

TIMELY REAL ESTATE TALK

Dull Week Gives Dealers Chance to Look Around.

HOME BUILDERS STILL ACTIVE

Inside Property is Hard to Get, as Owners are Satisfied with Income, but Outlying Stuff is in Demand.

The week just closed has been one of the dullest in real estate transactions that has been experienced in Omaha for a considerable time. There were two causes everywhere assigned for this temporary lull in the great activity of the market. First was the weather which was cloudy, cool, damp and rainy all the week. There is positively no use, real estate men say, in trying to get people to buy property, when the sun isn't shining. Cloudy, rainy weather seems to cast an irresistible gloom over people and no matter how great a bargain may be offered it does not find a ready taker. When the weather has become fair again the people come in flocks to buy and to close deals that have been postponed on account of the customary activity of the market. The other cause which was assigned by some for a slowness in the real estate market was the fact that nearly 100 of Omaha's leading men of affairs are away on the trade excursion. It is pointed out that 100 such men would be their absence, necessarily, the loss of the real estate market. They are, for the most part, men who have large interests and whether it be for buying or for selling, their absence has had a retarding effect on the market.

But the cry everywhere has been for sunshine and with that requisite the market will resume its customary activity every day. The trade excursion still in the far west. The brief lull has given the builders and contractors time to catch up with their operations to some extent. The weather had almost no effect on active building operation except in a few cases where the buildings were still unenclosed and a day or day and a half was lost on such contracts during the last week.

Prospective suburban home builders have cast a speculative eye toward the recent big deal in property made by the Blumer & Chase firm for some capitalists or capitalists, the identity of whom is not divulged. The tract purchased was the land surrounding Seymour lake, the former home of Dr. George L. Miller. It includes nearly 1,000 acres and is said to be one of the prettiest and best located places of land in the state. It is gently rolling, with good drainage, many trees and ample railroad facilities. It lies only a mile and a half from the end of the West Q street car line and could be reached either by an extension of that line or an extension of the west side Hancock Park line. It was intended that the land would be used for a manufacturing, but this has not been confirmed, and many incline to the belief that it is to be sold in small acreage plots for the building of suburban homes.

Patrick Place, a tract of land lying between Miami and Lake streets, has been platted and will be placed on sale by George & Co. early this week. The plot contains fifty-two lots. It is owned by Mrs. Patrick, widow of the late Matthewson T. Patrick.

G. M. Matterson has purchased the eight-room, modern house at 210 Pierce street from T. F. Green, an eastern man, for \$1,000. He will put extensive repairs on the property.

Through the Payne Investment company a transfer of the property, consisting of three seven-room cottages, at Sixteenth and Burdette streets, has been completed. The week from John D. Betts of Kansas City to John W. Young. The consideration, \$10,000 and the property was bought as an investment.

Real estate dealers report an unusually large number of houses being sold to persons moving from other places to Omaha. The number of properties sold to persons of this class has been very noticeably large during the last few months and is taken to indicate a influx of population consequent upon the great commercial growth of the city. Furthermore, so great is the demand for houses that any vacant residences or newly finished dwellings are spoken for long before they are vacated or completed. A builder of flats recently reported that he had every apartment in a large house spoken for before the ground had been broken for the building. It is also a well known fact that many people are kept from moving to Omaha because of their inability to get a place to reside. Every real estate man knows at least a few of such cases.

Among the few sales of the last week was that of the ten-room dwelling at 2308 Douglas street to Mrs. Belle Oberst, who will occupy it upon moving with her family to Omaha. The last week George & Co. sold a two-story, ramble mah mah mahn.

The Payne Investment company sold 4,000 acres of Colorado farm land last week to J. L. Miller, a western Nebraska man, at \$1 an acre. The buyer paid spot cash for the land.

Charles Cope is having plans drawn for \$3,000 worth of remodeling and improvements to his house on Twenty-seventh street, north of Cumming street. He will install steam heat and add a kitchen bed room and a room to the half basement and a kitchen and bed room to the first floor.

A decided stringency in the visible supply of Omaha real estate is being felt by buyers and real estate men. It is difficult to buy a piece of property close in for the reason, it is said, that the owners are very well satisfied with the returns received at present and that such as contemplate selling at all are holding on for higher prices.

Residents in the west part of the city are predicting a boom in real estate and building property there consequent upon the opening of the Happy Hollow Country club. It is a well known fact that building is always stimulated by an institution of that kind and the Happy Hollow club was instituted at a time particularly suitable for a real estate boom in its surroundings. During the last week George & Co. sold five lots in Dundee, west of Fifty-first street. The lots are within three blocks of the Happy Hollow Country Club house. One of the buyers has had plans drawn and given the contract already for a fine residence.

New plans for the Young Women's Christian Association building were drawn during the last week and bids have been asked for. The plans, as made, call for a building the same in size and arrangement, but with some of the more expensive "trimmings" left off. Bids must be in by June 14.

J. H. Dunton & Sons report the following sales for the week: west front lot on Forty-first avenue, north of Davenport street from Alfred Cornish to J. G. O'Connell; east side of land in Kimball court from the Arab S. Payne estate of Boston

Buildings Being Added to Sum of Omaha's Visible Evidences of Wealth



UNION PACIFIC'S COMMISSARY STOREHOUSE.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

to Mrs. May M. Orris of Stanton, Neb., lot on Thirty-eighth avenue, north of Harney street, with eighty-five feet frontage from Clara S. Kountze to William J. Hynes; fourteen acres of improved fruit farm on the upper Florence road from E. Schob to William E. Yerton for \$5,000; six-room house and three lots on Halcyon Heights from William E. Yerton to H. E. Seybold for \$3,000.

The iron fence business in Omaha has enjoyed a very material increase this season. The Anchor Fence Manufacturing company report a large number of orders booked daily, pushing their factory to its utmost capacity. They are now running night and day to keep pace with the increase of business and report a large number of inquiries for this class of fence. Among the most recent orders are the following: A. E. Thor, 2294 South Twenty-third street; H. R. Hermansen, 3228 South Twenty-third street; W. P. Stoecker, 2230 South Twenty-third street; M. J. Kennard, 530 South Twenty-fourth street; Louis Weymuller, 965 North Twenty-fifth street; J. A. Davis, 814 South Twenty-fifth street; J. L. Gray, 528 North Nineteenth street, South Omaha; John Eagenberg, 3228 South Twenty-third street.

URCHIN STOPS COURT TRIAL

Because Everett King, a 14-year-old colored boy, went fishing for crabs at the Cut-Off lake Saturday the machinery of the criminal courts came to a standstill Saturday morning. Everett was wanted at a hearing on a motion for a new trial in the case of Enoch Enix, colored, convicted on a manslaughter charge of killing Harry Lockman. The hearing was set for 9:30 o'clock, but Everett could not be located and it was continued until 3 o'clock. As he could not be found at that time it went over until Monday morning. Everett was one of the principal witnesses against Enix. He testified he had seen Enix strike the fatal blow. Now W. W. Domes, attorney for Enix, has an affidavit signed by the boy saying he was mistaken in giving the evidence and had been intimidated into giving it. He now says he did not see the blow struck. As soon as County Attorney English heard the affidavit read he demanded time to bring Everett into court to see what he would say on the stand. A subpoena was issued for him and it was found he had gone to Cut-Off lake. Fred Good, bailiff for the county attorney's office, inspected all the bays and inlets of the lake, but was unable to spy the much wanted witness. In addition to the boy's affidavit from one of the jurors that prejudice against the colored race on the part of six of the jurors was the cause of the conviction. Other affidavits were made impeaching some of the testimony for the state.

HOURS WHEN BOYS CAN WORK

Not Before Six in Morning Nor After Eight at Night, as Messengers. Saturday afternoon Probation Officer Bernstein issued orders to the managers of messenger offices that hereafter no boy employed by them would be permitted to work before 6 o'clock in the morning nor later than 8 o'clock in the evening. The order was accompanied with the information that, beginning Saturday night, the name of every messenger boy would be taken and if any was found on duty during the hours declared unlawful the managers of the agencies would be arrested and so would the parents of the boys. Boys under the age of 16 are covered by the terms of the law, and no boy between the ages of 14 and 16 can be employed at any time without special permit. The probation officers are also having some trouble with proprietors of pool and billiard halls who permit minors to play. The manager of one house is alleged to have permitted boys to gamble and this has necessitated a close investigation at the hands of the officers.

BURNAM ANSWERS FOR CITY

Files Answer to Old Blackburn Gas Street Lighting Contract Suit. City Attorney Burnam Saturday morning filed an answer to the old injunction suit brought by Thomas W. Blackburn to prevent the carrying out of the contract for street lighting with the Omaha Gas company at \$2 per light. The suit has lain dormant since early in 1906, but has been revived as a part of a campaign it is alleged to secure the forfeiture of the franchise of the company. The answer admits all of the material allegations of the petition and that the ordinance passed by the council was invalid and void. It says the majority members did not proceed under the rules of the council and instead of the action being that of the council it was merely the act of five individuals. The case will come up in the hearing for a permanent injunction within a few days. The members of the present city officials have been substituted for the original defendants.

Silver Service for Kansas. TOPEKA, Kan., June 8.—A party of prominent Kansans, including Governor E. W. Hoek and staff, and Mrs. Hoek, left today for the League Island navy yard to present to the battleship Nebraska a silver service, the gift of the state. Governor Hoek will make the presentation address at the exercises, which will take place on June 17.

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NEW YORK, June 8.—The recent gifts made by John D. Rockefeller and Mrs. Russell Sage, one for educational and the other for social betterment purposes, recall the provisions within John Masteron Burke, nonagenarian of this city, has made for the erection after his death of a home for the care and treatment of convalescents in or near the borough of Manhattan, but preferably in Westchester county. Mr. Burke will be 95 on July 1 next. With the exception of a slight intestinal trouble, which makes it necessary for him to avoid exerting himself, he is still hale and hearty and in good trim to pass the century mark. It was on his birthday in 1902 that he announced a donation of \$4,000,000 for the establishment and maintenance of the convalescent home. The gift came as a great surprise to the general public, as Mr. Burke was known to few persons as a very rich man. Some of his business associates knew in a vague way that he was a man of means, but he was not generally rated as a millionaire. Like Faganweather, the leather merchant, whose will when opened after his death was found to contain bequests to colleges of something like \$4,000,000. Mr. Burke has led a very retiring life and has taken no part in the usual gayeties of the world. Since the donation was announced Mr. Burke has added nearly \$500,000 to the benefaction, which accordingly now amounts to \$4,500,000, and which, in proportion to his wealth, is far greater than the Rockefeller gift of \$10,000,000, or the Mrs. Russell Sage gift of \$3,000,000. It will take the bulk of his fortune, with the exception of a legacy of \$400,000 a year for his faithful companion, Miss Vincenta M. Fensley.

Lives in Old-Fashioned Way. Mr. Burke lives in an old-fashioned house at 18 West Forty-seventh street. No changes have been made in the decorations of furniture, or in the style of life for a quiet life precludes the idea of any change until after his death. Even then there may be no change, for he has directed that the house be turned over to Miss Fensley after his death.

Although not ill in the usual sense, Mr. Burke has a nervous system which is occasionally relieved visits from his family physician. The slight ailment from which he suffers requires him to move about as little as possible and for that reason he never goes out. His faculties are as clear as ever and he is able to transact business with his lawyer, Frederick H. Denham of 170 Broadway, or with the members of the corporation to which he entrusted the gift to build the home. His complexion is still as rosy as a young girl's and he signs papers in a bold, firm hand and without the use of glasses. There isn't an atom of gray in his hair and his legs are still those of an athlete.

Mr. Burke continues to take a keen interest in the affairs of the world and he is particularly interested in the doings of the financial district. He either reads himself or has read to him several newspapers every day, among them Wall Street publications. Mr. Burke never married and has no near relatives. When he retired from business a number of years ago he decided to dedicate in his lifetime a substantial part of his estate to the relief of worthy men and women who, notwithstanding their willingness to support themselves, have become wholly or partly unable to do so by reason of sickness or misfortune. He has had in mind particularly those people who are discharged from hospitals before regaining sufficient strength to assume their regular employment.

Members of the Corporation. Among the original incorporators of the corporation to which Mr. Burke turned over the gift were the late Abram S. Hewitt, William Hubbard White, Edward M. Sheppard, Frank K. Sturges and Mr. Burke himself. He met the other incorporators, according to agreement, in Mr. Denham's office and there the transfer was made.

Lyman J. Gage, the former secretary of the treasury and president of the United States Trust company, was once also a director, but he resigned when he gave up business to go to California to live. He was succeeded as vice president by Mr. Sheppard, who in 1901 had been named by J. H. Ransom Rhoads, the president of the Greenwich Savings bank, was also a director up to the time of his death. Mr. Burke is the president of the corporation which is known as the Winifred Masteron Burke Relief Foundation. It was named for Mr. Burke's mother, who died thirty-five years ago.

Mr. Burke is still the president of the foundation, Frank K. Sturges is the treasurer and Mr. Denham is secretary and counsel, although he is not a member of the board. Among the directors now are C. Adolph Lew, Edward S. Marston, Robert W. De Forest, R. Fulton Cutting, Erskine Hewitt, James S. Alexander, Dr. John S. Billing, George L. Rives and W. H. H. Moore. There is still one vacancy in the board.

Who Shall Be Admitted. The deed of trust provides that all persons needing rest as a means of cure shall be eligible for admission to this convalescent hospital, but as far as possible the self-respect of the applicants is to be considered and a moderate charge may be made to them. In case the patient prefers this will be considered as a loan, to be repaid without interest and without security. In especially provided in the deed that the directors of the foundation shall establish a thorough, careful and kindly system of choosing as beneficiaries men and women who beyond all reasonable doubt are within the purposes described by the founder, but the founder, appreciating the frequent suffering caused by tardy action in giving relief, urges the trustees to be used, so far as they are consistent with propriety, shall be as expeditious as possible. It is also provided that arrangements may be made with the city for the care of malignant cases, either by the erection of suitable buildings or by assuming the cost of treatment in such cases. The trust deed makes it plain that two considerations are regarded by the founder as of vital importance. First, that the relief shall be given to self-respecting persons who have been able as a rule to maintain themselves, and second, that the relief shall be temporary and not permanent. Mr. Burke does not wish to establish an asylum or to provide for a body of pensioners.

In giving the trustees the power to modify his plan he provides that "the fund shall be used in such a way as not to impoverish, but to prevent the growth of poverty." The chief purpose of the founder being to help those who give or have given evidence of being willing to help themselves. The plan contemplates that provision shall be made at the hospital for the reception of sick children not proper subjects for an existing hospital, but requiring careful attention in order to prevent more serious ailments. Provision will also be made for supplying nurses at a moderate cost to families having sick cases, requiring special treatment under the supervision of the attending physician.

Native of New York. Mr. Burke was born at 1 William street and lived here all his life. Most of his fortune was made in the South American trade and in investing in real estate. He owns large parcels of property in the city, Mount Vernon, Texas and the northwest. He has been associated in business before he retired were Abraham S. Hewitt, Russell Sage, Samuel Loe, William H. Vanderbilt, Commodore Van Santvoort, Judge Sanfor, Moses Taylor and Paul G. Thebaud. Those who know Mr. Burke best say that he is very warm-hearted under his rather reserved exterior. He has few friends because he has outlived his contemporaries who remain are enthusiastic about his character.

Miss Fensley, his companion, is a daughter of Captain Fensley, a wealthy merchant of California, who died after losing all his money. The captain was a friend of Mr. Burke and since she has been in the house she has been greatly devoted to the aged man. Always leading a frugal life, Mr. Burke was a great foe to what he considered waste. In his classification he put unnecessary expenditures, such as ornate residences and institutions. It is said that St. Luke's hospital was in his mind many years as the final beneficiary of his fortune and that he had once signed a will making that institution his residuary legatee. St. Luke's then occupied a plain old structure at Fifty-fourth street and Fifth avenue. The site was so valuable and the building so old that the move to Morongoide Heights.

Mr. Burke is an Episcopalian and in politics he is a democrat. He used to be a friend of Samuel J. Tilden, whom he greatly admired as a statesman. He is also an admirer of Grover Cleveland. He never smoked and he never drank any stimulants except those prescribed by his physician. The announcement of his gift in 1903 brought a horde of beggars, grifters and fakirs of all kinds to the house, but none of them ever succeeded in seeing the philanthropist. A comment of the discovery of a new millionaire and a generous one also brought a flood of begging letters which swelled Mr. Burke's ordinarily modest mail to enormous proportions.

Charity Most Needed. One thing that led Mr. Burke to establish the foundation for the particular purpose he indicated in the trust deed was that he had carefully examined into the conditions of charity work in European cities and was struck with the utter lack of provision in New York for the care of those who, after receiving medical or surgical treatment in a hospital, were discharged as cured. Homes for the reception of convalescents, Mr. Burke discovered, were maintained and liberally supported in many European cities, some of the most prosperous being in London, and inquiries here showed Mr. Burke that for nearly a score of years persons prominently identified with the charitable movements in New York had vainly attempted to enlist the aid of the Charity Foundation society and other institutions of a like nature in an effort to establish at least one home for convalescents in or near the city. This discovery rounded out Mr. Burke's decision as to how he should dispose of the bulk of his fortune.

OPERA AND SINGERS ABROAD

Salome, the Dancer, Makes Trouble in Gay Paris.

GERALDINE FARRAR AT OPERA Caruso Wants More Pay in London—Gustav Mahler to Leave Vienna Opera—Censor at Constantinople.

The ballet is just as important to the Paris public now as it was in the days of Meyerbeer. Even in "Salome" the dance of the seven veils was regarded as the most important point in the performance by the audience that went to the Chatelet to hear Richard Strauss' opera. After the first representation Jokanaan appeared before the curtain, bringing with him two Salomes, one the singer Emmy Destinn and the other Mlle. Trouhanova, who had waved the draperies in the dance. After a while the ballerina got into the habit of taking a recall after the dance, which brought two Salomes simultaneously in view of the audience. The composer protested and the dancer retired from the cast, declaring that it was just as insulting to her as to the opera. Her part in the opera between Salome and Jokanaan as her to take an encore.

The performance on the first night did not begin until twenty minutes later than it was announced, but the doors were closed when the prelude began and not a spectator was admitted, in spite of the fact that many had paid as much as 100 francs for a seat. Emmy Destinn is said to be vocally very fine, but in action and appearance not comparable to Olive Fremstad. Farrar's Success in Paris. Geraldine Farrar has sung Marguerite and Elizabeth at the Grand Opera in Paris and met with success, although her performances have aroused no unusual enthusiasm. It is a long time since such youthful dramatic talent and beauty have been combined with that historic stage, but Parisians now care more for their old favorites than for such qualities.

The theater under the management of Pedro Gailhard has been conducted for singers able to pay for their engagements. It was usually thought necessary to have beauty, but it was even more necessary for the singers to be so situated that they could pay high prices for their posts and be content with a meager salary. That is the reason why the standing of the opera house has steadily declined. It is because Parisians have in this grown accustomed to mediocrity that Miss Farrar's appearances have not created more sensation.

The Opera Comique, in addition to receiving Debussy's "Pelleas et Melisande," has just produced "Circio," by the brothers Hillemecher. The legend is taken from the Odyssey. Among the singers was a pupil of Jean de Reszke, named Maggie Tate. She is English and is said to have made a success. Edmond Maracourt supplied the text.

All the singers were taken to the Musée Clévy to study the poses of the Greek statues there before acting their roles. What precautions they took to keep in trim is not recorded. There was recently a cycle of Russian operas in Paris. The singers were Fedor Chaliapine, Kateraky, Shtirnof and Phipoff, and Mmes. Tcherkassy and Zbrovleva. The pianists were Rachmaninoff and Josef Hofmann, who was the only Pole among the artists. The operatic composer represented on the program were Glinka, Borodine, Moussorgsky, Cui and Rimsky-Korsakov. Arthur Nikisch conducted the concert, but Rachmaninoff conducted certain of his own compositions. Hofmann is popular in Russia to make it expedient for him to emphasize his Polish ancestry. He played fourteen recitals in St. Petersburg alone during the last season.

Richard Strauss' New Opera. Richard Strauss says he will possibly have his new opera ready for production next year. He has selected Hofmann's latest version of "Electra" and has altered scarcely a word. He will devote his summer vacation in the Bavarian mountains to work on the opera.

Ignace Paderewski in spite of the ill fated "Manru" is going to tempt fortune with another opera, to be founded on the old Indian legend of "Sakuntala." Catalte Mendes, who made the French version of his first opera, has prepared the text. Gustav Mahler has indicated his intention of surrendering the control of the Imperial Opera house in Vienna at the close of the present season. He has been the conductor and also the artistic director of the opera house since 1897 and has raised it to the position for the foremost opera house in the world. He was at Leipzig, later at Budapest and then for six years at Hamburg before he was called to Vienna. He made himself very unpopular by letting the artists say that he was to be the manager of the opera house and would allow no other control. Ernst Van Dyck resigned, some of the other artists were released and Theodore Reichmann is said to have died on account of the treatment he received at the hands of the director. But the average of the performances was much better and the opera house was placed through Mahler's efforts on its present high level.

Maude Roosevelt, said to be a first cousin of the president of the United States, has recently made her first appearance in opera at Elberfeld in Germany, singing Elsa in "Lohengrin" with success. She is probably the same Maude Roosevelt who is the daughter of a New York singing teacher named Le Vinson and acted for a time in the company of James Hackett. Her relation to the Roosevelt family is very remote. Felix Weingartner's old opera "Genesius" has recently been revived with great success. The last survivor of the family of Mozart died the other day in Salzburg at the age of 80. She was Countess Von Sonnenburg and Elizabeth at the Grand Opera in Paris and met with success, although her performances have aroused no unusual enthusiasm. It is a long time since such youthful dramatic talent and beauty have been combined with that historic stage, but Parisians now care more for their old favorites than for such qualities.

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Mr. Burke is still the president of the foundation, Frank K. Sturges is the treasurer and Mr. Denham is secretary and counsel, although he is not a member of the board. Among the directors now are C. Adolph Lew, Edward S. Marston, Robert W. De Forest, R. Fulton Cutting, Erskine Hewitt, James S. Alexander, Dr. John S. Billing, George L. Rives and W. H. H. Moore. There is still one vacancy in the board.

Who Shall Be Admitted. The deed of trust provides that all persons needing rest as a means of cure shall be eligible for admission to this convalescent hospital, but as far as possible the self-respect of the applicants is to be considered and a moderate charge may be made to them. In case the patient prefers this will be considered as a loan, to be repaid without interest and without security. In especially provided in the deed that the directors of the foundation shall establish a thorough, careful and kindly system of choosing as beneficiaries men and women who beyond all reasonable doubt are within the purposes described by the founder, but the founder, appreciating the frequent suffering caused by tardy action in giving relief, urges the trustees to be used, so far as they are consistent with propriety, shall be as expeditious as possible. It is also provided that arrangements may be made with the city for the care of malignant cases, either by the erection of suitable buildings or by assuming the cost of treatment in such cases. The trust deed makes it plain that two considerations are regarded by the founder as of vital importance. First, that the relief shall be given to self-respecting persons who have been able as a rule to maintain themselves, and second, that the relief shall be temporary and not permanent. Mr. Burke does not wish to establish an asylum or to provide for a body of pensioners.

In giving the trustees the power to modify his plan he provides that "the fund shall be used in such a way as not to impoverish, but to prevent the growth of poverty." The chief purpose of the founder being to help those who give or have given evidence of being willing to help themselves. The plan contemplates that provision shall be made at the hospital for the reception of sick children not proper subjects for an existing hospital, but requiring careful attention in order to prevent more serious ailments. Provision will also be made for supplying nurses at a moderate cost to families having sick cases, requiring special treatment under the supervision of the attending physician.

Native of New York. Mr. Burke was born at 1 William street and lived here all his life. Most of his fortune was made in the South American trade and in investing in real estate. He owns large parcels of property in the city, Mount Vernon, Texas and the northwest. He has been associated in business before he retired were Abraham S. Hewitt, Russell Sage, Samuel Loe, William H. Vanderbilt, Commodore Van Santvoort, Judge Sanfor, Moses Taylor and Paul G. Thebaud. Those who know Mr. Burke best say that he is very warm-hearted under his rather reserved exterior. He has few friends because he has outlived his contemporaries who remain are enthusiastic about his character.

Miss Fensley, his companion, is a daughter of Captain Fensley, a wealthy merchant of California, who died after losing all his money. The captain was a friend of Mr. Burke and since she has been in the house she has been greatly devoted to the aged man. Always leading a frugal life, Mr. Burke was a great foe to what he considered waste. In his classification he put unnecessary expenditures, such as ornate residences and institutions. It is said that St. Luke's hospital was in his mind many years as the final beneficiary of his fortune and that he had once signed a will making that institution his residuary legatee. St. Luke's then occupied a plain old structure at Fifty-fourth street and Fifth avenue. The site was so valuable and the building so old that the move to Morongoide Heights.

Mr. Burke is an Episcopalian and in politics he is a democrat. He used to be a friend of Samuel J. Tilden, whom he greatly admired as a statesman. He is also an admirer of Grover Cleveland. He never smoked and he never drank any stimulants except those prescribed by his physician. The announcement of his gift in 1903 brought a horde of beggars, grifters and fakirs of all kinds to the house, but none of them ever succeeded in seeing the philanthropist. A comment of the discovery of a new millionaire and a generous one also brought a flood of begging letters which swelled Mr. Burke's ordinarily modest mail to enormous proportions.

Charity Most Needed. One thing that led Mr. Burke to establish the foundation for the particular purpose he indicated in the trust deed was that he had carefully examined into the conditions of charity work in European cities and was struck with the utter lack of provision in New York for the care of those who, after receiving medical or surgical treatment in a hospital, were discharged as cured. Homes for the reception of convalescents, Mr. Burke discovered, were maintained and liberally supported in many European cities, some of the most prosperous being in London, and inquiries here showed Mr. Burke that for nearly a score of years persons prominently identified with the charitable movements in New York had vainly attempted to enlist the aid of the Charity Foundation society and other institutions of a like nature in an effort to establish at least one home for convalescents in or near the city. This discovery rounded out Mr. Burke's decision as to how he should dispose of the bulk of his fortune.

OPERA AND SINGERS ABROAD

Salome, the Dancer, Makes Trouble in Gay Paris.

GERALDINE FARRAR AT OPERA Caruso Wants More Pay in London—Gustav Mahler to Leave Vienna Opera—Censor at Constantinople.

The ballet is just as important to the Paris public now as it was in the days of Meyerbeer. Even in "Salome" the dance of the seven veils was regarded as the most important point in the performance by the audience that went to the Chatelet to hear Richard Strauss' opera. After the first representation Jokanaan appeared before the curtain, bringing with him two Salomes, one the singer Emmy Destinn and the other Mlle. Trouhanova, who had waved the draperies in the dance. After a while the ballerina got into the habit of taking a recall after the dance, which brought two Salomes simultaneously in view of the audience. The composer protested and the dancer retired from the cast, declaring that it was just as insulting to her as to the opera. Her part in the opera between Salome and Jokanaan as her to take an encore.

The performance on the first night did not begin until twenty minutes later than it was announced, but the doors were closed when the prelude began and not a spectator was admitted, in spite of the fact that many had paid as much as 100 francs for a seat. Emmy Destinn is said to be vocally very fine, but in action and appearance not comparable to Olive Fremstad. Farrar's Success in Paris. Geraldine Farrar has sung Marguerite and Elizabeth at the Grand Opera in Paris and met with success, although her performances have aroused no unusual enthusiasm. It is a long time since such youthful dramatic talent and beauty have been combined with that historic stage, but Parisians now care more for their old favorites than for such qualities.

The theater under the management of Pedro Gailhard has been conducted for singers able to pay for their engagements. It was usually thought necessary to have beauty, but it was even more necessary for the singers to be so situated that they could pay high prices for their posts and be content with a meager salary. That is the reason why the standing of the opera house has steadily declined. It is because Parisians have in this grown accustomed to mediocrity that Miss Farrar's appearances have not created more sensation.

The Opera Comique, in addition to receiving Debussy's "Pelleas et Melisande," has just produced "Circio," by the brothers Hillemecher. The legend is taken from the Odyssey. Among the singers was a pupil of Jean de Reszke, named Maggie Tate. She is English and is said to have made a success. Edmond Maracourt supplied the text.

All the singers were taken to the Musée Clévy to study the poses of the Greek statues there before acting their roles. What precautions they took to keep in trim is not recorded. There was recently a cycle of Russian operas in Paris. The singers were Fedor Chaliapine, Kateraky, Shtirnof and Phipoff, and Mmes. Tcherkassy and Zbrovleva. The pianists were Rachmaninoff and Josef Hofmann, who was the only Pole among the artists. The operatic composer represented on the program were Glinka, Borodine, Moussorgsky, Cui and Rimsky-Korsakov. Arthur Nikisch conducted the concert, but Rachmaninoff conducted certain of his own compositions. Hofmann is popular in Russia to make