a week in California. Her success has been wonderful."

Elsie is not thinking of getting married. She is still a heart-free girl, far younger in her actions than her looks.

THE DAILY STORY

SOUTHERN WOMAN
UNRECONSTRUCTED

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POURED OUT 600 GALLONS OF WINE

REVENUE AGENT STOPS MANUFACTURE OF SOTOL.

It is the Favorite Drink of the Mexicans Who Live in Ranger State.

Special to The Sun.

YSLETA, Tex., June 8.—One of the minions of the United States internal revenue bureau came out here, from San Antonio the other day and destroyed 600 gallons of wine made from the root of the sotol plant. Not only this, but the word has been passed down the line in all the upper Rio Grande border region that there must be no more manufacture of alcoholic liquor from the sotol. "Sul Boggs rode all the way from Tornillo to get a supply of the sotol wine. He arrived here the day after it had all been spilled by the revenue agent. He was disgusted.

"It beats all," he said. "What is this country a-coming to? Here we've been drinking sotol ever since this part of the country was discovered by the Spaniards, and here comes some kind of a new rullin' made by some jumpin' Jack up the e at Washington and cuts us fellows off from one of our principal rations.

"I'll bet the man who is responsible for doin' away with makin' sotol never tasted the liquor in his life. Sotol wine is nectar for the gods.

"I guess I can go without it, but just wait until the Mexicans along the river hear that they can't get any more sotol to drink and you will see the biggest exodus of Greasers bound for Mexico that was ever witnessed in these parts.

Many Distilleries.

Sotol is to the people of these parts what whiskey is to the men of Kentucky. Small sotol distilling plants have been in operation all through this region from time immemorial.

The sotol grows profusely upon the ranches of the extreme southwestern part of Texas and of northern Mexico. It is a semi-desert plant and in drought it is fed to cattle and sheep in lieu of grass. In all the border saloons sotol can be bought. It has long been a favorite beverage with the Mexicans who work upon the ranches and live in the territory where the sotol plant thrives.

The sotol liquor is said to possess a peculiar quality which nerves men up to do desperate deeds. To be a real bad 'ombrer a man must take a few drinks of sotol.

It is related that at the time Bill Taylor and his band of outlaws held up and robbed the Overland Express on the Southern Pacific near Comstock, they were all more than half drunk on sotol. When three members of the gang were captured in the Davis mountains several days later they had on hand a half empty jug of sotol. They had been forced to lighten their burdens by dropping a big bag of silver, but they retained the jug of sotol.

ITS INFLUENCE AT LAST.

Gov. Hughes says that he vetoed the bill to give equal pay to women teachers for equal work in New York city because he did not think that city should have different laws upon the subject than other cities of the state and because what is true of the schools is also true of the shops. The bill is now dead, but the interested women created in the subject will live, and the teachers and women of the shops, too, for that matter, may live to see that they have a fair deal even though the bill was not passed.

SCHOOL LOTS ARE HIGH.

The Boston schools board is finding trouble in buying lots for new school-houses, and a suggestion has been made that the schools required be built on the

This Woman

Special to SAN FRANCISCO.

an lawyer plead a woman better than a man. Bell David says "Y demonstrates the truth the rapid and success which she manages of courts here.

She hasn't lost a case decisive and penetrating she cross-examines the come into court to cause has made her circle.

"Now, Mr. Smith," the witness straight in or did you not, between the morning of the coffee cup across the

Then she leans toward before he has time to sharply:

"Yes or no, quick Mr. Smith" usually. He could stand the by a man, but a woman. The record for qu broken the other day came into court clad

WOMAN RAISES

The ostrich queen to be Mrs. Katherine

Ariz., who has the largest world. She has breeders, and she also

vana, Cuba, containing birds. The birds mate

one of them des the of a new mate for several

son says that the ostrich

timely without brains

whichever of its young

yields from \$30 to \$50 a year.

The Sun has arranged

reads with the latest

seams. The pattern

ber and size desired

The Sun.

THE DAILY STORY

THE BLACK TULIP

By FRED L. BOALT.

Malachi Gunn loved two things only in this world—his daughter and his tulip garden.

A crabbed, lean-visaged old Yankee, he had the prettiest daughter and the prettiest tulip garden in town.

Even old Dr. Spitzmeister's tulip garden was not so fine.

One would think that Gunn would have drawn some sweetness from his garden; for, besides tulips, there were bowers of roses, rows of stately hollyhocks, and all manner of sweet, old-fashioned flowers.

But no. He had two fears which scared him. One was that a lover would take his daughter from him. The other was that Dr. Spitzmeister would get a black tulip before he did. The latter was the worst thing that could possibly happen.

The doctor was a fat little Hollander who laughed at everything anybody said, whether it was funny or not—laughed until his fat sides shook and his red-blue jowls wobbled over the edge of his collar. But his piggy little eyes never laughed. His was a selfish soul.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he said, pulling his sleeves to his elbows, "you will observe there are no mechanical devices in my sleeves to deceive you."

"Rubbish!" snorted Gunn. "Tomfoolery!"

"I will now drop this tulip bulb into the pot," continued Jasper. "On top of the bulb I will spread this earth. Will this lady kindly examine the pot to see if the bulb and earth are really in it? Thank you. She says they are. Now, I will drop this handkerchief over the pot. Prestochange! Hokus-pokus!"

He lifted the cloth. There, growing in the pot, stood a black tulip.

Gunn, with an inarticulate cry, sprang forward.

"It is! It is! Spitzmeister, come and look. It is black—all black!"

The doctor's face was pasty. He groaned. Jasper replaced the cloth.

"Bring the minister," he said.

In the time it takes to tell it, he and Allela were married.

"It's mine," exulted Gunn, when the ceremony was concluded.

He lifted the cloth. His eyes bulged. For there, where the tulip had been, now grew a spindling stem from which hung an oblong, yellow fruit.

SOUTHERN WOMAN UNRECONSTRUCTED

MARCHES WITH SOLDIERS IN GRAY UNIFORM.

Sweetheart Slain in Civil War, She Clings to Rebel Principles and Wears Southern Flag.

