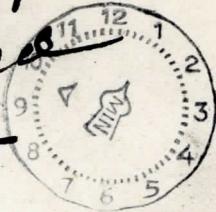


Minneapolis May 1925

FORD MOTOR CO.
DETROIT.

C 1319 Yale Place

Gentlemen —



MAY 15 1925

I have for some time
been pest by various
persons - correspondents -
in reference to various
conflicting rumors con-
cerning the John Wilkes
Booth tragedy and
mystery. A short time
previous to the assassination
my uncle - John Wilkes Booth

2

played a theatrical
engagement at my late
uncle Ben De Bar's
theatre St Louis Mo - The
theatre being the property
of Ben De Bar, I met
again my uncle John
for the first time - after I
had known him, a young
boy myself being a little
girl - met him at my uncle's
home St Louis Henry a

Young woman getting
ready for my first appear-
ance as an actress -

We - John Booth, myself
and Maggie Mitchell -
the late actress - then
went horseback riding
starting from the old
historic hotel St Louis
The "Panthers" - while
John Booth was waiting
for a few days prior to
his theatrical engagement

4

with my uncle Ben DeBar
My late mother had causes
to seek, & obtain a divorce
from her husband, &
my father J.B. Cook Jr.
My uncle adopted me, &
I went upon the stage, &
played for many years
after as Blanche DeBar
At the time of the assassination
I was arrested, together with
my uncle Ben DeBar - I think
the party of soldiers were

Commanded by a Captain
Walter - Am not sure;
Then DeBar being a brother-
in-law of one of the ^{released}
Brother's - We were ~~referred~~
being found totally ignorant
of the whole terrible tragedy.
Please bear in mind the
conflicting stories that
arise - where my name
is mentioned. I have
been living here, very
simply - teaching dramatic
work, & sometimes giving

6
dramatic recitals
earning my livelihood
I try to avoid this
publicity - The difference
in names would confuse
you - I mean the De
Bar and Booth names
both of which I hear

Respectfully yours

Blanche de Bar, ^{or} Booth

1319 Yale Place

Mineapolis

Minne -

P.S.

I have been treated, unvaryingly, so
generously, and kindly by news paper
and literary gentlemen, that, this
they may make mistakes - I try to keep
quiet. I mean in reference to what
may not ^{say}, I have kept of the truth - which
~~prevails~~ - the twisted - often ^{is} Booth