The original documents are located in Box 3, folder "4-17-75 Testimonial for Sen. Hansen" of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DROP BY TESTIMONIAL FOR
SENATOR CLIFFORD HANSEN (R. WYO)
The University Club
and
ATTEND FORD THEATRE PERFORMANCE

Thursday - April 17, 1975

<u>Departure: 7:05 p.m.</u>

Attire: Black Tie, Long

"GIVE 'EM HELL, HARRY!"

From: Terry O'Donnell

Dress

SENATOR HANSEN TESTIMONIAL

You and Mrs. Ford will drop by a small private party for Senator Hansen given by Senator Carl Curtis at the University Club. In attendance will be approximately 17 Senators and a few members of the Administration. (Guest list at TAB A)

The Testimonial includes an informal reception beginning at 7:00 p.m. followed by dinner (Wyoming trout and lamb) at 8:00 p.m. The dinner is a "stag" event; however, in addition to Mrs. Ford, Mildred Curtis and Martha Hansen will be on hand for the reception.

FORD'S THEATER

Following the Hansen reception, you and Mrs. Ford will proceed directly to the Ford's Theatre for the opening performance of "Give 'Em Hell, Harry". James Whitmore's one-man show depicts Harry Truman at his best in a robust, earthy and warm portrayal. Tuesday night's "Press Performance" received excellent reviews.

Each year the Board of Directors of Ford's Theatre stages an event designed to draw public attention to the Theatre and its offerings. This opening provides the setting for an invitational affair attracting many dignitaries.

Margaret Truman Daniel and Rogers C.B. Morton are co-hosts for this event. The evening's activities will be filmed for an upcoming segment of "Sixty Minutes."

Following the performance, you might wish to take Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Truman Daniel onto the stage to congratulate Mr. Whitmore.

SEQUENCE

7:05 p.m. You and Mrs. Ford board motorcade and depart

South Grounds en route University Club.

7:08 p.m. Arrive University Club. Proceed to 2nd floor where

you will be met by Senator and Mrs. Curtis and the

other guests.

NO PRESS COVERAGE

7:25 p.m. Depart University Club en route Ford's Theatre.

7:28 p.m. Arrive Ford's Theatre where you will be met by

Mrs. Margaret Truman Daniel and Secretary

Rogers C.B. Morton.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

7:29 p.m. You and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mrs. Daniel and Secretary Morton, proceed to Row A of the Theatre and are seated.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 740

7:30 p.m.	Act 1 begins.
8:30 p.m.	Intermission.
8:45 p.m.	Act 2 begins.
9:30 p.m.	Show concludes.

NOTE: You may wish to take Mrs. Daniel and Mrs. Ford onto the stage to congratulate Mr. Whitmore.

Secretary Morton, from in front of the stage, thanks guests for coming.

9:35 p.m.

You and Mrs. Ford depart Row A en route motorcade, board and depart for the White House.

9:45 p.m.

Arrive South Grounds of the White House.

#

Hansen Testimonial Guests

Senator James Allen (D-Ala.)

Senator Henry Bellmon (R-Okla.)

Senator Harry Byrd (I-Va.)

Senator Pete Domenici (R-New Mex.)

Senator Paul Fannin (R-Ariz.)

Senator Jake Garn (R-Utah)

Senator Roman Hruska (R-Neb.)

Senator Paul Laxalt (R-Nev.)

Senator Russell Long (D-La.)

Senator James McClure (R-Idaho)

Senator John McClellan (D-Ark.)

Senator Gale McGee (D-Wyo.)

Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska)

Senator William Scott (R-Va.)

Senator Herman Talmadge (D-Ga.)

Secretary Caspar Weinberger

Special Trade Representative Frederick Dent

Secretary-Designate Stanley K. Hathaway

Army Secretary Howard Calloway

Tom C. Korologos

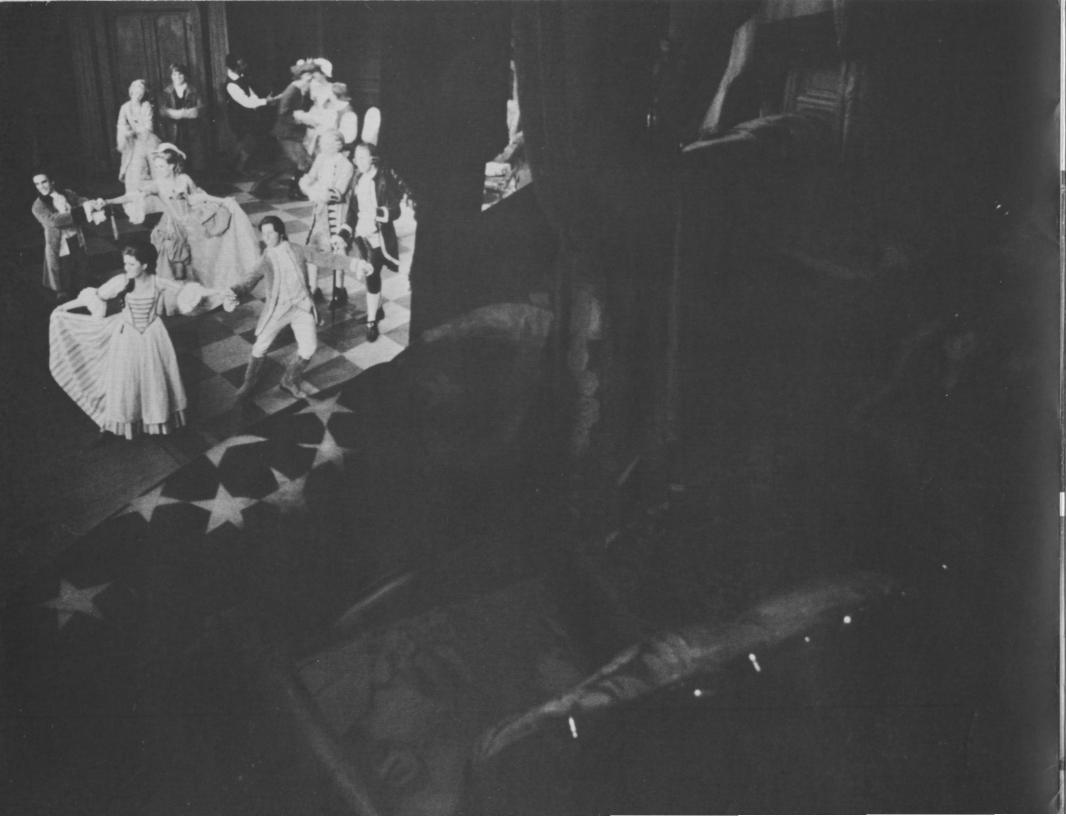


FORD'S THEATRE



R. FORD LIBRARY

A National Treasure



The Nation's Most Historic Theatre



John Ford's new showplace theatre opened to Washington audiences in 1863 during the grimmest days of the Civil War. Building materials were hard to come by and Ford, his other efforts exhausted, finally appealed to a beleaguered President Abraham Lincoln for help in securing lumber.

came to his aid.

"Some think I do wrong to go to the opera and the theatre; but it rests me. I love to be alone, and yet to be with the people. A hearty laugh relieves me; and I seem better able after it to bear my cross," he once said to a friend.

Characteristically, President Lincoln

And, so with his help, Ford's Theatre became a place where both a President and his people could find at least a temporary solace from the agony of War.

During those battle-scarred years, Lincoln often demonstrated his love for the performing arts. Ford's Theatre, in particular, frequently played host to the President, who enjoyed more than a dozen of its minstrel shows, comedies, melodramas, operas and especially Shakespearean revivals.



FORD'S NEW THEATRE. Tenth Street, near E.

JOHN T. FORD - - - - Proprietor and Manager.
(Also of Holliday street Theatre, Baltimore.)

MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 9, 1863.

Last Week of

MR. I. WILKES BOOTH

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And Mesers. CHAS. WHEATLEIGH,
HARRY PEARSON,

G. F. DE VERE,
AND THE GRAND COMBINATION COMPANY

THE MARBLE HEART.

Phidias Duchalet	Mr. J. Wilkes Booth
Diogenes Volage	Mr. Chas. Wheatleigh
Georgias Chateau M	argeau }Mr. Harry Pearson

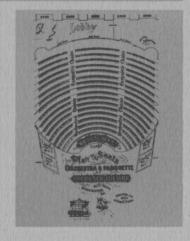
ON TUESDAY-HAMLET.

ADMISSION:

Dress Circle......50 cents | Orchestra Chairs....75 cents Family Circle......25 cents | Private Boxes....\$10 and \$6

Box Sheet now open, where seats can be secured without extra charge.

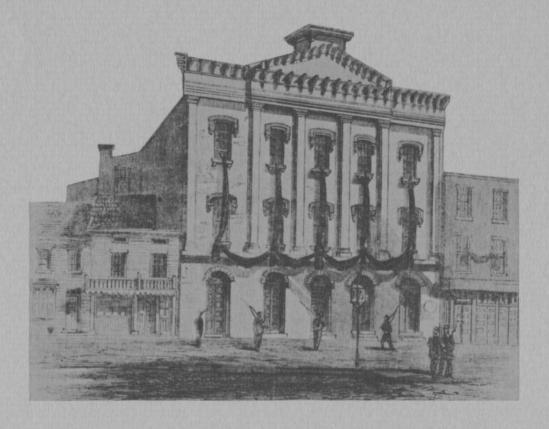
Watercolor on cover by Audrey Preissler, through the courtesy of Austin Kiplinger, Kiplinger Letter Historic Washington Collection Lincoln engraving courtesy of The Bettman Archives.



The Dark Days

April 14, 1865. The assassination. Secretary of War Stanton ordered the theatre permanently closed, and it was soon gutted and then converted for government office and storage use. For a century, Ford's Theatre stood darkly in the minds of the American people as a symbol of the war's bitterness, the desperate act of a madman and the death of a beloved President.

In the stormy aftermath of Lincoln's death, actors were stoned in the streets and theatres were closed all over America. Lincoln's object of affection had ironically become a focus for the American people's hatred.





A ray of light broke through the theatre's gloomy history in the early thirties when the ground floor was made into the Lincoln Museum, but not for twenty more years did Congress vote funds for a complete and accurate restoration of the once-charming 19th-Century building. Another decade passed before reconstruction began in earnest with plans to use the stage for a sound-and-light show re-enacting the tragic but historic events of the previous century.

There were those however, who felt that Ford's ought to be more than a reminder of a tragedy. Acting as private citizens, they undertook the task of truly restoring the theatre Lincoln loved, not only by rebuilding its face but also by reviving its purpose.



El Capitan



Will Rogers' U.S.A.



The Three Sisters



- a. (I-r) Mrs. Henry Kissinger, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, comedian Flip Wilson, "Cope" Director Vinnette Carroll.
 b. Senator Mike Mansfield, singer Charlie Pride.
 c. C. William Verity, Jr., Chairman, Ford's Theatre Board of Governors and Board of Trustees, Mrs. Rogers Morton.
 d. Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton with members of the audience.
 e. Frankie Hewitt, Executive Producer of Ford's Theatre.





What's going on at Ford's

Ford's Theatre is more than just a museum. It is more even than an important national monument. Ford's is an exciting, vibrant, and, above all, living theatre. Since its reopening on January 30, 1968, when Helen Hayes became the first performer to grace its famous stage since Laura Keene 103 years before, there has rarely been a time when Ford's exciting performer/audience chemistry hasn't been working.

Why and how has this happened? The answer is three-fold:

PERFORMERS—At nationally televised events, such as the Festivals at Ford's, America's top stars have given their time, effort and presence to Ford's, the National theatre. Young artists are eager to perform on its historic stage. If you're at Ford's, you've arrived.

AUDIENCES—Ford's audiences come from metropolitan and rural areas throughout America, from every neighborhood in greater Washington, and from even the farthest reaches of the world. Virtually every Senator and Congressman has enjoyed a Ford's production at one time or another, and every audience includes a high percentage of young people. Ford's audiences make the nation's most historic theatre also its most nationally representative theatre.

PROGRAMMING — Productions at Ford's are deliberately diverse — from the classics to the highly topical, from the traditional American experience to the black American experience. Ford's launches more than its share of world premieres while it also serves as an important national showcase for worthy productions from regional theatres all over the country.

PRODUCTIONS

1967-1968 CBS T. V. Special John Brown's Body The Comedy of Errors She Stoops to Conquer

1968-1969 A Moon for the Misbegotten Trumpets of the Lord

1969-1970 Ah, Wilderness!
Iphigeneia at Aulis
Max Morath at the Turn of the
Century
The Fantasticks

1970-1971 Will Rogers' USA
Arsenic and Old Lace
Festival at Ford's—NBC T. V.
Max Morath at the Turn of the
Century
John and Abigail
You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

1971-1972 Dont Bother Me, I Cant Cope
Mother Earth
Festival at Ford's—NBC T. V.
Bob & Ray—The Two and Only
Echoes of the Left Bank
Mark Twain Tonight
Moby Dick
An Unpleasant Evening With
H.L. Mencken
Godspell

1972-1973 Godspell

1973-1974 American Revolution
El Capitan
Funny Face
Oh Coward!
The Three Sisters
Scapin
The Beggar's Opera
Dont Bother Me, I Cant Cope

A National Treasure

FORD'S THEATRE BALANCE SHEET

APRIL 30, 1974

ASSETS

OT	TT	-	-	N TO	m
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	ЛΙ	17			

Cash Accounts receivable	\$156 807 31 748
Inventory Prepaid insurance	5 449 1 572
Direct pre-production costs	28 265
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	223 841
OTHER—utility deposit,	4 834
ATPAM Bond, etc.	\$228 675

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

CURRENT:

FUND BALANCE

Accounts payable and

\$ 60 466
4 920
65 386
46 756

\$228 675

Ford's Theatre is financially healthy despite its small size (741 seats) and the fact that less than 10% of its budget is federally subsidized. However, for this important national cultural facility to function as it can and should, a much broader base of financial support is needed.

Ford's has just begun a program to encourage and commission new works and, in the coming years, it will play an increasingly important role in the development of historically oriented plays. And, of course, no theatre in America is more central to the country's Bicentennial celebration than this historic playhouse.

Executive Producer Frankie Hewitt is tireless in her efforts to make Ford's an active living memorial to a great President's love for humanity and the performing arts. She insists that only quality work belongs in Ford's and she believes that, in addition to a year-round schedule of fine plays and musicals, the theatre can become a total cultural center by presenting small dance companies, jazz concerts, folk music festivals and other aspects of the performing arts on Sunday and Monday nights, when the theatre is normally dark.

Ford's theatrical program is the product of a strong partnership between private citizens and the government. Though private citizens bear the greater share of the load, Congressional awareness and sensitivity to the purpose of Ford's have been a formidable ingredient in its success. As a contributor to this partnership, you can participate in the preservation and enhancement of this beautiful historic site. And, because Ford's is a national symbol of the union of the arts and American history, as well as the joining of private and public efforts, your gift can make an important impact on American culture.

If you wish, your name can be listed not only in each theatre program, but also in the lobby of a national monument. One program recently inaugurated at Ford's would recognize your contribution by placement of a commemorative plaque on one of the theatre's faithfully restored chairs.

Ford's theatre needs your help to create an ongoing, vital theatrical program for the people of America. With only a small effort, you can share in this important and satisfying task and continue to make Ford's Theatre a place where history is only just beginning.

- a. Carol Channing.
 b. Frankie Hewitt, James Whitmore ("Will Rogers").
 c. Bob Hope, Dr. Henry Kissinger.
 d. James Stewart.

- e. Raymond Burr.
- f. (I-r) Mrs. James Newmyer, Mrs. Wynant Vanderpool, Mrs. Robert Low Bacon.
- g. (first row, l-r) former Secretary of State William Rogers, Mrs. Rogers, Frankie Hewitt, President of Ford's Theatre Society, CBS Producer Don Hewitt ("Sixty Minutes"), Mrs. Walter Hickel, former Secretary of Interior Walter Hickel, former First Lady, Mrs. Richard M. Nixon, former First Lady, Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Julie Nixon Eisenhower, (second row) former Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird, Mrs. Laird, Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy, Mrs. Kennedy, NBC Newscaster David Brinkley, Mrs. Ethel Kennedy, Mrs. Benita Washington, Mayor of Washington, D. C., Walter Washington.
- h. Mrs. Benita Washington, former Attorney General Elliott Richardson, Pearl Bailey.
 i. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh D. Auchincloss.



















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FORD'S THEATRE

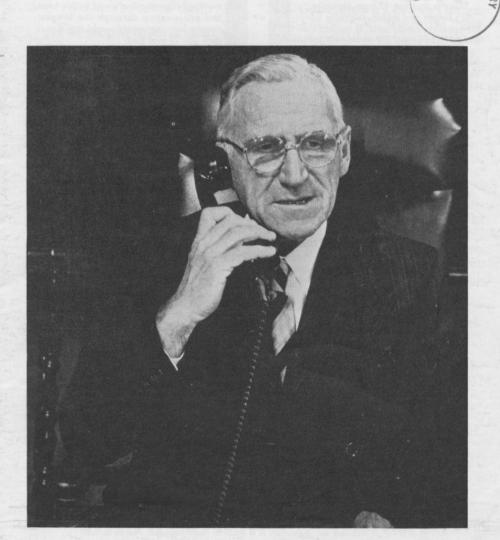
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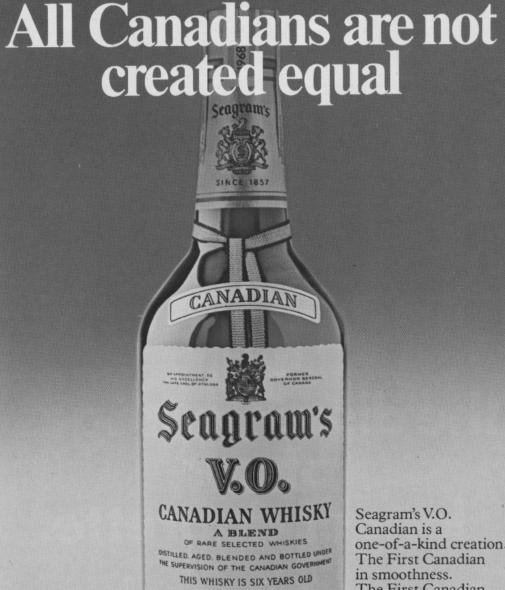
CONTENTS

- PROGRAM
- 7 A THEATRE WITH A HISTORY
- CAST
- 10 SCENE
- 11 WHO'S WHO
- 17 COMING ATTRACTIONS
- 19 STAFF

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JAMES WHITMORE PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN "GIVE 'EM HELL HARRY!"

Based on the Life and Times of President Harry S. Truman

A Play by

SAMUEL GALLU

Directed by

PETER H. HUNT

Scenic Designer

JAMES HAMILTON

A Harry Company Production

The author gratefully acknowledges the cooperation received from the members of the Truman family, the numerous friends, colleagues, relatives and associates of the late President Harry S. Truman; also from the Harry S. Truman Library in Independence, Missouri, for the information, material and photographs made available.

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