

Talks on Singing

L—From a Personal Viewpoint

By ENRICO CARUSO

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Of the thousands of people who visit the opera during the season few outside of the small proportion of the initiated realize how much the performance of the singer whom they see and hear on the stage is dependent on previous rehearsal, constant practice and watchfulness over the physical conditions that preserve that most precious of our assets, the voice.

Nor does this same great public in general know of what the singer often suffers in the way of nervousness or stage fright before appearing in front of the footlights, nor that his life, outwardly so feted and brilliant, is in private more or less of a retired, ascetic one and that his social pleasures must be strictly limited.

These conditions, of course, vary greatly with the individual singer, but I will try to tell in the following articles, as exemplified in my own case, what a great responsibility a voice is when one considers that it is the great God given treasure which brings us all our fame and fortune.

I am perhaps more favored than many in the fact that my voice was always "there" and that, with proper cultivation, of course, I have not had to overstrain it in the attempt to reach vocal heights which have come to some only after severe and long continued effort. But, on the other hand, the finer the natural voice the more cautious the care required to preserve it in its pristine freshness to bloom.

This is the singer's ever present problem—in my case, however, mostly a matter of common sense living. As regards eating—a rather important item, by the way—I have kept to the light "continental" breakfast, which I do not take too early; then a rather substantial luncheon toward 2 o'clock. My native macaroni, specially prepared by my chef, who is engaged particularly for his ability in this way, is often a feature in this midday meal. I incline toward the simpler and more nourishing food, though my tastes are broad in the matter, but lay particular stress on the excellence of the cooking, for one cannot afford to risk one's health on indifferently cooked food, no matter what its quality.

On the nights when I sing I take nothing after luncheon, except perhaps a sandwich and a glass of Chianti, until after the performance, when I have a supper of whatever I fancy within reasonable bounds. Being blessed with a good digestion, I have not been obliged to take the extraordinary precautions about what I eat that some singers do. Still, I am careful never to indulge to excess in the pleasures of the table, for the condition of our alimentary apparatus and that of the vocal chords are very closely related, and the unhealthy state of the one immediately reacts on the other.

My reason for abstaining from food for so long before singing may be questioned. It is simply that when the large space required by the diaphragm in expanding to take in breath is partly occupied by one's dinner the result is that one cannot take as deep a breath as one would like and consequently the tone suffers and the all important ease of breathing is interfered with. In addition a certain amount of bodily energy is used in the process of digestion which would otherwise be entirely given to the production of the voice.

These facts, seemingly so simple, are very vital ones to a singer, particularly on an "opening night." A singer's life is such an active one, with rehearsals and performances, that not much opportunity is given for "exercise," and the time given to this must, of course, be governed by individual needs. I find a few simple physical exercises in the morning after rising somewhat similar to those practiced in the army or the use for a few minutes of a pair of light dumbbells very beneficial. Otherwise I must content myself with an occasional automobile ride. One must not forget, however, that the exercise of singing, with its constant deep inspiration (and acting in itself is considerable exercise) also tends much to keep one from acquiring an oversupply of adipose tissue.

A proper moderation in eating, however, as I have already said, will contribute as much to the maintenance of correct proportion in one's figure as any amount of voluntary exercise which one only goes through with on principle.

As so many of you in a number of states of this great country are feeling and expressing as well as voting opinions on the subject of whether one should or should not drink intoxicants, you may inquire what practice is most in consonance with a singer's well being. In my opinion, here, again, of course, customs vary with the individual. In Italy we habitually drink the light wines of the country with our meals and surely are never the worse for it. I have retained my fondness for my native Chianti, which I have even made on my own Italian estate, but believe and carry out the belief that moderation is the only possible course. I am inclined to condemn the use of spirits, whisky in particular, which is so prevalent in the Anglo-Saxon countries, for it is sure to inflame the delicate little ribbons of tissue which produce the singing tone, and then—add to a clear and ringing high C!

Though I indulge occasionally in a

SOCIETY

Easter Sunday, bringing holy week to a close in the religious world, in the society world forecasts a renewal of social activity for the period intervening between Lent and the arrival of summer weather. Easter through the late spring is to be given a rather chilly reception despite promises of fair weather from the weather man. Special music will as usual be a feature of the Easter services in most of the Norfolk churches. The Lenten season in Norfolk this year has apparently been accorded more careful observance than in many years past.

Miss Ellen Mullen was hostess to the young ladies of the Trinity social guild on Wednesday evening. It was the last opportunity Miss Mullen will have of entertaining the guild as following her marriage on next Wednesday she will become a resident of Fairfax, S. D. The evening was pleasantly spent at the Mullen home. The trousseau of the bride-to-be came in for a good share of attention.

Mrs. A. Randklev entertained a small company of young ladies on Monday evening, the party being given for Miss Ruth Shaw who was home from Duane college at Crete for the spring vacation. The evening was largely devoted to six-handed euchre.

An Eastern Star initiation Thursday night was witnessed by a delegation of a score or so of Winside people. A banquet was served in commandery hall afterwards. A number of toasts were responded to. Dr. R. C. Simmons acted as toastmaster.

Miss Matie O'Brien entertained a number of friends at her home on South Second street in honor of Miss Martha Fricke of Madison, who had been her guest for several days. Dainty refreshments were served.

Mrs. Hugh Dick entertained the P. T. club this week at her home on South Fourth street. Refreshments were served.

Personal. Lynch Journal: The Presbyterian people gave Rev. Hammond and wife a farewell reception in the Ladies' Aid rooms Tuesday evening before their departure for Norfolk where his work begins for the coming year. The Hammonds leave here with the good will and best wishes of all people.

Mrs. A. J. Durland was expected to return today from a visit in Plainview during the past week.

Mrs. C. H. Reynolds was the guest of friends in Plainview this week.

Hymenial. Announcements have been received in Norfolk from Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Wiley Shannon of the marriage of their daughter, Miss Martha Eugenia Shannon, to Hamlin Lawrence Whitney, the ceremony taking place on Wednesday of this week at the home of the bride's parents in Waterloo, Neb. Mr. Whitney is well known in Norfolk and occupies the position of tax agent for the Northwestern railroad. Mr. and Mrs. Whitney will be at home after May 3 at 1518 South Thirty-second avenue, Omaha.

Next Wednesday at the Catholic rectory in this city, Miss Ellen Mullen of Norfolk and C. J. Brown, county treasurer of Gregory county, will be united in marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Brown will live at Fairfax, S. D.

Subway Ignores Women Car Hint. New York, April 10.—According to a statement by an official of the Interborough Rapid Transit company today that corporation will not respond to the suggestion of the public service commission that it install separate cars for women on its express trains in the subway. The Interborough intends apparently to wait for a definite order from the public service commission if the commission sees fit to make one after hearings which it directed shall be held on the subject.

Meantime good reports have come from the operation of separate cars for women on the McAdoo Hudson tunnels. McAdoo said of this today: "The result of our experience with the women's car is altogether encouraging. Sufficient time has not elapsed to make the test conclusive, but we are going to continue it at least for a month before coming to a final conclusion."

FIGHT LIVE STOCK DRAWBACK.

Senator Dolliver Declares Cattle Grower is in Danger Under Payne Bill. Washington, April 10.—Western members of the senate are keeping a close eye on the drawback provisions of the tariff bill as they are to be brought to the senate from the finance committee. Possibilities exist for a big fight over these provisions.

It is charged that the drawback provisions of the Payne bill are such as to make the tariff of almost no value to the farmer. A great clamor arose when the bill was first reported to the house, and it was said by Northwestern members that the drawback provision would allow Canadian wheat to be imported in great quantities for export free of duty—that, in short, it would mean free trade with Canada on wheat.

The ways and means committee remedied this by adopting the amendment prepared by Representatives Stevens, Volstead and Gronna.

Now, the question has arisen whether the farmer and grower of live stock is not in danger from the house drawback provision. Senator Dolliver is convinced he is. As the drawback provision now stands, Senator Dolliver says, the big packers can take shelter under it, bring in cheap cattle from Mexico, slaughtering them

in this country and then export them and get the profit of the drawback, or the equivalent amount of meat or meat products could be exported, if convenient.

The effect would be, as Senator Dolliver sees it, greatly to decrease the demand for American cattle on the part of the packers and hurt the live stock market. Senator Dolliver deems it likely that the finance committee will greatly restrict the drawback provisions of the bill and make them substantially like the present drawback provisions. He will endeavor to have the changes made on the floor.

It is said that if the bill is not more carefully framed than the Payne bill to guard the enterprise of western farmers and cattle raisers it will encounter bitter opposition from various western states.

School Strike on at O'Neill. O'Neill Frontier: A little difficulty at the public schools was the occasion of a meeting of the school board Wednesday. The graduating class of the high school, composed of fourteen boys and girls, organized a "strike" and threatened to abandon school. It happened because Miss Gorby, the superintendent, declined to concede their somewhat unreasonable demands. The difficulty started when it was discovered by the superintendent that some of the class had copied the work of others in the examinations. They were informed that they could not be graduated that way and would have to write the examinations. Then the class got together and drew up a resolution, which was mailed to the superintendent, to the effect that if those who had copied in the examinations were not graduated without re-writing the examination the class would quit school. The superintendent wisely declined such a proposition and was promptly supported by the board. The pupils are beginning to see the matter in the right light now and some of them had returned to their studies yesterday.

STAGE FAILURES. Thirteen Failures in Theatrical New York Since Washington's Birthday. New York, April 10.—The theatrical ravens that croak "failure" under the bright lights of Broadway, record thirteen failures in New York since February 22. The fatality roll, brought up to date, reads: First—"This Woman and This Man" was produced in the Maxine Elliott theater on February 22 and was withdrawn on March 13.

Second—"The Richest Girl" was produced in the Criterion theater on February 29 and was withdrawn on March 20.

Third—"Meyer and Son" was produced in the Garden theater on February 29 and was withdrawn on March 13.

Fourth—"A Woman of Impulse" was produced in the Herald Square theater on February 29 and was withdrawn on March 13.

Fifth—"King John" was produced in the New Amsterdam theater on March 8 and was withdrawn on March 13.

Sixth—"Votes for Women" was produced in Wallace's theater on March 15 and was withdrawn March 20.

Seventh—"The Bachelor" was produced in the Maxine Elliott theater on March 15 and has survived its third week.

Eighth—"The Return of Eve" was produced in the Herald Square theater on March 17 and has survived its second week.

Ninth—"An Englishman's Home" was produced in the Criterion theater on March 22 and has survived two weeks.

Tenth—"The Newlyweds and Their Baby" was produced in the Majestic theater on March 22 and is with us yet.

Eleventh—"A Fool There Was" was produced in the Liberty theater on March 24 and has run all ten nights.

Twelfth—"Sham" was produced in Wallace's theater on March 27 and remains.

Thirteenth—"The Conflict" was produced in the Garden theater on March 29 and has run up a record of six days.

Marshal Pounds Editor Kortright. Wayne Democrat: Editor Kortright of the Randolph Reporter had a dog that the town marshal didn't like, so the dog was shot. The publisher excommunicated with the peace officer, and the latter publicly pounded the printer. The county court was set in motion at Hartington, and the man sworn to preserve the peace, plead guilty to breaking it and paid fine and costs. The marshal was an appointee of Randolph's "dry" mayor, and kept in office after the above disqualifying act by voice of the dries. This incensed the "wets" and today Randolph will walk up to the bar and take toddy or tea as her citizens desire. You know it was a kick from a poor, old cow that burned down all Chicago and made it, in the rebuilding, the greatest city of the states. It was the bark of a dog—or taking the bark out of one—that made—why, the "countless millions mourn," to take a prohibitionist's word for it—in Randolph.

Cal, Matheson Denies Rumors. "Cal" Matheson, formerly of Pilger, and concerning whom the Beemer Times recently printed a lot of rumors based upon hearsay, writes to the editor of that paper to deny the story that he is dead or in trouble. This is what he says: Temple, Tex., March 24.—Editor Beemer Times, Beemer, Neb.: Does the dead come to life? Well they did this trip, and I am feeling quite well thank you.

I received a clipping from my folks at Pilger stating among other things that my body would pass through Beemer on the way to the home of my parents at Pilger. Now, my dear sir, I would respectfully ask you to deny the charges you have preferred against me on hearsay. I am not dead. Now

Railroad News. Ainsworth Democrat: The Northwestern did a rather unusual stunt with a train of cattle destined for the eastern market. The train consisted of eighteen cars and it made the distance between Chadron and Long Pine in seven hours and thirty-five minutes, having been laid out by Thatcher for thirty-five minutes on account of the passenger train being late.

Lincoln Journal: The Northwestern has purchased a block of 120,000 shares of Rio Grande stock, and the Wall street experts are trying to find

for the rest: I never drove a back in Kansas, or any other place, and I was at this place in September so could not be in Kansas at the same time, so the fellow who was driving back in Kansas must be the fellow who was killed.

I have not been going under an assumed name. Nor was I ever implicated in a robbery and jumped by bond. The only bond I remember being under was at a time when I was village clerk of Pilger. Now as to my killing anyone or being in the penitentiary under a sentence of twenty-five years is another pipe dream, as I have never been in the penitentiary or any other kind of a jail or even under arrest; nor have I had trouble of any kind while in Texas even of the smallest nature; neither are my parents worrying about me as I write home regularly and receive letters under my own name.

Now I wish the Times would print a denial of all my supposed troubles and death, mailing one to my father, J. G. Matheson at Pilger and one to me at this place. I will mail you a copy of the Temple, Texas, Tribune, which prints a denial of my demise, also an account of my supposed shooting scrape as copied from the Beemer Times.

Thanking you in advance for the favors asked, I remain much alive, C. H. Matheson.

New Booth Company Ready. Chicago, April 10.—Unless something unforeseen springs up, the new Booth Fish company will be launched May 1.

One Law That Wasn't Vetoed. Battle Creek Enterprise. "Gramp" Carrio, the only man in Battle Creek who will fish for profit if allowed to do so, is very much pleased, as are also his former patrons, over the new game law which permits the sale of catfish, buffalo and carp in the open season. If there is a catfish in the Elkhorn river to be caught, Gramp says he will "shore get 'em." He has already commenced to rig up his old tackle and predicts that Battle Creek will no longer go fresh-fishless.

Electric Co. Spends \$20,000. The Norfolk Electric Light and Power company is engaged in making extensive improvements, and in some cases complete changes of machinery, in the Seventh street plant. These improvements, which it is hoped to have completed by the end of the present month, represent an outlay of something like \$20,000. It was announced some months ago that extensive improvements would be made and it is the fact that the alterations to be made were more extensive than indicated in the announcement which has led to the delay.

To the company the most important feature of the new machinery is economy of operation. A second important feature is the fact that capacity of the plant is more than doubled.

Was Strained to the Limit. The Norfolk Electric Light company has attracted at least state wide attention through its development of the motive power business. The company has aimed to keep pace with the growth and business development of the town in the extension of its business with the result that for some months the capacity of the plant has been severely taxed. The new power-making machinery, it is announced, will completely relieve the strain and even provide an excess of power for possible future use and will thus result in more satisfactory service. For the company it is expected to bring the economy in operation which is needed to make an occasional dividend blossom forth.

A Powerful Turbine Engine. The most important improvement in the installation of a new 350 horsepower turbine engine. The old engine will be left in the power house for auxiliary service in case of breakdowns.

To Condense All Steam. A condenser, which will condense all the steam which comes from the new engine, is another important part of the new machinery. The object of the condenser is to relieve the fifteen air pounds pressure against which steam is discharged into the air under the old way. A vacuum is used to eliminate this pressure, the air in the steam being exhausted by an air pump. Instead of being discharged into the air, the steam is condensed into water, part of which is consigned to the pure ice plant and part of which is returned to the steam boiler, the saving in coal resulting is very great.

Biggest Well in Town. To condense the steam and reduce the temperature from 212 to 120 degrees a huge quantity of water is needed. The condenser will use about 300 gallons of water a minute. This water will be obtained from a new well which is going down just south of the ice plant. Inside the coring the well is eight feet in diameter. This well will be the biggest well in Norfolk.

Will Flush Sewer. As the water from the condenser will empty into the sewer at Madison avenue there will never be any question of that part of the Norfolk sewer system from Madison avenue and Seventh street to the river being properly flushed.

Missouri May Go Dry in 1913. Jefferson City, Mo., April 10.—The state-wide prohibition constitutional amendment was engrossed by the lower branch of the Missouri legislature yesterday, after it had been amended to become effective January 1, 1913. The vote on engrossment was 86 to 45. Several members who voted for engrossment said they would vote against the measure of final passage.

All taxriders were defeated and indications point to the passage of the amendment through the house next Wednesday afternoon when it will be considered under special order. Its chances for being passed in the senate are considered good.

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\$25 To Portland

This low one-way Colonist Rate in effect every day to April 30, 1909. Tickets good (on payment of tourist car rate) in through Tourist Sleeping Cars which run daily to Portland and the Northwest via

Union Pacific

Electric Block Signal Protection. The Safe Road to Travel. Dining Car Meals and Service "The Best in the World." Ask about the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, Seattle, Wash. For reservations, tickets and information inquire of E. L. LOMAX, Agent, Omaha, Nebr.

Looking Up Right-of-Way. Title to the old right-of-way of the Yankton-Norfolk between Yankton and this city is being examined by representatives of the interests which are now pushing the project. Yesterday two of the promoters of the road, armed with the plans and maps of sixteen years ago, called at the county clerk's office in Pierce. The records were examined and careful note was made as to the owners of the land through which the old survey passed and as to whether or not the original owners still held the land.

The two railroad men left Pierce yesterday afternoon, driving overland to Wausa. It was stated that they would visit Madison today to examine the county seat records of this county.

South Dakota News. O. S. Swenson of Sioux Falls has been appointed warden of the Sioux Falls penitentiary.

A cleaning out of gamblers and screens is on at Yankton. Cyrus A. Spurling has instituted suit for \$18,000 against the Dempster Mill Manufacturing Co. of Sioux Falls for injuries from falling down an elevator shaft.

The annual Lutheran church synod to meet at Eureka May 5 will select a town in which to locate a new college.

Theatrical War Predicted. New York, April 10.—The announcement by the Messrs. Shubert that they have withdrawn from the Theatrical Managers' association is the first gun, according to the Tribune, of what will undoubtedly be a big theatrical war.

TO FIGHT SPOKANE RATES. Harriman Lines Petition Commission to be Relieved From Obeying Order. Chicago, April 10.—The breach between the interstate commerce commission and the railroads over the western rate situation has been widened by two things. The Harriman lines have petitioned the commission to be relieved from the operation of the order in the Spokane rate case, and the executive officials of western lines decided to contest the commission's order in the Denver rate case.

The decision of the Harriman lines to contest the Spokane case, irrespective of any action the Hill lines may take, came as a surprise. The petition, it is presumed, will be denied by the commission and then an appeal will be taken to the courts.

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the bleaching of flour by chemical or electrical process. As in the United States, some millers in all the countries named oppose bleaching, or find no need for it, while others employ it.

Recently the Alsop company (electrical process) was sued by the Andrews company (chemical process) before the Lille (France) tribunal. The case went to the court of appeals, which has rendered its decision implicitly affirming that the bleaching of flour was an improvement, and that it was not injurious to public health.

Nebraskan Gets Appointment. Washington, April 10.—Robert Eton Guthrie of Nebraska was nominated for civil life to be second lieutenant in the coast artillery.

Revenge Upon Next of Kin. St. Louis, April 10.—Unable to find Louis Macaluso, against whom he cherished a bitter hatred, Salvatore Ferlosa wreaked his vengeance upon the next of kin in true Sicilian style last night, way-laying and shooting Sam Macaluso in the hallway of their home at 5048 Daggett avenue. The victim received three bullet wounds and died.

Federal Indictment List. Sioux Falls, S. D., April 10.—The United States grand jury, which convened in Sioux Falls, made its first report, returning a number of indictments, some of which are withheld from the public for the reason that the defendants have not yet been arrested.

The indictments which were returned in cases where the defendants either are in jail or are at liberty on bond are as follows: Coyote and Indian, introducing liquor into the Rosebud reservation.

Frank Randall and Julian Whistler, theft of cattle on the Pine Ridge reservation.

Henry Smith and William Jefferson, selling liquor to Indians belonging on the Cheyenne River reservation.

John Buckman, larceny on the Pine Ridge reservation.

James Elk Thunder, introducing liquor into the Rosebud reservation.

Sam Spotted War Bonnet, theft of cattle on the Rosebud reservation.

Joe Falls, introducing liquor into the Rosebud reservation.

North Nebraska Deaths. Mrs. J. J. Thomas died last week in O'Neill.

A. P. Johnson, living west of Newman Grove, died this week after a two days' illness.

Business Changes in the Northwest. Dwight Felton and Edgar M. Hood have formed a partnership and will operate a bank and real estate office in the new Tripp county town of Redhill.

C. I. Day has taken charge of the Upstill hotel at Long Pine.

Thomas Loeffler of Chicago has bought the John Scheler meat market at Madison.

Letter List. List of letters remaining uncalled for at postoffice at Norfolk, Neb., April 9, 1909.

Stella Armstrong, Goldie Burke, W. F. Burns, Ed Bohe, Charles Brant, Mrs. Chas. Cooper, Allen H. Crekinger, T. J. Daggett, Arthur Davis, Mrs. G. W. Davis, Mrs. Jane Eddy, F. L. Green, John Feully, R. M. Hilton, Miss Joe Howard, Miss Alice Jewett, Leon Jeffreys, Anna Johnson, Pan Pan Jan Kratochvil, Rev. F. Kosanik, C. W. Nicholas, Miss Mary Ross, Mrs. C. D. Ransdell, Joseph Suche, James L. Sas saman, Dr. S. A. Tutgen.

If not called for in fifteen days will be sent to the dead letter office. Parties calling for any of the above, please say "advertised."

John R. Hays, P. M.

Lawyer Charges \$1,000 a Minute. Chicago, April 10.—Who is the highest-priced lawyer in Chicago? Seth F. Crews. He charges \$1,000 a minute.

This came out when he sued Mrs. James R. Smith for \$34,000, balance on his bill of \$35,000 for engineering a deceased marriage that gave her \$350,000.

"I am now in position to state that there is no law in France, Germany or Great Britain prohibiting or regulating the cooking of food."