

MEDFORD OPERA SINGERS MAKE HIT AT PHOENIX, ARIZ.

To the Editor:
Thinking perhaps the relatives and friends of Medford's opera company might like to know what we are doing here, I am enclosing a notice from tonight's Gazette. It's legitimate—no "box-office write-up."
So far our reception has been all we could ask for and business is immense. Of course, one swallow don't make a summer and one good week's business doesn't necessarily mean a long engagement. But things do look as if we would be here quite some time.

With best regards, yours,
CHAS. D. HAZELRIGG.

(From the Phoenix Gazette.)
Did't ever, gentle reader, open an old envelope and find therein a bunch of withered and faded violets whose delicate perfume insistently recalled the days of auld lang syne and, perchance, a romance half forgotten, of the days of youth?

A season such as Manager Reeves is giving his patrons at the Emoresse just now is an oasis in the thirsty desert to all lovers of opera.

Audran's good old classic, "The Mascot," or rather the first act of it, holds the boards this week, and the following act will be given commencing Monday. The production is well staged and the people are so uniformly good that one wonders how they do it for the money.

The old writers of libretto seemed obsessed with the idea that the first scene of an opera comique must be the village maids and boys dancing on a green somewhere, garlanded and with wine cup in hand all ready to welcome the unexpected (?) hero or heroine as the case may be and, true to tradition, "The Mascot" opens just this way. If this time-honored custom does nothing else it gives the auditor a chance to size up the chorus, and the Boston Ideal chorus will stand some sizing up, too.

The young ladies are pretty as one could wish and, best of all, they are modest and well trained. Right here may be a good place to say a word about the musical director, Charles D. Hazelrigg. He rules that chorus evidently with a rod of iron and keeps them right to the mark all the time. He knows the traditional tempos and sees to it that they are observed.

Of the principals, it being a comic opera, one may with propriety speak first of the comedians. A. C. Burgess as Lorenzo XVII and W. F. Quisenberry as Rocco. The work of these gentlemen is clean and excellent throughout. Never condescending to horse play, they give an example of clean comedy work that could not well be surpassed. They both sing acceptably and, mirabile dictu, one can understand what they sing. They slip over a modern one now and again as well as the comedy provided in the score, and Lorenzo brought down the house last night when he said, "I am no bull moose; I know when I've got enough."

Robert Burgess as Prince Frederick and F. O. Burgess as Pippo looked, acted and sang the parts, the latter being particularly good in the two duets with Bettina, on which the musical fame of the opera so largely depends.

Of the ladies, the Bettina of Miss Nellie Andrews was as good as one often sees and hears. The young lady can both sing and act, and it was noted by many in the audience last night that she evidently loves the Bettina part more than the Zerline of "Fra Diavolo."

Miss Arloine Andrews as Flametta was excellent. She has a particularly good stage presence and her acting left nothing to be desired. She was in good voice and singe true and in tune at all times, although, in this, she has nothing on the rest of the company, as their tune was good throughout.

It has been said already that the chorus was just what opera comique chorus should be. They sing well, dance well and look well, and what more could one ask of any chorus than that?

Any one who misses this series of performances is passing up a real treat and also passing up the chance of getting a dollar's worth of enjoyment at a ridiculously small price.

DIED
MILLER—Urias Miller, for thirty years a resident of Josephine county, died at his home at Golden, Josephine county, on Sunday, March 29, of Bright's disease. The deceased was born in Ohio on February 15, 1847, being at the time of his death 67 years of age. Funeral services Tuesday, March 31, interment in the Wolf Creek cemetery.

The deceased is survived by his wife and four children, L. E. Miller, Frances A. Davis and Mamie Watson, all of Josephine county, and M. L. Miller of Gold Butte, Ariz.

ASK WASHINGTON FOR RETENTION OF WEATHER BUREAU

Believing that it is necessary for the protection of the fruit business in the Rogue River valley to have the government weather bureau maintained. The directors of the Commercial club Monday petitioned officials at Washington for a continuance of the bureau.

Strong resolutions were introduced by Ben Sheldon and unanimously adopted. Copies of these resolutions are to be sent to each member of the Oregon delegation in congress, to the secretary of agriculture the director of the weather bureau, and to ex-Senator Bourne. Orchardists and business men are urged to write personal letters to any of those parties, especially to Dr. B. T. Galloway, assistant secretary of agriculture, urging this action.

Whereas the experience of the fruitgrowers of this district during the past few years in protecting their crops from frost has made it appear absolutely necessary that this district should have a well equipped station for meteorological observations and forecasts; and

Whereas the late occupant of the office of county pathologist of this county had for several seasons conducted such a station as a part of the work of his office in the interest of the fruit industry of this district; and

Whereas that said pathologist recently resigned his office leaving this most important work of weather observation and forecast without competent care; and

Whereas the instruments equipping such station are still in this city and are being used for the benefit of the fruit growers of the district by an observer of the weather bureau loaned us temporarily by the Portland station of said bureau; and

Whereas, it would be hard to overstate the importance, both to the fruitgrowers of the district and to all lines of business, practically all of which are intimately dependent upon the prosperity of the fruit industry, of a continuation of this weather observing and forecasting work at this point; which said importance may be intimated by the following statement of fact: The value of the fruit crop shipped from this district last season exceeded \$1,000,000; the orchards now in full bearing comprise less than 4000 acres; the orchards in partial bearing amount to about 5000 acres; the yield from an orchard listed in this statement as full bearing will average twice that from one herein listed as partial bearing; the acreage of fruit trees over three years in age but not in bearing, amounts to about 30,000 acres; the acreage of fruit trees planted, but less than three years of age, amounts to about 28,000 acres; the acreage of this district suitable to the raising of high grade fruit and from which the maximum return possible is from fruit culture, but not yet planted to fruit trees, amounts to about 125,000 acres, and,

Whereas, the experience of several years has demonstrated to a finality the absolute importance of protecting our crop from frost by orchard heating or smudging, and that that protection cannot be afforded the orchards without a reliable system of local weather observations and forecasts.

Now therefore the Medford Commercial club hereby urgently requests the proper officials in the United States department of agriculture to provide for a continuation of the weather observations and records inaugurated in this city; for the continued maintenance of the office heretofore conducted here and the making and keeping of the observations and records of such office; and that at least during the period of frost danger, from about March 20th to May 10th of each year, provision should be made for supplying this station with full information from other nearby stations so as to enable the most accurate forecasts possible of weather conditions and changes.

Made in Medford.
Smoke Mt. Pitt and Governor Johnson cigars, they are home made and first class.

STANDISH & WELLS
ARROW COLLAR 2 for 25¢
Cluett Peabody & Co. Inc. Makers

SPECIAL RATES FOR FRUIT PACKERS FROM CALIFORNIA

The following resolution was adopted at the meeting of the Commercial club directors yesterday:

Whereas the fruit raising industry in the district tributary to this city has reached proportions where the securing of labor during the packing season in quantity and of a quality to insure the prompt and economical as well as proper handling of the crop, is becoming an important problem; and,

Whereas the citrus districts of California have developed a large and competent supply of fruit packers who finish their work in that state in time to allow them, or many of them to come to this district at just the time when needed here; and,

Whereas our packing season is so short that some special inducement is necessary to make it appear profitable to those said packers to come into this district when we most need them; and,

Whereas this problem will become more pressing each year and has already reached one very important to the right handling of our fruit output;

Now therefore, the Commercial club of Medford respectfully suggests to the Southern Pacific Railway company the propriety and importance, in fact the necessity, of its providing a special reduced round-trip rate for fruit packers to come from California points into this district during the months of July, August, September and October of each year; and we earnestly request the said company to take the action herein suggested in a liberal way, feeling sure that a full understanding of the facts will convince the said company that by so doing it will contribute materially to the prosperity of the fruit industry in this section, in which prosperity the company is directly and materially interested.

PITTSBURG OPERATORS TO SIGN AGREEMENT

PITTSBURG, Pa., March 31.—Coal mine owners in the Pittsburgh district having made important concessions to the miners' concerning working conditions, it seemed likely today that a two year's agreement would be signed between them. The miners recently waived their demands for higher wages.

TAXES DELINQUENT AFTER TODAY, MARCH 31

This is the last day for the payment of taxes the same becoming delinquent on April 1. If the recent decision of Judge Cleeton is sustained it will mean that those who have paid half their taxes by six o'clock tonight will escape any penalty, the balance to be paid September 1. There seems to be a general idea, however that the supreme court will not uphold the Portland judge in which case the 1 per cent a month penalty will begin tomorrow for all who have failed to cash up. The taxes are very high this year due largely to the increased state levy and complaints are numerous.

DRILLING FOR SODA WATER AT ASHLAND

The Ashland mineral water development committee are now drilling for artesian soda water at a point about six miles east of Ashland, where the water experts indicated as the best chance. The well is now 105 feet down. At a depth of 102 feet a strong flow of soda and gas was encountered and the water rose to within ten feet of the surface. The water has been sent for analysis. The well is located near the line separating the Dodge and Tucker places. The experts think an artesian flow is likely to be obtained at a depth of from 175 to 200 feet. The drilling is getting very hard and the committee is undecided whether they will drill deeper, as the present well indicates a heavy flow of splendid soda.

WENATCHEE, Wash., March 31.

The directors of the Cashmere Fruit Growers Union voted unanimously today to enter into a marketing contract with the Northwestern Fruit Exchange for a term of three years.

At their annual meeting in January the stockholders of the union considered this proposition and authorized the directors to take whatever action seemed best since then the directors have been studying and comparing various systems and results. Careful comparisons of net cash results shows that for four consecutive years since 1910 and including the season of 1913 just closed the union has shown a substantial surplus over every other group of growers in the Wenatchee district marketing through other agencies.

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IRISH HOME RULE DEBATE RESUMED TODAY IN COMMONS

LONDON, March 31.—The house of commons got back to the Irish home rule debate today.

It was expected the bill would reach its third reading shortly after Easter. The Liberal-Labor-Irish alliance seemed extremely confident. The situation was still full of dynamite but there was no question that, for the time being, Premier Asquith had saved the ministry. The government's fight with the army officers appeared likely to be delayed until the premier, following his resignation and re-election, assumed the war secretary's in addition to his other duties.

In investigation by the customs service was in progress into reports that a number of Maxim guns, "knocked down" and packed in tea, had been landed at Belfast by the anti-homeulers, despite the prohibition of arm importations into Ireland.

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Don't Forget the
BIG DANCE
To be given by the Loyal Order of Moose at Small Hall at Natatorium.
WEDNESDAY EVE, APRIL 1
Music furnished by Howell and Root

It Pays to Walk!
Walk "fifty steps" from Main street and save "fifty cents" on your next pair of pumps or colonials.
"Every pair a 1914 style."
At the sign of
Schmidt's
"Good Shoes"
OPPOSITE POST OFFICE



Kabo Corset Demonstration
We have with us Miss Gronberg, an Expert Corset Fitter, direct from the Kabo Corset factory, who will be delighted to explain and show you the merits of the
Kabo Live Model Corset and Le Reno Corset
The secret of a good figure.
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 1 to April 4
Ahrens
"GLOVES & SUIT HOUSE"

Banana Season
is here
Quality Fine
Prices Less
Ask Your Grocer

Make your gas range bright and clean with the helper that digs in where the hand can't—
GOLD DUST
A household necessity that is a real luxury. It cleans and purifies everything.
5c and larger packages.
THE N.C. FAIRBANK COMPANY
CHICAGO
"Let the GOLD DUST TWINS do your work"



Where is the Best Place to Buy Seeds?
Why Broadley's of Course, the only place in Southern Oregon where you