

TO DEFENSE OF FRENCH VOCAL ART

Gifted Linguist and Art Student
Furnishes Interesting Article on
French Methods Regarding the
Culture of the Voice.

(MME. HULLIER.)

(Mme. Henriette L. Hullier of Paris is the gifted linguist, art student, vocal and piano instructor whom Medford is fortunate enough to claim as a resident. Mme. Hullier has studied under the best vocal instructors of France and Germany, has sung many years in the grand opera companies of Europe, has taught languages and voice culture in Germany, Austria, Canada and the United States. She combines with these accomplishments keen intelligence, quick sympathies and a delightfully charming personality.—Ed.)

French Vocal Art.

Is the French language opposed to the perfection of vocal art? Is the French method an impediment to the progress of vocal art?

Very few foreigners, and yet less French people, though they would not wish it known, have a right idea about the source and nature of the impediments opposed to the progress of vocal art. Therefore it is easy and not compromising to lay the blame on the French art. This saves the trouble of condemning uneducated singers, mediocrity of certain teachers and the incompetence of some critics that bring into discredit the art of which they make use.

Since the eighteenth century the perfection of the French singing received the homage of the foreigners, who proclaimed it "bel canto." Now they had admitted the superiority of an idiom which, being essentially analytical, is the highest manifestation of each method. Would it be, then, possible that the application of such a method to vocal art could not be able to produce the greatest success in the same?

Immediate practical training, rational experiences, repeated observations, continual watching about emission and tones ("timbres"), flexibility of the articulation, determination of the accents, precision

of the movements, setting of the rhythms, ruling of the breath, etc., such are some of the objects concerning French vocal methods.

A superiority less known, even among singers, and one which every country can envy, consists in the important part made by the lips. The voice, in French, must sing completely on the lips, which forms the last resounding tone ("resonnance")—the one where the sonorities of the glottis, of the pharynx, of the mouth are controlled, veiled, lessened or intensified, colored or modulated, refined or shaded. By means of the lips a singer is able to carry his voice everywhere he wants. The dynamical power and the exquisite sensibility of the French singing are due to that localization peculiar to this language.

Jean de Reszke, Maurel, Dalmore, Renaud, Gilbert and so many great artists, have been the practical and planning proof of that argumentation. Besides, the cultivated American public, applauding them so enthusiastically, paid sincerely a tribute of admiration to the true French vocal art.

THE OLIVER MEETINGS

(MISS STELLA SCHUELER.)

The evangelistic meetings now in progress are creating great interest not only in Medford, but throughout the state, as many are interested in Medford at the present time, so they are waiting with interest the result of the campaign.

Dr. Oliver is a man of great intellectual ability, strength of character, power of speech, and his control over his audiences is wonderful. Although he says some things that arouse indignation, yet it takes something like this to awaken the sleeping conscience of Medford and arouse men to live a purer and cleaner life.

The good that Dr. Oliver is doing cannot be estimated, nor can we know how much it is until the reckoning day, as it does not consist only in the number who have stepped out on the right side, but also in the lifting of the whole city to a higher plane, both spiritually and morally.

Professor Maltbie, a talented singer, is helping the good work along by his touching solos, and who knows how many a soul has decided to live the better life under their influence.

NATATORIUM IS GOING UP FAST

Much Progress Being Made on Establishment Which Will Add to the Gaiety of, Not Nations, But the City of Medford.

(MRS. H. C. STODDARD.)

While everybody knows that an amusement park and natatorium on the banks of Bear creek is being rapidly pushed to completion by a number of Medford capitalists, few realize the magnitude of the enterprise.

The personnel of the promoters is as follows:
President, W. H. Brown.
Vice-president, H. C. Kentner.
Secretary and treasurer, John S. Orth.

Directors, F. E. Merrick, J. E. Enyart.

All are men who have shown their faith in Medford by the investment of large sums of money.

These men state that this amusement park, when completed, will be the equal of the Olympic club of San Francisco and unexcelled by anything of its kind in the northwest.

The main building covers 76,000 square feet, giving it nearly an acre of floor space. The main plunge is 50x100 feet, while the ladies' plunge bath is 30x40 feet.

Twenty modern tub baths will be installed and the building will contain bowling alleys for both ladies and gentlemen, an elegantly equipped billiard hall, a parlor facing plunge 40x80 for the exclusive use of ladies; boxball alleys, moving picture department, dance hall and skating rink 120x172, a private dance hall 40x100 and a roof garden, which will be made a delightful retreat, where on warm afternoons and evenings people may rest, refresh themselves with ices and listen to music.

One of the chief features of this big building is the auditorium, which will have a seating capacity of 2200, while the park, with its beautiful trees, flower beds and automobile drive, will be a most attractive spot in which to rest.

Fronting on the pavement of Riverside avenue there will be three storerooms, to be rented for cafe purposes, sporting goods, etc.

There will be a resident superin-

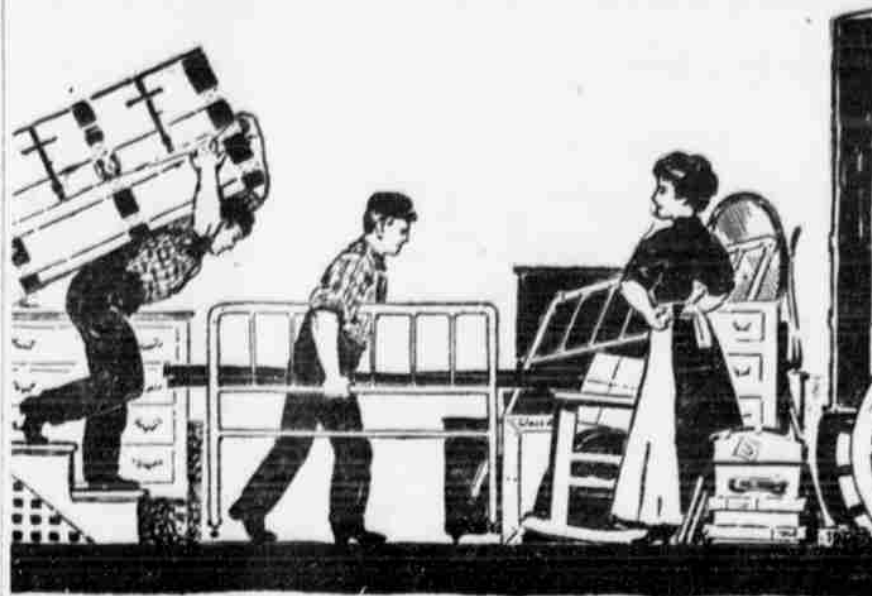
tendent and swimming teachers, and the management will maintain their own music for dancing, skating and out-of-door fetes.

Architect Clark drew the plans for the building and the construction work is under the supervision of Contractor Stewart, who, by keeping two shifts of 40 men constantly em-

ployed, hopes to have the park ready for the public by July 1.

Announcement.

The Presbyterian Sunday school will commence at 3:30 a. m. Sunday. Church unites in tabernacle meetings at 10:45 a. m. Junior Christian Endeavor meets at 5 p. m. and Senior Christian Endeavor meets at 6:30 p. m. in the church parlors.



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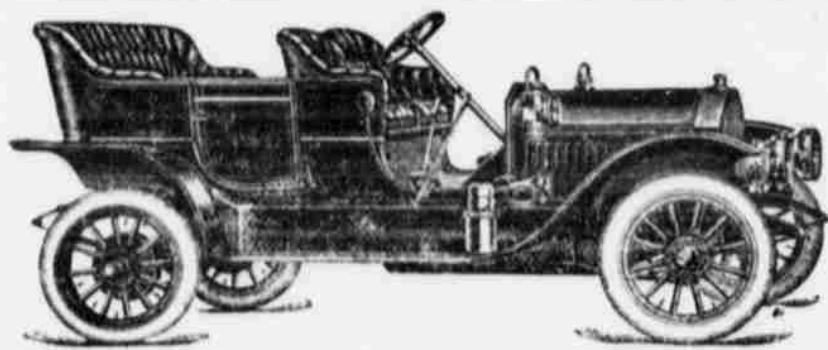
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