

# "THE MERRY WIDOW" HAS GREAT CHARM

HENRY W. SAVAGE'S PRODUCTION SCORES A TRIUMPH — Second Company May Play in New York



SCENE FROM ACT 3 OF "THE MERRY WIDOW" THE WORLD FAMOUS CAFE IN PARIS, MAXIMS

PORTIA BELIMA AS MARCO IN "THE MERRY WIDOW"

NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—(Special Correspondence.)—The musical and theatrical sensation of the week, and no doubt of the season, was the production by Henry W. Savage of "The Merry Widow," which was given at the New Amsterdam Theater on Monday night to an audience that crowded the theater to its utmost capacity. The play made such a tremendous success that Mr. Savage will no doubt put on another company. Nor is this intended for the road, but for New York City.

Among the singers who made the unquestionable success were Ethel Jackson, Donald Brian, R. E. Graham, Lois Ewell, William C. Weedon, Fred Frear, Walter C. Wilson, Charles Meakin, Harry Hyde, Margaret Dalrymple, F. J. McCarthy, Francis Cameron, Blanche Rice, Eva Bennett, Harry Meyers, Ralph Whiting, Gerald Lane, Nicholas Sabro, Aurora Platt, Pauline Winters, Marion Armstrong, Jean Ward, Clara Tichenor, Portia Belima, Bernice Harbo and Sophie Witt.

The plot deals with the love affair of Prince Danilo and Sonia, his countrywoman, the "merry widow." The Prince, who is writhing under the lash of this affair, has plunged into the dissipation of Paris. Sonia, a former daughter, upon the first meeting with the Prince, attracted him; but his uncle, the King of Marsovia, refused his consent to a match between the ill-mated pair, and Danilo was sent as ambassador to the Marsovia Embassy in Paris. Marsovia, Sonia married a banker, who died shortly afterward, leaving a fortune of \$20,000,000 to his widow and beautiful widow.

Sonia loses no time after the funeral, and closing her case she hurries to Paris, where she rightfully wins the title of "merry widow." She professes to care nothing for the Prince, and holds her opinions that men always consider themselves first. She refuses with contempt all the matrimonial offers that are forced upon her. She has money enough to buy the gay times which Paris affords, and in the midst of her merry-making at the Marsovia Embassy, she meets her old lover for the first time since the death of her husband. He could hardly be considered attractive, as having spent the preceding night riotously at Maxims, he is scarcely sober. This, however, is more of a consolation than otherwise to Sonia, who believes that it is through his efforts to drown his sorrow and his love for her. She encourages him, but when he grows affectionate she repulses him and informs him that he like all the rest is interested in her money. This remark brings him to his senses, and he tells Sonia that nothing in the world would ever induce him to offer his affection again. She laughs at her, but in a fit of seeming repentance she accepts the honor of a dance she offers him, first on her hat. This dance he puts up at auction, selling it to the Vicomte de Joldon for 2000 francs. After this affront the relations become bitterly hostile, and each swears vengeance upon the other.



LOIS EWELL AS NATALIE

Near the close of the second act the Prince refuses to dance with her, and she starts an old Marsovia dance, which so intoxicates Danilo that, contrary to his better judgment or desire, he is forced to join her. When the Marsovia dance is finished, they dance the languorous, dreamy Viennese waltz that has caught all of Europe and which bids fair to become equally popular in America. There are sub-plots, one of which concerns Baron Popoff, the Marsovia Ambassador at Paris, and Natalie, his wife, who has involved herself in an intrigue with the Vicomte de Joldon, and in order to protect herself and her amours she attempts to arrange a marriage between her lover and the widow. The Baron, on the other hand, for financial reasons, tries to arrange a similar match between the widow and the

Prince. The entire company is so very clever, the music is so fascinating that one is at a loss to know where to lavish praise first. Miss Ethel Jackson, in the title role, has scored a real sensation, and Donald Brian, as the Prince, is quite as fortunate in his presentation. "The Merry Widow" is entirely out of the ordinary category of American light operas. It is of a very different stamp and it bids fair to break all records. It is almost unnecessary to say that the staging and the entire production was given with the usual care bestowed upon these details by Mr. Savage.

Among the disappointments of the season, which have included "The Evangelists," by Henry Arthur Jones, and "The Stepladders," by Charles Klein, we must probably add "Sappho and Phaon," a dramatization of Percy Mackay's trag-

edy. While no effort was spared to create the Grecian atmosphere, the company assembled were outside of this sphere entirely. Fred Erick, who played the part of Alcibiades, gave an admirable performance and did full justice to the part. Perhaps the most serious defect lay in the fact that Mme. Kallich is essentially an actress of the present day and neither looks the part nor fits into one which is pre-eminently classical in its nature, and while she speaks the English language remarkably well she has not the sort of control which would make it possible for her to deliver the long

speeches of blank verse. However, everything known to the art of stagecraft as far as scenic effects are concerned was in distinct evidence and had received the utmost care in the hands of Harrison Gray Fiske. The opening of Carnegie Hall for piano recitals was occurring as Paderewski was steaming up the harbor. Josef Hofmann was in charge of the audience at Carnegie and the afternoon papers were telling what Paderewski will do at Carnegie next Saturday. Hofmann and Paderewski will alternate at that temple of music for at least four weeks, during

which time there will be several other pianists appearing at Mendelssohn Hall, and at Carnegie, too, for that matter. The schedule is something like this: Paderewski next week, Hofmann the week after, then De Pachmann on a Thursday night, and Paderewski again the following Saturday. De Pachmann, too, will give two more concerts there, while at Mendelssohn, beginning Friday, November 1, Max Hamberg will play. Bulhke will play three Saturdays in succession, and Friday, the 8th, Rudolph Ganz will play a five recital programme also at Mendelssohn. This is the merest outline and only takes in a few piano recitals.

There was a very large audience at Carnegie Hall to hear Josef Hofmann, whose playing keeps up to the high standard set for himself, and below which he has never fallen. He is a tremendously

intellectual player and his work runs heavily to this side. He was frequently reminiscent of D'Albert, but with more sentiment and a softer side. He played the Beethoven op. 11, the Schumann fantasia, 25 preludes by Chopin continuously, and a group by Liszt, which programme, overliberal as it was, seemed too short for his admiring public, and he added several encore numbers. Mr. Hofmann is accompanied by Mrs. Hofmann and family, which includes a beautiful little son of hers and a little daughter not yet a year old, who rejoices in the name of Josefa, and she looks like her father, too.

Mrs. Hofmann and the children will go to her home in Alken, E. C., but Mrs. Hofmann will join her husband later and probably accompany him on his trip to the Coast and to Mexico. EMILIE FRANCES BAUER.



DONALD BRIAN AND ETHEL JACKSON IN THE WALTZ SCENE

AMORA PIATT AS LOLO IN "THE MERRY WIDOW"



## NO TROUBLE WITH JAPAN

Sir Charles Dilke Believes War Is Improbable.

PARIS, Oct. 28.—Unaffected by Jingo hysteria, Sir Charles Dilke declines to believe that Japan and the United States will go to war. Sir Charles was interviewed at the Hotel St. James, where he was resting on his way home from Italy. Sir Charles was looking extremely well, but was up to his eyes in business, successive appointments being mapped out for him far in advance.

He thinks the Japanese are keeping their heads admirably under trying circumstances. When asked if he believed the present situation in England meant the end of the House of Lords, Sir Charles answered that he could say nothing positive about that, but he was in hearty accord with the Liberal party.

## NAMES OREGON DELEGATES

Governor Appoints Representatives to Attend Commercial Congress.

SALEM, Nov. 2.—(Special.)—Governor Chamberlain has appointed the following delegates to the Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress, to be held at Muskogee, Okla., November 12-22, 1907: From Portland—George M. Hyland, Fletcher Linn, E. Ehrman, William Harter, Wallis Nash, Joseph Friedenthal, Dr. R. C. Coffey, M. J. Roche, R. W. Foster, John F. O'Shea, Sol Blumauer, George W. McMillan, William Multhead, L. G. Munder, J. W. Ganong, A. H. Dwyer, Tom Richardson, T. E. Wilson, Dr. Andrew C. Smith, Sig Sichel, William MacMaster, Harry Beck, C. W. Hodson, F. E. Beach, W. F. Carroll, F. W. Leadbetter, S. G. Reed.

Charles E. Kenyon, J. M. Lackey and J. R. Blackaby, Ontario; S. S. Gordon, John H. Whyte, William Madison and C. E. Brown, Astoria; R. H. Moore, Tom Whitten and J. L. Hammerly, Gold Hill; Hugh McLain, Walter Lyons, Henry Sengstacken and W. F. Murphy, Marshfield; D. J. Houry, Seaside; Joseph Hirscheberg, Independence; Charles H. Carter, R. Alexander and Leon Cohen, Portland; M. C. Ament, R. G. Smith and O. S. Blanchard, Grants Pass; F. H. Briggs, L. Simpson, W. J. Smith and Peter Loggie, North Bend; A. C. Marsters

## TRAIN HELD BY SMOKER

Lies Down on Rails Because Weed Is Not Allowed.

PARIS, Oct. 28.—Entering a suburban train near Paris, a smoker who had just lighted an excellent cigar was forced to leave a nonsmoking compartment, and searched the train in vain for a smoking carriage. He took up a position on the metals just in front of the engine, and declared that he would not move till a smoking carriage was put on.

Carried off by porters, he escaped their clutches and lay down on the line, still smoking and ejaculating, "Put on a smoking carriage!" He had already delayed the train for ten minutes. The porters seized him again and held him while the train went off. The railway authorities intend to prosecute, while the smoker declared that he will bring a suit against the company for not providing a smoking compartment.

## CITRUS CROP OF CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Nov. 2.—Figures on the citrus fruit crops of Southern California for the year ending October 23 show that the total of cars shipped was

## BECOMING A MOTHER

Is an ordeal which all women approach with indescribable fear, for nothing compares with the pain and horror of child-birth. The thought of the suffering and danger in store for her, robs the expectant mother of all pleasant anticipations of the coming event, and casts over her a shadow of gloom which cannot be shaken off. Thousands of women have found that the use of Mother's Friend during pregnancy robs confinement of all pain and danger, and insures safety to life of mother and child. This scientific liniment is a god-send to all women at the time of their most critical trial. Not only does Mother's Friend carry women safely through the perils of child-birth, but its use gently prepares the system for the coming event, prevents "morning sickness," and other discomforts of this period. Sold by all druggists at \$1.00 per bottle. Book containing valuable information free. The Bradford Regulator Co., Atlanta, Ga. MOTHER'S FRIEND

27,487, of which 23,954 were of oranges and 2315 lemons. The whole brought in money approximately \$34,000,000. Of this amount about \$11,000,000 went to the railway companies for shipping and icing charges and the remaining \$23,000,000 to the growers. The total number of cars shipped this year was about 2000 more than last year.