

MEXICO CITY SMIRKED AT BLUE LAWS OPERA IN ENGLISH APPROVED IN PARIS

POPULAR PRICES HAS PLEASED PARISIANS

Venture Launched in New York Follows Three Years' Fight.

By Charles Henry Meltzer.

Paris, Sept. 20.—To Paris there have come the pleasant tidings that after a fight extending over some three years, New York this week saw the beginning of an effort to found opera in English. For full three years or more, those who had clamored for this great and good reform were mocked and jeered at as mere dreamers of mad dreams, but as old Galileo said long ago, "The world does move."

The idea of things has forced the opponents of the use of the English tongue in opera to join its advocates. To meet the threat of an all-English "National" opera house lately promised by Mr. M. M. Mann, the manager of the friends of our vernacular, but also men of influence and wealth, like Mr. Kahn have helped the foundation of the Century opera company which, under the management of Milton and Sargent Aborn, will this week do what it can to change a "dream" into a living fact.

It would be hard to overestimate the importance of this new and earnest effort to make opera popular. The Aborns hope to convert what was a faded into a real form of popular art. For quite a century our opera has been sung in foreign tongues. It has, no doubt, been sung melodiously and well. But to the masses, it has had no sense. The whole value—the whole meaning—of the now immigrant season at the Century opera house lies in the attempt to put this sense into sweet sound.

Since Paul in an epistle told the Corinthians that prayers and hymns of praise should be made understandable, many—among them Addison and Wagner—have denounced the absurdity of rendering songs in strange and foreign idioms.

Richard Wagner changed "opera" into "music drama." By wedding words of a poetic kind to glorious tones, he recreated the whole era of lyric drama. He wrote his words himself to assure their perfectness and he wrote words which could be clearly understood by his own German countrymen.

In Germany today, except in a few instances, not only Wagner's but all the works of the composers of the world, are sung in German.

In France and nearly every other land, in the subsidizing opera houses, the operas of the world are rendered in the national idioms.

The Aborns will endeavor to present opera in the language of America. And if their efforts are at last crowned with success, they will have deserved our thanks.

Hard Task for Producers. They have a hard and very grinding task to face. For, after hearing music in outlandish tongues, some may be enticed by the sound of English. But most Americans, I think, would love "grand opera" would like to understand as well as hear.

To these, at least, the Century opera season will be the best and the one who supports the Century scheme should look too much at first of such a novel venture.

It may be years before some of the artists at the Century become "stars" in our vernacular. English diction, English enunciation, must be both taught and mastered by the singers who have been engaged by the Aborns. It is particularly wise to mark in this connection that the managers have now seen the absolute need of teaching diction in their theatre.

DECLARES LONDON AS NOISY AS NEW YORK

London, Sept. 20.—"I find London just about as noisy as New York," said Mrs. Isaac L. Rice, president of the New York Society for the Suppression of Unnecessary Noise. "Your auto sirens are not so noisy as ours—anyhow there is none that imitates the warning sirens on fire apparatus—but your motor 'busses' are dreadful."

EMPERESS EUGENIE TO VISIT ON CONTINENT

London, Sept. 20.—Empress Eugenie will leave her beautiful residence at Farnborough for the continent this autumn, the first time in many years. The once lovely empress, who has suffered so much unhappiness, was 57 last May. Her health is falling but she will not admit it.

FULLERTON GOES TO URBAN EXHIBITION

Paris, Sept. 20.—According to Ambassador Myron T. Herrick, Morgan Fullerton, an American journalist, author and lecturer, will leave here shortly for the United States to confer with authorities there regarding his duties as special commissioner at the Lyons Exhibition 'Urban' which will be held from May to November, 1914.

MOONSTONES IN HIGH FAVOR THIS AUTUMN

London, Sept. 20.—Moonstones in early Celtic mountings of gold, silver and platinum will be fashionable this season. Black opals are second favorites. Pendants are taking the place of necklets. Ear-rings have long hanging lobes.

16 JEWEL DEALERS DISAPPEAR IN PARIS

Paris, Sept. 20.—No fewer than 16 jewel dealers here, all unwarmed and all without large capital, have retired from business and left France in the last 18 months. The detectives say, too, that the best friends of nine of the 16 do not know where they are.

MUNICH PLAYS TOURIST GAME TOO HARD, LOSES

Berlin, Sept. 20.—The hotel keepers and tradesmen in certain quarters of south Germany are dismayed by the marked decrease in American tourist trade. August was almost disastrous to them.

TRAINS HALTED BY WIRELESS DEVICE

Berlin, Sept. 20.—Experiments being made on the German railroads with the wireless apparatus invented by Christopher Wirth of Nuremberg by means of which a signal can be sent from a stop on the dispatcher's office, are proving highly successful. An apparatus invented by Wirth and located in the baggage car, instantly sets the breaks by a wireless signal from the dispatcher's office. It is the opinion of experts that the invention will be a great boon to the railroad companies.

THIEF, CRAZY OR CLEVER, IS IN PRISON AT LAST

Paris, Sept. 20.—His last hope of appeal gone, France's famous "superman" footpad and "poet" today began his term of six years' imprisonment. Jean Michelon is his name. He sandbagged a woman and robbed her of \$700, but when betrayed by a friend, spouted an ode to the sun before the police. "I may be a crook," he said, "but I am an ideal man. I am a superman. I crack a nut in the head. I grab her coin and run; but any tub that has no bed can touch me for the man!" The authorities are divided over whether Michelon is crazy or clever.

MOVIES EMPLOYED BY FRENCH POLITICIAN TO ADVANCE CANDIDACY

Ambitious Candidate Invites Voters to See Him Perform in Motion Pictures.

Paris, Sept. 20.—A French politician who seeks election to the council of one of the departments has adopted a time and labor saving scheme to urge his claims on his constituents. Perhaps the Chinese praying machine inspired him.

Instead of haranguing the voters at election meetings he invites them to a cinematograph theatre; there to the strains of popular music one or two picture comedies are shown.

Then the candidate appears on the screen. He is seen addressing a meeting, shaking hands with the prefect and entering his motor car. Another reel of film shows him helping an old woman to load her donkey with a bundle of wool, indignantly refusing a bribe and paying a visit to an old man stretched on a bed of illness.

In the last and most effective picture of the series the sympathetic candidate proves his heart is in the right place by discreetly slipping a bank note in the sick man's hand before bidding him au revoir.

CHARLES I SHOWED LACK OF FORESIGHT

In Consequence Aviators Can Fly on Sunday at Will and Laugh at Law.

London, Sept. 20.—The failure of King Charles the first to foresee and legislate for the advent of aeroplanes has enabled some 6000 residents of Hull and district to give the police and the local authorities the largest and most annoying form of police notebooks were wasted in taking the names and addresses of people who could not be prosecuted.

When Aviator Robert Whitehouse announced that he would give flying exhibitions at the local aerodrome on Sunday, the "uncle" guild of Hull raised their hands in horror and put up such a squeal that the police notified aviators and possible spectators that they would be liable to prosecution under the Statute of Charles I, framed to prevent the irreverent from indulging in cockfighting, bull-baiting and kindred sports on the Sabbath.

Whitehouse declared that he would fly, prosecution or no prosecution, and some 6000 spectators patronized the aerodrome despite the warnings of the police, who took the names and addresses of all present. On applying for summonses, however, the police were told by the magistrates that flying was neither a sport nor a pastime within the meaning of the law, and that prosecution must fail. Strict sabbatarians are vexed with the "Martyr King" for overlooking such an ancient statute of desecrating the Sabbath, but they realize that there is no chance of amending the law now.

MILLIONS INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL SUIT

Paris, Sept. 20.—A law suit in which millions are involved between the French government and the city of Geneva in Switzerland will shortly come before the courts.

In 1875 the duke of Brunswick died, leaving his immense fortune to his Swiss city in which he had long resided a part of every year. Legally, however, he was a resident of Paris, where his will was found and opened, and the French government, therefore, put in a claim for the usual inheritance tax, but received no settlement.

When a Frenchman named Boudin died recently, at Bellegarde, leaving his fortune to the same city of Geneva, the French minister of finance took possession of his estate as security for the older claim, which amounts to 3,240,000 francs (\$648,000), plus interest for 40 years. The city of Geneva is now preparing to bring suit against the French government.

PRISON SENTENCE DOES NOT CANCEL LIABILITY

London, Sept. 20.—That an employer must still pay compensation to an incapacitated workman even if he is in jail was the decision formally handed down today by the appeals court. Last July while working in an elevator as a stevedore John McNally injured his knee and his employers were ordered to pay him \$5 a week compensation. In January they discovered McNally had been convicted of larceny and sentenced to 18 months in prison so they asked the courts to rule there was no need for them to continue paying him. The county court on May 8 reduced the sum to \$3 per week, but the employers contended that as he was in prison he could not get work even if he was able to do so, which they declared was the case. The appeal court, however, decided that being partially disabled through the accident it does not matter whether McNally can get out of prison to find work or not and that the payments must continue.

PARIS UNDERTAKES HOUSES FOR ITS POOR

Paris, Sept. 20.—The city of Paris, following the example of the authorities in many other towns and countries, is making an effort to provide tenements or lodgings for the poorer class of work people, and a sum of \$40,000,000 has been set aside for this purpose. It has been decided to allot out of that sum \$10,000,000 as a subsidy in the form of loans to philanthropic institutions which provide habitations for the poor or private owners who make certain liberal concessions to workers. The remainder, \$30,000,000, is to be devoted to buildings under the direct supervision of the municipal authorities, and an effort will be made to construct a number of hygienic habitations in the very center of the city, where many poor people are compelled to reside in order to be near their work.

URRUTIA WAS THE BOSS WHILE HE LASTED FORMER MEXICAN MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR WAS REAL RULER



Dr. Aureliano Urrutia, who has established himself as the dictator of customs of the people of Mexico City. He was the Minister of Gobernacion until his resignation on Tuesday. In that capacity he decreed that the police must assist all blind or near sighted persons across the streets and that all persons walking along the sidewalks reading newspapers shall be arrested and fined. He issued some really good rules, however, among them that every person who pays fare in a streetcar must have a seat.

By A. J. MEXICO CITY, SEPT. 20.—We Americans, located in this capital-of-thrilling incidents, have had other things to fret about than possible intervention by the United States and war, or Mexican anti-American demonstrations. We have had, for example, the distinguished minister of Gobernacion, who was a considerable freet, while he lasted.

Only this week, the Gobernacion resigned after the possibility of being impeached by congress, owing to the complaint laid before the standing committee of congress by Senator Calero, who was arrested, despite his right to immunity from arrest, a member of the senate, and he holds the minister of Gobernacion responsible. Senator Calero was minister for foreign relations under Madero and later ambassador to the United States.

Since Dr. Aureliano Urrutia was made minister of Gobernacion by President Huerta a couple of months ago his new laws and their enforcement caused every inhabitant of this city to sit up and take notice, open their eyes in wonder and speculate continually on what to expect next. The minister of Gobernacion in President Huerta's cabinet has duties corresponding to those of the secretary of the interior in the United States, but Dr. Urrutia is nothing if not progressive and energetic and dictatorial and he didn't propose to be restricted by absurd traditions concerning the scope of his official usefulness.

He was the Theodore Roosevelt of Mexico. Each of the Huerta administration. Nominally he was merely the minister of Gobernacion, but in reality he was the whole thing.

His Word Was Law.

He took an active interest in every subject connected with the public weal of the public weal. He is the only member of the cabinet who talked for publication on politics, on the revolution, on any matter of national importance. He looked after the health of the capital; he decided how the pulque business should be run; he regulated the speed limit of automobiles and street cars; he kept an eye on the beggars; he supervised social evil reforms; he regulated the hours for saloons and restaurants to do business; he was the foremost advisor of the president; he decided what articles drug stores might sell on Sunday; he made rules and regulations for the police; his word was law and all the new laws were the result of his spoken or written words.

Reformer With a Big "A."

The above are just a few of the recent decrees of Dr. Urrutia, now deposed. The doctor is a reformer of the most virulent type and he was not bothered with having to persuade a board of aldermen to pass the laws he suggested. What he said went every time. The people were not pleased at all with the rules and his resignation is not unpopular.

except with their meals in restaurants and hotels. So much for the Sundays here in the greatest city in Latin-America this side of Rio Janeiro. Now to tell of a few other reforms which Dr. Urrutia instituted.

He decreed that there should be no crowding in the street cars and that everyone who pays a fare must have a seat. When all the seats are occupied a sign bearing the word "complete" is hung up by the motorman at the front of the car. Cars must stop at every corner and every road crossing in the suburbs. They must run at a low rate of speed in the city.

He decreed that automobiles must not exceed a speed limit of about seven miles an hour on some streets and five miles on others.

He decreed that the police must assist all blind persons and all near-sighted persons across the streets.

He decreed that all persons seen walking along the sidewalks reading newspapers should be arrested and fined. He decreed that all beggars should be put in a home and made to work for a living.

He decreed that pulque shops, heretofore the filthiest gathering places of degraded humanity in the city, should be lined with white tiles, kept scrupulously clean, and that no pulque should be drunk on the premises. The pulque bar has been abolished and the horrible stuff made from the fermented sap of the century plant and smelling to high heaven must be sold only in clean bottles and at once taken away. Heretofore it has been the custom of the pulque vendors to hand out the glasses of pulque in such a way that at least one finger was immersed in the drink, but now there must be no touching of it.

He decreed that all policemen on duty at night shall carry Winchester repeating rifles, but it has been carefully explained that this is not because there is any fear of a local uprising or of a revolution coming into the city, or because the policemen carry lanterns at night and are armed with six-shooters and their armament might seem unnecessary, but doubtless Dr. Urrutia had good reason for the new rule.

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BABY ROXBURGH IS HEIR TO ALL TITLES AVAILABLE IN REALM

Young Nobleman, Son of American Mother, Everything From Duke to Baronet.

(By the International News Service.) London, Sept. 20.—The baby boy that has just come to render the Duke and Duchess of Roxburgh happy is the first child with American blood in his veins to be born heir to all the hereditary titles of Great Britain, except those held by the royal family, of course.

The Roxburgh baby, whose title is now Marquis of Bownmont and Cessford, will, if he survives, eventually be Duke of Roxburgh, Earl of Roxburgh, Earl of Kelso, Viscount Broxmouth, Baron Roxburgh, Baron Ker of Cessford and Caverton in Scotland; Earl Innes in the United Kingdom and a baronet of Nova Scotia.

Besides Roxburgh, only the Dukes of Sutherland and Westminster bear all the titles from duke to baronet. The Duke of Marlborough, who married Miss Connelo Vanderbilt, is neither a viscount nor a baronet.

One of the first congratulatory telegrams the Roxburghs received at their terrace house here—where the baby first saw the light—was from the king and queen, who were delighted that an heir to the dukedom was born. The duchess is Queen Mary's favorite American peeress. Her quiet, simple taste and dignified mode of life commended her to the queen, whose thoughtfulness was well displayed by a magnificent basket of carnations sent from the royal gardens of Windsor castle in response to a telegram from Balmoral.

Mrs. Ogden Goelet, who came to England six weeks ago to be with her daughter, has been in constant attendance at the bedside. Mother and son are progressing admirably. It is expected that the duke will return to his castle, Floors castle, where he is entertaining a series of bachelor shooting parties.

Christening in October. As soon as convenient the duchess will return to the Templeton.

The baby will be christened in October, probably in London, for the convenience of the royal sponsors. The young heir's name has not yet been definitely chosen, but George, after the king, John, the duke's name, and Ogden, after the boy's grandfather, is the sequence suggested.

Lady Alastair Innes-Ker, formerly Miss Anne Breeze, whose husband was heir to the title until the arrival of the little stranger, is in no way disgruntled, being among the first to proffer congratulations and declaring that congratulations will be plentiful. It is really necessary to maintain such a palatial residence as Floors castle.

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE REPRIMANDED BY KING

Nobleman Urged to Attend Council Meeting Once in Awhile.

London, Sept. 20.—King George has just given the Duke of Devonshire a rap over the knuckles which causes the duke to regard with mixed feelings the anticipated visit in December to the king and queen to his splendid seat, Chatsworth house, Derbyshire.

Still the suffragette arson squad may relieve the duke of his embarrassment. Thanks to them, he, like all other aristocrats, is not certain his ancestral halls will stand during the night.

The fire drill has become a popular pastime with house parties all over the country this summer. In one or two instances practical jokers have given false alarms about midnight. It has been reported that the duke, to see the ladies of the party rushing for fire escapes in filmy attire. But mostly the game is practiced in all earnestness.

The Duke of Devonshire is chairman of the Makewell coast-guardians and rural council, which is about as existing as such bodies usually are. For some time the duke has not bothered to attend the council meetings until a letter was sent reminding him of the council's existence and some what pointedly suggesting that he has seen fit to ignore it. King George strongly holds the view that to survive dukes must make themselves as useful as possible in public service. His majesty's hints aroused the Duke of Westminister's gratitude to public life.

The Beakwell council affair reached the royal ears, the result being a very sharp letter from the king to the Duke of Devonshire, which aroused a most humble and penitent apology from the duke to the court, and a promise to be attentive to his duty.

Consequently, the duke is not feeling in the mood to make arrangements for the royal shoot and to decide the vexed question as to the participants in the private theatricals which form part of the program.

Queen Mary, pursuing her new policy of countenancing King Edward's friends, has expressed the wish that the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of Devonshire, Miss Muriel Wilson and Mrs. Brinton shall all be invited to Chatsworth.

ITALIAN ARTILLERY IN RECORD MANEUVER

Rome, Sept. 20.—All records for an artillery work have been broken by the battery of Italian mountain artillery which climbed the central crater of Mt. Etna and fired its guns on the brink of the volcano, at an elevation of 11,000 feet. The soldiers who carried the regular equipment made a 100-day march from Catania and encamped for the night on the outer fringe of the Linguaglossa forest. At dawn they commenced the arduous task of hauling the guns up the steep, rocky side of the volcano over the steep gullies in which the mules sank knee deep. The last part of the climb had to be done with the gunners hauling their own guns, the mules being unable to go further. Reaching the summit, firing exercises were carried out until the soldiers were compelled to retreat to avoid asphyxiation by the sulphurous smoke from the crater.