PARSIFAL DRAWS A THRONG

First Night of Grand Opera Season at Auditorium a Success.

MUSIC-DRAMA HEARD BY THOUSANDS

Omaha and Neighboring Cities Pay Tribute of Presence to Herr Conried's Singers and Richard Wagner's Music.

(Continued from First Page.)

and society women have promised to help by wearing the best they have in their wardrobes.

MUSICAL REVIEW OF PRODUCTION

Measures Up to the Highest Expectation of Auditors.

Last night was certainly a gala event in the history of opera in Omaha. Not since Patti appeared at the Coliseum have we had anything like it. The Auditorium was decorated in a most tasteful and harmonious way. Together with the huge crowd which nearly filled it, it had a metropolitan air which was unmistakable. The stage had been built out to the proscenium arch and there was ample room for perspective in the stage pictures.

The Metropolitan orchestra, which consists of seventy men, under the leadership of Mr. Hertz, did remarkable work. He is a conscientious leader, with the required authority. His reading of the score was thoroughly lucid. The way he has of working up to a climax is inspiring. In the transition scene as Parsifal and Gurnemanz are walking to the temple he accomplishes some tremendous effects. The only fault to be found was with his position; he sat too high; was visible in the stage picture. At the end of Amforta's "Lament" in the first act before he raises the Grail Mr. Hertz was almost the prominent feature.

Mr. Burgstaller's "Parsifal" was an interpretation full of beauty. His voice is a rich, even tenor, which he uses with wonderful art. In physique he is tremendous and his voice matches his size; it is big and adequate; he never forces it. For the first act he was buoyant and impetuous, but in the end, especially in the third act, after the baptism of Kundry, his whole bearing was that of humility; there was nothing triumphant.

For five years Mr. Burgstaller was in the chorus at Bayreuth. One of the principals being indisposed gave him his chance at an important part. He acquitted himself so well that since that time he has steadily advanced, and has been under Madame Wagner's special guidance. She was rather angry when he joined Conried's forces in the American production of "Parsifal," but has of late granted him full forgiveness.

The second act of the opera was entirely absorbed by the personality of Fremstad. Her voice is a luscious mezzo-soprano with mysterious, resonant, deep tones. Her idea in the first act, where she seems to be rapidly succumbing to the horrible magic sleep, was most satisfying. The second act she made literally her own. She is beautiful, both in face and body. She says: "The music with which Kundry allures Parsifal is in itself wonderfully eloquent—or it would be if it were sung, as I feel it should be, tenderly, insidiously, amourously, not shrieked or declaimed." Fremstad certainly reaches her ideal. It was a battle royal between Parsifal, the strong, impetuous youth, and the gorgeous, seductive woman. The transition from the lullaby to her final defeat was a triumph of art. In Chicago the audience scattered tradition to the winds and brought Fremstad out four times.

Mr. Conried has changed the scenery in this act somewhat. In Bayreuth the flowers are great, big, poisonous exotic-looking blooms. It is to be supposed that Wagner had a definite idea in this portrayal. Mr. Conried has softened the effect very much.

The singing of the flower maidens was extremely good; the best chorus work done in the course of the opera. Some of the choruses were not good, the men especially being prone to leave the key.

The Amfortas of Mr. Van Raay was a faithful interpretation. He was much handicapped in the Temple scene by being so far back on the stage. In the forte passages his voice did not carry over the orchestra. He was rather lusty in the end, where he tore off his bandages.

Mr. Blass, who is an American (together with Miss Fremstad) gave Gurnemanz a splendid portrayal. He has a beautiful, true ringing voice, which he uses with artistic effect.

The role of Klingsor is small, but Mr. Goritz did it full justice.

Teturn was a trifle uncertain in intonation.

Mme. Jacoby has a warm rich quality in her voice.

To sum it up, Mr. Conried's presentation is one long to be remembered. That we in Omaha have been able to enjoy it, is due to Mr. Clement Chase's enthusing zeal, and absolute scouting of anything like discouragement. He deserves tremendous credit.

SOCIETY IS OUT IN FULL FORCE

One of Most Notable Events in History of City.

Not since the palmy days of the old Exposition building and Coliseum, when artists were not unusual, and yet were less so than for a few seasons past in Omaha, has anything approached the spirit with which society entered into last evening's performance. It was, indeed, a gala occasion, and society redeemed itself for wasting its opportunity of two weeks ago. There have been many fashionable functions in the interval of years, many that have attracted the smart people in all of their finery, but none that have brought them out just as they came last night. And to the local smart set was added a large representation of Lincoln's music-loving fashionables, and others from out in the state.

Handsome costumes were the rule rather than the exception, not only in the boxes, but down on the floor and throughout the gallery; in fact, it was a house that suggested "the opera."

While few entire boxes had been engaged by individuals their occupants were equivalent to parties; there were few strangers among them and after the intermission there were few empty seats, although there was a noticeable scarcity of men before the intermission.

In all probability the performance of this evening will be a more pronounced society event than that of last night.

List of People in Boxes.

Boxes Nos. 3 and 4—Misses Carmelita Chase, Dorothy Morgan, Helen Ford, Jeanie Ayerigg, Mildred Rogers, Dorothy Ringwalt, Mesdames and Fannie Butterfield; Masters Phyllis Chase, Jarvis Offut.

Box No. 6—Sarah Wilder from Lawrence, Kan.; Nell Taylor from Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. J. G. Best from Hartington, Neb.; Mr. Samuel Wilder from Hartington, Neb.

Box No. 7—Mr. and Mrs. Clement Chase, Mrs. Edwards, Miss Baum, Mrs. Goeltz from New York City, Mrs. Fairfield, Mr. and Mrs. Cowgill, Mr. Darling.

Box No. 8—Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Webster, Miss Flora Webster, Mr. Harvy Clayton.

Box No. 9—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McShane, Mrs. H. T. Lemist, Mrs. Hogan, Mrs. A. L. Reed, Mrs Perry Allen from New York City, Mr and Mrs. Kirkendall.

Box No. 10—Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Green, Charles F. Manderson and wife.

Box No. 11—Miss M. Ryan, Mrs. F. Brodegard, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Shary, Mrs. M. W. Rayley.

Box No 12—Mrs. W. E. Harvey from Newman Grove, Neb.; Miss Mary Davy, Mrs. H. A. Hale.

Box No. 13—Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Woodard, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Nye from Fremont, Neb.; Mrs. J. C. French, Mr. F. H. Davis.

Box No. 14—Mr. and Mrs. Ward Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Page, Colonel and Mrs. Byrne.

Box No. 15—Mrs. E. L. Lomax, Miss Lomax, Misses Sharp.

Box No. 16—Mr. and Mrs. McKeuns, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kountze.

Box No. 17—Mr. E. A. Cudahy, Mr. E. A. Cudahy, jr., Miss G. Cudahy, Mr. and Mrs. M. Cudahy.

Box No. 18—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Baldwin, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Yates, Mr. and Mrs. Prichett, Mrs. Steuart.

Boxes Nos. 19 and 20—Mr. B. C. Bedford, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Allen, Miss Laura Montgomery, Mrs. Colonel J. H. Pratt.

Boxes Nos. 21 and 22—Mr. and Mrs. Hall, Mr. R. W. Hall, Miss Grace Ware, Miss Ellen Ware.

Boxes Nos. 23 and 24—Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rosewater, Mr. Edward Rosewater, Miss Blanche Rosewater, Miss Nellie Elgutter, Mrs. J. T. Weaver, Miss Weaver.

Box No. 25—Mr. Loring from Chicago, Mr. Webb from Chicago, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Dooley from Chicago, Mr Wallerstedt from Chicago.

Box No. 26—Mrs. Black and daughter.

Dinner at the Clubs.

All records for a single social event were broken at the Omaha club, where more than 150 persons sat down for dinner between 6 and 7 o'clock. The following had reservations made for places at table:

Dr. W. O. Henry, three; Miss Sharp, four; Lieutenant Clark, two; H. E. O'Neill, two; John N. Baldwin, six; F. P. Kirkendall, four; C. T. Stewart, four; C. L. Deuel, two; Lieutenant D. B. Lawton, four; Mrs. Jessie Lyman, five; Dr. B. F. Crummer, six; W. Farnam Smith, six; T. R. Kimball, eight; C. C. Wright, four; C. F. McGrew, five; Z. T. Lindsay, three; E. A. Cudahy, six; Fred Metz, four; F. R. McConnell, four; Dr. J. P. Lord, four; Clement Chase, eight; Colonel E. B. Pratt, two; J. T. Stewart, second, two; W. M. Burgess, four; W. H. Towne, two; C. S. Elgutter, two; H. D. Neely, three; Captain G. G. Palmer, two; Dr. J. E. Summers, jr., four; M. C. Peters, four; L. L. Kountze, six; N. Merriam, three; M. L. Learned, two; George E. Claflin, three.

At the Commercial club, the following had reservations made for dinner between the first and second acts:

Charles R. Sherman, six; E. H. James, four; Mrs. F. P. Holmes, two; Charles Beaton, eight; John J. Bartlett, four; J. F. Dale, six; Dr. Ficke, four; W. H. Koenig, four; A. T. Austin, three; Gordon W. Noble, four; Dr. W. L. Shearer, two; Paul Getzmann, four; R. W. Vierling, six; Forrest Richardson, four; J. A. McShane, seven; E. V. McVann, fourteen.

MANY HERE FROM OUT OF TOWN

Lincoln Sends Cream of Musical Set and Other Towns Contribute.

Lincoln sent the cream of its musical talent to hear the great drama. Willard Kimball, head of the University School of Music, engaged 140 tickets on his own account and brought the entire Matinee Musicale club with him, as well as the instructors in his school and other lovers of music. Seven coach loads of people came up from the Capital City in the afternoon on a special train. The schedule was arranged so that they reached Omaha some time before the beginning of the performance and started home immediately at its close.

Of the hundreds of out-of-town people who attended the performance were the following:

Nebraska—Mrs. Cora A. Beels of Norfolk, C. C. Hansen of Dannebrog, J. G. Reste of Hartington, Miss Kathryn Marshall of Fremont, H. F. Flint of Gibbon, Miss Edna M. Barr of McCook, J. S. Morey of Nebraska City, J. F. Loach of West Point, Ross P. Curtice of Lincoln, A. L. Krause of West Point, Grant W. Arnold of Fremont, Mrs. H. J. Hall of Kearney, Cornelia Newman of Oakland, Isabel Maynard of Beatrice, former Senator William V. Allen of Madison, F. B. Keese of Beatrice, Dr. A. Bear of Norfolk, George W. Frissen of Henderson, C. G. Mueller of Nebraska City, Miss Augusta Eisennam of Nebraska City, Miss Anna H. McGorry of Columbus, Mrs. A. H. Norton of Waterloo, Hon. Fred Sonnenschein of West Point, L. A. Pohlman of Pierce, George Bartinbach of Grand Island, Frank E. Helvey of Nebraska City, W. E. Dayton of York, Mrs. C. D. Evans of Columbus, Mrs. A. J. Durland of Norfolk, Hon. G. W. E. Dorsey of Fremont, C. E. Dwyer of Nebraska City, A. F. Plambback of Fremont, Martin Bruhl of Lincoln, George L. Burr of Aurora, R. V. McGrew of Bloomington, Edward M. Boyd of Auburn, Mrs. Charles Martin of Fremont, Frank L. Reed of Fremont, A. W. Stern of Grand Island, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Howard of Columbus, C. E. Vail of Lincoln, E. Rickter of University Place, Mrs. Edward Tanner of Battle Creek, Mr and Mrs. Willard Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eames, Howard Kirkpatrick, Miss Pearl Archibald, Miss Alleyne Archibald, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Pound, Frank Harrison, Laurence Fossler, Everett Williams, Miss Jessie Emerick, Miss Bessie Reed, Miss Laura Pfeiffer, Lincoln; Mr. and Mrs. Norris Huse, Norfolk; Mr. and Mrs. George France, York; Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Gifford, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Kloke, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Krause, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Krause, Mr. and Mrs. August Kilen, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kerkle, all of West Point; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Almy of Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Pound of Lincoln, Miss Olivia Pound of Lincoln; Mrs. C. E. Gray, Mrs. C. J. Garlow, Mrs. D. F. Martyn, Columbus; Mr. and Mrs. Ross Hammond, Fremont; Mrs. J. P. Martin, Lincoln; Mrs. D. F. Livinghouse, Madison; Misses Jessie and Kathleen Doyle, Miss B. Sutton, Miss Donnelly, Lincoln; Mrs. Charles McMonies, Lyons; Mabel Sears, Tekamah; Mr. and Mrs. George H. Mead, Hastings; Mrs. W. E. Barkley, Mrs. S. E. Hart, Mrs. Wilhout, Lincoln; Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Mayer, Grand Island; Mrs. E. O. Mount, Mrs. H. L. Snyder, Norfolk; Mrs. A. F. Anderson, Nellie L. Givens, Seward; Mrs. Crosby, Mrs. Hewitt, Mrs. Shreck, Mrs. Nevins, David City; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Rosser, William Stalley, Miss Clara Stalley, Grand Island; M. Powell, J. F. Weybright, W. S. Durnin, Lincoln; Nellie Anderson, Anna Anderson, Alice Smith, A. Ranquist, Wausa; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Nye, Fremont, Dr. and Mrs. Ganson, Nebraska City; Mrs. A. E. Brooks, Bancroft; Mrs. R. P. Turner, Fremont; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Albert, Miss Jessie Albers, Mrs. E. Schurman, Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Schurman, Fremont; Mr. and Mrs. George Downing, Kearney; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Horth, Grand Island; L. Mittelstadt, Norfolk, Miss Nellie Griggs, Miss Charlotte Whedon, Miss Margaret Whedon, Lincoln; Miss Lois Burruss, Miss Helen Hoover, Mr. and Mrs. F. Whittemore, Lincoln; Miss Ouida Miller, Mrs. G. T. Graves, Pender; Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Garrett, Miss Lena Garrett, Fremont.

Iowa—George L. Pierce of Tabor, Meta Weise of Avoca, Otto Ronna of Walnut, Miss Marian L. Black of Malvern, F. W. Bicknell of Des Moines, Mrs. Frederick Heizer of Sioux City, C. H. Smith of Fort Dodge, Dr. H. V. Brown of Griswold, Miss Mary Hayes of Red Oak, Mrs. W. A. McLagan of Carroll, Miss Fannie Jay of Shenandoah, W. V. Dawes of Shenandoah, E. Crawford of Atlantic, G. M. Platt of Red Oak, Mrs. Herman Hall of Harlan, R. S. Rising of Ainsworth, G. L. Sherman of Carroll, Walter H. Scheel of Atlantic, Dr. E. H. Woodard of Red Oak, W. A. Irwin of Red Oak, R. D. Morris of Red Oak, Miss Stella French of Red Oak, P. S. Junkin of Creston, J. M. Dunck of Carroll, Mrs. A. S. Hazelton of Council Bluffs, Mrs. C. D. Butterfield of Hamburg, T. F. Kelly of Sioux City, Samuel Payne of Red Oak, Mrs. Mary G. Hazelton of Council Bluffs, P. J. Klinker of Denison, Frank Hydinger of Hamburg; Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Warren, Mrs. W. A. Moore, Harlan; Mrs. T. J. Hyahan, Miss Ethel Gillmore, Mrs. G. M. Platt, Miss Cecil Platt, Mrs. J. L. Shank, Mrs. T. D. Murphy, Red Oak; Mrs. Helen Hamilton, Sioux City; Mrs. J. P. Forbes, A. E. Payne, Russell Loring, Red Oak; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Morris, Mrs. J. O. Laird, Miss Mary Evans, Miss Marion Black, Malvern; Miss Nellie Antrim, Randolph; Miss Alice Beezley, Waterloo; C. A. Metelman, L. H. Mitchell, J. V. Saunders, Sidney; Mrs. Butterfield, Miss Butterfield, Hamburg.

HANDLING THE GREAT MULTITUDE

Police Have Busy Time with Throng at Door.

Twelve policemen, chaperoned by Sergeants Cook, Sigwart and Rentfrow, were required to manage that enormous crowd. They were in the auditorium, in the hall, on the west of the building, on the east of the building; wherever one turned there was the inevitable bluecoat, and right good work did those guardians of the peace do. Did a woman, in her anxious desire to get into the Auditorium, carelessly step off the sidewalk and place herself directly in the way of a pair of prancing horses, it was the policeman who rescued her; did a careless driver stop too long before the awning erected for the reception of those who came in carriages, it was the policeman who encouraged him to move on. Did a big burly man so forget himself as to push into the throng and tread on the silk skirts of the feminine contingent, it was the policeman who told him how he ought to conduct himself.

But, after all, it was a crowd easily taken care of, and the temper of the officers was seldom ruffled by undue disorder. The hundreds who came on the cars gathered at the northwest corner of the building and patiently waited until one by one those before them passed in and they arrived at the entrance. The admittance of such numbers at a single entrance took a long time and many began to murmur that they would miss the opening scene. But they did not become unruly and all of them were in time to see the curtain which disclosed Gurnemanz and the esquires in the forest.

Some Little Experiences.

Interesting experiences were many, interesting both to those who were most greatly concerned and to the onlooker. A pretty girl of about 19 summers, dressed in white and wearing patent leather oxfords which half hid and half disclosed a neatly turned pair of silken draped ankles, became tired of standing in the borders of the crowd which surrounded the single entrance provided for pedestrians, and started to search out another way in. She watched until she thought she saw a chance and then dashed through an open space between the carriages. All would have been well had she not relaxed her vigilance and believed herself safe too soon. All unconscious that a spirited team and a careless driver were approaching on her right, she stopped a moment at the curb to flash a smile of triumph to her companions on the left who had not tared to make the trial with her. The result might have been fatal. The strong arm of a big man snatched her from danger when the very steam from the horses' nostrils was on her neck. Did she thank him for saving her limbs and perhaps her life? No, not she. She was no doubt a perfect lady, for every detail of her appearance and the expression of her face indicated it, but her feeling of gratitude was overcome by one of indignation that a man whom she did not know had dared to touch her, yes, had almost carried her.

"How dare you, sir," was what her eyes said, and he smiled at her kindly, as at a child who had misbehaved and knew not what it did. He received his reward a moment later, when she looked at the corded legs of the restless horses and saw them striking the fire from the pavement. She smiled at him then, faintly, but her feeling was in her eyes.

Some Who Didn't Go In.

Not all the people about the Auditorium were gay and happy and not all were in a hurry. There were the ones who were not so fortunate as to be able to attend the opera. In the interval between the two awnings where those from the carriages went in were half a dozen plainly dressed little girls. Their attention was not directed to the Auditorium nor to the horses, but, naturally enough, to the dresses of those entering at the awnings. Silks and laces and feathers flashed before their astonished eyes and from beneath the laces peeped daintily clad feet.

"O, my goodness, isn't she lovely?" asked one little miss of another. "When I get big I am going to marry a brakeman so I can wear nice dresses like that. Then I'll come to the show in a notomobile and sit right on the front seat, where I can watch them dance."

Across the street, apparently not so intrepid as the youngsters, stood perhaps 200 people who watched the gathering throng. For a time they probably got more enjoyment than the opera goers, for they were niether crushed in the crowd nor nervous with apprehension lest the curtain should rise before their arrival.

MANAGER CHASE IS THE BUSY MAN

Local Representative of Conried Wins His Spurs for Fair.

Any man in town or out of it who could have seen Manager Clement Chase yesterday evening between the hours of 4 and 5 at the Auditorium would not have traded places with him under any circumstances for the time being. It was during this hour that the people came to hear "Parsifal"—came in bunches, crowds, companies and by regiments. And it seemed that every other patron and every single employe around the place had some grievance to air or some oversight to which he wished to call the manager's attention. The most perplexing thing of all was the slender shafts of sunlight that penetrated the carefully covered windows every now and then, and looked like a good imitation of the electrical effect that transcends and illuminates the Grail. Every time the wind blew the outside covering away from a pane of glass or some thoughtless person in the balcony raised a curtain to look out six men and two women would call Mr. Chase's attention to the matter.

"Great heavens!" he would cry. "That can't be. Why that would spoil the effect."

He would thereupon dispatch two policemen and a boy to find out about it.

Women with seat checks accused him of being an usher time and time again. He was looked to to referee all disputed points as to double claimants for seats and the like and it looked as though it was going to be up to him for awhile to either find some way of getting a frenzied throng of people who had paid their money in the place or holding back the opera. Mr. Chase kept his temper, however, and in the end all came out right and he laughed at himself for ever feeling worried.

The Weber piano is used exclusively by the artists of the Conried Opera company, and the Weber company sent seven beautiful art pianos direct from New York to Omaha and placed them in their private apartments at the Iler Grand hotel yesterday afternoon.

Verdict for Defendant.

After most of plaintiff's testimony was heard in the damage suit of Minnie Daniels against Hans and Wilhelmina Boch, Judge Redick found it necessary to take the case from the jury and to direct a verdict for the defendants on a law point raised by their attorney. Miss Daniels a year ago fell into a very deep well on premises her parents had leased from the Bochs. Two attempts were made to draw her out by means of a rope to which she clung, but both times she lost her hold and fell back. The child, 13 years of age, was badly injured and will be practically crippled for life. She sought to recover $10,000 as damages.

In an argument on the law of the case it was practically conceded that if either of the parents had fallen into the well they could not have recovered. The court held that the child stood in her father's place under the terms of the lease and directed a verdict accordingly.

Progress in Bemis Case.

Plaintiff's testimony was all in shortly before 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon in the personal injury suit of former Mayor Bemis against the city. Several physicians were the last witnesses and went over the nature of the injuries sustained by Mr. Bemis.

City Attorney Breen and his assistants, Messrs. Herdman and Ellick, will open up the defense Thursday morning and the case may possibly go to the jury by the time for adjournment Friday evening.

Don't Use Poor Oil.

For use on sewing machines, bicycles and all purposes requiring a fine lubricant the best is cheapest in the end. Genuine Singer oil can only be obtained at Singer stores. Look for the red S. 1514 Douglas street, Omaha; 418 North 24th street, South Omaha, Neb.