



ESTES ON TRIAL—Billie Sol Estes, on trial at Tyler, Texas, for theft charges growing out of manipulations with fertilizer tank deals, is shown with his wife during a recess in the trial. (UPD)

Compensation Data Printed By SIAC

Workmen's compensation benefits available to workers injured by accidents arising out of and in the course of their employment are detailed in a revised, updated, illustrated booklet available for public distribution by the state industrial accident commission. George I. Hessevick, general manager, announced this week.

The booklet, titled "How to Make a Claim—Your Benefits Under the Law," provides instructions to workers regarding their rights to benefits following injury as provided under the Workmen's Compensation law of Oregon.

Many new workers have been added to those already protected under the law, and every worker should know how to make a claim and the benefits he will receive under the law, Hessevick stated.

To facilitate distribution, individual and group requests for the booklet, by mail or telephone, will be acknowledged through SIAC regional offices at Portland, Salem, Eugene, Medford, Pendleton and Bend.

Truckers Pay Record Weight-Mile Taxes

Salem—Public Utility Commissioner Jonel C. Hill said Wednesday that Oregon truckers rolled up record mileage in Oregon in October, and paid a record weight-mile tax—\$1,702,545.

This was up 4.6 per cent over October, 1961. Collections for a 10 month period ending Wednesday were \$13.8 million, up 3.9 per cent over a similar period last year.

'Friends of French Opera' Said Starting Cultural War

By DELOS SMITH
New York—Cultural wars begin so quietly and so politely you may not even know a new one has started. This is to tip you off that one has, and the aim of the aggressors is to get into your heart and mind. They want to make you

State Not To Sell Christmas Trees This Holiday

Salem—No sales of Christmas tree stumps are expected this year from state-owned land during the holiday season, Oregon state board of forestry announced this week.

State Forester Dwight Phipps, in making the statement explained that Christmas trees for the taking from Oregon's forest lands is a passing tradition. The value of these young trees in producing a future crop no longer permits an indiscriminate harvest by the public. The cutting or removing of trees from the lands of another without permission is now a misdemeanor or of some consequence, he explained. This has become especially significant in recent years with the increasing efforts of landowners to reforest their lands.

Intensive Patrol

The state forestry department has expended much public money to establish a new crop of trees on forest lands under their management, Phipps explained. An intensive patrol is to be maintained throughout the cutting season this year in order to protect this investment.

The public is reminded that a 1957 law requires individuals transporting more than five Christmas trees to have evidence of ownership. This includes the bill of sale, the name and address of the original owner, the number of trees purchased, and the description of the land. The only exceptions are where the individual owns the land or where a common carrier is involved, Phipps noted.

aware there is French opera and to make you unhappy because so little of it is around in our country. Their feeling is American opera lovers have been so saturated with Italian opera by now they've forgotten about the other kinds.

These people are musicians and opera lovers who have formed themselves into "The Friends of French Opera." There is irony in French opera now needing organized "Friends," persons over 40 can remember when it had a respectable share of the American Operatic repertoire and those over 60 can recall when it shared the repertoire more or less equally with Italian and German.

These "friends" are not basically francophiles, understand. Basically they're operatic people who think the American operatic diet has been heavily unbalanced—much, too much pizza and spaghetti and practically no crepes, zuzettes and fluffy omelettes.

Made Argument

In its new season now brilliantly under way, the Metropolitan Opera made their argument for them. The season opened with an opera which is admitted even by Italians to be second-rate in the Italian operatic scale—"Andrea Chenier." What's more, there are

other Italian second-raters in this year's repertoire.

But there is only one French opera, Debussy's "Pelléas et Melisande." There are six German operas and a Russian and a German opera which have been anglicized. The remaining 14 are all Italian.

Of these 14 most are universally acknowledged masterpieces and not even the most ardent admirer of French opera would give off even a faint sneer. But in the French repertoire are many a superior of "Andrea Chenier," and even of "Andriana Lecouvreur," (to name another of the Met's dubious Italian entries.)

Massenet's "Thais" and "Don Quichotte," for instance; or Thomas' "Hamlet" or Halvey's "La Juive" or Berlioz' "Les Troyens." There was a time when American opera-goers sighed and gushed over them and considered them the very essence of the operatic art.

Once Was Joke
Once it was said as a joke, but more and more there is truth to the Met being "the greatest Italian opera house outside of Italy." Yet there can be no criticism in that. Clearly there is an enormous and enthusiastic audience for Italian opera. The Met gives

its patrons what they want. Observers with a mind for history and cultural evolution readily see the explanation. Italian immigrants came to these shores in great waves. Their descendants are now interwoven into the American fabric, together with their inherited operatic tastes which they have given to Americans of non-Italian antecedents.

To these observers the efforts of the friends of French opera are too little too late. Americans now are so attuned to the Italian they're not likely to find a place in their operatic hearts and minds for rivals.

However that may be, the "friends" are launched on their cultural war. This season they'll sponsor two lengths.

French operatic concerts in Carnegie hall, one Nov. 11, the other Jan. 18. Next season they plan to present four French opera in their full lengths.

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