PUPPET PLAYS TO BE PRODUCED BY CORNISH PLAYERS

Special Interest Attaches to Ancient Form of Amusement to Be Seen at Little Theatre.

Puppets, that race of little images that has delighted the world for thousands of years, are about to visit Portland's amusement world. "Alice in Wonderland" is to be presented at the Little Theatre, Friday, April 30, at 4 p. m. and 8:15 p. m. and on the following day, Saturday, May 1, "Columbine" will be presented at 3 p. m. and 8:15 p. m.

The special interest attaching to the performances is because of the almost incomprehensible control by the manipulators over the movements of the marionettes by means of wires and threads so small as to be invisible to the naked eye.

The plays which are sponsored by the Music-Education association of this city, are being put on by the Cornish School of Dramatic Art of Seattle. A group of puppet masters who are said to have reached high skill under the tuition of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Browne, the latter better known as Ellen von Volkenberg, who introduced the puppet plays in the Little Theatre of Chicago a few years ago, are now connected with the Cornish School of Music.

Portland from time to time is visited by vaudeville acts of marionettes but they are not elaborate, and do not attempt to produce plays, much less to carry on dialogue, confining their efforts wholly to pantomime.

ANCIENT AMUSEMENT

The origin of puppet play is buried in the mists of time behind 3000 years of uninterrupted entertaining. The marionettes since the time "whence the memory of man runneth not to the contrary" have enjoyed continuous popularity in India, China, Burma, Egypt, as well as in the cathedrals and fairs of the middle ages. Today, throughout Turkey and Southeastern Europe, puppet shows are a common sight in the coffee houses and the theatres. Italy has 200 permanent puppet shows and twice as many traveling puppet shows. Paris has its puppet theatres by the score. Modern England delights in puppets and German children have always known them.

Anything can be given with puppets, historical plays, fairy tales, myths, legends and children's plays. Puppet plays are essentially a form of grown-up entertainment, though they can be made a delight to children in the shape of dragon, fairy and elf plays. In fact, the puppets are really better adapted to producing fairy and elf plays than are human actors, because of their diminutive size.

ACTORS ARE ELFLIKE

Nowadays strikingly lifelike and wonderfully gowned marionettes of rare grace and beauty have taken the place of the crude images of past centuries. Rehearsing the puppets is a very different problem from rehearsing people. The problems of staging and lighting are the same, but it requires from four to seven years to become a good puppet master, so delicate and so complicated is the manipulation of the many strings which control the puppet's actions. The slightest error in manipulation is most upsetting. It may cause the prince to flourish his sword in fine defiance when he meant to bend the knee.

In olden times, in puppet plays the words were spoken by one or two readers, but in the modern school there is an actor to manipulate each puppet and speak its lines in a voice suited to the character. Of one audience the puppet theatre is assured—children and artists; for both can sit on a stool and enter the happy world of make-believe.

A large number of prominent society people and artistic folk are interesting themselves in the forthcoming Portland puppet shows. Tickets which are $1 for adults and 75 cents for children, including war tax, may be had at the Johnson Music company, 149 Sixth street.

225 Drawn for Jury Service

The new jury list for the May term of the circuit court, formally drawn in Presiding Judge McCourt's court Saturday, consists of 225 names, representing men in many walks of life. In the present list all letters of the alphabet are represented by the names except N, Q, U, X and Y.

VIEWS BEHIND SCENES

Cornish school players arranging and manipulating marionettes and two of puppets in action, showing strings and wires used to make them take different postures.

ATHLETIC EVENTS TO FEATURE FESTIVITIES AT ALBANY MAY DAY

College Track Teams Scheduled for Meet; Crowning of May Queen on Program.

Albany, April 17.—May day festivities, without which in recent years the student body has complained a drab stretch of weeks preceded commencement, will not be ignored this year, but will call for a program of greater scope than in the old days. The festivities are slated for April 30.

Philomath college and Albany college track teams will meet following which the main event of the day will occur. Maude McDaniel, May queen, attended by Helen Grigsby; Gertrude Braden, Ruth McDonald and Margaret Ghormley as maids, will be crowned with James Macnab, student body president, acting as master of ceremonies.

Albany public school pupils will appear in drills under direction of Miss Nielsen. Choruses and music will be furnished by college students. Miss Cutsforth will direct the maypole dance. A banquet will be served in the evening.

Mrs. V. C. Wright of Portland spoke at the Methodist church in the closing meeting of the Inter-Church World movement here. Dr. A. J. Sullen of Portland presented a statistical report and a stereopticon lecture on the church project.

The committee to have charge of the county financial campaign, beginning April 23, is: A. C. Schmitt, chairman; D. S. Smith of Albany, A. M. Reeves of Lebanon, W. P. Elmore of Brownsville, D. S. McWilliams of Halsey, Dr. D. G Clark of Harrisburg and M. H. McConnell of Shedd.

City May Do Own Work if Bidders Act Same as Profiteers

Commissioner Barbur filed a petition Saturday with City Auditor Funk, which in turn will be presented to the council Wednesday, asking that the city be allowed to perform its own work in instances where contractors show a disposition to profiteer on street and sewer construction.

The work which brought the matter to an issue was the East Thirteenth street sewer. City Engineer Laurgaard's estimate of the work totalled $85,119.90. Jacobsen-Jensen company bid $93,539.22, the only one submitted. The council refused the bid. No bids were entered in the second call. Jacobsen-Jensen were again the sole bidders on the third call for bids, submitting an estimate of $113,033.47, which is 32.8 per cent above Laurgaard's estimate. Barbur believes that the company in question is simply taking advantage of the situation in that no other contractors submitted bids in competition for the work.

Corvallis K. of C. Unanimous for the Millage Measure

Corvallis, April 17.—The local Knights of Columbus unanimously approved the millage tax measure by resolution and then directed the secretary to transmit a copy of the resolution to the Knights of Columbus councils throughout the state, urging them to support the measure.

Miss Ruth Middlekauff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Middlekauff of Corvallis, has been named teacher of domestic science in Howard seminary, Bridgeport, Mass., at a salary of $1100.

The secretary of the Corvallis Red Cross has been asked to find the following persons for whom she has information of interest: Fred Leroy Abbott, Oscar William James, Richard Frederich, Earl Culver, Leonard Estib, M. E. Eul, Lawrence H. Nelson.

At a meeting of the Benton county advisory board of the Salvation Army at Corvallis, Friday evening, five committees were appointed to carry on the campaign in May to raise the $3390 allotted to the county in the state apportionment. Dr. Charles T. Johnson, state organizer for the campaign, was present.

Commercial Club Of Forest Grove Is Being Reorganized

Forest Grove, April 17.—Reorganization of the Forest Grove Commercial club is being effected, and a drive for 100 live wire members is on. Officers will be elected at a meeting to be held in Rogers city library Wednesday evening.

It is planned to equip a building as club headquarters, which will also serve as a civic and community center, where public meetings may be held, with a rest station for strangers and farmers. The advisability of a community high school will also be discussed.

Forest Grove is to have a new prune packing plant. The Oregon Growers' Cooperative association is back of the scheme. Through the efforts of the local Commercial club and Earl Percy, Ernest Rueter and D. G. Lilly, sufficient acreage has been listed to justify the plant.

Much acreage is planted to prunes in the west section of the county, the farmers of the David's Hill, Hillside, Gales Creek sections being big producers.

An airplane passenger, mail and freight service will be established between Venezuela and British Guiana and Trinidad and other West Indian islands.

LODGING HOUSE IS ALL COPPERFIELD STILL REMAINING

Former Thriving Town, Made Famous When Governor West Put Military in Power, Gone.

Halfway, April 17.—One little lodging house is all that is left of the town of Copperfield, which achieved fame a few years ago when Oswald West, the governor, put it under military law. For five years the town has afforded one small store, but the owner, J. A. Denny, has moved it to Homestead. Once the town was a lively place with more than 500 people.

Construction work on the Oregon Short Line railroad, which was building down the river, and also on the Oxbow power plant, which was cutting a tunnel through a long hill to divert water from Snake river, gave work to many laborers. Copperfield is 100 miles from the county seat of Baker county and crime went on unchecked. Some of the saloon men, who made up a large part of the business class, developed a class fight, drawing all the town into it. They began to burn one another's property and, when the governor took the matter in hand, had destroyed a large portion of the town.

The little army of occupation, including Miss Fern Hobbs, West's secretary, took charge of the place and straightened it out. The saloon men treated the military law as a joke at first, but soon changed their minds. The officers of the town were replaced by new ones. A mayor was selected who tried to please both factions the best he could, with the final result that his house was burned.

The construction work stopped, and, with the action of the governor, put the town out of business. It is still a municipality and votes a little tax each year. It has a municipal waterworks, a relic of the good old days. The power plant remains, as it cannot be moved. Three times a week the train makes a trip down the river and passengers can stop, if they like, and get a meal at the lodging house.

As if burning had become a habit, the long railroad tunnel at Copperfield caught fire last year and all the woodwork was destroyed. Traffic was stopped a year and the company put to a tremendous expense to open up the line again.

Truck Ruins Sidewalk

A heavy automobile truck has run along the sidewalk at Montgomery drive and Isabella street and broken it down. The walk is leveled and made of boards. The police are looking for the truck driver.

Hot Lake Arrivals

Hot Lake, April 17.—Arrivals at Hot Lake sanatorium Thursday were: Mrs. Bruce and Dale Bruce, Boise, Idaho; Walek Tomas, La Grande; Mrs. Helen Griton, Dayton, Wash.; Henry Litzenberger, Endicott, Wash.; C. F. Massey, Richland; Mr. and Mrs. G. I. Hiss, Union; William Shaw, La Grande; A. N. Johnson, Seattle; H. C. Salisbury, Oregon City; Peter Brack, Otis, Kan.; George C. Fueke, Endicott, Wash.; Mrs. W. Mitchell, Colfax, Wash.; Mrs. N. J. Longston, Granger, Wash.

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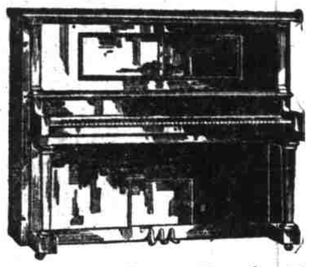

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