

SINGERS HAVE A NIGHT'S FUN

"Tannhauser" as it is burlesqued at a Kuenstlerfest.

NESTROY'S PARODY PERFORMED

Are of Opera Show Characters in New Form—German Ideas of Fun Expressed at Wagner's Expense.

NEW YORK, April 16.—Nothing else is ever supposed among Germans to be so funny as a Kuenstlerfest. It is German fun, of course, that sort of party supplies and the serious, thoroughgoing, elaborate Teutonic fun makes a profound impression on those that like it. Persons who had previously been unfamiliar with this kind of humor have during the last two opera seasons had an opportunity to make its acquaintance, the German wing of the company at the Metropolitan Opera house, which is destined to diminish next season, to such an extent that a fest of any kind on the part of its members may be impossible, having each season provided a Kuenstlerfest for the delectation of the New York public.

The latest performance took place at the Hotel Astor, when there was presented a historic German parody, this was Nestroy's respectful perversion of "Tannhauser," which has long been a popular production for such frivolous occasions. The work was composed and arranged a long time ago, and is described on the program as "a farce of the future with music of the past and groupings of the present," which is enough to show that it was prepared when Wagner's music was still called the music of the future. The action of the drama was interrupted by music from time to time, and there were four scenes to show how much of the original story of "Tannhauser" had been retained.

There were few persons in the large ballroom of the Astor who were not familiar with the story of "Tannhauser" and few who did not remember Elizabeth, as Miksa used to embody her and as Terina used to embody her and as Johanna Gadski does it now. Then there were a host of Walkrams von Eschenbach before Robert Blaes made that gentleman just as comic as Bella Alten did Elizabeth when she disguised her beauty and put on long pig tails and cavorted through the Ballets Faun of Eschenbach for fun and charity.

These two portraits from "Tannhauser" were no more iconoclastic than that of the titular hero who fell to the diminutive Albert Reis, who is not only funny almost always, but almost the funniest man in grand opera, unless Otto Goritz happens to be on the stage. How little like the average Tannhauser he looks the picture will show.

It was natural that Otto Goritz, who wanted to make as much fun out of his character as possible, should select for his burlesque the most serious part in the opera, the "Landgraf" uncle of Elizabeth. In the parody he is described as a musical enthusiast, which he shows in the original only by organizing the singing contest in his drawing room.

Adolf Muhlmann, who is such a serious Wotan and Hunding, chose to appear as his shepherd who sits on the rock and pipes his little lay when the scene changes and the Venusberg gives place to the cool morning heights of Eisenach. This part is always sung by a woman, and there have been some notably beautiful exponents of the role in former years. Does anybody remember Olympia Guenzel as the boy? She was the fairest to look upon, although there used also to be the brunette beauty of Carrie Bridwell to gaze on in the part. From both of these Mr. Muhlmann differs widely. It was not only in his face that he was unlike every other shepherd that sang the music; there were his feet also to distinguish him. There never was even an eck Deutscher interpreter of the shepherd boy with feet like those.

Every effort was made by Otto Goritz and Andreas Dippel whose principal part in the preparation of the fest was to put no difficulties in the way of his colleague, to see that the burlesque was from a musical standpoint up to a high average. To this end the phrase, "Wolfram von Eschenbach, reginne," sung by the pages when the contestants in the seenerkrieg is to start was entrusted to four conductors. There have been many occasions on which this music has been incorrectly sung so the four chorus conductors and accompanists were selected that there might be no grounds for criticism.

They were Richard Hagemann, Edward Falck, Johann Heidenreich and Dr. Joki. They may not have been as beautiful as the blue and white women with the tapering waists and the plump limbs that look so little like boys in "Tannhauser" at the Metropolitan, but they were heard once they said "beginne," although the sound may not have been so melodious as it sometimes is. But it was musically and that always covers a multitude of sins.

There were all the scenes of the regulation "Tannhauser." When the curtains parted to show the abode of Frau Venus who was described as the proprietress of



"THE GAME IS ON."

a delicatessen seller, that woman in the person of Rosina Van Dyck had an apron about her shapely waist and was prepared to serve Heinrich Tannhauser with whatever he wanted to eat. More amusing, however, from the scenic point of view was the set of the Wartburg.

These musical instruments of every kind and of mammoth size formed the pillars and walls in the theure halle in which Elizabeth sings and they formed an appropriately grotesque background for the guests who arrived at Herr Landgraf's musicale. In the first act the pilgrims who passed by Eisenach on their way to Rome wore silk hats of a more or less venerable vintage and smoked cigars. In the manner of their costuming for the party they were still more peculiar.

The messenger who comes with the news of a death in the family of the guest who is unable to come is usually dressed in black in regular performances of the opera and there is often the opportunity for touching acting on the part of the singer of Elizabeth. Sometimes the messenger is a child dressed in black, who seems to announce the death of his father, while in other cases there is a mourning woman to

indicate that the lord of the family has died. Just how delicately the burlesque intimated this situation is shown by the picture of the Trauertote with the weeds flowing from either trim of his hat.

This was the keynote of the gaiety throughout the evening and there were times when lovers of Wagner's opera desisted too strongly marked a spirit of disrespect in the scenes. One of these was Rafael Joseffy, who is a great admirer of the work and found little to delight him in the massacre of such ideals of it as he had previously possessed.

It has always been said that Nestroy's clever parody of the original score was as much a part of the success of the work as anything in it, and that its appeal to the ear of those familiar with the score of the opera is just as strongly burlesque as the antics on the stage. But music is a more subtle form of satire than drama. It would indeed be a sensitive listener who was offended by the burlesque of Wagner's score that imparts its greatest merit to the burlesque of "Tannhauser."

previously possessed. It has always been said that Nestroy's clever parody of the original score was as much a part of the success of the work as anything in it, and that its appeal to the ear of those familiar with the score of the opera is just as strongly burlesque as the antics on the stage. But music is a more subtle form of satire than drama. It would indeed be a sensitive listener who was offended by the burlesque of Wagner's score that imparts its greatest merit to the burlesque of "Tannhauser."



THE PERSUASIVE POPPIES.



CANADIAN PREFERRED.

World Movement for an International Court of Practical Arbitration

THE historian of the future, at the close of the nineteenth century will mark a social triumph for which the world has long waited. The passing of the glory and prestige of the armed conflict, and the passing of the moral doom of war, henceforth, stripped of its glamour, regulated by international agreement and hedged in by preventive war, will be regarded as a desirable, if necessary, evil. Even the great armaments under which the nations stagger are vehemently declared to be a heavy premium paid at the international dread of the conflict.

But if the moral doom of war has struck, its material doom is the task of the twentieth century, and judged by the events of a decade, nobly has the century begun its work.

Even the careless observer of recent events must observe in the peace movement a new working principle, hitherto somewhat obscured—that of practicality. Idealism and sentiment have done a great work in bringing about abhorrence of war and will in the future continue to come; but the kaleidoscopic changes and striking anomalies of the last decade have brought out very strongly the need of an additional element of practical common-sense. Eleven years have seen two Hague conferences; eight cases of arbitration carried to the Hague tribunal; 100 treaties of international arbitration, some of them unlimited scope; sixty or more arbitrations between nations; a great war brought to an end and another probably averted by machinery made possible by The Hague conference; and everywhere growing evidence of international good-will. And yet, stop by step with the progress toward peace have gone ever increasing armaments until the world groans under their burdens. What does it mean? Must armaments keep pace with arbitration? If so, peace and economic ruin are synonymous terms. Or do armaments exist because as yet arbitration has offered no trustworthy substitute?

It is to be seen that the situation calls for calm reasoning and practical institutions. Doubtless present armaments are excessive; unquestionably they are a crushing burden; economically they are open to justifiable attack; but it there any evidence that disarmament of the nations tomorrow would spell peace? Are armaments not an effect rather than a cause? Does not the practical remedy lie rather in an international court of such character that it will command the respect of the nations and attract an increasing number of classes of cases while armaments will become less and less needed and finally, perhaps, useless?

When the first Hague conference created the Hague court it took the first and longest step in this practical campaign. The court was the most practical instrument the great minds of the nation could then devise; but, like all new institutions, it required time to expose its defects. Today its imperfections seem glaring; nevertheless, it has attracted eight cases, has demonstrated the wisdom of its establishment, and more than this, it has paved the way for a real international court of justice.

problems of a very delicate nature, including the Casa Blanca dispute between France and Germany and the pending North Atlantic fisheries case, which for almost a century has baffled the diplomats of the United States and Great Britain. What more striking proof is needed that the new court, with none of these defects, would be eagerly sought for the disposition of many troublesome questions lurking in the archives of different state departments, and would, as it won the confidence of the nations, naturally attract all but the most grave disputes?

The second Hague conference gave the new court all but substance; only the method of appointing judges remains, and this could not be solved because the smaller nations insisted that the equality of states be recognized. Obviously a judge from each nation would defeat the purpose of the court by making it cumbersome and expensive. But while no plan for dividing fifteen judges among forty-four nations could be devised, the conference so left the matter that any number of nations, by appointing judges after a plan they may agree upon, may establish the court for themselves. And here the matter rested until recently Secretary Knox made his proposal that the international prize court provided by The Hague conference be

given the functions and jurisdiction of the judicial arbitration court, thereby solving the question of apportionment of judges and utilizing existing machinery. It should be remembered, however, that in the prize court the small nations waived their interpretation of equality of states on the ground that the great powers would have more use for the court; therefore they may not yet be ready to accept the same apportionment of judges for the judicial arbitration court. Whether it would be wise for a number of nations to establish the court for themselves on a basis that would probably be unacceptable to some of the others brings us again to the keynote of the movement, practically, whether the third Hague conference solves the problem or it is solved by the nations before that conference, it is safe to predict that the world's statesmen will never dispose of the subject in other than a practical way.

The nations will not be swept into ill-considered action, and when their peoples are brought from indifference to an appreciation of the practical nature of the movement their delegates to future Hague conferences will have no excuse for opposing any plan of appointing judges that appeals to the practical, common sense of a large majority.

Public education on this subject is fo-

tered by scores of conferences and societies throughout this and other countries; and most of the peace societies are joining in this practical movement toward a world court. Internationally the Interparliamentary union, with a vast membership of legislators of every nation, including some 200 members of our own congress, headed by Hon. Richard Bartholdt of Missouri, is the greatest force of this nature. Among the more powerful American agencies are the American Society of International Law, under the presidency of Senator Root; the American Association for International Conciliation, managed by President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia university; the new American Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes, recently organized in Baltimore by Mr. Theodore Marburg, with Hon. James Brown Scott, solicitor of the State department, to whom fell the bulk of the technical work of the United States at the second Hague conference, as president; the American Peace society and its many branches, under the guidance of its veteran secretary, Dr. Benjamin F. Trueblood; and the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration, founded by Mr. Albert K. Smiley and presided over at several meetings by Judge George Gray of Delaware and the veteran diplomat, Hon. John

W. Foster, ex-secretary of state. The Lake Mohonk Conference, especially, since its inception in 1896 has been insistent in its demand for an international court, and the proposed court will be the leading subject of its sixteenth annual meeting, which will be held at its founder's unique and picturesque summer home at Mohonk Lake, N. Y., May 13-20. President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia university will preside, and among the speakers expected are the ministers to the United States from Bolivia, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland and Belgium; Baron d'Estournelles de Constant of France; the dean of Worcester, England; the chief justice of Ontario, the Canadian minister of labor, the governors of Minnesota, Wisconsin and New Jersey; Hon. Lloyd C. Griscom of New York; Hon. A. J. Montague of Virginia; Hon. H. B. F. Macfarland and Hon. Jackson H. Ralston of Washington; Hon. Simon E. Baldwin of New Haven, Hon. Peter W. Meldrim and Mr. Pleasant A. Stovall of Savannah, Ga.; ex-President Elliot of Harvard university and Pres-

idents Schurman of Cornell, Buckbar of the University of Vermont and Mitchell of the University of South Carolina; Prof. Paul E. Reich of the University of Wisconsin and John B. Clark of Columbia university; and Editors Walter H. Page of the "World's Work," Robert L. O'Brien of the Boston Transcript and Dr. G. W. Prothero of the London Quarterly Review. Some 300 distinguished men and women, representing all classes and every part of the country, will be in attendance.

idents Schurman of Cornell, Buckbar of the University of Vermont and Mitchell of the University of South Carolina; Prof. Paul E. Reich of the University of Wisconsin and John B. Clark of Columbia university; and Editors Walter H. Page of the "World's Work," Robert L. O'Brien of the Boston Transcript and Dr. G. W. Prothero of the London Quarterly Review. Some 300 distinguished men and women, representing all classes and every part of the country, will be in attendance.

Quaint Features of Everyday Life

First Meeting with Brewer. MANY years ago, relates the Washington Times, the late Judge Brewer of the supreme court was a county judge in frontier Kansas. Traveling one day in a stage coach he met a young man, who, accompanied by his wife and a red-headed 2-year-old boy, was just moving into the state. The judge became acquainted with the father and mother, and insisted for the

stayers judge of later years was in those days a mighty good politician—that that boy was a fine chap, who would surely make his mark in the world. The proud parents beamed appreciation, and the judge reached for the infant and took him on his lap. Instantly there was insurrection. The prodigy didn't propose to be jollied by an old chap out looking for votes. He kicked the judge viciously, and finally, reaching out a very determined little paw, scratched

the judicial countenance from ear to chin. Three sharp little nails scraped off three furrows of skin, and there was great concern and a very small trifle of real bloodshed. Thirty-odd years passed, and one night at a White House reception, Judge Brewer walked up to a young man and asked: "Pardon me, but I am Justice Brewer may I ask your name?" "I am Representative Victor Murdock of your own state of Kansas, and I am very glad to meet you, sir," replied the young man.

"Well," said the judge, "I was sure you were the one. You're the red-headed brat that scratched all the skin off my face in the stage coach near Wichita about thirty-five years ago. Young man, you're in contempt of court, and if you ever get before me in due judicial form, I'll make you smart for it. Why, I'm strongly minded to take you and spank you for it right now. You look to me just about big enough to begin to be spanked."

Known Where There Was One. The father of Senator Dolliver of Iowa was a Methodist circuit rider in the early sixties in northern West Virginia. Writes Norman E. Mack's Monthly: One Sunday morning he was on his way to preach at one of his several appointments when he met a young fellow trudging along with a maul on his shoulder, Mr. Dolliver anxious to do good at any time, stopped his horse and said: "Good morning, my son, where are you going this fine day with a maul on your shoulder?" The young fellow answered, "I am going over here to dig up a fine big ground hog; where in thunder are you going?" "I am out looking up some of the lost sheep of Israel," replied the minister. The young fellow's face lighted up and he exclaimed: "There's a big buck over here at Uncle Billy's, and I'll bet that's one of them."

Milliner's Pursuit of Secret

(Continued from Page One.) tion which insulated each sheet of the transformer core from its neighbor. If these sheets were allowed to form a continuous body of metal the rapid magnetization and demagnetization of the core would set up "eddy currents" of electricity in the core itself which would entirely demoralize the action of the coils and subject the machine to overheating. Wound upon the core will be twenty-one turns of strap copper, which may be called a wire, but which is more properly a flexible bus bar. This big copper conductor will carry the heavy volume of current which is to pour through the primary at the low voltage from transformation into the high frequency current of 10,000 volts. On the secondary winding will be more than 10,000 turns of No. 20 copper wire. This secondary winding, if stretched out, would reach a distance of approximately ten miles. A voltage of 100,000 is not to be handled with the indifferent care of an ordinary power circuit. The transformer is to be immersed in oil for the purpose of giving additional security in insulation and keeping down the temperature while in operation. The completed transformer will weigh between 250 and 300 pounds.



COMMANDANT AND CADET OFFICERS OMAHA HIGH SCHOOL REGIMENT - 1910. LIEUTENANT HASKELL, COMMANDANT OF CADETS (SITTING). FIRST ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT)—CAPTAIN ALLAN TUKEY, CAPTAIN AND ORDNANCE OFFICER JOSEPH BURGER, CAPTAIN AND ADJUTANT WARREN HOWARD, MAJOR BARTON NASH, MAJOR CHARLES HOPPERT, MAJOR GEORGE GRUB, CAPTAIN ROBERT MCAGUE. SECOND ROW—CAPTAINS CHESTER NIEMAN, CLARENCE PATTON, ALFRED KENNEDY, CHANDLER TRIMBLE, MILTON WREKA, LUMIR BURNER, CALVIN DAVIS, HUGO HEYN. THIRD ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT)—FIRST LIEUTENANT AND ADJUTANT CLAUDE BRUMM, FIRST LIEUTENANT AND ADJUTANT EDWARD BURMAN, FIRST LIEUTENANT AND ADJUTANT PHILIP PAYNE, FIRST LIEUTENANTS JOSEPH CARNABY, VERNON MAGNEY, LEON WELLS, CLARENCE ALLEN AND CLARENCE WASSBERG. FOURTH ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT)—SECOND LIEUTENANTS ROBERT FINLEY, HUGH NELSON, JOHN CUTRIGHT, FRED FERNALD, RICHARD BARNES, JAMES McALLISTER AND PHILIP McCULLOUGH. TOP ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT)—SECOND LIEUTENANTS CHARLES HUDSON, LEONARD HOFFMAN, FIRST LIEUTENANTS STANLEY BERANEK, STUART GOULD, GEORGE RUGAIMAN.