MUSIC

EDITED BY JOSEPH MACQUEEN.

BUSHNELL PHOTO.
Miss Ada Alice Tuttle

PEASLEY'S PHOTO.
Oswald A. Olson

DAVIES PHOTO.
Fritz De Bruin

SYKES PHOTO.
Miss Ada Miller.

DIFFERENT from most operas, both in rendition and performance, will be the Nicolai opera, "The Merry Wives of Windsor," by the Portland Opera Association, in the Public Auditorium, Thursday and Friday nights.

It will be a home affair, by home talent. Some operas scare folks away. They require an interpreter to tell you what is going on. The foreign languages in which some grand operas are sung are known only to a few in the audience.

Now, in "The Merry Wives of Windsor," that opera will be sung in understandable English, and the story is so daintily amusing that the audience will chuckle, and then laugh. The opera in question may well be described as fantastic—and that's just what it is. It is a laugh from beginning to end.

The cast has been selected from the best of Portland's operatic material. As Falstaff, A. E. Davidson, basso, has studied the part so faithfully that it has become nearly a second nature to him, and fits him like the proverbial glove. His big, robust basso voice is a vocal revelation, and is a kind rarely heard, for fineness and depth, in amateur opera.

As Mrs. Ford, Miss Eloise Anita Hall, "the Tetrazzini of Portland," is superbly cast. She, too, is at home in this spritely part and is an adept at funmaking. Her exquisite coloratura voice, full of thrills and cadence, is rare in this region of the Pacific Coast, and is quite a pleasure to hear.

Others in the cast include: Ora Bess Seeberger, Mrs. Mischa Pels, Albert Brown, Otto T. Wedemeyer, Harry Scougal, George Hotchkiss Street and Richard H. Robertson.

Yes, "The Merry Wives of Windsor" will be really worth while. Don't miss the chance for enjoyment.

The director is Roberto Corruccini.

FOUR OREGON MUSIC FOLK ACTIVE IN CURRENT EVENTS.

Miss Ada Alice Tuttle, pianist and music lecturer, gives a lecture-recital at the University of Oregon, Eugene, last Wednesday.

Miss Ada Miller, soprano, sings recently in Salem, Or., in rendition of Gounod's "Redemption."

Fritz De Bruin, baritone, is selected as soloist at concert of Apollo Club, male chorus, Public Auditorium, May 2.

Oswald A. Olson, basso, is the new director of the chorus in the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

MALE VOICES DESIRED.

An enthusiastic and successful rehearsal of the Portland Festival chorus in preparation for the coming music festival, June 6, 7 and 8, was held last Wednesday night. An increased attendance, especially in the soprano and contralto sections, was noticeable, and the voice quality was pronounced unusually good.

Thus far, all the rehearsal work has been upon "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast" (Coleridge-Taylor), but within the next week it is expected to begin rehearsal upon the other work to be sung, "Swan and Skylark" (Goring Thomas).

A few more tenor and bass voices can be used advantageously. These, with the promised support from the members of the Apollo Club, will effect a necessary balance of parts. Regular weekly rehearsals are held in the First Unitarian Church, Broadway and Yamhill street, and those who intend to sing in the festival are asked to be prompt and constant at the remaining rehearsals of the series.

SCHOOLS TO HELP FESTIVAL.

Portland's five high schools will be represented prominently on the second night's programme of the coming annual musical festival which will take place June 6, 7 and 8 in the Public Auditorium.

Believing that the rising generation of musicians and music lovers should be linked with the annual festival idea, the programme committee of the festival association has arranged for a large chorus, numbering about 500 voices, selected from the singing clubs of the high schools. They will contribute several fine ensemble numbers and will be accompanied by an orchestra of more than 100 members, to be selected from the high school orchestras.

Never before in this city have the best musical talents in high school choruses and orchestras been given such an impressive demonstration as will be heard at this concert. To lend proper variety to the programme two of the big Eastern artists engaged for the festival will contribute song groups, and the arrangement is sure to meet a widespread welcome from all who have at heart the cultivation and popularizing of music in the schools. William H. Boyer has been engaged as conductor.

Advance subscriptions for season tickets are now being received. A season ticket provides a seat for each of the three performances.

Partly because of the excellent programme of offerings and partly from civic loyalty for the sake of making the musical festival 100 per cent successful, everyone is cordially invited to join the list of subscribers to form the financial guaranty of the festival.

ELMAN LAUDS RUSSIAN ART.

Mischa Elman, the Russian violinist, who plays in concert in the Heilig Theater Wednesday night, believes in a sturdy Russian democracy that will surely take its place permanently among the nations of the world. "The Russian autocracy has caused our best minds and spirits to seek their inspiration and to make their homes in other countries," says Mr. Elman. "Russia as a democracy may become a second France. For is not the Slav genius capable of the highest achievement? Has it not shown by its accomplishment in the past, when it was downtrodden and repressed, how unquenchable is its essence and spirit? I look forward with the greatest hope to seeing this regenerated Russian people take its place beside France and the United States as the host of artists and the patron of art."

SOLDIERS' MUSIC URGED.

Music is as necessary to soldiers' hearts as bread is to their bodies, according to Owen Wister, of Philadelphia, author and member of the music committee of the War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities. "Music is often spoken of as a luxury," he adds, "but it is not a luxury, even in time of peace.

"It is probable that no battle was ever won by soldiers who did not sing. When soldiers have been too exhausted to sing, just listening to music has put new life into them. Just such a case as I have in mind occurred during the retreat of the British before Mons in 1914.

"The heavy fighting they had been through had proved too much for a certain contingent of troops. The men lay on the ground, played out, indifferent and benumbed. The enemy was coming, but the men were too tired to care. Their commanding officer looked at them in despair. Commands and entreaties to march on were of no avail; the men refused to budge.

"Near at hand was a toy shop which had been abandoned by the proprietor when the retreat began. The officer made for the shop and a moment later appeared with a toy drum and a tin whistle. Then, while he played the drum two soldiers took turns playing the whistle. The music from the drum and the whistle awakened the benumbed men, stiffened their legs and spirits to further effort and they arose and marched ten miles to safety.

"That is what music did in one case. In the medieval age the Romans and Greeks had their battle songs, and even now our warriors sing in battle. It has helped to win many a victory. Indeed, music has played a brilliant part in the history of all great wars."

MISS TUTTLE'S ART PLEASES.

Repeating her music success of one year ago, when she delighted students of the University of Oregon with a piano recital, Miss Ada Alice Tuttle, of this city, gave a programme of dramatic readings, with interpretative piano accompaniment, at the assembly hour, in Villard Hall, Eugene, last Wednesday.

Miss Tuttle's principal selection was the "Hexenlied" (Wildenbruck), with interpretative music by Marc Schilling. In this tragic poem the themes of love, death, martyrdom were strongly brought out both by the reading and the piano accompaniment, which Miss Tuttle played as she recited. Each theme was so strongly marked that the hearers could have identified them from the accompaniment, even if they could not have heard a word.

Responding to an encore, Miss Tuttle delighted with "The Birth of the Opal," Ella Wheeler Wilcox's poem, with interpretative music by Stanley Hawley. Like the "Hexenlied," this poem gave opportunity for the display of mature musical understanding and soulful impressiveness in elocution.

Miss Tuttle, who completed her musical education in Europe under a student of Liszt and Rubinstein, shows the effect of her thorough music training, while her work in the almost untried field of pianologue, which she has taken up since returning to this country, gives promise of great things.

PIANIST WILL STAR AT GLEE CLUB'S CONCERT.

Miss Florence Scheurle.

Miss Florence Scheurle, pianist, was the accompanist for the Willamette University Glee Club, which held an entertainment at the Sunnyside Methodist Episcopal Church, Thirty-fifth and East Yamhill streets, last night. Miss Scheurle also featured in a soprano solo and played the sextet from "Lucia" with her left hand only. She is a student at the university.

A quartet, consisting of Gus Anderson, Harry Bowers, Floyd McIntyre and Paul Sterling, sang several entertaining and patriotic numbers.

The glee club sang "The Stars and Stripes Forever," "Son of Prince Rupert's Men," "Blue Bells of Scotland" and the "Bugle Song." Archie Smith, baritone soloist, also entertained.

"BLESSED DAMOZEL" HEARD.

In an admired concert of miscellaneous music and also Debussy's cantata, "The Blessed Damozel," the Treble Clef Club, assisted by Mrs. R. M. Lansworth, coloratura soprano, appeared in the auditorium of the Multnomah Hotel last Tuesday afternoon and won cordial appreciation for excellent singing.

Mrs. Rose Coursen Reed directed the club's singing, and did good work.

The chorus singing was marked by excellent ensemble, was especially successful in shading and attention to the marks of expression. The chorus members are: Mrs. Sanderson Reed, Mrs. John H. Tuttle, Mrs. Frank M. Taylor, Mrs. Beatrice L. Kimmons, Mrs. O. B. Riddle, Mrs. Norris B. Gregg, Miss Astrid Roal, Miss Bernada Harry, Miss Hermina Albers, Mrs. Palmer L. Fales, Miss Genevieve Butterfield, Miss Charlotte Johnson, Mrs. Donald Lamont, Mrs. W. H. Chatten, Miss Nina Dressel, Mrs. Paul B. Legler, Mrs. J. F. Daneke, Mrs. R. C. Conaway and Mrs. Walter F. Parry.

The work of "The Blessed Damozel" has melodious music and is of course of serious mood. The music is more colorful than the usual Debussy trend, and easily understood.

It has been stated that in the first two stanzas of the cantata referred to the damozel is described as she leaned out from "the gold bar of heaven," clothed in her celestial robes, with the three lilies in her bended arm and the seven stars in her hair, "her hair that lay along her back, yellow like ripe corn." It was from this description that Rossetti painted the damozel years later. The poem goes on to tell of her longing for her lover, and her plans for him when he should come to her; and how she would take him to the shrine of Prayer, the Tree of Life, and to the grove where the Lady Mary is, and receive her blessing on their love; then go before Christ the Lord, and ask of him that she and her lover might live with love through all eternity.

The incidental soli were effectively sung by Mrs. Sanderson Reed, the narrator, and Miss Astrid Roal, the damozel.

The soloist of the day, Mrs. Lansworth, a recent arrival from Minnesota, was cordially received and liked. Her voice is naturally high set and flutelike, and has been trained skillfully. It is especially admirable in the upper register, and silvery and pretty in quality. Mrs. Lansworth is an experienced singer, and she sung in true recital style. Her best sung solo was Donizetti's "O uce di Quest Anima," from "Linda di Chamounix," which deeply impressed her audience.

The accompanist was Miss Geraldine Coursen, whose playing was a genuine musical treat. Miss Coursen is one of the best accompanists in this state, and her piano work is deservedly admired.

The event was under the auspices of the MacDowell Club.

HOOD RIVER RECITAL WINS.

John Claire Monteith, Portland baritone, appeared in Hood River, Or., last week in a successful concert for the benefit of the Red Cross. The concert was arranged by the music department of the Women's Club, under the direction of Mrs. C. H. Sletton, who was heard in a delightful group of songs and duets with Mr. Monteith. A Hood River correspondent writes: "Mr. Monteith, who has not favored Hood River before, proved a genuine treat. His voice is sweetly musical, well trained and full of dramatic expression. His stage presence showed such ease and affability that he was most pleasing to the audience. The Red Cross benefit proved a gratifying success, both musically and financially." Mr. Monteith was accompanied by Mrs. May Van Dyke Hardwick, also of this city, a most accomplished piano accompanist. The programme was a varied one, made up of arias from the operas, folk song and modern ballads, in English, French and Italian. Miss Edith Woodcock, a talented young pianist, gave a well rendered group of piano numbers. Following the concert the soloists were guests of honor at a reception given by Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Moore. Mr. Monteith and Mrs. Hardwick gave an informal recital for the Hood River High School the day after the concert, which was greatly appreciated by the students and faculty.

MISS BYRD WINS THE EAST.

The unusually successful New York debut and continued artistic appearances of Miss Winifred Byrd are the subject of much interest among Oregon musicians.

As a Salem girl, Miss Byrd appeared twice in this city and displayed musical talent far out of the ordinary. Hence her recognition in New York circles comes as an expected result. Those who were favored in hearing her in recital in Oregon recall particularly the splendid interpretation of the brilliant Baerman "Etude," which she studied under the master himself. The vigor and dramatic character of this number were contrasted by the poetic Grieg "Nocturne," in which the beautiful singing tone created on the piano displayed the true artist.

E. E. COURSEN MAKES RECORD.

The entire choir of the First Presbyterian Church has been re-engaged for the year beginning September 1. This will be the second year for Miss Astrid Roal, soprano, and Mrs. Virginia S. Hutchinson, contralto, and the third year for Warren A. Erwin, tenor, and John Claire Monteith, baritone. Edgar E. Coursen, the organist and choir director, finished his 28th year in that position in this church Easter Sunday. This beats P. A. Schnecker's great record of 27 years in the Hope Presbyterian Church, of New York City, and probably nearly establishes a record for the big churches of the country.

MacDOWELL EVENT FRIDAY.

The Portland Woman's Club will have a MacDowell programme given by the MacDowell Club Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Multnomah Hotel. The programme: "An Appreciation of MacDowell," Mrs. Thomas Carrick Burke, president of the MacDowell Club; "The Robin Sings in the Apple Tree," "Slumber Song," Mrs. Herman T. Bohlman; "Improvisata," "Rhapsody," "March Wind" and "Polonaise," Miss Abby Whiteside; "The Clover and the Bluebell," Mrs. Bohlman.

WONDER CHILD IS COMPOSER.

Little Miss Geraldine Peterson, Portland's "wonder child," has recently completed the musical score of an operetta entitled "Helping Uncle Sam," the words of which were written by Mrs. Clara Wright.

The operetta is written in three acts and scenes. The little miss has the distinction of having completed an operetta and a number of piano compositions in her fourth year and of having given her first piano recital before she was three years old. She intends, with the assistance of her mother, Mrs. Grace Wilton Peterson, to present more than 100 children in the operetta this Spring. It will be given as a benefit for the Oregon boys' emergency fund.

Miss Geraldine is also looking forward to the celebration of her fifth birthday this Spring. She has been pronounced a highly physically developed child for her age. She is reading in the third reader and has read library books for more than one year.

COMING MUSICAL EVENTS

Charles South, violinist, and Emil Enna, pianist, will appear in concert at the Bethlehem Norwegian Lutheran Church, Friday night.

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Otto T. Wedemeyer will sing a solo at the concert of the Grade Teachers' Association chorus, the Triole Singers, May 1, in the Lincoln High School Auditorium.

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The date of the forthcoming concert of the Apollo Club male chorus has been chosen as May 2, in the Public Auditorium, with Fritz De Bruin, baritone, as soloist.

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John Claire Monteith has been engaged to appear in concert in The Dalles, Or., the latter part of May. The concert will be given as a benefit for the Red Cross of that city.

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Emil Enna will present Miss Bernice Simmons in piano recital, assisted by Master Louis Kaufman, violinist, in the Little Theater, Tuesday, April 30, at 8 P. M. Miss Eva Graves will be the accompanist.

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A public service of the Oregon chapter of the American Guild of Organists will take place in [illegible] Lutheran Church, East [illegible] Clinton streets, May 2, at [illegible] members of the chapter [illegible] Smith, Miss Ethel Rand [illegible] Becker will play pipe organ [illegible] the church choir will sing.

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Mrs. Rose Coursen Reed is preparing her students for two final musicales of the season, one in this city and one in Astoria, in which latter city she has a large class and a number of promising voices under her direction. She will also present the Treble Clef Club, of Astoria, a chorus of 40 women's voices, in a varied and interesting programme.

* * *

Native Oregon Indian music will be a feature of the commencement programme at the University of Oregon this year. A "deer dance," arranged for orchestra, is the selection which will be rendered by the University of Oregon orchestra, under the direction of Miss Winifred Forbes. The music is the accompaniment for a memorial dance of the Rogue River tribe. It is only recently that this distinctive aboriginal melody has been arranged for orchestra. It was played last Winter by the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. The production came into the possession of the white man through the gift of the chief of the tribe, who gave the music to a professor of music in the University of Kansas. Other music for commencement will include works of Coleridge-Taylor, Grieg and Schubert. Frederick Stark, noted oboeist, and a member of the Portland Symphony, formerly with the Thomas Orchestra and now of this city, may assist.

MUSIC BRIEFS.

Miss Anne Hansen rendered a group of songs at Vancouver Barracks recently and her singing was much appreciated.

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Arthur H. Johnson sang two groups of songs at the Wisconsin Society meeting and was one of the soloists at the Y. M. C. A. hut, where he gave several rousing songs.

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Robert Roberts sang at the Theosophical Society, "Invictus" (Huhn). Mr. Roberts has a deep bass voice of profound quality, and is a student of J. Adrian Epping.

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Mrs. C. G. Anderson, contralto, sang last week at a banquet at Multnomah Hotel. Mrs. Anderson is studying with Mrs. Jessie O. Steckle, and will be presented in recital in June.

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Mrs. Viola Fassett Johnson sang recently in Pilgrim Congregational Church, at St. John's Baptist, at a concert at Woodlawn Methodist Church and for the Overlook Woman's Club, with success. She possesses a sweet soprano voice.

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The MacDowell Club programme at the Child's Welfare Association meeting included selections from Mrs. J. Curtis Simmons, soprano, and Miss Marie Chapman, violinist, with Miss Clara Myron and William Lowell Patton as accompanists.

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Harry M. Fassett sang "Invictus" (Huhn) at a recent meeting of the Iron-Moulders' Union, held at Artisan Hall, and was obliged to respond to double recalls. Mr. Fassett has a fine resonant baritone voice, which is in demand at church and social functions.

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Miss Mildred Beltz played several piano solos at a reception held recently in Sunnyside Methodist Episcopal Church. Miss Mildred, who is a talented little musician, and an ambitious student, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Beltz, and a student of Freda E. H. Leitner.

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Miss Ada Alice Tuttle appeared before the University of Oregon last Wednesday and gave the assembly programme before an enthusiastic audience of about 800. A year ago she gave the assembly programme as a lecture recital of piano numbers only. Last Wednesday she gave a lecture recital of recitations, accompanying herself on the piano. Her numbers were Schilling's "Hexenlied" and Stanley Hawley's "Birth of the Opal." Her lecture recital was one of the big treats of the Eugene music season.

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A much-enjoyed concert, under the direction of William Lowell Patton, under the auspices of the Overlook Woman's Improvement Club, and for the benefit of the Oregon Soldiers' Hospital fund, was given at Pilgrim Congregational Church, April 12. Soloists participating were: Miss Elsie Cramer, Miss Harriet Leach, L. H. Hansen, baritone; C. M. Godfrey, tenor; Laurence Woodfin, baritone, and Marie Chapman, violinist, with Mr. Patton at the piano. Eugenia Craig, reader; wee Phillis Drake, solo dancer, and J. A. Finley, reader, assisted materially in the success of the programme. Miss Craig rendered two Chinese character sketches in costume, and Mr. Finley two Yankee dialect numbers. Every number was encored by an appreciative audience.

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Miss Christine Brakel presented nine violin students lately in an enjoyable programme in the Goodnough building. Trios, duets and solos by Dancle, De Beriot, Kreisler, Drdla, Spitzner, etc., evinced careful training. Mr. and Mrs. J. D. MacFall assisted with charming vocal duets. Miss Helen Duck was the accompanist.

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Several piano students played recently for their friends at Miss Jocelyn Foulkes' residence. Eleanor Woodward read a paper on "The Life of Chopin" that showed careful research. New junior members of the class are: Pauline Genereaux, Doris and Katherine Wells, Caroline Everling and Johanna Vreeland.

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Emil Enna presented a large class of students in a piano recital at the Guild Hall, St. Helens, Or., before a large audience last Wednesday night. These students took part: James Baker, Jasmine Brown, Amelia Kiblan, Ruth and Gwalde Sebrean, Marion Cox, Laura Farr, Helen Dodd, May Goin, Blanche Knighton, Avery Shackelford, Helen Kiblan and the Misses Lois Clear, Arline Paulsen, Rose Kiblan, Phyllis Brown, Martha Ryser, Eleanor Larson, Marion Baker, Lovenia Kiblan and Helen White.

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Oswald A. Olson is the new director of the chorus in the First Methodist Episcopal Church. He has a fine bass voice.

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J. William Belcher, tenor, sang in spirited style several patriotic songs at Dr. J. Whitcomb Brougher's lecture, in the White Temple, last Friday night.

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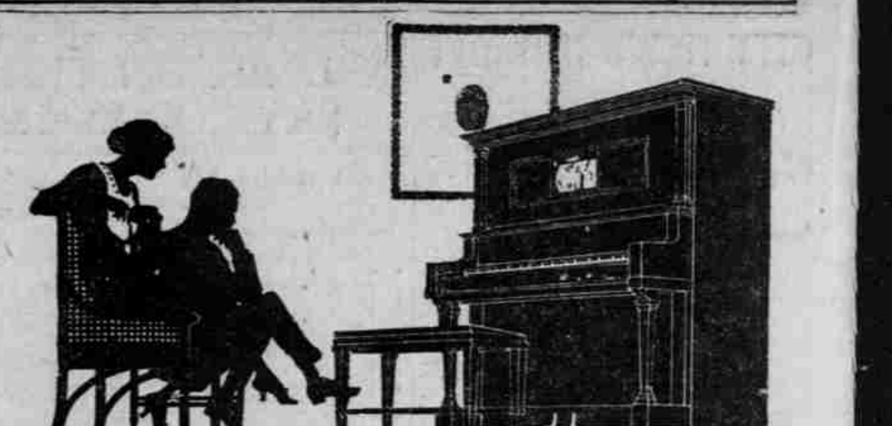
Mrs. Jane Burns Albert and Mrs. Lulu Dahl Miller sang with much suc-

(Concluded on Page 9.)



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