

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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"SISTER BEATRICE."

Art, as well as civilization, seems to have an eye for an eye. Our artists are striving to get back to the point where Michelangelo stood over 400 years ago. Wagner, in his music-drama, returned to the somewhat crude principles adopted by Greek and so with out dramatics. They have run the cycle of Folly, and their tendency now is back towards Shakespeare.

In the advancement in realistic stage effects, stagecraft has begun the deterioration of phraseology. Few dramas have been produced in the past decade that would hold the attention of the reader, yet the plays they were strong in dramatic intensity, but weak in diction.

We are, however, approaching a new era, in which the drama is destined to reach a greater height than it has ever attained heretofore. Such men as Maeterlinck, Ibsen and Rostand are setting the mark higher in dramatic literature than has been done in the last two centuries. Ibsen is a trifle morbid. He is certainly real, but in our times of contemplation we want the ideal, rather than cold reality. Ibsen's characters are striving for the ego, while Maeterlinck inclines to soften and blend all toward the beautiful.

Maeterlinck's "Sister Beatrice," so beautifully rendered last night by Nettie Ersle and her company, is first of all a literary gem. It is clean and wholesome, with an undercurrent of the genuine that makes one carry away something to be remembered.

With our minds so full of the sensational plays so common to our theatre, at first we are inclined to feel that plays like "Sister Beatrice" lack intensity of action, and yet this play is intensely personified. But it is of so subtle a character that a good portion of the audience failed to get in touch with the mental attitude of the play. The man who writes the perfect play will be one who blends the beautiful phraseology of our modern dramatists with the intensity of our modern playwrights and stage managers have depended upon almost entirely.

The "Enigma," by Paul Hervieu, has very much to recommend it, and yet it may be criticized in that it is decidedly French. It is to be regretted that the French dramatists so often choose for their plot the unclean. There is no doubt that such plots can be developed in the French language without offense, for that tongue is vastly more subtle in delicate expression than our blunt English. The fault perhaps lies more with the language of the translation than with the morals of the original.

The writer interviewed Miss Nethersole for the Mail Tribune after the performance. The lady wished to express her gratitude for the appreciation and quiet attention which she received during the evening. She is really a remarkable woman. Her name is a household word on two continents, which of itself speaks unusual ability. She is a brilliant conversationalist, highly educated, a thinker, and one who has ideas outside of the profession that she follows. She has been a prominent speaker in the suffragist cause in her native country, England. She is not an enthusiastic suffragist, but she has one of the many things that is to be in the rounding out of woman's full development in the course of social evolution.

While Miss Nethersole is a great actress, she is first of all a woman, and her chiefest objection to Ibsen's "A Doll's House," is that the heroine inexcusably abandons her three pretty children. She holds the mother instinct to be the highest, and regards it as the redeeming trait in the character of Beatrice, that instinct always having been kept pure and undefiled.

It would do one good to hear this charming actress speak of the beauties of our valley. She likens it to a gem, set by nature's hand among the rugged mountains. She said to all the people of Medford "to be assured that she will not forget the pretty little city on her return trip to the coast."

WASHINGTON BRIEFS.

Representative Rucker of Missouri, democratic, believed in patronizing home industries, and smokes nothing but the "Missouri meerschaum"—a well colored cornoc pipe.

Representative Dwight of New York, republican, who used to be whip for the old majority, has all his better sent to Washington from Tompkins county, a part of his district.

Speaker Clark has a new way of opening the house proceedings. Heretofore the presiding officer always said: "The chaplain will offer prayer." Clark invariably says: "The chaplain will lead in prayer."

Representative Prouty of Iowa, republican, the progressive who succeeded Representative John A. T. Hull, coined a new word in his recent speech on reciprocity. He got embarrassed and pronounced "tawdrotol," "tawdstool," and couldn't get away from this pronunciation through the whole rest of his speech. He referred to "tawdstools" eight times.

The navy department is planning for next month a series of tests with a gyroscope, to determine its value in maintaining the stability of a warship in rough seas. The torpedo boat destroyer Warden is to be used in the tests, which will be held off the Virginia capes.

USED AUTO. White Gas car, completely equipped with top, wind shield, speedometer, magneto, etc. etc. will sell for \$1500.

BEAR CREEK MOTOR CO.

THE MIRACLE OF MOTHER LOVE.

SUNDAY will be "Mothers' Day," and we are each supposed to wear a flower in tribute to the love and veneration in which we hold maternity.

It is a pretty custom, though recent in origin. As the world grows older, the greater the tribute paid the mother. In older civilizations, such as Japan, maternity is held sacred, and it should be the world over.

Finest of the recent tributes to the mother is that recently penned by Arthur Brisbane, who makes old sentiments read anew in the following:

"The beautiful group of sculptured figures by Karl Kubes, a young German artist, is winning much praise for its delicate sentiment and graceful modeling.

"It is called 'Maternity,' and it shows the primeval mother cuddling the first baby in her arms and feeding it at her breast, and with that look on her face of mother love and sacrifice that women never have lost in all the ages, and that is the eternal badge of motherhood.

"The feeble fumbling of a baby's hands is the one touch of nature that makes the whole world of women akin.

"In every mother's eyes that hover over a cradle are the same dreamings, the same hopes and fears, the same blind adoration, whether she be savage or civilized, princess or peasant.

"To others, the little red, wrinkled morsel of humanity, with its bald head, its embryonic nose, its toothless mouth, its lashless eyes, is hideous enough, but in the flaccid little countenance that is an expressionless as a cream cheese, the mother sees a beauty beyond the power of any artist to imagine. To others, the baby squalls are nerve racking almost beyond endurance, but to the mother they are the music of the spheres.

"She doesn't find it irksome to answer the babe's ceaseless calls upon her. Her patience with it is endless. Her hands are never weary of ministering to it.

"Physicians tell us that the instinct of every new-born babe is to return to the shadows whence it came. It has to be coaxed to live, and only mother love is great and tireless enough to persuade the little stranger to stay on earth. This is why motherless children so often die, and so seldom thrive, even when they live, and why the mortality is so high even in the best regulated baby asylums.

"The child cannot live without mothering any more than a plant can live without sunshine. It needs the warm softness of a mother's breast, the tender cradle of a mother's arms, the foolish little games that mothers play with their babes, the babbling baby talk that only mothers and babies understand—to reconcile it to this hard old world of ours.

"We are so used to the miracle of mother love that we hardly notice it. We see the mother hushing the cries of a fretful baby with a gentleness that never falters. We see a frail woman holding a sick child in her arms, day after day and night after night, with an endurance that is beyond belief. We see the poor mother denying herself the food that she needs that her children may be well fed. We see the mothers trimming the lamp, and setting it in the window, to guide back to them the wandering feet of prodigal sons and daughters.

"It is always the mothers who make the greatest sacrifices and whose love is so great that they do not count the cost of the sacrifice for their children. It is always the mothers who forgive and who are ready to take back the children who have trodden upon their hearts. There is always one person to whom the vilest sinner may return, sure that she will throw about him a mantle of love that will cover up his deformities and his shame even from his own eyes.

"And that is his Mother!

"For mother love is the one thing that never fails. It is the great eternal passion, the sacred fire within the soul of womankind that touches the good woman with something of the aureole of the Madonna, and turns the poorest drab that clasps her baby to her breast into something better than she has ever aspired to be.

"Well may the sculptor try to translate into stone for us the vision of the selfless love of the mother with her child on her breast. It is the most beautiful thing on earth, for the homeliest woman's face is glorified when she looks upon her babe."

DO YOU APPRECIATE MUSIC?

HAVING traveled the stage circle from Shakespeare to rot, let us hope that we have begun the return journey. At any rate, there are a sufficient number in Medford that appreciate an occasional offering of something besides dramatic drivel to justify an occasional presentation by Olga Nethersole and those of her class.

As with the drama, so with music. A population that will pack the house to applaud the musical slush and questionable suggestions of a Madame Sherry, ought to contain enough lovers of real music to afford liberal patronage to the Russian Symphony orchestra that will be heard at Natatorium Hall tomorrow evening.

This concert will afford the only opportunity of the season to hear a high class musical attraction. Its success is important, as upon it depends Medford's future status as a musical center. The question whether we are to hear the great queens of song and masters of melody that annually visit the coast or not depends upon the degree of appreciation with which we welcome the first attraction.

It is hoped that everyone in Medford and adjacent territory who loves good music—and who does not?—will be on hand to hear these musicians, who rank among the masters.

Races at Pimlico.

HALTIMORE Md., May 9.—Beginning this afternoon with the merchants' selling handicap, several excellent races are on the card this week at Pimlico. Tomorrow will come the Glonnore steeplechase for hunters, on Wednesday the owners' handicap steeplechase, and the Linstead event on Friday. Saturday's features will be the amateur cup for non-professional riders, the Crickmore memorial steeplechase handicap and the Pimlico nursery stake for 2-year-olds.

Socialist Oppose Mott.

OAKLAND, Cal., May 9.—The first election under the new charter will be held here tomorrow. A combination ticket composed of Socialists and reactionaries will oppose Mayor Frank K. Mott, republican. Governor Johnson has endorsed Mott's candidacy.

Thos Booth, socialist, heads the opposition ticket.

COMMUNICATION.

"Ain't It the Truth?"

To the Editor: Panning around the circuit with the big leaguers a couple of times has made me something of an enthusiast of the national game. I feel, after witnessing the game between Medford and Grants, Pass Sunday, that a few remarks are in order. I saw a few a clean game, and that is something that was lacking Sunday as far as some of Medford's work was concerned. Without doubt some of the tactics employed by one of the infield players in blocking runners between bases was absolutely "clever" (?) and if resorted to where real baseball is played would result in the offending player's expulsion from the game. Let me suggest that he take good care of himself until the football season opens and then let him run interference on some scrub aggregation. If a man hasn't enough sporting corpuscles in his blood to play a clean game, win who will, he should, at least, be gentleman enough to conceal his rottenness.

The extreme verandancy of some of the players was disgracefully exhibited by the continual "beefing" at the decisions of the umpires. Ballplayers learn, ere they are graduated from the backlot game, that the decisions of the umpire are final and any criticism of an umpire's decision is not becoming to a player.

Least, but by no means least, was the continual "chewing the rag" and "bawling out" of their team mates indulged in by some of the home players. Many times during the Sunday game certain Medford players, who in their own minds think they are some ballplayer, thought they could inspire their teammates to better work by roasting them. This "stirring up" win ball games, and the sooner some few players learn that knocking is not boosting the sooner the team will show marked improvement.

Some ballplayers exempt from mistreatment, and even if one of the boys has made an error "bawling him out" will not steady him down. It sounds real "bushy." Such things are not tolerated in every place. As an example, Hugh Jennings of the Detroit Tigers, no matter how hum a play a man makes, pats him on the back; and that in one reason Detroit's showing since Hugh has been manager.

We do not expect to see big-league baseball in Medford, but we do want to see the boys pull together and to win. A few fair plays to see some following will prevail and the national game played in a clean, sportsmanlike manner, and the sooner the Medford team learns this the stronger and more enthusiastic will be their support.

A FAN.

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LOCAL OPTION LAW GETS STRICT INTERPRETATION.

SALEM, Or., May 9.—In the opinion rendered today for Justice of the Peace George R. Simpson, the Gates district in this county, Attorney General Crawford holds that any giving away of intoxicating liquors in a public place or otherwise which has any semblance of being an evasion of the local option law is a violation of the law under the decisions of the supreme court of this state.

More Postal Banks.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—Thirty-six new postal banks were authorized by the postoffice department today. One at Seaside, Oregon, and another at Vancouver, Washington, are included in the number.

Notice to Contractors.

Notice hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the board of directors of school district No. 26, of Jackson county, state of Oregon, until Wednesday, May 17, 1911, for the erection of a one story frame school building in said district. Plans and specifications for the same may be seen at the office of the county school superintendent in Jacksonville, or in the case of his absence, from the office, they may be seen at the office of the county clerk.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check for a sum which shall equal five per cent of the amount of the bid, as a guarantee of good faith, and the successful bidder will be required to give bonds in the sum of seventy-five per cent of the amount of the bid. The board of directors reserve the right to reject any and all bids. Send bids to J. M. Stevens, Beagle, Or.

TRUTH CENTER.

132 North Ivy street, Medford, Or. A private course of twelve lessons in Truth will be given by Annie Sprague South every Thursday afternoon at 3 P. M. Teaching and divine healing by appointment.

Metaphysical library, literature for sale. Subscriptions taken for Unity Power, Nautilus and other publications. Enquiries received by mail will receive prompt attention.

All are welcome. Love offerings.

Special Car for Presbyterian General Assembly.

A special car for the accommodation of delegates and their families who desire to attend the general assembly of the Presbyterian church to be held at Atlantic City, N. J., will be attached to train 18 of the O. W. R. & N. C., leaving Portland at 10 P. M., May 12, 1911. Delegates to the convention should call on our local agents for reservations.

NOTICE.

Dr. Barber is now located in rooms 291 and 293 Farmers and Fruitgrowers bank building and will be pleased to meet his friends and patrons in the new location.

Haskins for Health.

BOGUS ORCHARD SITES.

(Oregon Journal.)

One of the best things that leaders in Oregon development and publicity can do is to take measures for preventing investors from being duped into purchase of unfit orchard sites. Here is the Albany Democrat with a statement that near-mountain land in eastern Linn county is being lobbied by Spokane real estate artists as orchard sites. It is being sold in five and ten acre tracts to people who have never seen it, and the Democrat says "buyers do not get much for their money." It adds: "The land was bought very cheap and is being sold at a high price. One man who has been up that way says it would be very hard to get on the property."

Whatever may be the facts in this instance, it is true that harm is being done orcharding in Oregon by those who are selling as orchard sites, lands that are not fit for orchard. Oregon has the best orchard lands and the best orchard conditions in the world, but all the lands and all the localities in the state are not suited to the industry.

The land must be fit, or the orchard will be a failure. There must be complete air and soil drainage. There must be adaptability of the soil and the site to the variety. There are many other requirements that must be met or failure and loss will result.

The fame of the Oregon apple is widespread. Reports of profits from its production are everywhere, and there is a feverish desire throughout the country to secure an orchard holding. Large prices are being paid for good orchards in legitimate apple districts. The situation opens the chance for shady transactions. Some men seize upon the situation to capitalize Oregon's reputation as an apple producer and use it as a means of floating unfit sites upon unsuspecting buyers. It is a crooked business, and every means should be invoked by public bodies, citizens and others to prevent it. Otherwise, bogus apple lands will be palmed off as genuine, and loss and harm result from which it will take years to recover.

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Singing—talking—dancing—direct for Portola theatre, Frisco, where she has been the leading feature for the past two weeks. No one can afford to miss this great ball.

3—REELS MOVING PICTURES—3.

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