

Portland Soloists Will Sing in Concert at the Heilig Theatre

HILL'S LAKE WILL FOR CHILDREN TO COAST IN WINTER

Crabbed Old Neighbor Is Re-buked by Hearty Smithy Whom Kids Call Best Pard in World.

(United Press Lensed Wire.) New York, Feb. 24.—If you go out to Sheephead bay and ask any youngster to tell you the name of the greatest man of this or any other time, he will reply without hesitation "August Friend—there never was another guy like him." And if you ask August Friend what was the greatest investment he ever made in his life, he will tell you it was when he dug down into his hoarded savings and paid \$250 to lease until the first of May the only available coasting hill in Sheephead bay.

August Friend was until recently a blacksmith. For many years his little shop was a favorite resort of the children. They crowded about his furnace and held out their hands to catch the sparks that showered from the white hot iron, and if they got in his way he was rushing to the slack-tub with a newly-fashioned horseshoe, and they frightened him almost to pieces when it seemed certain they would be trampled to death under the heels of some fractious colt. But still the "smithy" liked to have the children with him.

Retires from Forge. There wasn't much in pounding iron, he said, except the fun he got out of his juvenile visitors, and for years the little folks of Sheephead bay were his constant companions. A few months ago, August, who was past 70, sold his little shop and retired. He saw very little of his young friends until a heavy snow came. August went to the one big hill in the neighborhood and found all of Sheephead's youngsters there. They had just succeeded in getting a good "road" made through the drifts and were laughing and shouting. Then William Thompson, who lived nearby and who, it seems, had forgotten years ago that he was once a small boy, appeared and told the youngsters they were making too much noise.

It is reported that the remarkable August Friend made to William Thompson on that occasion dealt in detail with the latter's ancestry and his probable abiding place in the next world. But Thompson called the police and the boys and girls were told that they could not coast there any more. August went to William Johns who owned the hill and leased it for \$250. The next day when the heavy-hearted children of Sheephead bay started out to find "some dinky hill, where they could coast without being arrested," they saw a little red-faced, gray-haired man, looking very much like a real Santa Claus, gesticulating wildly to them and pointing to a sign he had just nailed on a tree, which read: "Coasters wanted."

Bill Covered With Kids. It didn't take very long for every kid in Sheephead bay to hear the good news. They came to the hill from all quarters and they voted August Friend the greatest man of this or any other age. And the old man entered into the spirit of the sport, so much so that when his aged spouse went to call him for dinner, she could hardly believe her eyes—there was August himself, sliding down that hill "belly buster."

Journal Want Ads bring results.

FEDERAL OPERA SOCIETY



By J. L. W. AN ACTIVE campaign for grand opera in English is being started by the National Society for the Promotion of Grand Opera in English, with headquarters in New York and branches in Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago. At a recent meeting it was decided to make the association national in actuality, as well as in name, and to spread its work over the entire country. The move has the support of a number of leading musicians, directors and composers, according to reports just received here.

Reginald De Koven, president of the society, presided over the meeting, and they were present from the board of management Walter Damrosch, Charles Henry Meltzer, Walter Bogert, Arthur Farwell and Anna E. Ziegler. There was a large attendance and the audience showed a lively interest.

The first speaker was Mr. De Koven, who explained the origin and nature of the society, and read its constitution, as well as the list of its officers comprising the board of management and advisory council. Mr. De Koven told of the extension of the scope of the society through affiliation with the National Federation of Musical Clubs, which declared strongly for opera in English at its last biennial in Philadelphia.

He referred to the need which had arisen for centers in other localities and of the branches of the society which are now being formed as follows: In Boston by William B. Gardner, in Philadelphia by Harvey Watts, and in Chicago by Maurice Rosenfeld. Letters from the organizers were read. Mr. De Koven gave experiences and opinions going to show the desirability of opera in the vernacular, and called for support of the organization, asking all prospective members to send their names to Anna Ziegler, 1425 Broadway.

Mr. De Koven then called upon Mr. Damrosch, who expressed his emphatic approval of the movement, which he now considered to have become irresistible, and destined for certain success. He spoke of the fact that European countries require opera in their own language, and made special reference to the encouragement of the American composer in the operatic field. While he himself had left the operatic field as a conductor, he said that he would be glad to take up the baton again if he could direct the "Walkure" in English. Mr. Damrosch said that American composers should go in for better light opera, that we have the best choruses and orchestras for such productions that are to be found, and that they should be a model of the best in America.

Mr. Farwell referred to Otto Kahn's declaration of belief that opera is to be the essentially American art form. Mr. Farwell said that any art which merely skims the surface of the national consciousness, as opera does at present, can be regarded as exotic, and not yet as a rooted and thriving national art. He explained the need of practical organization for ideal movements like the present, and said that every ideal enterprise was a war; the present was not, it was to be understood, with the government of opera, but with a condition of confused individual opinion, disorder and chaos.

Mr. Meltzer adduced such high authorities as Addison and St. Paul, the latter in respect particularly to sacred music in the vernacular, and bearing direct testimony in favor of such a movement as the present. He spoke of what the Savage and Aborn companies had already accomplished, and wished that the Metropolitan opera house would progress more rapidly in this direction. Mr. Witherspoon said that the difficulties of singing in English had been greatly exaggerated, that only a certain number of sounds could be emitted from the human throat, and that after Italian, the other languages were about equal in availability for song. "If a singer will study," he said, "there is no reason why he should not sing in English."

Arthur Nevin expressed his full sympathy with the movement. Madame Ziegler spoke of the subject of enunciation, and said that English words were easier than French, but that the American student was unfortunately not required to study the English language with a view to singing it.

Harold Bayley, who will conduct the Portland Symphony orchestra next Sunday, has prepared an excellent program for this concert, the big number being Brahms' fourth symphony, never before played in this city. This symphony is one of the most difficult but it has been rehearsed so carefully that a splendid rendition may be looked for. Another very interesting number will be Edward German's Gypsy suite, with which the program will be concluded. The suite portrays the various phases of gypsy life and ends with a fantastic dance of the whirlwind order. "A Midsummer Night's Dream," by Mendelssohn will be the opening number. Other selections will be waltzes "Damroschen" by Tschakowsky, "The Watch of the Angel Guardian" by Piere, for string orchestra, and "Fondle Myself" by Westcott. The concert will begin at 2:45 o'clock.

Miss Clara Howell will sing Franz "Im Herbst" (Autumn). "Ah! Rendimi," contralto aria from "Nirvana" by Rossi, will be given by Mrs. R. W. Schmeer. The Treble Clef club, Miss Geraldine Courson, accompanying, will give a composition new to Portland, Chaminade's "Evening Prayer in Brittany," also a brilliant waltz song, "Nymphs and Fauns," by Remberg. The program will be closed by a group of songs, sung by Mrs. Rose Courson-Reed, one being Tohaikousky's "War Ich Nicht ein Halm." Edgar E. Courson will be at the piano.

Tuesday afternoon was one of "German Lieders" at Mrs. Rose Bloch Bauer's class meet. Miss Zella Knox sang "Du Bist Wie Eine Blume," by Schumann; Miss Carvel "Tofnung," by Reichart; Grace Josephine Brown sang "Still Wie Die Nacht," by Bohn; Miss Wax sang, "Aus Methem Grosse Schmerzen," by Franz; Mrs. Delphine Marx gave the beautiful aria from "Samson and Delilah" for contralto by Saint-Saens, and "Die Lotus Blume," by Schumann.

The following program was given at the last meeting of the Tuesday Afternoon club, under the direction of Mrs. Rose Courson-Reed, "Only in Dreams," (De Koven); "My Task," (Ashford); "Love Is a Rose," (Sans Souci), Raymond McKelton; "Du Bist Wie Eine Blume," (Schumann); "Where My Caravan Has Rested," (Loehr); "Sing Me a Song of a Lad That Is Gone," (Homer), H. G. Lettow; "The Face of My Love," (Forster); "Rose of My Heart," (Loehr), Mr. McKelton.

A large audience was present to greet Mrs. Rose Courson-Reed at her vocal recital given under the auspices of the Monday Musical club at Ellers hall last Monday afternoon. An interesting program was given of four groups of songs, Italian, German, French and English. Mrs. Reed was recalled many times and was the recipient of beautiful flowers. Edgar E. Courson made a most excellent accompanist.

Mrs. J. E. Bonbright sang Dudley Buck's "My Redeemer and My Lord," last Sunday morning at the Mount Tabor Presbyterian church. John Claire Monteith was one of the soloists at the annual Washington's Birthday tea given at the First Presbyterian church on Thursday. He sang as his first number, "Mother O Mine," by Tourn. For encore he used, "Im Kabin," by Meyerdt. A. Goodnoh as accompanist, ably adapted his work to the interpretation of the singer.

Jasper Dean Miss Fall, director of music at the Sunnyside Methodist Episcopal church, has, on account of the many requests that have come to him, decided to repeat the splendid program that was rendered at the February "Song Recital" by the choir of the church, next Sunday evening. The preliminary program will be changed somewhat, but the cantata "The Prince of Peace" will be rendered with the same soloists. A particularly attractive number will be "Lord, I Believe," which will be sung by Miss Marie Keller, soprano.

At the Grace Methodist Episcopal church the evening musical program will be as follows: Organ and vocal numbers from "Gaelic," "The Holy City," Organ - Contemplation, "The Garden," Miss Fisher; quartet, "No Shadow Yonder," aria, "These Are They Which Came," Miss Ferguson; quartet, "The Fining Pot Is for Silver," aria, "My Soul Is Abhorst for God," Mr. Mulder; offertory, Organ, Adoration (Intermezzo); Miss Fisher; aria, "Eye Hath Not Seen," Mrs. Stowers; aria, "A New Heaven and a New Earth," Mr. Montgomery; quartet, "That Sow in Tears," organ, "Great and Marvelous," (Finale), Miss Fisher. The quartet is composed of Laura Ferguson, soprano; Elizabeth Hamilton Stowers, contralto; Joseph P. Mulder, tenor and W. A. Montgomery, baritone. Leonora Fisher, organist and choir director.

A sacred concert will be given at Mizpah Presbyterian church this evening at 7:30 o'clock by a choir of 25 voices, assisted by Mrs. Clara Brooks (soprano), soprano, Mrs. Nellie Peterson, organist and Stanley Slatt, director. The program will be: Organ Preludes, "Prelude," (Offenbach Arr. by Shelley); anthem, "Christian, the Morn Breaks Sweetly o'er Thee," (Shelley); soprano solo, "Hear Ye Israel," from "Elijah," (Mendelssohn); Clara-Brooks Ur-dahl; ladies' quartet, "The Shepherd of Israel," (Morrison); cornet solo, "Flee as a Bird," (Dana), W. B. Bell; anthem, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is," (Shelley); trio, "Praise Ye," from "Attila," (G. Verdi); soprano solo, "Like as a Heart Desire," (Alfonsen); Mrs. Clara-Brooks Ur-dahl; organ offertory, "Voluntary," (Hesse); male quartet.

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Advanced vocal students, who will be presented by Mrs. Rose Courson-Reed in a complimentary concert at the Heilig theatre, Thursday evening, February 29. The Treble Clef club will assist: 1—Miss Clara Howell, 2—Mrs. R. W. Schmeer, 3—W. A. Walters, 4—Mrs. Irene Burns-Albert, 5—Miss Zeta Hollister, 6—H. G. Lettow, 7—Mrs. Virginia Hutchinson, 8—Miss Madeline Stone.

"Send Out Thy Light," (Gounod); anthem, "Hark! Hark, My Soul," (Shelley); organ postlude, "March from Athalia," (Mendelssohn).

John Claire Monteith and Miss Muriel Williams were the soloists at the big reception given by the Daughters of the American Revolution at the Metropolitan hotel on Thursday. Mr. Monteith sang by request "My Own United States."

Following musical program will be given this afternoon by Webber's Juvenile orchestra at the St. Vincent's hospital, from 2 to 4 p. m.: March, "Skipper Susie Green," (Ramsay-Jacob); waltz, "Lame Doe Pleure," (Sugallari); sextette from "Lucia di Lammermoor," (Donzotti-Webber); song, "Sleepy Head," (Sherman-Webber); Francisca Biles and chorus; serenade, "Coquette," (Barthelmy-Webber); grand selection, "La Boehme," (Puccini); "Big Chief Battle-Axe," (Allen-Jacob); intermezzo, "Cavalleria Rusticana," (Mascagni); Jacobs; song, "All Aboard for Blanket Bay," (Stevens-Nape), Hazel Van Avery and chorus; idylle, "The Mill in the Forest," (Eisenberg-Odell); violin solo, "Reverie," (Gruenwald-Webber); Francisca Biles, (orchestra accompaniment); medley overture, (J. Bodewalt Lampe).

Mrs. F. C. Chapman, John Claire Monteith and D. W. Clapp, violinist, gave the musical numbers at the annual banquet held under the auspices of the Congregational churches at the Hassalo street church on Tuesday evening. Mr. Monteith gave a fine rendition of "The Bedouin Love Song" (Schnecker), "Reverie" (Gruenwald-Webber), Francisca Biles, (orchestra accompaniment); "Cavalleria Rusticana," (Mascagni); Jacobs; song, "All Aboard for Blanket Bay," (Stevens-Nape), Hazel Van Avery and chorus; idylle, "The Mill in the Forest," (Eisenberg-Odell); violin solo, "Reverie," (Gruenwald-Webber); Francisca Biles, (orchestra accompaniment); medley overture, (J. Bodewalt Lampe).

Mrs. Elma Gilbert, who has been substituting as soloist at the Hassalo Congregational church, has been engaged for the remainder of the season. At this morning's service she will sing in the duet, "Springtime of the Soul," (Hart); Miss Gilbert, will sing "Sing Me to Sleep," (Green) with violin obligato by D. W. Clapp, who also gave a solo number. The accompanists were Miss Thomas and Miss Abby Whiteside.

In the morning at Grace Methodist Episcopal church, Miss Laura Ferguson will sing, "I Will Lay Me Down in Peace," (Buck).

Invitations have been issued for the recital of Mrs. Emma F. Carroll's February class. It is to be given at Mrs. Carroll's residence, Sunday, Thursday afternoon, February 29. During the month the work of Jane and Katherine Setler has been attracting special attention and they are both to appear on the program.

Miss Jessie Lewis will accompany Henry Van Praag at the meeting of the Woman's club in W. O. W. hall the afternoon of March 8.

Miss Frances Batchelor has accepted a commission to play in April for the musical department of Oregon Agricultural college.

Oregon Conservatory of Music. All branches taught by staff of teachers.

Historian Macaulay a Prodigy. From the London Chronicle. Macaulay must not be omitted when there is talk of infant prodigies. From the age of 3 he read incessantly, and by the time he was 7 he had begun a compendium of universal history. At 8 he wrote a treatise designed to convert the natives of Malabar to Christianity, while one visit at an early age to Strawberry Hill was enough to enable him to carry the catalogue of the Oxford collections in his memory ever afterwards. At a later date Macaulay expressed the opinion that he could reproduce "Paradise Lost" and "The Pilgrim's Progress" if every existing copy were destroyed.

CHICAGO STREET FOR PUBLIC PLAYGROUND

Chicago, Feb. 24.—The city has opened a new public playground, extending from Blue Island avenue to Waller street along Thirteenth place. The street will be closed for traffic except during school hours. This move was accomplished by the Chicago Woman's Aid. The John Smyth school is in the playground block, which lies in one of the most congested districts of the city. Mrs. Charles Reubens, vice president of the Chicago Woman's Aid, told yesterday of the work the organization has done at a meeting of the first district, Illinois Federation of Woman's clubs, at the Chicago Woman's club. "There are about 2000 children in the school," she said, "and the street is the only playground they have. There have been many accidents because of the children playing in the streets. The city has ordered that there shall be no traffic in that block before school, during the noon hour, after school, and all day Saturday and Sunday."

E. S. Johnson, member of the Democratic national committee, has made formal announcement of his candidacy for the Democratic nomination in South Dakota.

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