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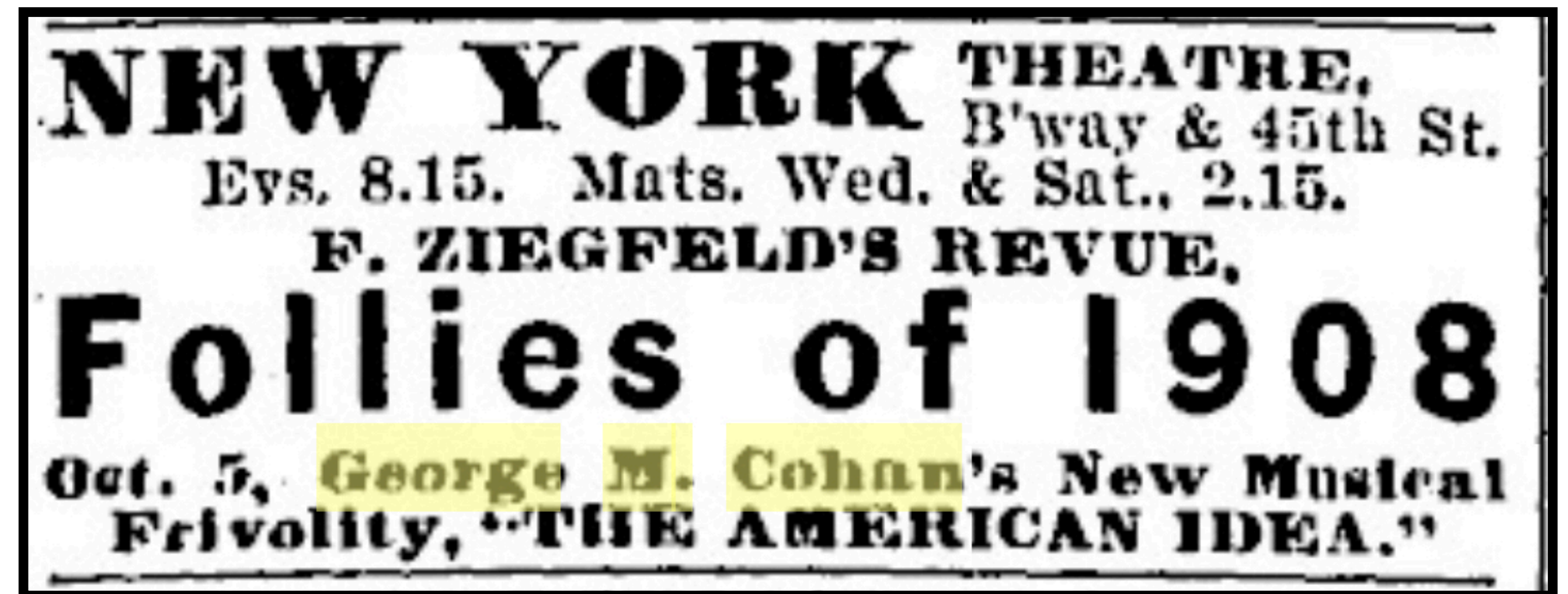
The Racial Other:

Stereotypes in Rogers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!*

Brynn Staker St. Clair

Theatrical Nationalism

- An American art form
- Encouraged by political leaders of the time
- George M. Cohan



New York Clipper [New York], 3 Oct. 1908, advertisement, 845.

The American Love Story

- The Hero
- The Ingenue
- The Other

The Hero

- Masculine
- Brash
- Fearless
- The American hero every man wants to be

The Ingenue

- Feminine
- Beautiful
- Spunky
- Needs to be rescued

The Other

- Mysterious
- Frightening
- The type of character no audience member would identify with

Oklahoma!

Rogers and Hammerstein



[1943] Oklahoma! Original Broadway Cast Poster[jpg] New York Times.

Curly

The Hero

Laurey

The Ingenue

Jud Fry

The Other

Will Parker

The Hero

Ado Annie

The Ingenue

Ali Hakim

The Other

The Unassimilable Other

Comedic or Realistic

- “Pore Jud is Daid”
- The unknown Persian culture
- Comedy undermines intelligence

The Effects on Society

- What messages are being taught to the audience?

References



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