MADAME NORELLI HOME FROM EASTERN TRIUMPHS

Portland's Great Singer Discusses Things Musical, and Says Dramatic Element Is Supplanting Pure Singing in Opera.

MADAME JENNIE NORELLI, FROM PHOTOGRAPH OF PAINTING BY MISS ALMA HOGBERG, OF NEW YORK CITY.

MADAM GENNIE NORELLI, Portland's gifted singer, who has gained such a high position for herself in the musical world through her work in grand opera and concert in both Europe and America, returned to the city Wednesday afternoon after an absence of more than a year. During much of that time she was prima donna of the Italian Grand Opera Company and appeared in all of the large cities of the East and Middle West where her beautiful voice and exceptional dramatic gifts won for her the regard of opera-goers. Since completing her operatic engagement in June, Madame Norelli has made a very successful concert tour, appearing with the symphony orchestras of Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul and other cities. She will open her concert season in Chicago late in January.

Madam's expressive face radiated happiness as she told of her experiences during the past season.

"It seems very good," she said "to be home again after so many weeks of work. But I have enjoyed it—oh, very much. People everywhere have been so kind, so appreciative; so ready to respond to the emotion one is trying to express. When the audience sends back to the singer that subtle something, that understanding I might call it that touches one as lightly as a caress, the artist has nothing left to wish for. More and more have I felt this appreciation in Americans, and I believe more strongly than ever that America is one day to be the greatest musical nation in the world.

"Americans are the most exacting audiences. Only a few weeks ago I sung in Fargo, N. D. That sounds such a long way off, doesn't it? I was engaged to sing at the Fargo Musical College. When I entered the college hall there were rows of intelligent, eager, expectant faces. My programme was made up of old Italian arias, and new German, French and Scandinavian songs, and it pleased me so very much to see the way those young people received the music, how they digested it, so to speak. The next week I met that splendid artist and woman Madam Nordica, in St. Paul and was telling her about my experience in Fargo. She said: 'My dear, you sang in Fargo; I sang in a smaller place 100 miles beyond there. Think of people in an isolated place like that putting up money to have me come and sing for them. Does it not mean that we Americans are becoming one of the world's greatest musical nations?'"

Madam Norelli, though a lyric soprano, and thoroughly trained in the bel canto method, has nevertheless sung many of the roles for dramatic soprano, including Wagner's "Elsa" and "Elizabeth." While expressing the greatest admiration for the Wagnerian and modern Italian opera, Madam Norelli could not conceal her preference for the finer type of vocal art as exemplified in the works of Mozart, Rossini, Donizetti and Verdi.

"I love the Wagnerian roles," Madam Norelli exclaimed, clasping her hands together in an ecstacy of feeling. "They are so full of expression and nobility. It is a great moment to sing those harmonies that sink into one's very soul with the music of the orchestra surging about you. They express every emotion the human heart can feel. The world of art would miss so much, so much, without them. But after all it is the voice the artist loves. The bel canto did not pretend to express passion or emotion, but to enable the human voice to produce all the exquisite tones of which it is capable. For my own part I have striven always to acquire as much as I can of that style of singing.

"Mozarts music is the purest bel canto and whoever can sing his music knows what that kind of singing should be. People complain so much that Madam Melba's voice has no feeling. Ah, that is the great voice of this world. Oh, to sing like that! Who cares whether Melba has emotion or not. She doesn't need to have. The new composers have made their themes so dramatic that more and more the dramatic element is coming into opera, and supplanting the pure singing, as I express it. Puccinis operas have retained much of the bel canto; that is what makes his operas so lyrical in spite of their dramatic themes."

IN PORTLAND THEATERS

Continued From Page 2.

doubtedly create a sensation by their daring bicycle riding. Every possible trick that can be done on unicycles and bicycles is executed by them without flaw. Clever bits of comedy are thrown in to make an entirety, which is said to draw overwhelming applause.

John Rucker, the Alabama Blossom, will make his first vaudeville appearance in Portland, he having been here about six years with the famous colored comedians, Williams & Walker, in "The Sons of Ham." Mr. Rucker has a rich voice and he sings a number of coon songs.

Martinez & Martinez are Spanish serenaders who will play on mandolins and sing. Jean Wilson, Portland's popular baritone, will sing that beautiful illustrated song, "Your Lips, Your Eyes, Your Golden Hair." The biograph will present the very latest animated pictures direct from the factory to the Pantages Theater.

GREAT BILL AT THE GRAND

Mlle. Summerville and Dancing Horse Columbus the Feature.

For the coming week, which ushers in a new year, the Grand will present a vaudeville programme in keeping with the event. All the acts will be new and they will be features such as have rarely been assembled on one bill in Portland. The new year will be started right at the Grand and there will be a strictly first-class entertainment. The feature selected for the bill, which opens with the matinee tomorrow, is Mlle. Summerville and her dancing horse, Columbus. Mlle. Summerville and the horse were the star performers of the "Ranch 101" show last Summer, conceded the best of wild west entertainments. Horse and rider are well matched and something out of the ordinary can be expected.

Every patron of the big vaudeville theaters of the East is acquainted with John Birch, "the man with the hats." He does a protean act which is unique. Birch also does a one-man burlesque on popular melodrama which has never been surpassed for travesty. This will be the special added feature of the new programme.

"Looking for Betsy" is the title of a rural sketch in which Holmes and Holliston will appear. Mr. Holmes is the author of "One Night in June," a rural comedy-drama which had a great run of popularity on the Pacific Coast three seasons ago. Alice Weston and Maud Francis are experts with the rifle and revolver, and their specialty consists in plain and fancy sharpshooting.

Character singers and dancers are Pane and Lee, a couple of versatile vaudevillians. Brown and Hodges are Indians who are singers and cartoonists. The act will be a novelty. A new illustrated ballad by Frederick Bauer and a new life motion picture for the Grandiscope will round out the entertainment.

This afternoon and tonight will be the last performances of the present bill, which has as headliner "The Soldier of Propville," in which Mr. and Mrs. Esmonde are appearing.

"The Alaskan" Coming to Heilig.

The beautiful comic opera success, "The Alaskan," will be the attraction at the Heilig Theater, Fourteenth and Washington streets, for four nights, beginning next Saturday, January 3. Miss Lora Leib, who sings the leading soprano role in "The Alaskan," although one of the youngest prima donnas on the stage, has had a wide experience in operatic work.

Her first venture was made with Charles H. Yale's spectacle, "The Evil Eye," in which she enacted the leading feminine part. The succeeding two seasons she was with John C. Fisher's "The Silver Slipper" as prima donna, following this engagement with "The Geezer of Geck," "His Honor, the Mayor," "The Belle of Mayfair," "Coming Thro' the Rye," etc. Miss Leib possesses an unusually high soprano voice.

Florence Roberts Coming to Heilig.

The new play in which Florence Roberts will appear at the Heilig Theater for four nights, beginning Thursday, January 7, is "The House of Bondage," and is the work of Seymour Obermer, an Englishman, who promises to attain a great vogue in this country, if reports are to be credited. From the opening night of "The House of Bondage," which was launched without any undue sounding of trumpets, or other heralding common to theatrical enterprises, the world seems to have traveled with magic speed that an uncommon contribution had been made to dramatic literature. Miss Robert is supported by a strong company including Arthur Forrest, Thurlow Bergen, Kent Bosworth, Harry Gibbs, Ann Warrington and Mary Bertrand.

"Devil's Auction" Next at Baker.

Charles H. Yale's "Everlasting Devil's Auction," which is now announced as presenting the 28th edition of this really wonderful show-piece, is announced as a forthcoming attraction at the Baker opening next Sunday, January 3, for one week. Most elaborate changes have been made in the latest edition, in the way of new and very capable artists, magnificent scenic accessories, superb costuming, attractive ballets, newly imported European features, special and exclusive vaudeville novelties and the most elaborate transformation scene called "Amor" (love) ever presented in this country.

"Zaza" Next Week at Bungalow.

"Zaza" was originally announced to be presented by the Baker stock company for Christmas week, but was later postponed on account of Manager Baker's desire to give a large number of his patrons "A Midnight Bell" at their special request. The opening will now be next Sunday matinee, January 3, and ever since the first announcement, inquiries in regard to the play have been coming into the office, which go to show the immense popularity of the famous emotional drama with theater-goers.

"Jane Eyre" Coming.

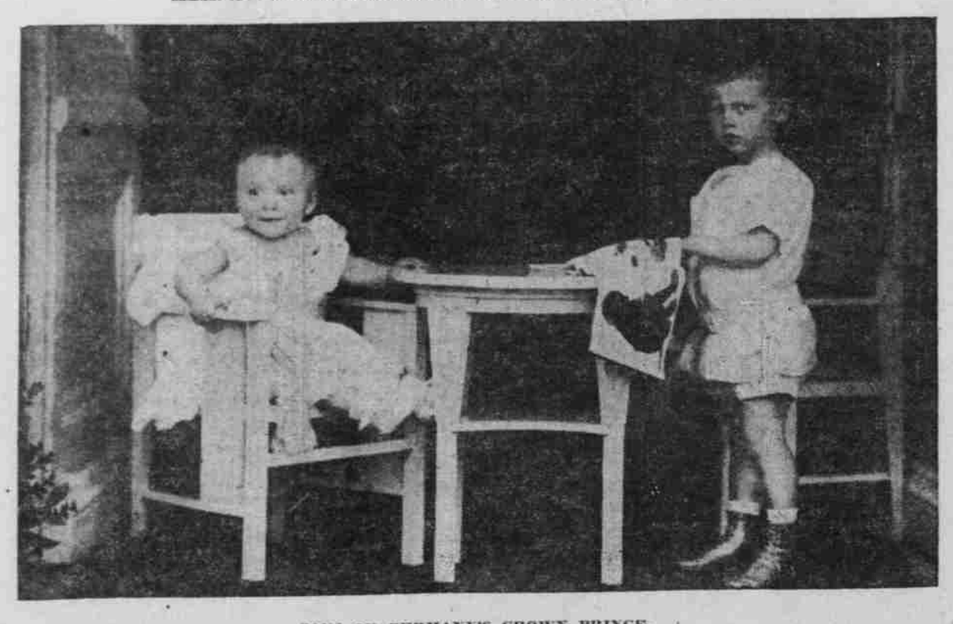
"Jane Eyre," a dramatization of Charlotte Bronte's book of the same title, will be the offering at the Star Theater week of Sunday matinee, January 3. "Jane Eyre" is probably one of the most popular and widely-read novels of the present generation. The dramatic version is said to follow the original manuscript very closely, making a play that is amusing. The cast is said to be above the average and is headed by the charming young actress, Miss Dorothy Turner.

DIAMOND SWINDLER GONE

France and Greece Look in Vain for Lemoine.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Where is Lemoine, the maker of artificial diamonds? It was announced a few days ago that the Greek government had received instructions from the French authorities to extradite Lemoine. The Greek police made a careful search for the fugitive, but it was soon discovered that the demand of the French government had arrived too late. Lemoine, it seems, had arrived at Pireaus a few weeks ago under a false name. He had taken the Athens train, visited the museums, the Acropolis, admired the Parthenon, and then left, taking care to cover up his tracks.

HEIR-APPARENT TO GERMAN THRONE AND HIS BROTHER.



SONS OF GERMANY'S CROWN PRINCE.

These are the children of the Crown Prince of Germany, pictured only two weeks ago in Potsdam, where they live. They are Wilhelm Friedrich and Louis Ferdinand. The elder is to be Emperor of Germany some day. These little chaps are quite unconscious of the storm now raging in Germany, which threatens their birthright.

HEILIG THEATER
14th and WASHINGTON STS. PHONES MAIN 1 AND A 1122
SIX NIGHTS, BEGINNING TONIGHT
SPECIAL PRICE MATINEES NEW YEAR'S AND SATURDAY
THE SHOW OF THE SEASON
Cohan and Harris Present Geo. M. Cohan's New Musical Play
NOTE THE GREAT CAST
Hazel Lowry, Joseph M. Sparks, Suzanne Leonard, Westford Wilmer, W. Douglas Stevenson, Charles Willard, Walter P. Richardson, Alf Helton, Thos. Emory, Percy Helton, Ella Sothern, Mae Helton, Kathryn R. Perry, Russell Pincus, Lester Templeton, Stanley Fields and perfect Cohan Chorus.
50 MILES FROM BOSTON
ALL GEMS
"My Small Town Gal"
"Harrigan"
"Jack and Jill"
"Waltz With Me"
"Ain't It Awful"
"Boys Who Fight the Flames"
Music That Will Make You Whistle
BIGGEST HIT IN YEARS
PRICES—Evening $1.50, $1.00, 75c, 50c. Matinees $1, 75c, 50c, 25c.
Seats Now Selling at the Theater

BAKER THEATER
Oregon Theater Co., Inc., Lessee Telephones—Main 2—A 5360
GEO. L. BAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
The Theater That Plays Big Road Attractions at Popular Prices

ALL WEEK STARTING TONIGHT
Sunday, December 27, 1908
Special Bargain Matinee Wednesday, 25c any seat. Grand New Years Matinee Friday and regular Saturday Matinee.
Chas. A. Miller (Inc.) presents James A. Herne's Great American Home Play
SHORE ACRES
Now in its fifteenth year of unparalleled success, with the eminent character actor,
ARCHIE BOYD
As UNCLE NAT
Supported by a carefully selected company.
THE GREATEST LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S PLAY EVER WRITTEN
PRICES—Evenings, 25c to $1.00. Friday and Saturday Matinees 25c, 50c
Next Attraction - - The Devil's Auction

HEILIG THEATER
4 Nights Beginning Sun., Jan. 3
Mr. John Cort Presents the Beautiful Comic Opera
THE ALASKAN
SEAT SALE OPENS NEW YEAR'S MORNING
PRICES:
Lower Floor $1.50
Lower Floor, Last 3 Rows $1.00
Balcony $1.00, 75c, 50c
Gallery 50c

Siberian Eskimo Village
Exposition Bldg. 19th and Wash.
Open 10:00 A. M. to 10:30 P. M
Continuous Show

The GRAND
VAUDEVILLE DE LUXE
WEEK OF MONDAY MATINEE
DEC. 28, 1908
QUINTESSENCE OF REFINED VAUDEVILLE, HEADED BY
MLLE. SUMMERVILLE
And her Wonderful Dancing Horse,
"COLUMBUS"
Special Added Feature,
JOHN BIRCH
"The Man With the Hats."
HOLMES & HOLLISTON
In a Rural Comedy Sketch.
PAYNE & LEE,
Singers and Dancers.
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PORTLAND'S FASHIONABLE POPULAR-PRICE PLAYHOUSE.
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OPENING SUNDAY MATINEE DECEMBER 27, 1908, TODAY
Leo Dietrichstein's Famous Three-Act Farce-Comedy,
ARE YOU A MASON
One of the cleverest and most popular farces ever written.
Let the old year run out laughing, and the new come in with smiles.
Full strength of the company.
Stage under the direction of Mr. Donald Bowles.
SPECIAL MATINEE FRIDAY, NEW YEAR'S DAY
Regular Matinee Saturday.
Evening Prices always the same, 25c, 35c, 50c. Matinees, 15c, 25c.
NEXT WEEK, ZAZA

THE STAR
PHONES—MAIN 5496, A 1496
PLAYING ONLY STAIR-HAVLIN EASTERN ROAD ATTRACTIONS
COMMENCING SUNDAY MATINEE, DECEMBER 27, '08
SPECIAL MATINEE NEW YEAR'S
E. J. CARPENTER'S
Great Scenic Comedy Drama
Why Girls Leave Home
Clean, Wholesome, Interesting, Instructive—The best educator of one of the greatest problems our country has to deal with.
Strictly MORAL and UPLIFTING
SPECIAL MATINEE NEW YEAR'S
MATINEES WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
Night Prices—15c, 25c, 35c and 50c. Matinees—15c and 25c
NEXT WEEK—"JANE EYRE"
T. M. A. Benefit, at the Orpheum Theater, New Year's Eve.

Daily Mat. (ex. Sun.-holl.) 15-25-50c
Phones—Main 6 and A 1020
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FORMERLY MARQUAM GRAND
Paying Particular Attention to the Entertainment, Comfort and Convenience of Ladies and Children.
ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE
Presenting at all Times the Best of European and American Vaudeville Attractions.
WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY MATINEE, DEC. 28
FOLLOWING ALL-STAR FEATURE ACTS
First Vaudeville Appearance Here of Famous
GEORGE PRIMROSE
America's Favorite Minstrel, and His Dancing Boys.
MR. and Mrs. GENE HUGHES
Presenting The Thousand-Dollar Playlet, "SUPPRESSING THE PRESS."
THE THREE YOSCARYS
Europe's Foremost Athletic Eccentriques.
A-BA-BE'S
Pictorial Post-Card Album, Introducing a Series of Miniature Tableaux.
THE CHADWICK TRIO
In a Short Farce-Comedy, "FOR SALE—WIGGIN'S FARM." With Ida May Chadwick, "The Hee-Haw Girl," Champion Lady Buck Dancer of America.
Alice Winona, Maud Francis Co.
World's Greatest Rifle and Pistol Shots.
World's Tour of
MLLE. PERTINA
The Celebrated European Danseuse.
ORPHEUM PICTURES
ORPHEUM ORCHESTRA
PERFORMANCES EVERY EVENING AT 8:15; MATINEE DAILY AT 2:15
EVENING PRICES 15-25-50-75c
Daily Mat. (ex. Sun.-holl.) 15-25-50c

PANTAGES THEATER
BILL CHANGES TOMORROW
ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE; STARS OF ALL NATIONS
WEEK ENDING TODAY
The Johnson Students; The World's Comedy Four; Martelli and Rossi; Conn, Downey and Willard, The Bernsteins; Jean Wilson and Silent Tait.
WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY MATINEE DECEMBER 28th
Engagement Extraordinary of George Homan's Masterpiece,
"A NIGHT WITH THE POETS"
Twelve People in the Cast,
Including a High-Class Quartet, Living Pictures and Tableaux.
A $5000 Equipment.
JAMES E. HENRY AND DOROTHY YOUNG, Presenting "Nevada."
MARTINEZ AND MARTINEZ, Spanish Serenaders.
JEAN WILSON, Illustrated Song, "Your Lips, Your Eyes, Your Golden Hair."
THE WALTHOUR TRIO, Trick and Comedy Cyclists.
JOHN RUCKER, The Alabama Blossom, Comedian.
THE BIOGRAPH, Presenting the Very Latest in Motion Photography.
THE PANTAGES ORCHESTRA, ALWAYS A FEATURE