

WHY GO TO GERMANY?

BY W. H. GREENE
(WRITTEN FOR THE HATCHET.)
For centuries to come, if the human race survives, musicians will more and more realize what a grand heritage is that bequeathed them by their German ancestry.

But if, as reflecting beings, we question and still question, we are forced to the conclusion that all this had a beginning—there was a time when Germany was not—when the nation was rude and primitive; strong, perhaps, but harsh and uncouth, nor cared for any concord that was not evoked by the strolling bard or minstrel; when the musical enthusiasm was coarse and vulgar and mostly inspired by huge flacons of strong waters.

But the soil was there and fertile, and with its characteristic vigor, when Germany did awaken its awakening was that of a lion. Then music grew and grew. Its harshness was toned down. Its best thinkers and poets became imbued with its true spirit, and from the sickly sentimentalism of the old Italian opera there has been evolved the mighty rushing wind, the tempest, the flood, the great depths of Wagnerian harmony.

Where Germany stood in the dark ages of music America stood fifty years or more ago—the Western portion of it. Speaking stands to-day, but with problem in its aspect towards art are a conglomerate—a cosmopolitan people. We are musical and we are not musical. We have the faults of the French without their redeeming virtues. The French are voluble, passionate, excitable, less profound than the Germans—so are we. But the French have their art traditions and in an art sense are patriotic. We have no art traditions and are not even patriotic in that sense. I believe in the homage we should all pay to art at high art but not as German art—not as French art—not as Italian art. If one thing has contributed to this country's material greatness more than another it has been her granite independence; her sturdy belief in her own ability to conduct her own affairs.

The 40th annual session of the grand lodge, I. O. O. F. of Oregon, will be held at Salem, commencing Wednesday, May 15, continuing through the 17th. The committee of general arrangements is busy these days preparing for the reception of the large number of delegates that are expected to be present and arranging the details for the three days' meeting of the three-linkers.

A few days ago invitations were sent to the neighboring lodges requesting that they join in the parade to be given the afternoon of the 16th, and also participate in the excursion to the public institutions that day. At the present writing the lodges at Lafayette, Aurora, Scott's Mills, Silverton and Turner have responded with favorable answers, and in due time the other lodges will be heard from.

There is some talk of an excursion by boat from Albany for the occasion, which, if perfected, will bring many spectators from that city and surrounding sections.

The Salem military companies have signified their willingness to take part in the parade, which will lend great aid toward making the affair a more imposing one. Four bands have been secured, and there will be an abundance of music to "trump" by.

Monday, May 13—Opening session of convention of Rebekah lodges at Masonic hall at 7:30 p. m.

Tuesday, May 14—Opening session of the grand encampment of Oregon at I. O. O. F. hall at 10 a. m. Team work by Salem Rebekah lodge, No. 1, at 8 p. m., I. O. O. F. hall.

Wednesday, May 15—Opening session of grand lodge I. O. O. F. of Oregon at 9 a. m. Team work by Chemeketa lodge, No. 1, and Olive lodge, No. 18, at 8 p. m., I. O. O. F. hall.

The simple truth is this: The best teachers Europe holds will simply tell you when you go to them to "get ready and go to work. Think, observe, listen, discriminate, but work. Hear this virtuoso, that singer, but beware how you make any one your model or you will lose your identity, your individuality, and if you become a mere copy and lose your own identity, of what force are you in the musical world?"

And more than one of those European teachers have made this pertinent remark to me: "Can not your boys and girls do all that at home? Germany had a beginning in art. German ideas have given the impetus to American art. Your best teachers are imbued with the same spirit, why don't your young musicians study at home?" The best and greatest of the world affords can be heard to perfection in New York and other great Eastern cities and Germany has worked out its own salvation and is German. Why will not America do the same and be American and not insist on deriving its patent of nobility from German hands? Even Anton Dvorak, the head of the grandest musical institution in New York, who is mostly self educated, has insisted that the germs of American art are to be found right here and that we can have a school of American music, and has embodied his ideas in a noble orchestral symphony built out of themes derived from the despised negro musical lore.

Let us foster home teaching—build up home conservatories—quicken home musical energy. Let our students change their ambition and count it a high aim to be always students and cease troubling their heads about "graduating" here or elsewhere and you will begin to see the dawn of the American musical millennium. "When we stand on eternity's brink many things in art that have puzzled us all our lives will be made clear." So Schuman declared and so I believe.

IN FRATERNAL CIRCLES.

Happenings Among the Lodges of Washington County.

An A. O. U. W. lodge will be instituted at Dufur next week. There will be one assessment for May.

Laurel lodge, No. 38, Degree of Honor, was instituted at Hubbard last week with twenty-five charter members.

Delphos lodge, K. of P., Forest Grove had two candidates in the Esquire rank and one in the Knight's. Visitors were present from McMinnville, Glencoe, Cornelius and Hillsboro lodges and the large hall was crowded to its utmost capacity. Between the ranks an inviting lunch was served. Lights went out long before lodge adjourned.

Dr. Oronyatekha, supreme chief ranger of the Independent Order of Foresters, was given a reception at Elks hall on his arrival at Portland. The supreme court meets at Portland, England, and he is on his way thither, instituting high courts on his journey. He is a full blooded Indian, has attained to high rank in the medical profession and is prominent in fraternal orders, being of the 33rd degree of Free Masonry and having held the highest office in the gift of the good Templars.

Saturday night officers of Forest Grove lodge, No. 110, I. O. O. F., were installed by M. D. Markham, lodge deputy, assisted by W. S. Smith and Mrs. Ella Breeden as Marshals. L. C. Walker, C. T.; Miss Edith Flower, V. T.; Mrs. Alice Pratt, sec.; C. H. Wefel, ass't sec.; Miss Frances Rowe, financial sec.; Wilbur Johnson, treasurer; Miss Lena Parker, chaplain; H. Bond, marshal; Miss Maud Stout, deputy marshal; Miss Nora Laughlin, guard; John Beal, sentinel; Mrs. A. S. Baker, past C. T.

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Thursday, May 16—Grand parade at 1:30 p. m. and visit to the state institutions. At 8 p. m. entertainment by P. G. M. and R. and P. association at the First Methodist church.

Friday, May 17—Closing exercises of grand lodge.—The Sun.

Forest Grove Lodge, I. O. O. F., is making extensive preparations to care for and entertain all delegates to the grand lodge, which convenes there on June 4 next. The citizens of Forest Grove are noted for the royal manner in which they entertain members of all church and temperance societies who are fortunate enough to be invited to meet there.

Grand Chief Templar Kennedy will not attend this session of the grand lodge, having to make a business trip to the East, and it is very uncertain when he will return. He has been at his post of duty the past three terms as grand chief templar of the grand lodge of Oregon. He has spent much of his time and money in building up the order in this state, and trying to advance the cause of temperance. The grand chief will carry with him the respect and esteem of every member of the order, and also of the regular subordinate and district lodge meetings. It will be difficult to find one so capable as a presiding officer and so faithful to the cause of temperance, and the duties of his office.—The Sun.

At Hillsboro lodge No. 17, I. O. O. F., Saturday night W. M. Beamish, lodge deputy, installed the following officers: John Matthews, P. C. T.; J. Adams, C. T.; Bertha Heidel, V. T.; Ara Pointer, C.; Harry Gault, Sec.; Jessie Housely, F. Sec.; W. R. Craig, T.; Minnie Lauder, S. J. T.; Q. N. Allison, M.; Ed Bowen, D. M.; Lydia Lista, Sen.; Frank Barber, G.

Ben Butler, lodge deputy of a California lodge, visited the Hillsboro lodge of Good Templars Saturday night. He has been absent from Hillsboro for nearly fifteen years.

Saturday night Holbrook lodge No. 30, A. F. & A. M., Forest Grove had work in the M. M. degree. Visitors present from Tuality lodge, No. 6, Hillsboro, were: H. M. Cronkite, Capt. J. D. Merryman, H. H. Fenton, Capt. Al Collins, Wm. Tucker, G. W. Patterson, C. E. Deichman, Chas. Jensen, A. Bowen, H. S. Shustes, H. Unternarber, L. L. Whitcomb, Dr. W. D. Wood, M. Bryant; and M. Jackson of Hoxie No. 245, Kausas, and Mr. Horsis, of Lafayette, No. 3.

There will likely be a tent of the Knights of the Maccabees, a fraternal beneficiary and insurance order, instituted at Hillsboro before long and perhaps one at the Grove also.

An Orange lodge for the Grove is one of the possibilities, and by July 12, according to current report.

Public Library Benefit.

Friday evening a well-attended musical entertainment was given at Vets hall for the benefit of the Free Thought library. Nearly three hundred were present and listened to the vocal program which follows:

Peaceful the waves, choir.

Twickenham Ferry, Miss Kate Stribbick.

History of the World, Tessie Crow.

Old Mother Hubbard, Juvenile choir.

Sweet Mary of the Mill, Mr. Chas. Dolstrum.

Peck-a-boo, Miss Mabel Wirtz.

The Whip poor Will, choir.

The Child's Letter, Miss Trestia Stribbick.

When Summer comes again, Mr. M. C. Wagner.

You can't Play in our Yard, Juvenile choir.

O, tell ye merry birds of Spring, Misses Ada Robinson and Kate Stribbick.

There is no one like Mother to you, Misses Ira Bisbee and Jennie Boss.

You can't fool Dad, Mr. Tine Robinson.

There are moments when one wants to be alone, Mr. M. C. Wagner.

Good Night Drill, eight little girls.

Mrs. A. E. Barker introduced the various vocalists and played the accompaniments. The whole program was meretricious but Mr. Wagner's second selection, in costume, with the local hits, and the drill of the little girls, were the especial features.

After the exercises a bounteous supper was served in the Masonic dining room up stairs, and ice cream and cake in the library while dancing went on in the large hall which had been cleared of seats. About fifty couples were at the supper and most of them engaged in the dance. It was a pleasant time as the former entertainments given under the same auspices have all been. Many from out of town attended.

A City Boarder.

Sunday evening the marshal arrested a young man for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. When taken up on the corner by the Christian church immediately after nine he was just treating a friend from his private bottle. The recorder invited him to spend four days as the guest of the city which he did, after a vain attempt to break jail.

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