

## SOCIETY GLIDES IN MAZES OF TANGO

After First Timidity Wears Off, Smart Set Starts In to Learn Latest Steps.

### STUNNING FROCKS SEEN

Several Variations of Popular Ballroom Dance, Exhibited by Harry Gray and Miss Wirt, Draw Large Attendance to Hotel.

Society "tangoed" and "tead" again yesterday afternoon at Hotel Multnomah. The affair, coming immediately upon the heels of the debut of the dancing teas in Portland, was equally successful with Tuesday's event, and undoubtedly will continue to hold full sway for the remainder of the season at the hotel. There were fewer spectators and more dancers yesterday, and the spectators' enthusiasm permitted the participants to indulge in all variations of the modern dances. Tea and refreshments were served during the dances in the ballroom, and tables were also placed in the supper room.

While there was an immense gathering of the smart set in informal dress and the women in stunning afternoon frocks and tailored suits, owing to the capacity of the ballroom and splendid managerial ability displayed everyone was comfortably seated and served and had an excellent view of the dancers. Harry Gray, his charming assistant, Miss Wirt, danced divinely, giving exhibitions of several variations of the ballroom tango, hesitation waltz and one-step. The dances were extremely graceful and pretty and were executed in artistic style.

The first guests were chary and timid about dancing, but soon they were all gliding about in gleeful fashion, the purpose of all present seeming to be an earnest endeavor to learn the graceful, rhythmic steps as shown by Mr. Gray and Miss Wirt.

Both the Multnomah and Portland hotels will have the tea dances again on Saturday from 4 to 7 o'clock.

The Red Cross stamp booth at Hotel Portland, under the direction of Mrs. Julia Louise Feldenheimer and Miss Marie Louise Feldenheimer, was in meeting with tremendous success. They were assisted yesterday by Mrs. John G. Clemson, and in the afternoon by Mrs. Henry F. Metzger and Miss Marie Louise Feldenheimer. A special attraction of the afternoon was the presence of the charming diva, Madame Melba, and Jan Kubelik, who entered into the spirit of the occasion with keen enthusiasm and increased the sales considerably. Today the booth will be presided over by Mrs. Jonah B. Wise, and Mrs. Sidney Geiser in the morning, while the afternoon will be in charge of Mrs. Henry J. Ottensheimer and Mrs. James P. Cook.

At the new residence of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Haviland, 340 Gladstone avenue, a Thanksgiving dinner was given to a number of German friends from their home town of Norfolk, Neb. After the dinner dancing was enjoyed until late in the evening. Mr. and Mrs. Otto Piller and family, Mrs. Donner and daughter, Charles Haviland, Fred Behrens, Mr. and Mrs. Will Stalzer, Mrs. Adolph Easwein, formerly Miss Piller, August Neumeyer, William Reinhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Jensen, Miss Esther Walter and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Marshall.

Miss H. Engstrom, of Portland, is one of the late Western arrivals at the Hotel McAlpin in New York.

Mrs. C. V. Vosper entertained Monday afternoon in honor of her sister, Miss Ada Stipe, a bride-elect, with a china shower and card party. Mrs. Vosper was assisted by her mother, Mrs. W. J. Stipe and sister, Miss Ada Stipe. The living-rooms were decorated beautifully with orchids, carnations and pink hearts. In addition to the house guests there were: The Misses Mayme Brown, Reva Funk, Charlotte Giger, Irene Connell, Bea Hand, Lucile Stevens, Mrs. Alexander H. Shaw, Mrs. George Vosper, Mrs. F. R. Stipe and Miss Ada Stipe.

For the pleasure of their families members of the Chi Psi fraternity entertained at the University Club with a luncheon, Saturday afternoon. The table was attractive with yellow chrysanthemums and smilax. A delightful menu was served. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. William Dolph, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Drake, Miss Drake, Dr. and Mrs. Norman Pease, Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Nes, Mrs. Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. Shepard, J. B. Kerr and Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Reed. At the close of the luncheon each child was presented with a doll and a book.

Cards have been sent out for a large reception to be given on Saturday, December 6, by Mrs. Charles Wesley Jones, at her home, 885 Alameda drive, from 3 until 5 o'clock.

The University Club has issued invitations for its annual reception, to be given on Friday evening, December 12, at the new clubhouse.

The rush for Red Cross seals continues and many prominent society maidens and matrons are aiding in the sales. Those who will assist today and their stations assigned are:

Meier—Frank—Morning, Miss Hazel Parker; afternoon, Mrs. Clifton McArthur and Miss Anna Ladd.

Lipman, Wife & Co.—Morning, Miss Stewart, Mrs. I. N. Lipman, Miss Selma Meyer and Miss Flora Rosenblatt.

Olds, Wortman & King—Mrs. Elmer B. Colwell, Miss Elva Burness and Miss Constance Muir.

K. G. & Co.—Miss Constance Chenevert and Miss Jeannette Parker.

Wells-Fargo building—Mrs. J. F. Haight and Mrs. J. B. Lahey.

Owl Drugstore—Mrs. Lu Bell Bauer and Miss Flo Bauer.

Postoffice Graduate Nurses.

Union Hotel—Morning, Mrs. Jonah B. Wise and Mrs. Sidney Teisner; afternoon, Mrs. Henry J. Ottensheimer and Mrs. James P. Cook.

Imperial Hotel—Morning, Mrs. J. C. E. King and Mrs. G. M. Woodney; afternoon, Mrs. William L. Finley and Mrs. Mary E. Finley.

Multnomah Hotel—Mrs. A. C. Smith and Mrs. Wilbur E. Coman.

Oregon—Mrs. Robert G. Deick and Mrs. Thomas D. Honeyman.

Hazelwood—Mrs. H. M. Hendershot, chairman; Mrs. C. McMillan, Miss Inez Clark and Miss Florence Cleveland.

The Pan-Hellenic Society, which has been selling seals at the Seward Hotel, under the direction of Mrs. George Gerlinger, has transferred its booth to the Hazelwood Restaurant.

Miss Mabel Baker will be hostess to day at a large party in the home of Miss Doris Skeel and Miss Dorothy Shoemaker at her home in East Twenty-eighth street from 3 until 5 o'clock.

## MELBA, GREAT SINGER, TELLS ABOUT HER FIRST BIG NIGHT OF TRIUMPH

Happy After Selling Red Cross Seals, Diva Recounts Winning of Her Fame—Weather Reminds Her of Australia and She Tells About Her Home and Girlhood Days.



MADAME MELBA, AS SALESMAN, AND JAN KUBELIK AS ONE OF HER PATRONS AT RED CROSS CHRISTMAS STAMP BOOTH AT PORTLAND HOTEL YESTERDAY.

IT WAS in the Royal Opera House at Brussels. Queen Marie was there with her ladies. The house was aisle with composers and critics. An unknown Australian singer named Melba was making her debut, singing Gilda in "Rigoletto." Mathilde Marchesi, her teacher, who died the other day at 73, had come from Paris with Charles Felix Gounod, the composer, to hear her.

The chandlers were yet trembling with the applause that had greeted the first flight of the fresh young voice, clothed in the magic plumes of song, when a woman in a box near the stage said to her companions in a voice hushed and loud enough to be heard in an adjoining box:

"Melba! Debut! I heard her hissed ten years ago in Spain!"

At once a friend of the young singer in the adjoining box rose, went to the door of the box occupied by the woman with the hateful voice, and knocked.

To the man who came he said: "Sir, I don't know who you are and I don't care, but a lady in your box has just taken a jibe at the lady on the stage. She doesn't apologize, I'll punch your head."

**Apology Given by Proxy.**

The apology was given by proxy by the man who came to the door.

"Thus you see how we celebrate whether a singer is or Colonel Roosevelt, are assailed unjustly," said Madame Melba in her parlor at the Portland Hotel yesterday.

"And it's too bad that we haven't always 'champions such as I had that night,'" she went on. "I did not learn of the incident for years afterward, and my friend only told me when my success had long been assured and he knew that the story could have no possible ending, as I surely would have had then, when I was trying so hard and was so anxious to succeed—when my fate as a singer literally trembled in the balance."

"But my success was instantaneous. The Queen sent for me. She told me I had never heard so beautiful a voice as mine. I had fulfilled the fondest expectations of my good master,

Marchesi. The critics proclaimed that a new star had arisen."

That night the wires and cables were singing the news to the music-lovers of all the earth.

### Portland Weather Please.

"Does Portland always have such diamond-and-sapphire days as this December?" she asked, drawing back the curtains and looking out across the city toward Mount Hood, his snowy head showing seams of purple in the advancing dusk.

"Why, this is like Australia, this fresh, crisp air, this dazzling light over all the landscape. I thought it would be raining here. This is what we Americans call Indian Summer, isn't it?"

"And am I not lucky to be here at such a time. The neighbors used to call me the sunshine girl, and who knows? perhaps I have brought this sunshiness and these Australian skies to Portland."

Melba took her operatic title from her beloved Melbourne, "the old home town" that she still loves above all the cities of the world, and she has seen and sung in them all except Constantinople, Athens, Lisbon and a very few others.

**Parents Oppose Singing.**

"I discovered myself," she said. "My parents were such strict Scotch Presbyterians. Oh, yes, I am Scotch to the very backbone—that they wouldn't let me sing. They feared the stage as a device of the devil and grand opera as a certain chute to hell fire. They made me cease singing or tried to when I was a baby because of the complications given me for my singing in a church concert."

But the girl knew better than the old folks. On lonely, truant rides across the country she sang to the skies and the wind. She sang in the skies, and the birds would listen to her. She sang any time, any place, out of parental hearing or discovery.

She was married at 17 years old. Her mother, other than Melba, is now Mrs. Charles Armstrong. Shortly after her marriage she went to Europe for vocal culture. Her father thought that it was simply to perfect her voice as an amateur. Resignedly, he decided that if she must sing it would do no harm for her to learn how, so long as she confined her singing to such proper music as hymns and cradle songs.

From the church concert, when she was 6, until she was 21, and had her initial triumph in Brussels, Melba never once sung in public.

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