

SCOTTI CHARMS AS SCARPIA; TOSCA APPEALS AS EVER

By J. L. Wallin

My friend Alvono was at the opening performance of the Scotti Opera company at the Hellig Thursday night, and I met him in the foyer while Tosca, Scarpia, Mario Cavaradosi and other principals were responding to repeated curtain calls.

Alvono never misses a grand opera performance, for he was raised on it in Italy. Lived it in New York and followed it in San Francisco till he came here. And every time he hears the stories he finds them new and interesting and thrilling when sung by artists. But I have also seen him

shrug his shoulders and look sad—very sad—when he thought the singers were murdering the opera instead of each other.

ALVONO IS HAPPY

But Thursday night Alvono was in the seventh heaven, so to speak. His beloved Antonio Scotti had sung as well as he had ever heard him. And his acting—well, he insisted, years only serve to give more maturity, more depth to his art. As the wicked, designing Scarpia, the famous artist, who has sung with Caruso at the Metropolitan for so many years that the two now seem inseparable units, the famous baritone was at his best.

When frenzied Tosca plunged the steel into Scarpia's heart after the dramatic scene in the later's room in the Palazzo Farnese, Alvono sat motionless and stared and waited for the end of the pause which came when Tosca in shrill voice, gloated over her deed of revenge.

TRAGIC SCENE OVERCOMES

But it was when Cavaradosi, at the crack of rifles, leaped forward into death from the prison wall against which he had been stood up to face the soldier squad, and Tosca flung herself into eternity from the parapet, that Alvono gave way completely to his emotions and came into the foyer

with tear-dimmed eyes.

"Pardon me," he said, removing his glasses and with the handkerchief dabbing the film of tears from his eyes, "that tenor is wonderful, and so is the soprano."

Would anyone disagree? I think not. The role of Cavaradosi, the artist, was sung by Mario Chamlee, 28 years of age and a native of Los Angeles. He has studied in Italy and has had much histrionic experience notwithstanding his youth, and in addition thereto served 18 months in the army, having been released just in time to join the Scotti forces. He will be at the Metropolitan the coming season. It might be of interest to Portland that his wife, bride of a year, is a Portland girl and also a member of the Metropolitan. Her name is Ruth Miller, coloratura soprano, but because of the repertoire will not sing here. She left Portland when very young, she says, and remembers only having lived at 210 some street on the west side. With her parents she moved to Seattle and Spokane, and later East, and then to Paris to enter opera. As for Chamlee's singing, it was a delight, his voice being of the most pleasing tenor quality and of remarkable carrying quality.

Miss Florence Easton, an English so-

prano, as Tosca, has an altogether charming voice, and her acting was of dramatic intensity—not quite as sensational, perhaps, as the role has been done here before on one occasion, but perhaps more thrilling at that.

All the other roles were well assigned. The orchestra, under Conductor Peroni, played delightfully, with a familiarity of the score that resulted in most exquisite ensemble and a remarkable balance in tone effects.

Tonight Puccini's masterpiece, "La Boheme," will be sung, with Orville Harrold at Rodolfo. Harrold comes with a reputation as one of the greatest finds in the tenor field, and his debut here is awaited with intense interest. Other members of the cast of principals are Florence Easton as Mimì, Louis D'Angelo as Schaunard, Paolo Annanias as Benoit, Giordano Faldinieri as Parpignol, Marie Laurenti as Marcelle, and Anna Roselle as Musette.

Saturday night the double bill of "L'Oracolo" and "Pagliacci" will close the season.

London Calls MacReady

London, Oct. 1.—(U. P.)—Major General MacReady has been summoned to Ireland to report to the government on police reprisals, the Star declared today.

CREDIT COST HIGH IN RETAIL SHOPS

By Hyman H. Cohen

There is a really general decline in the price of foodstuffs in the local trade but some of the retailers have evidently not yet learned of it, so far as their prices to consumers are concerned.

There is today a real fight on in the foodstuffs trade. The so-called cash and carry houses are shading their

prices somewhat below the regular firms who make deliveries.

Consumers who carry their stock home and pay cash are entitled to a lower price than those that demand delivery and credit for perhaps a month or so.

The extreme low prices can be obtained only when all costs of doing business are cut to the minimum. It is impossible for the credit house to do business at as low prices as the cash and carry houses simply because the cost of making deliveries and carrying credits is more than the profits of the former.

Stores that make deliveries are not responsible for this condition. The consumer alone is to blame. One retailer who has two stores—one making deliveries and with credits and the other

cash and carry—actually claims that he is able to make more money in the former by selling at 10 per cent less than in the delivery and credit house at the higher prices.

Hot Lake Arrivals

Hot Lake, Oct. 1.—Arrivals at Hot Lake sanatorium Tuesday were: A. E. Brown and J. A. Johnson, Portland; E. D. Ficklin and Mrs. George Conley, La Grande; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fox, Hot Lake; Mrs. H. J. Baker, Prosper; Mr. and Mrs. James Patterson and Dell Waters, Baker; M. K. Hall, Portland; C. A. Holbrook, Walla Walla; Frank A. Roh, Lawen.

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TOMATOES—Standard brand—large 2 1/2 cans 2 for 25c—Doz. \$1.50	
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Sack 1.45	1 dozen cans 1.20	5-lb. can 1.75
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5 pounds 75c	Tall cans, 5 cans \$1.00	6 Bars Palmolive 48c
10 pounds 1.50	RIDGWAY'S TEA	15 Bars Crystal W. \$1.00
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1/2 Gallon 1.10	8 Tumblers JAM. \$1.00	17 Br. Van Hoeter's \$1.00
1 Quart 59c	CRIMSON RAMBLER MELOMAR SYRUP	COFFEE
MAZOLA OIL	No. 9 1.27	Royal Club, Dependable Golden West
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1/2 Gallon 1.03	A-1 BUTTER	3 pounds 1.35
1 Quart 54c	Per pound 65c	5 pounds 2.20
OLIVE OIL	Roll 1.29	SNOWDRIFT
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1 Gallon 1.98	2 1/2 size 1.00	CARNATION MILK
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