

# Taubie is full of plans

BETTY TREW: London

SOUTH AFRICAN theatre producer and impresario Taubie Kushlick was bubbling with excitement and plans when I had tea with her at the elegant Connaught Hotel, favourite spot of American stars.

She went to New York for a week and stayed for three. She met a host of interesting theatre personalities and shopped for productions to take back to South Africa. They include the musical, "No No Nanette," which she intends to "send up" a little.

She thinks there is still room in the world for enchantment and that people want it. She said the night she was in the audience when they sang "I want to be happy" on the stage, everyone in the audience started singing it spontaneously.

She has also bought "House of Blue Leaves", an off-Broadway show, which is a hilariously funny satire about nice people. Carlo Ponti has bought the film rights.

## Begging

aboard as crew and the party included Taubie's husband, Dr. Philip Kushlick, Bob and Adele Lucas and John and Marlene Sharp.

Later, in Athens, she met up with her old friend, Aleka Katseli, one of the greatest of Greek tragediennes, who will be doing the choreography for a production of "Elektra" by the Pretoria University drama department. Afterwards, the university has agreed that Taubie should produce Katseli in solo performances throughout South Africa.

In London, Taubie has been going to theatres twice a day where possible and found the Peter Brooke production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

even more exciting than she had imagined. She adored Paul Schofield, in the National Theatre reproduction of "The Captain of Kopelick". She was mad about Sir Alec Guinness in the John Mortimer play "A Voyage round my Father."

She thought it the epitome of fine acting and much admired Alan Bates in "Buckley". She remarked that the difference between London and Broadway was that in London the actors mattered and there was greater simplicity in sets. On Broadway, too much was spent on a production.

"Extravaganzas have throttled themselves," she said.

Taubie returns to South Africa on Monday.

## Alex — sculptor or actress?

LONDON. — Alexandra Dane, the Johannesburg actress, starts rehearsals on November

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