Strong 'Ko-Ko' Performer in 'Mikado' Carries Production

A production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" without a strong performer in the role of Ko-Ko would be as certain of failure as a eunuch in a harem.

But fortunately Friday night's production of the durable light opera by the Philharmonic Society of Southern Oregon had a superb Ko-Ko, though the society had to go to San Francisco to get him.

Keith Bentley is a professional, and his experience, talent and training showed to delightful advantage in what, without him, might have bordered on a lackluster production.

To the huge enjoyment of the sizeable first night audience at Medford High school's auditorium, Bentley bounced, rolled, slid, jumped, darted and danced about the stage in the role which offers considerable latitude to any performer able to live up to it.

Nearly Singular

As the Lord High Executioner, who moaned dejectedly at one point, "I can't kill anything," Bentley was nearly singular in his ability to look, act and move like a Japanese. Unhappily, some of the other performers looked like nothing quite so much as southern Oregonians in strange clothing. He wore his costume – and his role – with verve.

It is always difficult for inexperienced amateurs to stay on the same stage with a real pro, but several of the local performers managed the feat, and a few did it with ease.

The best voice we heard all night was that of Tresa Matlack, who as the romantic interest Yum-Yum, was as visually appealing as she was pleasant to listen to. Probably her best scene was when she was preparing for her wedding to Nanki-Poo.

Marveled at Beauty

She sat center stage, examined herself in the mirror, marveled at her own beauty and concluded objectively that she was more fair than any other woman in the world.

"Nature rejoices in her loveliness. I am a child of nature and take after my mother," she reasoned with deadpan logic.

Mrs. Matlack was flanked in the production by Diana Hunter as Pitti-Sing and Lee Anne Allen at Peep-Bo. Together the three made an attractive trio of tiny, loose-wrapped bundles of pulchritude.

Everett Windsor made an agreeable Nanki-Poo, and his voice, particularly in "Wandering Minstrel I," was true and clear. However, too frequently it lacked power, and occasionally was drowned out by the orchestra. Some sharper stage direction would have improved his performance. Too many of his lines were delivered into the wings, to the vast annoyance of at least this part of the audience.

Strong, Clear Voice

Maynard Hadley as the multi-purpose Pooh-Bah (Lord High practically everything) and David Deller as Pish-Tush more than compensated with their strong, clear voices for their shortcomings as actors. They were particularly effective in the scene when, from opposite sides of the stage, they bounced the three little maids back and forth with the force of their voices.

Handsomely costumed, Sue Boe as Katisha and Don Lewis as the Mikado solidly abetted the total production.

The choruses were, as one might logically expect, the weakest part of the performance. Too often they failed to move in unison. One might have wished for more interest and reaction from them to the activities of the principles. And the women looked so solemn. How they might have brightened some of the scenes if they had only smiled more often.

Sullivan's Trademark

The orchestra, directed by R. D. Werner, captured, with only an infrequent lapse, that particular lilt and rhythm that is the trademark of Sullivan's music. As a matter of fact, the finale, with the whole cast moving colorfully on stage, was a rouser, and Werner had them going full tilt.

"The Mikado" constitutes such a vast improvement over last year's "H.M.S. Pinafore" that light opera lovers in the area should look forward with real anticipation to the society's next effort. We congratulate the society on its progress – and on its production. –G. H. B.

OBITUARIES

LILLIAN E. DAVIS

Funeral services for Lillian E. Davis, 69, formerly of 51 North Oakdale ave. who died Thursday, will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday at Perl Funeral home.

The Rev. Gerald Nelson, assistant pastor of the First Methodist church, will officiate. Interment will be private.

Mrs. Davis was born May 25, 1893, at Blue Island, Ill. She was employed as a secretary and telephone recorder at the Cook county welfare office in Chicago from 1937 to 1947. She moved to Medford from Angola, Ind. in 1951. She was a member of the Medford Chin-Up club.

On March 20, 1920, in Chicago, Ill., she was married to Albert E. Davis, who preceded her in death Nov. 11, 1962.

Survivors include two brothers, Irving Nelson, Boulder, Colo., Philip Nelson, Chesterton, Ind.; two sisters, Ruth Nelson, Carmel, Calif., and Helen Nelson, Honolulu, Hawaii.

HENRY P. DEVEREUX

Funeral services for Henry P. Devereux, 70, a resident of the Veterans Administration Domiciliary, White City, who died Thursday, will be held at the White City chapel at 10 a.m. Monday. Lawrence Eskay will officiate. Interment will be in the VA cemetery at Eagle Point. Perl Funeral home is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Devereux was born Dec. 14, 1892, at Norway, Ore. He was employed as a logger most of his life.

He was a veteran of World War I, serving with the U.S. Army.

He entered service at Ft. Lewis, Wash., July 21, 1918, and was discharged at Ft. Lewis Feb. 14, 1919.

Survivors include four brothers, James Devereux, Gaylord, Ore., Thomas Devereux, North Bend, Ore., David Devereux, Rio Del, Calif., Philip Devereux, Bandon, Ore.; five sisters, Mrs. Ella Rieschel, Portland, Theresa Devereux, Bakersfield, Calif., Loretta Devereux, San Francisco, Calif., Sister Mary Bernard, Medford, and Sister Mary Loretta, Salem, Ore.

NORMAN NELSON

Funeral services for Norman Nelson, 67, of 3524 South Pacific highway, who died Tuesday in Ashland Comunity hospital, will be announced by Conger-Morris Funeral directors.

EDWARD W. SHERMAN

Edward W. Sherman, 72, of route 2, box 228, Central Point, died Friday evening in a local hospital. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Perl Funeral home.

ERNEST B. RIPPIN

Ernest B. Rippin, 78, of 115 Willamette st., Medford, died in a local hospital Saturday. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Perl Funeral home.

CARL JOHNSON

Carl Johnson, brother of Mrs. Oletha Cantrell, of Medford, died Friday in Oceanside, Calif. The body will be returnred to Medford for services and interment. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Conger-Morris Funeral directors.

JUSTIN B. SMITH

Funeral services for Justin B. Smith of 21 Geneva St., who died Friday, will be held at the Perl Funeral Home at 3 p.m. Monday, with the Rev. George R. V. Bolster, rector of Saint Mark's Episcopal church officiating. Private interment will take place in the Siskiyou Memorial park.

Mr. Smith was born in Medford on December 19, 1900, and had lived here all of his life. He attended Medford High School and was graduated in the class of 1925 from the University of Oregon, where he was associated with Delta Tau Delta Fraternity.

He had been a business man in Medford for many years, and was a member of the Rogue Valley University Club. On Sept. 2, 1927, he was married to Miss Jo Ann Wortman, who survives. Other survivors are his son, Justin M. Smith, and one sister, Mrs. Grace P. Clemens, all of Medford; and two grandchildren.

Those who wish, may make a contribution to the Crippled Children's clinic at the Rogue Valley Hospital.

CARL E. JOHNSON

Services for Carl E. Johnson, of Gold Hill, who died Saturday, will be held in the Conger - Morris downtown chapel Monday at 2:30 p.m. with the Rev. Lochlen L. Gregory, Community Methodist church, Gold Hill, officiating, with Masonic services at the graveside.

Mr. Johnson was born in Pomona, Calif., May 27, 1900. He retired from the telephone company in Southern California on June 1, 1960, after 42½ years of services, and moved to Gold Hill.

Mr. Johnson was a member of the A. F. & A. M. No. 135, Central Point, and the York Rite, Glendale, Calif. He was a veteran of World War I.

Surviving is his wife, Mrs. Ethel Johnson; a sister, Mrs. Beva Hovland, Whittier, Calif.; two brothers, Ebert D. Johnson, La Habra Heights, Calif., and George W. Johnson, Boulder Creek, Calif.

CHRISTOPHER McCULLOUGH

Christopher McCullough, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell McCullough, 625 Clover lane, Ashland, died in the Ashland Community hospital Friday.

Graveside services will be held Monday. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ken McCullough and Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Prettyman, all of Ashland.

DONALD FARMER

Donald Farmer, 38, 2959 Diane st., Ashland, died Friday in a Portland hospital. Funeral services will be announced later by Litwiller's Mountain View chapel in Ashland.

ROBERT WATSON

Robert Bruce Watson, 37, of Portland, former Rogue valley resident, died Friday in a Portland hospital following an illness.

Watson worked for Snider's Dairy while here and was employed by Arden Farms in Portland prior to his death.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret; two children, David and Katherine Watson; his mother, Mrs. Bertha Watson, Talent; two brothers, Earl Watson, Talent, and Roy Watson, Ashland.

Rosary will be said Monday night at St. Joseph's Catholic church in Portland. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Joseph's. Interment will follow in a military cemetery in Portland with military honors.

ALICE PALMER

Mrs. Alice Myrtle Palmer, 46, of 820 Oak st., Ashland, died Jan. 9 in a Portland hospital.

She was born May 19, 1916, in Nampa, Idaho. She had been an employee of the First National Bank of Oregon for 10 years.

Survivors include her mother, Mrs. Abbie Shepherd, Ashland; sisters, Mrs. Blanche Eklund, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Mrs. Doris Amack, Florence, Ore.; three brothers, Ira, Fogneck, Alaska; Arthur M., Camp Georgia; John H., Topeka, Kans.; and an aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shepherd, Ashland.

Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15, in Litwiller's Mountain View chapel in Ashland. The Rev. Roland Stewart and the Rev. Robert Poet will officiate. Burial will be in the Mountain View cemetery in Ashland.

Locals

Convalescing—Susan Chadwick, 9½ months, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Chadwick, 2014 East McAndrews rd., is a medical patient at Rogue Valley hospital.

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Flue Fire—Medford firemen responded when a flue fire was reported at 6:09 p.m. Friday at the residence of Cecil E. Henson, 1125 West 10th st.

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Recuperating—Mrs. Harry Devore has returned home at 3116 North Pacific hwy. after undergoing surgery.

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Association Meeting—The Cal-Ore Hereford association will elect officers at a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, at North's Chuck Wagon in Medford. Members also will discuss a possible tour of commercial ranches this winter, and feeding the cow herd and bulls through the winter.

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Meeting Changed—The Talisman Lodge 31, Knights of Pythias, will meet Tuesday, Jan. 15. The meeting nights were changed from Monday to Tuesday nights at the last lodge meeting, a spokesman said.

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Erect Residence—The Medford building department issued a permit Thursday to D. L. Pickell to erect a residence at 187 Mace rd. at an estimated cost of $9,900.

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Medford Toastmasters—A report will be made of the district meeting in Portland at a meeting of the Medford Toastmasters at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 14. Speakers will be Jim Spangler, Jack Thomsen and John Welch.

Valley Fires Due To Cold Weather

Cold temperatures Friday night and Saturday were indirectly responsible for several fires, as Rogue valley residents turned up their heaters.

At 210 Lozier ln. early Saturday afternoon, a box of matches in a linen closet next to a chimney got overheated and ignited, causing minor damage to the closet. Owner of the house is Michael L. Clark.

In Ashland, fire caused by an overheated flue destroyed beds and furnishings in the second story of the Jack Thornton residence at 550 Ray ln. The family was awakened at 11:40 p.m. Friday by the smell of smoke. There was smoke and water damage to the second story.

Earlier Friday evening Ashland firemen were called to the Faith Tabernacle, where an overheated wood stove caused a minor fire that scorched one wall.

A defective flue was cited as the possible cause of a fire at 6171 Azalia dr. in the Central Point Rural Fire Protection district area, reported at 5:22 p.m. Friday. There was minor damage to a wall and the roof of the home, occupied by Harold Rikard.

Instructor's Course Slated by Red Cross

LeRoy Williams, Red Cross first aid instructor trainer, has announced that a first aid instructor's course will be offered at the Chapter house, 60 Hawthorne ave., beginning Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

Requirements for admission to the class are completion of the standard and advanced first aid courses and an interest in teaching. Once qualified, instructors are asked to teach at least one class each year.

The need for instructors in Jackson county is almost endless, Williams noted. Red Cross officials report they are unable to meet the demand for first aid training because of a serious shortage of instructors. A continual waiting list for courses in standard and advanced first aid is maintained in the chapter office.

Instructors holding current cards are reminded they are required to take a refresher course every two years in order to maintain their certification. This will be the only class offered this year for this purpose and all instructors are urged to register.

Persons interested in this class should register by calling the Red Cross office, 772-4405.

Weather

FORECASTS

Medford and vicinity: Fair and cold with a little cloudiness at times today and Monday. Slowly rising temperatures. High today 45. Low tonight 15 to 20. High Monday 45 to 50.

Western Oregon: Fair and gradually moderating temperatures today. Some cloudiness north part tonight. Cloudy and warmer with showers likely north half Monday. High today 30 to 40, Monday 36 to 46. Low tonight 20 to 30, with 30 to 35 on the coast.

Northern California: Fair today and Monday. Continued cold.

LOCAL DATA

TEMPERATURE: Mean yesterday 24, below normal 13.
Record high this date 56 in 1945.
Record low this date 8 in 1930.
PRECIPITATION: 24 hours to midnight, none.
Total this month .08 in., 1.16 in. below normal.
Total since Sept. 1 16.16 in., 6.40 in. above normal.
HUMIDITY: Lowest yesterday 18 percent, highest yesterday 80 per cent.

CITY	High Yesterday	4:00 a.m. Low	24-hr. Prec.
Brookings	54	30	
Klamath Falls	23	-1	
MEDFORD	40	8	
Portland	30	13	
Seattle	29	13	
Spokane	9	-1	
Yakima	16	-2	
Eureka	51	30	
Red Bluff	47	29	
Sacramento	48	25	
San Francisco	49	40	
Los Angeles	58	46	
Phoenix	47	38	
Denver	-1	-25	
Chicago	25	4	.10
Miami Beach	77	71	.03
New York	38	35	.25
Washington, D.C.	48	40	.49

Sunset today 5:01 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:39 a.m.
Moonrise tonight 9:07 p.m.
PROMINENT STAR
Antares, rises 5:24 a.m.
VISIBLE PLANETS
Saturn, sets 6:02 p.m.
Jupiter, in southwest 6:09 p.m.
Mars, high in southwest 3:51 a.m.
Venus, above Antares — much brighter

Speech Contest at College Planned

Ashland—"That the United States should adopt a policy of reciprocal free trade with non-communist nations" is the topic of debate which will be presented at the Fifteenth Annual Invitational High School Speech Conference Jan. 25 and 26 at Southern Oregon college.

Another of the events and its subject will be extemporaneous speaking on "Current social, political, economic, and military problems of the Far East" (including Australia, New Zealand, Islands of the Pacific, excluding Hawaii and the USSR.

In poetry reading, the reader will choose a theme and read cuttings from at least two selections — based on this theme without memorizing the poetry. Impromtu speaking deal with the organization, structure, and function of the executive branch of the United State government.

Other types of speaking will include oratory, radio, and after dinner.

Two Juvenile Boys Arrested in CP

Central Point — Central Point police have apprehended two teenage boys who admitted being responsible for a rash of obscene telephone calls in this area since Christmas.

The boys, one 16, the other 15, also admitted committing a number of burglaries during the past month.

They were turned over to juvenile authorities, who released them to their parents.

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