

MUSIC, DRAMATICS AND KINDRED ARTS

Elwyn Artists
Given Ovation
At Big Festival

"WE HAVE just had advices of the splendid success that a number of our artists have had at the recent Asheville, N. C., musical festival," said H. M. McFadden, the new manager of the Elwyn concert bureau. "Four of their solo artists, Matzenauer, Easton, Williams and House, are being presented here on our Elwyn Artist Series, and news of the big ovations awarded them naturally pleases us immensely. Two of our other artists, Arthur Middleton and Paul Althouse, are meeting with unqualified success in their joint concert tour of Australia. Both are splendid artists and deserve all of the success they meet. In a cablegram from Mid the other day, he tells of our sold-out houses at the Sydney auditorium. To my certain knowledge, Melba is the only other artist who has equalled that record. We are, naturally, proud of our Elwyn Artist Series concerts, and can assure the people of Portland that it shall ever be our aim to bring here the best artists obtainable without regard to cost. By offering these at popular prices we feel that we are doing our part in the development of the musical life of our city."

Mr. McFadden has recently taken over the management of the Elwyn concert bureau, and is naturally enthusiastic over the opening of the Elwyn Artist Series. All of the concerts will be held at The Auditorium, in order to accommodate a greater number of music lovers who wish to avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing the world's greatest artists at popular prices.

The concerts will be opened on Tuesday evening, October 10, with Mme. Margaret Matzenauer, prima donna, contralto of the Metropolitan Opera, who will make her initial bow at Portland in a concert on Monday, October 23. The third concert will be given immediately following the holidays in January, when the distinguished Russian pianist-composer, will be the artist. On January 19, Michka Elman, the celebrated Russian violinist, will be heard as the fourth artist attraction of the Elwyn Series. February 23 a brilliant joint concert will be given by Mme. Florence Easton, prima donna soprano of the Metropolitan Opera company, and Paul Althouse, tenor, also of the Metropolitan forces. Alberto Salvi, the harpist, who so electrified Portland at his brilliant concert last season, has been invited for a return engagement this season, and will be presented by the bureau as its sixth artist attraction on March 12. The final concert of the Elwyn 1922-23 season will be given on April 25, when it will present "Coal for the Poor" ("A School for Lovers"), the sparkling Mozart comic opera, which so took New York by storm when revived at the Metropolitan last season. This gay, tuneful opera will be sung in English by an all-star cast headed by Irene Williams, prima donna soprano, and Justin House, tenor.

Mrs. Rose Coursen Reed, who has been in New York City for the summer, expects to return to Portland September 15 to reopen her voice studio. The Portland contralto was interviewed by a representative of the New York Tribune.

"What has impressed me as much as any other one thing about New York is the widespread understanding of music," she is quoted as saying. "The man or woman, because of the opera and the large number of concerts by the leading artists of the world, and because of the fact that the personalities of the great figures in contemporary music are so identified with the everyday life of the community, possess at least the beginnings of a musical background. It appears obvious, too, that the high standard maintained in the music of the big motion picture theatres, patronized by so many thousands each week, has its educational effect. As teacher I have found that the necessity for building up a foundation of information—a background for the pupil—is perhaps a most important feature, although music is on a very high plane in Portland."

Mrs. Reed also mentioned that of all the singers she has trained, a blind girl, Miss Marguerite Carney, has the most appealing quality of voice. "I have had other pupils who surpassed her in brilliance and technique," Mrs. Reed continued, "but I have never heard any voice that had such power to stir the emotions of an audience. At first I was afraid that perhaps the emotion that others, as well as myself, felt when she sang was due to the knowledge of her infirmity. But I have tested her voice in ways that have convinced me that her ability to reach the heart is solely a matter of voice quality."

Asheville, N. C., has just completed its third annual music festival, at which concerts and operas were given and opera stars were enjoyed by thousands of music lovers from Asheville and the surrounding country. The Asheville festival is of particular interest to Portland music lovers in that a number of its leading soloists will be heard in concert here during the coming season. Mme. Margaret Matzenauer, contralto; Mme. Julia Clausen, mezzo; Miss Irene Williams, soprano, and Edward Johnson and Judson House, tenors, were the leading soloists. At the last moment a change was prevented by illness from appearing, and the festival management sent a hurry-up call to Mme. Florence Easton, prima donna soprano of the Metropolitan company, who substituted for the tenor. The audiences were enthusiastic about Mme. Easton's singing. Of the Asheville solo artists, Mme. Matzenauer, Mme. Easton, Miss Williams and Mr. House will be heard here this season in the Elwyn Artist Series concerts.

Miss Martha Reynolds returned this week from an interesting trip to Los Angeles, where she received many courtesies from the musical people. She was honor guest at a dinner given at her home by Charles Wakefield Cadman, followed by a party at the Hollywood Bowl, the large outdoor theatre, to hear Alfred Hertz direct the Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra. The week previous Mr. Cadman was soloist at this concert, when an entire Cadman evening was given to an audience of 8000 people. Miss Reynolds was also entertained at a dinner given by Frances Goldwater concert manager, given at the Pilgrimage theatre, with the most unusual pilgrimage play. Miss Reynolds is now arranging for Mr. Cadman's appearance with Francelina in Portland and other places in the Northwest during the coming winter.

The Sunnyside Congregational church, J. A. Hollingsworth, director, resumed its regular work last Saturday. The quartet members are Mrs. Milton Runyon, soprano; Mrs. Bertha Freibett, contralto; Jacob Peterson, tenor; J. Scott Milne, bass. The choir consists of 30 voices. Mrs. Gladys Morgan Farmer is the organist.

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