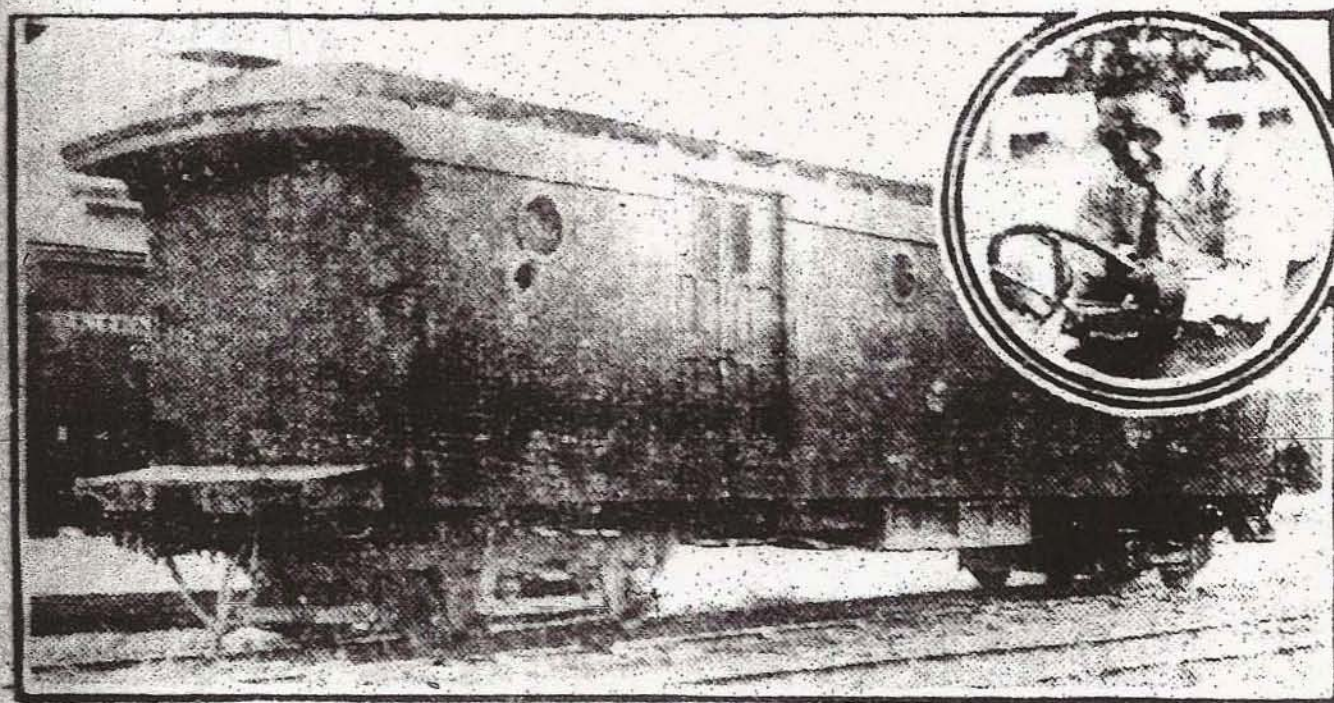


# BARNEY OLDFIELD HERE. OLD

## Hopes to Give Readville New Mile World Record Next Monday.



BARNEY OLDFIELD and his MACHINE SHOP on WHEELS

Barney Oldfield, the world-famous road racing champion, arrived in Readville last night. He is the only driver that was in the Bas State A. A. trials at Readville Labor day.

The king of the motor race is called by many the "king of the many victories." He has won many victories in the circus.

He has a new motor car which he has just ordered. Not only that, but he has all sorts of materials to make anything happen. When in a race the auto is put aboard the big combination freight and passenger car and made to travel on wheels.

Barney Oldfield is more than a road racing champion. He is a track racing champion. He has won many races during the last year. He was the only driver that was in the Bas State A. A. trials at Readville Labor day.

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circus.

He has a private railroad car in which his three motor cars are carried. Not only that, but in the car are all sorts of materials to make repairs. When anything happens to one of the cars in a race the auto is put aboard the big combination freight and passenger car, and work is begun on it at once.

A start is made for the next city where Oldfield is to appear, and on the way the machinist is tinkering on the auto. Even if the car works all right, the men go over it and give it a thorough overhauling to see that nothing is going to break in the next race.

In view of Oldfield's experiences in races, his ideas on the future of the sport is interesting. In talking with the Globe man yesterday he said:

"If you take into consideration the number of races held on road and track and figure up the fatalities you

At Grand Frank Cocker and his machinist lost their lives while driving over a straightaway course, though at the time they were not in a race. Here are four fatalities on the road in two meets against one fatality in 150 on the track.

Every one recognizes that the trouble with track racing is due to the dust. If the men who run the meets will follow the example set by the club here, there need be no bother. Of course accidents are liable to happen at any time, but so are they on the railroads and on the streets with horses, but with an oiled track the danger is greatly reduced.

I don't know how fast I shall send my car on the Readville track, but from what I have heard of its present condition I shall try to send it around in record time. For a mile 51 seconds is rather fast on a track, but under proper conditions it can be lowered. I shall try to give Readville a new mile record in my trial. As to the other events—well, I never worry about the outcome of them. What's the use?"

Barney May Star.

Barney Oldfield was so well pleased with the reception he received that he is seriously contemplating a starring tour. No one realizes more than Barney himself just the degree of popularity he possesses, and when he was called and recalled before the curtain last night to simply smile and bow, it was evident to the entire house that there is another car full of success before him other than that encompassed by the long stretch of highway.

Two Peerless Cars.

Now that the automobile has lent itself to the playwright as a fit subject for dramatization, and the first real automobile play is produced at the Broadway Theatre, one of the principal features of the production is commanding attention from auto enthusiasts, for Barney Oldfield and his racing partner appear with their cars, including the famous Peerless Green Dragon, in a sensational race effect in which both cars are driven at top speed upon specially prepared platforms. The whole atmosphere of the play is gasoline, and the gasoline language runs riot through it. It has been fittingly named "The Vanderbilt Cup," and from all accounts it is as amusing a bit of comedy as has yet been seen. One of the scenes that should provoke recollections from the motorists who are also

# AUTOMOBILES IN A DRAMA

Elsie Janis

## THE VANDERBILT CUP COMES TO BROADWAY.

Vanderbilt Cup Broadway Play

Elaborate Elsie Janis Scores Big Hit With Barney Oldfield as an Earnest Co-laborer — Play Acclaimed a Big Success and Draws Crowded Houses.

Elsie Janis and Barney Oldfield, the two best known names on Broadway, accidentally, the "Vanderbilt Cup" is playing at the Broadway Theatre to big uses. The more popular of the two is a matter of question, for Barney is loved by all men and women alike, and Elsie has come into her own at the New York Garden last summer. She is now, consequently, to Broadway as a star.

The house has had a record-breaking attendance. It is a great show. Besides the two names universally known, Otis Harlan, Aubrey Boucicault, Henry Donnelly and Edith Decker contribute to



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The house has had a record-breaking attendance. It is a great show. Besides the two names universally known, Otis Harlan, Aubrey Boucicault, Henry Donnelly and Edith Decker contribute to the success of the piece. As was said, Elsie Janis is not new to Broadway, but while she has hitherto been only seen in vaudeville, she has arrived a full-fledged star.

### The Cup Race.

The plot of this play is, of course, centered around the great American race of last October.

There were some capital realistic scenes, such as the "Parking Place" at Mineola, the Garden City Hotel and the "Marjorie Wellington" Hotel for Women.

Those features and a score of specialties were enough to carry the piece to success, but in, on and through all of them was Miss Janis, adding to their effect and "winning out" for herself. As a vivacious little Long Island ingenue,

brought to New York by her millionaire uncle, a "good old sport," to learn how to spend the money he meant to leave to the wife, she sang and danced her way to dramatic success. By the way, now and then she gave some capital bits of her own; in the last act quite a num-

Barney May Star.

Barney Oldfield was so well pleased with the reception he received that he is seriously contemplating a starring tour. No one realizes more than Barney himself just the degree of popularity he possesses, and when he was called and re-called before the curtain last night to simply smile and bow, it was evident to the entire house that there is another field of success before him other than that encompassed by the long stretch of highway.

### Two Peerless Cars.

Now that the automobile has lent itself to the playwright as a fit subject for dramatization, and the first real automobile play is produced at the Broadway Theatre, one of the principal features of the production is commanding attention from auto enthusiasts, for Barney Oldfield and his racing partner appear with their cars, including the famous Peerless Green Dragon, in a sensational race effect in which both cars are driven at top speed upon specially prepared platforms. The whole atmosphere of the play is gasoline, and the gasoline language runs riot through it. It has been fittingly named "The Vanderbilt Cup," and from all accounts it is as amusing a bit of comedy as has yet been seen. One of the scenes that should provoke recollections from the motorists who are also theatregoers is the one showing the veranda of the Garden City Hotel at 4 in the morning of the cup race, just as the belated arrivals are putting in an appearance.

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# RE. OLDFIELD'S TRIP TO HARTFORD

**Five Mile World's Champion Auto-  
mobile Racer to Ap-  
pear at Parsons'.**

**HERE TWO DAYS AHEAD**

**Accompanied By Thomas Cooper,**

**Jimmy Britt and Mrs. Oldfield.**

**See Corbett Act.**

Barney Oldfield, the world's champion automobile racer and party arrived in this city at 4.45 o'clock yesterday afternoon from New York city. The journey was made in Barney's Peerless touring car. The racer is here to prepare for the big auto race in the play, "The Vanderbilt Cup," which is to be produced at Parsons' theater tomorrow night and Saturday afternoon and evening.

In the party with Oldfield was Mrs. Oldfield, Jimmy Britt, the vigor over Battling Nelson; Thomas Cooper, the famous old bicycle rider, who is Barney's opponent in the race on the stage, and Tiv Kreling, Jimmy Britt's sparring partner. The party put up at the Albany House and last night attended the Corbett show at Parsons'.

Oldfield was the chauffeur on the trip to this city yesterday. The party left the Somerset hotel at Forty-Seventh street and Broadway at 11 o'clock in the morning and made many stops on the way, including one of an hour for lunch in New Haven. The distance was made in a little over four hours, which is remarkable speed for the condition of the roads. The last fifty miles

of the trip was made in a box at the Hartford Opera House this afternoon to witness the moving picture show of the Britt-Nelson fight. Jimmy has a one-third interest in the affair and today will be the first time he has had the opportunity to see himself whip Nelson.

**ELSIE JANIS TOMORROW NIGHT**

With the coming of Elsie Janis and "The Vanderbilt Cup" to Parsons' on Friday evening, Hartford will witness the initial presentation of one of the most important ventures the managerial firm of Elder & Company have ever undertaken—the production of their first musical comedy, and the stellar debut of a young lady who, although but sixteen, has already created a sensation in the vauville field which has been rarely equalled, and certainly not surpassed in recent years. There will be two performances on Saturday.

The existent automobile craze supplies the basis for the musical comedy—presenting as it does Dorothy Willett's (Elsie Janis) first visit to New York city, and its fascinating environs. Dorothy is an up-country lass of 16 whom her get-rich-quick Uncle, Curt Willett's (Henry V. Donnelly) has concluded to give the time of her life. Of course a young and pretty girl, with a rich and prodigal uncle doesn't lack for volunteer assistants in the undertaking.

For the second act Barney Oldfield has been engaged at a cost of \$1,000 per week to present in its entirety a new act which he has devised, showing his own racer, "The Green Dragon," and another celebrated racing car, manned by Tom Cooper, almost equally famous as a driver, in a close contest for the cup, both machines running at the rate of one hundred miles an hour. The exciting finish at the grandstand, with the attending action, will, it is believed, create a spectacle that will remain memorable.

In the third act the young lady is taken to witness the launching of the battleship Washington, which is also the real thing in the way of stage work, showing in the last scene the big battleship on the ways, and with Elsie Janis cracking the bottle of wine across her nose, the big vessel slides off into the water, and is seen floating down the stream, the bands playing and "amid the tumultuous excitement of the multitude"

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"I have ridden with all the great auto-racers," said Britt as he shook himself when the car stopped at the hotel door, "but I never saw country roads torn up with such perfect ease as I have today. It was the greatest ride of my life."

The "Green Dragon," the racing Peerless car which Oldfield used in tearing around Charter Oak track at the rate of a mile a minute and much better in some cases, together with a stripped touring car, arrived by a special freight car last night. These two cars will be used in the play. The one the party traveled in yesterday was also at Charter Oak park when Oldfield was here last June and raced under the auspices of the Hartford Automobile Club.

Mr. Oldfield is in the best of health. He said the accident he had at Charter Oak in June, when a wheel broke on the Dragon while he was practicing, started bad luck for him. He had another smashup at Detroit which sent him to the hospital for many weeks, besides several other minor accidents of a similar nature. "But it was a good season," said he. "I made money and won the championship of America which was awarded me a month ago. I have not quit auto racing unless the theatrical business pays better. I'm out to make all the honest dollars I can in the easiest way. In any event, I shall defend my records, and if there is any money in it will race next summer the same as ever. I will enter competitive races if necessary, but exhibition racing will be my principal field."

Oldfield and his partner, Cooper, were booked to open at Poli's Christmas week with an auto racing stunt combined with moving pictures which would illustrate Barney annihilating space with a grand smashup for a finale. The Liebbers heard of his production and booked him for an engagement. Barney has practiced the act at Hammerstein's in New York for weeks. He has all the pictures and machinery patented.

"My object in visiting Hartford," said Jimmy Britt "is to take a ride with Barney and see my old school chum, Jim Corbett. He and I were born and raised in San Francisco. I wanted to see how he was succeeding so I could go home and tell the boys. I have signed articles to box with Young Cor-

ing in the last scene the big battleship on the ways, and with Elsie Janis cracking the bottle of wine across her nose, the big vessel slides off into the water, and is seen floating down the stream, the bands playing and "amid the tumultuous excitement of the multitude."

#### BRITT-NELSON PICTURES TODAY.

Today the original moving pictures of the Britt-Nelson fight at Colma, Cal., will be exhibited at the Hartford Opera House under the management of J. W. Coffroth on a return engagement. On the occasion of their initial presentation at the Opera House some weeks ago, the sporting fraternity of Hartford turned out en masse and all were well pleased with the pictures which are the cleanest and most distinct moving pictures ever shown here. They are the perfection of motion photography, and have not the usual objectionable flicker. Today's engagement is to afford every one an opportunity of seeing them. Jimmy Britt, who arrived in town last night, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Oldfield, who accompanied him, and Danny Maher, have accepted an invitation to occupy a box at this afternoon's exhibition.

## REVOLUTION IN TRACK RACING

Foreign Manufacturers of Autos Plan to Invade American Field.

Cleveland, Feb. 2.—America will see a revolution in track auto racing next summer if the plans of foreign manufacturers are successfully carried out. The glowing record made by an American car at the Ormond Beach races, where formerly all of the honors went to foreigners, has aroused the Europeans, and to square accounts they promise to invade the American field with a vengeance next summer and beat the Yankees at their own game.

Barney Oldfield, the American track driver, has been approached by a foreign syndicate of auto drivers and asked to be one of a team, the remainder to be foreigners, to tour this country giving exhibition contests and racing whenever given a chance.

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