

MUSIC

By HENRIETTA M. REES.

LOOKING for a moment at the musical season of 1916-1917, one finds that, in spite of unsettled conditions, it has been a very busy time for the ardent music lover. We have had concerts and recitals, orchestras and operas, almost as if nothing unusual was going on in the business life of the country, and no one had reason to complain for any lack of them. During the season the musical editor attended and reviewed forty-seven musical events, which were for the most part well worth the hearing. There were fewer orchestral programs and more operatic productions than last year, with concerts holding about an even balance. Owing to the great dearth of things dramatic the public has performed had recourse more to things musical, and record audiences have turned up for some of them. This was notably so in the case of John McCormack, who was listened to by the largest audience ever gathered together in Omaha for a similar event, and in the case of the Ellis Opera company, which, with a galaxy of stars and with the Omaha Retailers' association in back of them, also brought an immense audience to the Auditorium. The first appearance of the phenomenal Galli-Curci at the Boyd theater brought a sold-out house at that place, with many seats under the stage, in back of the prima donna, besides.

A noticeable fact about the musical events has been that those which have been backed and promoted by organizations, such as the Omaha Retailers' association and the Tuesday Morning Musical club, have always been well attended, while others, unless there was some other working organization behind them, have drawn poor houses in spite of the excellence of the attractions. An exception to this was the San Carlo Opera company, which, under the local management of Lucius Pryor, succeeded in drawing excellent houses to its four different performances.

Among the bright particular recitals of the season, besides those mentioned above, were those of Kreisler, Gounod and Oscar Seagle, who was allowed to slip in and out again with but a small portion of our music lovers making use of the opportunity to hear him.

This season brought the first appearance of Mrs. Edward MacDowell and the subsequent organization of an Omaha MacDowell club. It gave us our first taste of community singing, which we can't bear to think is going to be allowed to pass by with no definite and favorable results. Surely, the value of it is so apparent and it needs but the enthusiasm of a few of our leading citizens to get together and make it a possibility, that it seems strange we have not been able to have it before. Perhaps some organization which takes an interest in things musical might give the people not only a chance to attend and listen to music, but a chance to take part in it as well. It would not require nearly as much of a guarantee to finance it that it does to pay for some of the attractions which are brought here, and besides, the money would remain in Omaha.

But coming back to a discussion of the musical season, it also brought us the first sonata recital given here, a return visit of the Flonzaley quartet, of the Damosch orchestra and the wonderful Boston Opera company (of which poor patronage could not be the luster), many visits of musicians and a few local ones in concert work. This year the Mendelssohn choir and Minneapolis orchestra joined forces

"Very Good, Eddie," Coming to Boyd Theater; Vaudeville at Empress; Yiddish Play at Brandeis

THE belated season brings to Omaha, at the Boyd theater, an unexpected treat in "Very Good Eddie," the musical comedy that has been the talk of the country for the past two seasons, and which is coming here direct from its long run at the Garrick theater, Chicago, with the original New York cast. Previous to the Chicago run the piece was for a whole year in New York, five months in Boston and four months in Philadelphia, establishing a new record for musical comedy for the past ten years. And best of all, "Very Good Eddie" is coming here with the original cast, Omaha being only one of the two cities that will see this big success between Chicago and San Francisco.

"Very Good Eddie" is not only the funniest farce that was ever staged, the book being by Philip Bartholomae and Guy Bolton, but it possesses a score by Jerome Kern which is easily the most tuneful in many years. It contains a dozen of the biggest song hits of the decade, such as "Babes in the Woods," "If I Find the Girl," "I Love Them All," "On the Bench at Le Lei Wei," "Isn't It Great to Be Happily Married?" "Old Boy Neutral," "Some Sort of Somebody," and many others.

Songs, dances, laughter and a vision of lovely girlhood follow each other in rapid succession in the performance of "Very Good Eddie," which has been characterized by the leading critics of the principal cities as the smartest and brightest musical show that has ever been offered to an American audience. The engagement is for two days only—Monday and Tuesday—June 4 and 5, at the Boyd.

Two really big musical comedy numbers are booked for the Empress this coming week. It is seldom that such extravagant companies are engaged for appearance in vaudeville in this section of the country. "The Explorers" is the title of a miniature musical comedy employing ten people. They come to the Empress today and stay for the entire first half. Two men and eight women present in this number a catchy conglomeration of comedy talking, solo and ensemble singing. On the last half of the week



JAMES STEVENS AND CORA TRACY IN "THE SERENADE" AT THE BRANDEIS

the program calls for the "Winter Garden Revue," which is also a big musical number featuring a lot of pretty clever girls in songs and dances. Thiesens's Pets, a canine novelty, will hold forth on the bill starting today. Fred and Alleen Vance present "Hello Red," a comedy singing and talking act. On the photoplay bill Anita Stewart will be seen in "Clover's Rebellion." Mildred Haywood, known as vaudeville's "Tomboy," presents a character change act.

"Robin Hood," which will be produced at the Brandeis theater, Friday evening, June 8, is acknowledged to be the greatest masterpiece of comic opera ever written by Americans. The charm of Reginald de Koven's music is as fresh as when it was first enjoyed twenty-five years ago, and the dialogue of Henry B. Smith is as sparkling now as it was then. It has stood the old test of time because it is a real work of art, and the genius



ALLEEN VANCE AT THE EMPRESS

which inspired it should gratify the pride of every American. "The Serenade" will be given at the Brandeis theater Saturday matinee and evening, June 9, by the Walker and Stevens company. The cast is the same as that which presented "Robin Hood," with several additions, and includes among its members James Stevens, Ivy Scott, Cora Tracy, Herbert Waterous, Ralph Brainerd, Phil Branson, David Ansd, Edward Andrews and Tillie Salinger.

The attraction at the Brandeis theater Wednesday, May 30, will be Madame Fannie Reinhart and an all-star Yiddish cast in the latest success, "For the Sins of the Parents." Madame Reinhart is well known to the Omaha Yiddish theater goers. There are four comedians in the cast, of which Mr. Shenbrot, star of the Empire theater, Chicago, is the principal film maker. The sale of seats for Madame Reinhart opens Monday at 10 a. m.

Filmland Favorites



PAULINE FREDERICK

Pauline Frederick was born in Boston, Mass., and was educated in a private school there. Her stage career began with the Roger Brothers' successes, "Princess of the Kensington," "It Happened in Nordland," "Little Gray Lady," "The Girl in White," "Toddles," "When Knights Were Bold," "Samson," with Gillette, "Joseph and His Brethren," and starred in "Innocent." Her screen career has always been with the Famous Players' company, whose product is released on the Paramount program and she has appeared in "Ashes of Embers," "Nanette of the Wilds," "The Slave Market," "Sapho," "Sleeping Fires," and is now appearing in her latest success, "Her Better Self." She takes much delight in her recreation, which includes driving, walking and is also an able shot and fully able to take care of herself. Her height is five feet four inches, she has brown hair and blue eyes. Home address, 449 Park avenue, New York City. Studio address, Famous Players, New York City.

Rohlf Will Reopen on Wednesday With Fine Film

The Rohlf theater will again open its doors to the public Wednesday afternoon under the personal management of Mr. Oscar Rohlf, who is making many changes in this show shop, and the attractions which have been already arranged for are the best that can be obtained anywhere. The theater is being thoroughly renovated throughout. A new coat of paint and many additional lights will make this one of the brightest fronts in Omaha. New decorations are being made inside and flowers will be practically on every hand.

Empress Garden Holds Its Own as Amusement Center

The entertainment at the Empress garden continues to please the patrons in a gratifying manner. Artistic singing and dancing, ranging from the classic to the latest popular numbers will appeal to the taste and fancy of all classes. Little Thelma Wolf and Toney Bonney are making many new friends during the dinner hours with their clever songs and dances.

BOYD TWO DAYS ONLY

Mon., Tues., June 4, 5
The Smartest and Brightest of All
Musical Comedy Hits
"Very Good Eddie"
With the entire original cast from a year in New York and six months in Chicago.
SEATS WEDNESDAY

EMPRESS

NEW SHOW TODAY
"THE EXPLORERS"
Musical Comedy
Clever People
Fred and Alleen Vance
in "HELLO RED"
Comedy Singing and Talking
Mildred Haywood
Vaudeville's Tom Boy
Thiesens's Pets
Canine Novelty
Anita Stewart
in "CLOVER'S REBELLION"
ADMISSION 20c AND 10c

Perhaps the star attraction of the coming week will be the ensemble singing and dance review in which Patsy Murphy, Mary Hallahan, Harold Williams and assistants will appear. The popular dance is becoming a notable feature, the interest growing nightly.

THE EMPRESS GARDEN

Entertainment Program
Week Commencing
SUNDAY, MAY 27TH
HOURS:
12 to 2, 6 to 8 and 9 to 12 P. M.
PATSY MURPHY
HAROLD WILLIAMS
and Assistants
In Grand Musical Dance Review
Empress Singing Staff
Classic, Popular and Late Song
Sensations
Popular Dancing from 9 to 12 p. m.
Daily
Ladies' Matinee Tea Dance
WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY
From 3:30 to 5:30
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TABLE D'HOTE DINNER
Served Sunday from 12 to 8 P. M.
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BRANDEIS THEATRE

2 NIGHTS FRIDAY, June 8
THE WALKER STEVENS OPERA CO.
FRIDAY—Reginald De Koven's
"ROBIN HOOD"
SATURDAY MATINEE AND NIGHT
Victor Herbert's Masterpiece
"THE SERENADE"
Same incomparable cast and chorus that appeared here last season.
Nights, 50c to \$1.50; Mat., 25c to \$1.00.
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RECITAL
Given by pupils of Frances Bestens,
Pianist; Frank Mack, Violinist;
Walter B. Graham, Vocalist; Tuesday
Evening, May 29, 12:15, at the
Schmoller & Mueller Auditorium,
1811 Farnam Street, Yourself and
Friends Cordially Invited.

Loneliness Cuts Figure in Life of Woman, Says Ruth

In "The Neglected Wife," which shows at the Muse theater the first four days of this week, Mabel Herbert Urner's story of domestic distress, stress is laid upon the loneliness of Margaret Warner, "the other woman" in the case. Ruth Roland, who plays Margaret in the serial prepared by Pathe from the novel, thinks this is one of the dearest touches in the piece.

"In the picture," she said recently, "it had to be shown that Margaret was driven reluctantly to accept the husband's attention. She is an essentially pure, well-principled woman—a writer bound up in her art, utterly unvarnished, ascetic rather than sensuous. How could such a woman stray from the path?"

"Why, simply through loneliness. Every woman is in terror of being alone. Every woman demands a little affection, a little warmth, from someone. If Margaret had had a home, family, friends—well, there wouldn't have been any picture. But there was no one, until Kennedy, the husband, came. She didn't feel especially drawn to him, she didn't love him as she later came to love Norwood. But he did stand out in the dark world that encircled her as the one human being who cared whether she dropped at the dock or not, and so she turned to him."

"In working in this picture, I have studied Mrs. Urner's books carefully, and the deeper I have delved the more I have marvelled at their insight. The instance I have given is only one of many which prove that she is a remarkably keen student of human nature. "The Neglected Wife" is so far out of the usual run of pictures, so akin to life itself, that I have enjoyed working in it more than in any other part I have played."

Mary Pickford in Great Drama Will Shine at the Strand

"A Poor Little Rich Girl" will disclose Mary Pickford in a picture which, although of typical Pickford charm, presents the famous girl star in a character quite different from anything in which she has appeared heretofore. For instance, who ever heard of Mary Pickford being a regular little bob-cut when it comes to fighting? Yet this is the way she will be the case in "Little Mary," new film when a gang of street urchins attack her at her palatial home.

In the luxurious conservatory, with its lily pond and gigantic palms, she battles with a half dozen sturdy youngsters and finally sets them to rout at the cost of much expensive furnishings as well as her own immaculate appearance. Battered from head to foot with mud from the scowling lily pond and severely scratched, she looks triumphant as the remains of the gang are set to flight. The urchins used in these scenes were instructed to give real battle and in fighting them off the popular little star has her hands full in every sense of the expression—as well as her teeth and feet. After this fight Miss Pickford's activities for the day at the studio ceased right then and there and those who witness the affair on the screen of the Strand theater commencing Tuesday and for the balance of the week will easily understand why this was the case.

Derelict Flivver Looms Up Big in a Vitagraph Drama

"Few people stop to realize the tremendous development of the automobile," says Rudolph Cameron, who plays a leading role in support of Anita Stewart in the Greater Vitagraph's "Clover's Rebellion." "Like the motion picture drama, the automobile has grown to success within the last twenty years."

"A whole lot of the development of the plot in my latest motion picture drama, 'Clover's Rebellion,' revolves around the motor car's development. I play a young physician, poor but happy-go-lucky, the owner of a derelict 'flivver.' Indeed, it is this 'flivver' that first attracts the attention of the heroine, Clover, by arousing her admiration."

"Clover's Rebellion," which was

written by James Oliver Curwood, comes to the Empress theater today, until Wednesday, Anita Stewart is starred in the drama, while the supporting company numbers, besides Mr. Cameron, Brinsley Shaw, Eulalie Jensen, Charles Stevenson, Julia Swayne Gordon and William Dunn.

Simple Plot With Homely Details Here Worked Out

Lynn F. Reynolds, who has become known as Bluebird's "nature study" director, has the rare faculty of making excellent photoplay entertainment out of the simplest of plots. Reynolds never brings the heavy villain into focus in his film stories; there are never any serious crimes involved—but when it comes to unfolding the simple and logical stories of every day life, this is one director who seems to have close touch with the appealing side of humanity. "Southern Justice," to be displayed in Bluebird photoplays at the Hipp theater today and Monday, will certify the foregoing claims in interesting and attractive detail. The presenting company will be led by George Hernandez and Myrtle Gonzalez and a story of real life in a small Kentucky town will be unfolded in simple and homely details, set in nature's scenery, without undue artifice or illusion.

Petrova Shows Her Own Wonderful Jewels in "Flame"

In speaking of her first Lasky-Paramount picture, "The Undying Flame," Mme. Petrova said: "This is one of the most unique productions I ever played in and, as far as costumes and settings are concerned, by far the most gorgeous and costly. My own costume alone, in the first part as the Egyptian princess, was worth many thousands of dollars, as nearly all the jewels I wore were from my own collection, and included some of the rarest gems in the world. The head-

"Red Star" Workers Are Active; Relief for Horses in War Time

Albany, N. Y., May 26.—Theodore Roosevelt and General Leonard Wood are among the prominent men who have given their support to the American Red Star Animal Relief. Theodore Roosevelt has just written the director general, with headquarters in Albany, N. Y.: "I most heartily approve of the proposed organization of the American Red Star Animal Relief. It seems to me an abhorrent thing not to do everything we can do for the horses and other animals used in war." General Wood likewise appreciates the importance of such an organization and writes: "Your undertaking is an admirable one and, if effectively carried out in time of war, its influence will be felt not only from the humanitarian standpoint, but from the standpoint of efficiency."

Intense activity marks the efforts of the officers of the American Red Star Animal Relief to secure the needed equipment for veterinary hospitals, which must soon be placed at the disposal of the army, in its army animal relief work. There has come an official request from a high army officer for fifteen horse-drawn horse ambulances which may be placed at the disposal of different training camps that have been planned. Funds for the purchase of these are being collected. In some instances, branches of the Red Star or groups of patriotic citizens are agreeing to present one or more such ambulances to the Red Star.

Veterinary hospitals will be erected at the various concentration camps built similarly to those used in all the armies of the allies. They will have a capacity varying from 100 to 1,000 animals. Sheds opened on three sides, with a runway down the center, will house 100 horses each. They will be built of wood and corrugated iron. Each hospital must be supplied with an ambulance, a supply wagon, a feed cart; besides brooms, rakes, forks, shovels, buckets, currycombs and brushes. Great quantities of surgical equipment necessary to successfully handle this large number of animals must also be provided. Such

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Omaha Musical Notes

The West Sisters' string quartet will go to Peru, Neb., to play at the seventh annual musical festival, held there under the auspices of the department of music of the State Normal school, June 4 and 5. The festival chorus will sing the "Stabat Mater," by Rossini, and the string quartet will accompany the choir in "The Rose Tree," by Mendelssohn. The West Sisters' quartet, which consisted of the following: Mrs. W. J. Perry, soprano; Mrs. W. J. Perry, alto; Mrs. W. J. Perry, tenor; Mrs. W. J. Perry, bass.

Mrs. E. R. Zabriskie presents her advanced pupils in a violin recital, assisted by Miss Ethel Parson, pupil of Mrs. Louise Jansen-Wyke, at Schmoller & Mueller's auditorium, Monday, June 11, at 8:15 o'clock. Those taking part will be Miss Marion Miller of Lyons, Neb.; Miss Gertrude Koepfer, Miss Flora Shukert, Mrs. Grace Ledy Burger, Lewis Schnauber, and a violin quartet composed of Mrs. Grace Ledy Burger, Flora Shukert, Gertrude Koepfer and Myrtle Cloud. Mrs. Zabriskie and Miss Olive Seymour will accompany. The public is cordially invited.

A note has been received from the P. F. Voland company, which recently conducted a contest for the musical setting of Wilbur D. Nesbit's poem, "My Flax and My Flax," stating that "by unanimous decision the judges in the contest awarded the prize to manuscript No. 25. This was found to be by Frederick W. Lusk. Nearly 700 manuscripts were submitted, many of them worthy of publication. The judges were: Kazleton Hackett, Dr. Felix Borowski and Dr. P. C. Lutkin.

A recital given by the pupils of Frances Bestens, pianist; Frank Mack, violinist, and Walter B. Graham, vocalist, will take place Tuesday evening, May 29, at the Schmoller & Mueller auditorium, 1811 Farnam street. Those taking part will be: Dora Rich, 177 Kohn, Archie Baley, Rosalie Goldenberg, Solomon Wintroub, Geraldine Wycoff, Sam Rosenblatt, Dan Besman, Dorothy Parsons, Alexander Rohrbough, Elizabeth Stephan, Ernest Stilling, Estelle Lapidus, Wilma Stewart, Elizabeth Robertson, Leon Connell, Arthur Ziebarth, Joe Stern, Clara Schneider, Wilhelm Friedmann. Accompanists will be: Mrs. Nell, Anna Wintroub, Anna Killian, Mrs. Athalia Fuller, Esther Fricke and Mrs. Charles Ziebarth.

Mrs. Gell White McMoines of Tekamah sends a neat booklet concerning the study of piano under the "Progressive Series of Piano Lessons" in general, and about her teaching as well. There is also a program of opera selections given as the annual recital of her piano pupils, in the Baptist church of Tekamah, the evening of May 15. Those taking part were: Margaret Wilbert, May Adams, Melvina Veltus, Margaret Kelly, Hazel Morrow, Nettie Barker, Ruth Keck, Mildred Pratt, Alice Robinson, Hazel Shaw, Arlene and Beatrice Harner, Gladys McCann of Blair, Lillian Morgan, Bertha Rhodes, Pauline

Cooper of Craig, Arthur Latta, Melville Hopewell, Edna Robinson, Arlene Goff, Dorothy White, Helen Martin of Craig, Evelyn Nelson and Marion Harding of Oakland, Rachel Crowe, Janet Schroeder, Gell McGraw, Dorothea Thomas and Lillian Morgan. A song, "Reverend," words by H. M. Howells, of Tekamah, with music by Abbie W. Jamison, was sung by the class, and "America," by all present.

Pupils of Miss Ida M. Morse will give a piano recital on June 2 at 3 o'clock at the Schmoller & Mueller piano company building, 1811 Farnam street. Pupils taking part are: Misses Larsen, Ruth Wieck, Sarah Wolner, Beulah Phillips, May Hubbard, Emma Elizabeth Smith, Lena Kranno, Mildred Wolner, Mary Stejhal, Sophia Perrin, Ruth Jacobson, Ethel Carey, Edie Sawyer, Alvera Anderson, LaVeta Lowe, Janette Levinson, Helen Levinson, Mildred Herbolom, Vivian Garkby, Bernice Nelson, Alvera Primm, Mary Houck and Anna Hannuska. Friends are invited.

Miss Jessie McDonald has taken directorship of the Castelar Presbyterian choir.

Mr. Forrest Painter, baritone, sang in concert at O'Neill last week.

The following pupils of Walter B. Graham will give a concert for the Calvary Baptist church Monday evening, May 29: Mrs. Willard Slabaugh; Misses Marie French, Jess McDonald, Margaret Spalding, Elizabeth Stephan, Grace, and Messrs. Lawrence Dugas, Fred Fisher and Lynn Sackett. Miss Esther Fricke, accompanist.

The harp is growing rapidly in popularity. Judging from the many calls for harp playing and instruction, and Omaha will soon be the Mecca for all those interested in the classic instrument. The harp lectures given by Loretta de Lone as a prelude to the harp recitals have done much towards enlightening the public and dispelling many erroneous ideas prevalent in the minds even of musical people. The harp concert given by Miss de Lone on April 1 at the Fontenelle hotel was such a success that she was engaged to appear on the special program this evening. One of the features of the evening will be initial presentation of the new war song, "To Arms," words composed by J. F. Hixby, and music by Miss de Lone, and will be sung by Lynn Sackett with orchestra accompaniment. Miss de Lone will play several concert dates in Nebraska this week.

The Apollo Lyric club will give the first of a series of concerts the evening of May 29 at the People's church. The Kurtz orchestra will give the Spivakovskian overture, M. Mametok will give a cornet solo, J. Hawk a trombone solo, H. J. Kurtz a violin solo and Mrs. Beale Middleton and the following pupils will give several vocal solos, assisted by Frank and Lloyd Kriss and Lloyd Kramer Ferris on the piano; Vivian Kriss, Gladys Olmstead, Inez Huff, Catherine Sawidge, Amelia Waszy, Ethel Steinar and Florence Smith.

Benefits will be given by the Misses Mary Hayes, Crawford and Edith Vernon.

Miss Ethel Corey and Mr. Walter Deets are members of the double quartet at the First Presbyterian church.