

JUNIOR FARCE

Amateurs do Credit to Themselves and
"Oblige Benson"

The Junior farce Tuesday evening was a decided success. The work of the several participants was excellent considering the short time for preparation. The crowd was small, no doubt on account of other attractions in the city.

The opening music numbers were of high order. Camille Carroll in the "Air de Ballet," Chaminade, displayed a delicacy of touch and a technique which delighted the audience. Her hearers were disappointed only because Miss Carroll failed to respond to an encore. Miss Templeton is an old favorite with Eugene audiences and never fails to charm both on account of her pleasing manner and her clear soprano voice of such remarkable range. It would be hard to do justice to Professor Glen at any time, but those who heard him Tuesday night thought his rendition of "Vulcan's Song" superior to anything they had ever heard. His low bow in response to an imperative call for an encore did not satisfy his audience. He had to be heard not seen. Only after he had repeated a portion of the number were the listeners content to let him go. Miss Stinson made a hit at her first recital, but has been continually rising in the estimation of the Eugene music loving public. Her artistic rendition of the "Maids of Cadiz" last Tuesday evening won her many new admirers.

The farce "To Oblige Benson" was a single act comedy. The scene was in a drawing room of the Benson home. There was no change of scenery save that some pieces of furniture crippled by Mr. Southdown in his jealous rage had to be carried out for repairs.

The plot of the farce is extremely simple, with few complications. Mrs. Benson a "trifle indiscrete," has been flirting a little with Mr. Meredith, a rather attractive young fellow. Mrs. Southdown perceives the seriousness of the situation, and warns Mrs. Benson to let it go no further. To mend matters she sets to work to recapture a letter which the lady in haste has written to Meredith and to show her what dire consequences can result from a husband's jealousy. Old Trotter Southdown is instructed to fall into a fit of jealousy and act the perfect lunatic "just to oblige Benson." Old Southdown gets the impression that it is his wife and not Benson's that has been receiving attentions from Meredith and feigns jealousy in dead earnest, as much to the consternation of Mrs. Southdown as anybody else. Finally Mrs. Benson confesses and is forgiven. When Trotter finds that the letter to Meredith is in Mrs.

Benson's handwriting, he rather cautiously forgives Mrs. Southdown and the storm passes over.

Mr. Plummer was not in a role best suited to his taste. Bertie, the lamb, and Benson, the shrewd legal practitioner, are radically different beings and it would require a deal of versatility indeed to handle such different parts with equal skill. The part was not particularly fertile one and rather austere. Considering the difficulties under which he labored, Mr. Plummer did remarkably well.

Mr. Graham, as Meredith, was the cause of the whole trouble. Dave (in his make-up) was as handsome, attractive and fascinating a young man as any lawyer's wife would wish to receive attention from.

Mr. Eyre, as Mr. Southdown had the star part and handled it well. Mr. Southdown, absorbed in his agricultural pursuits, is rather indulgent with his wife, but, when wrought up to a high pitch of jealous rage, can be as frantic as we could reasonably expect an old man to be. The dialect, the intonation, the facial expression, and the very movement all harmonized, and created a unity of impression which was not Eyre but Southdown.

Mrs. Benson was weak, whining, hysterical with little in what she said or did—at least little to admire; but though the character was despicable, Miss Cleaver's impersonation was admirable.

Miss Dodge as Mrs. Southdown was the ruling character of the play. Old Trotter's wife was always master of the situation and Trotter as well. She warned, comforted and commanded at will and the other people were not slow to comply. Miss Dodge's interpretation was admirable. She contributed strength where it was required and a touch of gentleness where it was most efficacious.

EXCHANGES

Boating is soon to be a feature in California athletics.

Orval Overhall, the hero of the late Stanford-California football game, has been unanimously elected captain of the U. C. football eleven. California is justly very proud of her "big guard" for the victory over Stanford was in a great measure due to Overhall's wonderful playing.

November 18, 1902 is a date that will ever stand out boldly in the educational history of the West. For at half past three, upon the afternoon of that day there was laid the corner stone of an architectural scheme that, when completed, will make the University of California the greatest educational center of the world. Specifically speaking Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, surrounded by a great crowd of distinguished visitors, laid the corner stone of the Hearst Memorial Mining Building.

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