

# THEATRICAL SEASON WILL OPEN MUCH EARLIER ACCORDING TO PREDICTIONS OF THE MANAGERS

### Anxiety Prevails Generally Among Musicians and Producers as to Outcome of Proposed Mechanical Substitutes for Orchestras—Performing Fleas Are Annoyance in New Jersey.



Scene from "The Greyhound" at the Astor Theater.



The Cho San and Frouble in "The Butterfly".



Noomi Dale, with Walter H. Lawrence Co. in "Little Miss Wanda" Comedy Playlet.



Baby Dorky who will return to America for Road Tour. Direction of Shuberts.



Edna Hunter in "Office 666".



Joy Wilson in "The Pale Face" at the Astor Theater.

NEW YORK, Aug. 3.—(Special.)—Although only two musical plays and two dramatic offerings are still on the boards, the local theaters are busy places these days. This is due to the fact that in every Manhattan house one, two and sometimes more companies are busy rehearsing for the coming season, which, unless we have an extremely prolonged summer, will open earlier than usual.

by this method to a degree that seriously imperils their success, and a musical show that might be a winner is

ney Theater in that city and will not be active in the amusement business on the other side.

Whitney won fame and fortune through the comic opera, "The Chocolate Soldier." When Whitney left America he was without great resources and hoped to invest European capital in a moving-picture scheme. He returned rich, the owner of "The Chocolate Soldier," and several other promising musical plays. His

## VOCAL POWERS OF CHORUS GIRL IF OF MERIT ARE QUICKLY RUINED

### Musicians' Union Move Unfortunate in New York, as Theaters Talk of Replacing Orchestras With Automatic Players and Restaurants May Make Similar Departure—Oscar Hammerstein Decides to Remain in London.

BY EMILIE FRANCES BAUER. THE chorus girl is coming in for her share of attention from the medical authorities, who have been studying that anomaly, the chorus girl's voice. It has long been believed that she has none, and in a recent number of a well known medical journal Dr. Charles Prevost Grayson indicates why this is the case, and he states further that if she had one she would not be able to keep it long.

through what most people would regard as a hopeless undertaking, that of not only developing, but of saving her voice.

can trip, although it is said that he is reticent about discussing it, and he does not court publicity in any way. This is a rather strange characteristic in one who has such an unusual idiosyncrasy as to use his own name in many of his stories. He does not draw his own character in any way, but he calls his male characters "Pierre Loti" not infrequently. This may be found in "Mme. Chrysantheme" and in other of his novels, "Mme. Chrysantheme," by the way, is the story which preceded "Mme. Butterfly" and to which John Luther Long owes at least his inspiration if not his plot.

One of the greatest strains is that during the rehearsals she is under the lash of the stage manager from 9 in the morning until midnight, with only a hasty lunch, and she sings nearly all the time, as not being an expert reader she is driven to learning by ear, which is a great strain on a voice. Singing is usually alternated with the equally violent practice of dancing during the rehearsal, and between this violence and the cooling off process there is not much chance for the protection of a voice. But these are the least of the dangers, according to the analysis of the chorus girl voice. When the girl goes on the road in the one-night stands she usually runs into the sort of theaters where the dressing-rooms for the chorus are worse than the average stable, and she eats in the sort of boarding-houses where the meals are the worst conceivable. All this in conjunction with the fact that most of these girls have no practical knowledge of how to use the voice would seem to make the calling anything but a joyous one for a young woman who has the idea of raising herself from the ranks of the chorus to a star part. Dr. Grayson states that there is no possible cure in sprays, lozenges and beverages, but he says that the girl who will save enough from her earnings to study with a reliable teacher may succeed in wending her way

The musicians' union seems to have made an unfortunate move with the theaters in New York, as the managers have practically decided to discontinue the theater orchestra for entire acts. Other theaters are planning to install orchestral self-players and probably the talking machine. The musical comedy companies will, of course, have to depend upon an orchestra as part of the equipment, but the hotels and restaurants are considering the abandoning of music except such as can be provided by mechanical instruments.

Mme. Gautier is one of the most interesting figures of the present day among the literary women of France. She comes rightfully by her talent, as she is a daughter of the great Theophile Gautier, and her tastes and style run entirely to the Oriental. Several of her plays dealing with subjects of the Far East have been heard in Paris and her collaboration with Loti, who is one of the most noted lovers of literature and life of the Orient, has been of unique interest, as it has been carried out entirely by correspondence.

headliner made big money on the road and the future looked promising. Then a series of misfortunes came in rapid succession. He was compelled to abandon his contemplated production of "The Chocolate Soldier" after having invested from \$50,000 to \$75,000 in the piece. "Baron Trenck" failed abroad, and when presented here in revised form was not a success. In addition, "The Chocolate Soldier" had outlived its usefulness and was no longer contributing to the general fund.

Disappointments and serious losses have been encountered by Mr. Whitney in the past, but he has always come up again smiling. His friends sincerely hope that history will repeat itself.

Men without jobs will strike on or about August 10, if the members of the Musical Protective Union carry out their threats to get even with the theater managers. Managers of 82 playhouses in Manhattan and Brooklyn have formally ordered the show with orchestras when they open for the coming season rather than pay the additional salaries demanded by the men.

Speaking for the men, Joseph Weber, their president (no relation to the Joe Weber, of Weber and Fields), says: "I believe that the best class of men in the theater orchestra will remain idle rather than work at the old scale. I also predict that the theaters that endeavor to get along without music will be forced by their patrons to re-engage the players. The wages of the men have practically been unchanged for many years, despite the increase in the cost of living."

One prominent manager, who has decided to abolish his orchestras rather than pay the advanced scale, said yesterday that there was no danger of a sympathetic strike by the hands and other union employes. He added that managers would find it necessary to employ union orchestras in cases in which musicians were carried on tour with musical comedies.

Asbury Park has butted into the theatrical news by a bitter war between the Humane Society of that summer resort and the excitable proprietor of a flea circus.

Mrs. Percy Wilcox, representative of the Humane Society, was all wrought up when she heard that a troupe of fleas was being exhibited at an amusement resort on the boardwalk. She visited the exhibit, ordered the show stopped, and when the manager protested, invoked the aid of Jersey justice. The matter was threshed out in the police court, and the justice, who seemed to have been above the average of intelligence, ruled that the fleas were perfectly happy, and should not be deprived of a chance to make an income by begging above the footlights. The manager testified that he did not spank his fleas or give them electric shocks; that he simply ruled them by love. Had it been a mosquito show there would probably not have been a word said, for Jersey is used to its favorite insect. But fleas are regarded as more or less of a novelty.

Free ice cream is the slogan heard nightly now at the Moulin Rouge, for Manager F. Zigfeld, Jr., has ordered that the delicacy be served free of charge to all the chorus girls of "A Winsome Widow" during the present hot spell. At the start there was no limit to the supply, but some of the girls displayed such a capacity that it was decreed that three helpings were enough for any one.

Those young managers, Werba and Luisecher, who are coming to the front rank by leaps and bounds, have added a new star to their list by acquiring Eddie Foy, "the Melancholy Dane" who sold the rights to play tunes from "The Merry Widow" and "Little Blue Boy" on automobile horns.

According to Mr. Savage's representative, one Allen Pencross, of Sunbury, Pa., has perfected a plan for equipping auto horns with miniature phonographic records. He intends to put them on the market as soon as the patents covering this method of sound production has expired. In his letter Pencross draws a vivid picture of a hundred thousand tired business men skidding from their suburban homes in the morning and back again in the evening to the accompaniment of "The Merry Widow" waltz. The general public, however, is holding that this is simply a publicity yarn, for, under present conditions, our main traveled roads are noisy enough.

According to a statement sent out from the office of H. H. Frazee, Wilton Lackaye is to appear under Mr. Frazee's management in Eugene Walter's play, "The Fighting Season," which is set at an appointed "Oliver Twist," as was at first announced.

bring the entire English cast to perform "The New Sign" in Chicago. The new production of "The Girl in the Red Velvet Gown" will come for the rehearsals and first production, and George C. Tyler believes that Chicago should be as large a field for new productions as New York. Under this direction George Arliss will resume his run in "Disraeli," one of the most successful plays in many seasons.

Those who were really figuring on the return of Oscar Hammerstein to the American field will be disappointed to know that he has decided to remain in London. With true Hamersteinian philosophy he says he would just as soon be ruined in one place as in another, and as he is interested just now in studying the gateway to London, he might as well stay where he gets some amusement out of it. He threatens or promises to make some changes in policy and he will open his season in August. Mr. Hammerstein's originality as well as his quaint philosophy stand him well in hand and make him one of the unique figures in the theatrical world.

Mr. Hammerstein has his match as a plunger in another well-known importer of grand opera, the late Raoul Gatti-Casazza, who, in addition to being director of the opera company at Monte Carlo, is also a composer of some importance. He has just received \$10,000 from his opera "Venise" and an equal amount for "Van and the Terrible."

The Shuberts have arranged for an early opening of the season, and they will make a number of new productions as well as continuations of several of the great successes of the past season, among them being mentioned "Bunty Pulls the Strings," which caught the American public as only few plays have done in a great many years. The new play "The Lyric Theater" will be opened Septem-

## CUPID AGAIN TRIUMPHS OVER PRIDE OF KING

### Aged Emperor of Austria Removes Ban From Nephew Who Married Pretty Commoner and Restores Him to Rank of Archduke.



Frau Czuber-Burg for whom the Archduke Ferdinand Carl of Austria gave up his rank.

VIENNA, Aug. 3.—(Special.)—Once more the proud Habsburgs have bowed the knee to King Cupid, and a happy ending has come to one of the most interesting love romances of modern times.

It was in a Vienna ballroom 11 years ago that the Archduke Ferdinand Carl first met Fraulein Rosa Czuber, the beautiful and accomplished daughter of a professor at the university. It was a case of love at first sight, but all attempts to obtain the Emperor's consent to the marriage failed, for old Franz Josef had already arranged the betrothal of his nephew to a lady of the blood-royal.

There was one of the angry scenes to which the Habsburgs have grown accustomed when love affairs are involved, ending with the Archduke declaring he would marry Fraulein Czuber or nobody, and the Emperor reminding him that by so doing he would renounce royal rank.

Since the Archduke Ferdinand Carl has been absent from the Court in disgrace, he married his charmer, adopted the name of Herr Carl Czuber-Burg, and together they have lived a life of bliss and quietude in a little house on the outskirts of Lucerne.

ber 2, with "The Ne'er Do Well," presented under the Authors' Producing Company, which made several important productions last season. The opening of the Casino will be "The Merry Countess," and the Broadway Theater will have "Hanky-Panky," which was on tour last season. The season will open Daly's Theater with "The Merry Widow" and "Little Blue Boy" on August 1. A new four-act comedy by Edgar James, entitled "The Master of the House," will have its first performance at the Thirty-ninth-Street Theater, August 22, and "Heady Money," a new farce by James Montgomerie will open the Maxine Elliott Theater about the same time.

Lewis Waller, who made a decided place for himself in New York last season, will open the Casino with a new modern drama, and this will be followed by an elaborate presentation of Shakespeare's "Henry V." Madge Titherage, who became one of the greatest favorites of the stage last season in the leading role of "A Butterfly on the Wheel," will be Mr. Waller's leading woman.

It is now pretty generally conceded that Toscanini will not be present at the opening of the new season at the Metropolitan. The great Italian conductor will remain in Buenos Ayres, and will probably remain there a little longer than he anticipated. For this reason no doubt there will be some change in the opening bill, and such Italian operas as will be presented will be directed by Giorgio Polacco, who conducted the English production of "The Girl in the Red Velvet Gown" by Henry W. Saville, and who probably will present this at the Metropolitan as one of the early offerings. Alfred Hertz has traveled everywhere this season, and he will devote the rest of his time to the much-needed rest after an early summer strenuous in one way or another. The great year, when the preparation of "Mona" almost cost the health of the great German director, who is today second to none living.

Hertz is a great orchestral director, and promises each year to accept a series of orchestral concerts, but his time is never clear, as the Italian conductor as well as the impresario consider that they have made several most important discoveries. Mr. Gatti-Casazza has been in Paris almost the entire season, and only last week he went to Marienbad, accompanied by Mme. Alda Ives, beautiful wife, who will be one of the sopranos at the Metropolitan this season. Mr. and Mrs. Gatti-Casazza will spend a month



Archduke Ferdinand Carl

ous to make his peace with his relatives. So he has summoned the errant couple, pardoned them both, restored Ferdinand Carl to his rank and created Frau Czuber-Burg a Countess.

But as the aged Emperor nears the last scene of all he is becoming anx-

ous to make his peace with his relatives. So he has summoned the errant couple, pardoned them both, restored Ferdinand Carl to his rank and created Frau Czuber-Burg a Countess.

ber 2, with "The Ne'er Do Well," presented under the Authors' Producing Company, which made several important productions last season. The opening of the Casino will be "The Merry Countess," and the Broadway Theater will have "Hanky-Panky," which was on tour last season. The season will open Daly's Theater with "The Merry Widow" and "Little Blue Boy" on August 1. A new four-act comedy by Edgar James, entitled "The Master of the House," will have its first performance at the Thirty-ninth-Street Theater, August 22, and "Heady Money," a new farce by James Montgomerie will open the Maxine Elliott Theater about the same time.

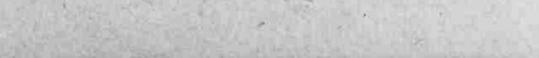
Lewis Waller, who made a decided place for himself in New York last season, will open the Casino with a new modern drama, and this will be followed by an elaborate presentation of Shakespeare's "Henry V." Madge Titherage, who became one of the greatest favorites of the stage last season in the leading role of "A Butterfly on the Wheel," will be Mr. Waller's leading woman.

It is now pretty generally conceded that Toscanini will not be present at the opening of the new season at the Metropolitan. The great Italian conductor will remain in Buenos Ayres, and will probably remain there a little longer than he anticipated. For this reason no doubt there will be some change in the opening bill, and such Italian operas as will be presented will be directed by Giorgio Polacco, who conducted the English production of "The Girl in the Red Velvet Gown" by Henry W. Saville, and who probably will present this at the Metropolitan as one of the early offerings. Alfred Hertz has traveled everywhere this season, and he will devote the rest of his time to the much-needed rest after an early summer strenuous in one way or another. The great year, when the preparation of "Mona" almost cost the health of the great German director, who is today second to none living.

Hertz is a great orchestral director, and promises each year to accept a series of orchestral concerts, but his time is never clear, as the Italian conductor as well as the impresario consider that they have made several most important discoveries. Mr. Gatti-Casazza has been in Paris almost the entire season, and only last week he went to Marienbad, accompanied by Mme. Alda Ives, beautiful wife, who will be one of the sopranos at the Metropolitan this season. Mr. and Mrs. Gatti-Casazza will spend a month

## For The Nervous Woman,

Or the woman who experiences hot flashes nothing is so good to soothe, quiet and calm the nervous system as a pure glyceric extract of native medicinal and made without alcohol, which has been sold by druggists for the past forty years, and most favorably known as Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription. In younger years some women suffer from dizziness, or fainting spells, hysteria, headache, bearing-down feelings and pain. All these symptoms of irregularity and female disturbance are relieved by the use of this famous "Prescription" of Doctor Pierce.



Mrs. McDonald. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets induce mild natural bowel movement.