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MUSIC

By HENRIETTA M. REES.

URING the last week musical matters at home and in other cities have been especially active, and the record of many interesting and important recitals, operatic performances, and symphony concerts are to be found everywhere. The Metropolitan Opera company opened two weeks ago with "Gloconda, with Caruso and other favorites in the cast, and the season thus started bids fair to be all serene. The Chicago Opera company returned to Chicago last Monday after a successful period in Philadelphia, in which Massenet's "Don Quichotte" was given a successful American premiere.

The Chicago Opera company does not intend to be behind-hand in regard to the desire for opera in English that seems to be felt throughout the country, but will give an opera in English every Saturday night, at which the prices will be popular. Victor Herbert's "Natoma" was the first, presented last evening, with Mr. Herbert himself as conductor.

According to the New York Times, Dr. Leopold Schmidt, the critic of the Berlin

and esteem for M. Astruc. At this performance not one artist or member of the theatrical staff received any pay. It was spoken of as a remarkable interpretation of the work. The members of the chorus sang and acted with a zest born of genuine devotion for their unfortunate conductor and took six curtain calls. The hard-working singers, choristers, orchestra and entire theater staff, when apprised that their services would no longer be needed, held an extraordinary meeting and decided to give the performance of the opera under these circumstances. It is said that now they want to continue to run the theater themselves, sharing the receipts at pro rata salary. The causes of the failure that led to these unusual actions on the part of the company are said to be the impossibility of the theater to the public that fills cheap seats, too many out-of-date and uninteresting operas and the lack of government support.

A letter written by Verdi to a musical critic who had criticized several features of his opera, "La Forza del Destino," appears in part in the last issue of Musical America. Among other things he says: "If you felt called upon now and then to include censure among that which you appraised, you were certainly entitled to do so and unquestionably did the correct thing. Moreover, I am not in the habit, as you know, of getting angry even at a directly hostile article in the press, any more than I am accustomed to expressing my thanks (and herein I am perhaps in the wrong) for kindly disposed articles. I love my independence in everything and fully respect the same trait in others. As you were obliged to write an article about my opera, it was perfectly right of you not to allow yourself to be influenced by a handshake or by a visit paid or returned. If at times I seem to write something that is irregular or contrary to existing rule, I do it because the close strict rule does not seem to me to be adaptable for producing the desired effect, and because I do not consider all the rules now prevalent as being advantageous."

Musical organizations in many states of the union are making preparations to fittingly commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Stephen C. Foster, author of "My Old Kentucky Home," and many other nation-wide favorites. Foster was the most noted song writer of his day. While he made a fortune out of his songs, he died almost in poverty, in New York, on January 13, 1864.

Although not a pretentious composer as things are now, his songs are all full of tender sentiment and are marked by a simplicity and beautiful melody that will make them live long after many of the more intricately written ones have been forgotten. Gustav Kobbe, who probably knew more about Foster than any one outside of the songwriter's own family, gives a brief history of the "Old Kentucky Home." Foster and his sister were visiting at the picturesque homestead of his relative, Judge John Rowan of Hardestown, Ky. The two young visitors were seated one morning on a bench in front of the homestead. The dark children were romping. In a tree overhead a mockingbird was warbling. From a bush nearby came the song of the thrush. According to the story, Foster wrote and composed the song then and

there, and when enough was jotted down for his sister to obtain an idea of the melody of the first stanza she took the sheet from his hands and in a sweet melodic voice that chimed with the surroundings, sang it.

"What kind of a neighborhood do you live in?"

"Piano."—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

As a rule there is not much romance about the life of a music teacher, except what can be imagined in the different compositions that are being studied or taught. Occasionally it creeps into the real life of the teacher, however, and in this instance some of it has come to Miss Alice Fawcett, who has taught voice in Omaha and at Bellevue college for several years. This week Miss Fawcett closes her work in Omaha and will be married very quietly next week in Lincoln to Mr. Irwin of Creighton. Miss Fawcett is wished much happiness.

Musical Notes.

Lena Ellsworth Dale, with Mr. Vernon C. Bennett, organist, and Mr. Sigmond Landberg, accompanist, will be heard in concert Tuesday evening, December 2, at Temple Israel. The program is well chosen and includes many numbers from the classical and modern school, some with organ accompaniment. Among other things, Mrs. Dale will sing Elizabeth's aria from "Fausthauser." Mr. Bennett will play two organ solos by Dubois. The same three gave an interesting recital last season.

Cecil Berryman's piano recital takes place December 3.

A musical department has been formed in the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. Members that are interested in this department are requested to meet at room 3, West-Haldrup building, at 7:30 p. m. Saturday afternoon, December 6, for the purpose of choosing a leader, attending other business and for a short program.

A unique and entertaining musical program will be given under the auspices of the musical department before the Omaha Woman's club on Monday afternoon, December 15. The musical numbers will consist of piano, violin and vocal selections illustrating the humorous and grotesque in music. The program will be in charge of Miss Helen Macklin in addition to well-known local talent, two new soloists will appear, Miss Adah E. Klapp, soprano, and Mr. James Edward Carnall, basso.

A tea and reception was given in room 202-4, Boyd theater building, Friday, November 29, in honor of Miss Alice Fawcett. Miss Fawcett closes her work in Omaha this week and next week she will be very quietly married to Mr. Irwin of Creighton, Neb. Miss Fawcett has been a voice teacher in Omaha and at Bellevue college for many years and she will be missed from the musical community.

The Oliver Ditson company has published a volume of new songs especially selected for use in Christian Science services and intended to supplement and fit in with the lesson sermon.

Wife Beater Killed With Blow of Fist

WILTON, Wis., Nov. 28.—James Worden, with a blow from his fist, instantly killed his neighbor, Fred Eckelberg, near here last night. Worden was attracted to the Eckelberg home by the screams of Mrs. Eckelberg and on entering found her being beaten by her husband. Worden was attacked by Eckelberg, whom he felled with fatal result. Sheriff Vieth exonerated Worden.

NEBRASKA GRAIN TO COAST

New Market is Found for Both Corn and Wheat.

IS TO BE USED FOR MILLING

Tests Have Been Made and Cereals from This State Have Been Pronounced the Best to Be Obtained.

Nebraska grain has found another market, one that is entirely new and one that promises to be of great importance in the future. Right now large shipments of Nebraska wheat and corn for milling purposes are going to Los Angeles, notwithstanding that the freight rate is 16 cents per 100 pounds. One of the largest milling and grain consuming concerns on the Pacific coast has established a buying office in Omaha, placed an agent here and is taking large quantities of Nebraska wheat and corn.

Last year Los Angeles mills and health food manufacturing concerns sent their agents and experts over the country in an effort to locate the most desirable grain at the nearest home point. At the different grain markets they took samples and at the home laboratories had tests made. The result was that the Nebraska wheat and corn ran the highest in the required properties, and consequently these grains were the ones selected.

Open Office Here.

Early last fall representatives of the Los Angeles mills came here and commenced buying grain in limited quantities, it being desired to determine what a mill run would show. This run developed a product that came up to the test of the samples, and then it was declared that the Nebraska grain would be good

enough. Next it was decided to open a buying office and locate an agent here. This has been done, and now Los Angeles is in the market for about 100,000 bushels of Nebraska wheat and corn weekly.

The business of the Los Angeles mills is rapidly increasing, owing to the excellence of the product turned out, and the plans in contemplation provide for doubling the capacity during the coming year, which it is said means that the demand for the Nebraska grain will be correspondingly increased.

Hoo-Hoos Add Seven to Membership at Friday Night Feed

Seven purring "kittens" had their fur stroked the wrong way in rather vigorous fashion Friday night at the Paxton hotel during an initiation into the Concatenated Order of Hoo-Hoos, a secret accident association of the National Lumbermen. After the doubtfully kittenish orgies of the playful order "concats," a dinner was served at the hotel in honor of the new litter of pussies, about forty attending.

Those initiated were W. H. Smalles, John B. McMorley and M. F. Engelmann of Omaha; O. C. Roberts of Arlington, Arthur Morrill of Sioux City, Hugo Beckman of Fremont and Claude Norris of Mondak, Ia.

Harry B. Huston, vice-president snark for the state of Nebraska, had charge of the concatenation, and the elaborate initiation was conducted by the following officers of the order: Snark of the unifiers, Byron Stovenson; senior Hoo-Hoo, P. R. Cook; junior Hoo-Hoo, D. E. Ellingwood; bojum, E. O. Hampton; scrivener, J. M. Mullis; custodian, Lew W. Wentworth; arcanoper, Harry T. Black, and gurdon, W. W. Carmichael.

START WORK ON VIADUCT

Nicholas Street Structure Will Soon Become a Reality.

FOUGHT IN COURT SIX YEARS

City Has Been Trying for a Long Time to Compel Missouri Pacific to Build Bridge Over Its Tracks.

The Missouri Pacific railroad has begun the actual construction of the Nicholas street viaduct, which marks the end of a six-year struggle in the courts to force the building of this structure.

Assistant Local Engineer Sullivan set the stakes for the viaduct last week and the first shovelful of earth was turned yesterday. Material for the concrete work is being rushed to the place and the construction will be pushed rapidly.

The approximate cost of this viaduct, which will be thirty-eight feet wide, will be \$175,000.

The crossing at Nicholas street has been considered very dangerous and for this reason the city carried the case against the Missouri Pacific to force the construction of the viaduct through the courts for years.

ELEVEN PAIRS MARRIED WITH TWO CEREMONIES

WATERBURY, Conn., Nov. 28.—Five bridal parties stood within the altar rail in the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes this morning and the one ceremony completed five marriages, the groom responding in unison, "We do" as the pastor asked: "Do you take these women for your lawful wives?"

Six couples were married at one ceremony at the same altar rail last night.

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Comfort and Safety Assured Before the Arrival of the Stork.



The old saying—that is home without a mother—should add "Mother's Friend."

In thousands of American homes there is a bottle of this splendid and famous remedy that has aided many a woman through the trying ordeal, saved her from suffering and pain, kept her in health of mind and body in advance of baby's coming and had a most wonderful influence in developing a healthy, lovely disposition in the child.

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