

# Columns

BY MOLLIE RUNCORN.



MISS ALICE IRENE SKIFF, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Will Skiff, one of the most promising of Salem's younger vocalists. Miss Skiff, accompanied by her mother, returned from Portland Wednesday, where they went to secure the professional opinion of Franz Arz, one of the greatest of contemporary vocal teachers of New York city, who is spending the summer in Portland. Mr. Arz was delighted with the range and tonal quality of her voice and predicted a very brilliant future for her.

Her vocal instructions have been under the supervision of Dan F. Sagarberg, and although they have covered only a period of a few weeks, her natural talent has asserted itself, her progress during that time being exceptionally rapid. Miss Skiff's voice is a high soprano, and according to Mr. Arz's prediction, will with proper training and development into a dramatic soprano of splendid quality and strength, besides possessing a voice of unusual sweetness, she has also been noted for possessing a voice of us to a successful career—musical understanding and intelligence combined with a remarkable physique.

The public as yet has had but few opportunities of hearing this young singer, but time and attention being devoted to her studio and school work, those who attended the annual pioneers' picnic held this year in Astoria, were especially favored. Miss Skiff having appeared there several days' programs. Her numbers, which included difficult classical as well as newer compositions, were enthusiastically received, many personal compliments being passed on her work at that time.

Miss Skiff, owing to her school work and youthfulness, will spend the coming two years studying in Salem, devoting her summers' vacations to singing with Mr. Arz, who is delighted with Oregon and plans to spend the summer here.

It is the plan of Dr. and Mrs. Skiff to send their daughter to New York, where she will have the desired musical atmosphere and personal services of Mr. Arz.

MEMBERS of nodding multi-colored autumn flowers and slowly rustling park and forest trees recall that summer, with its restful and recreations is at an end. Displaying their brilliant possibilities, they subtly suggest the beauties of the love of all budding seasons. Rumors of the approach of cooler weather, from at beach and mountain resorts carrying home, the past two weeks being a general exodus, impressing us so forcibly of the swiftly approaching winter season.

Under conditions, no doubt, have their social as well as business affairs, many who have relations or friends residing on the continent necessarily feeling its sobering effect. However, America's neutrality and the characteristic spirit of hospitality, buoyancy and gladness of the West seems to be suppressed for any great length of time, and barring a few functions which had been planned, it is expected that the nearby social season will be merrier and more active than ever.

The members of the younger contingent are made especially happy by the announcement that dancing classes will probably be resumed again shortly. The difficulty of securing a competent instructor for this form of amusement has been forcibly impressed this year, no one having been found who would take up this work until very recently, when Miss Vina Sherman, of Portland, partially consented to give her assistance.

Mrs. Louise Cronise Benjamin's decision to discontinue her activities in

of friends Thursday and Friday afternoons, entertaining very informally with Kensingtons. Miss Paul will not return home until late in October.

Miss Gertrude Jones is expected home today after an extended visit with friends in Seattle.

Mr. and Mrs. William Brown, who have been summering at their Seal Rock cottage, will arrive home the first of the week and will open their beautiful home on State street for the winter season.

Mrs. Thomas K. Campbell was at home to the ladies of St. Monica's Altar society Thursday afternoon, assisted by her daughter, Miss Gertrude Campbell, and Miss Ruth Cooper.

The guests were received amid pretty decorations of dahlias, sweet peas and lovely late roses.

Those who enjoyed this pleasantly informal affair were: Mrs. Theodore M. Barr, Mrs. S. Breitenstein, Mrs. James Heenan, Miss Hart, Mrs. Joseph Lebold, Mrs. William Lebold, Miss Lebold, Mrs. Tressa Schoettle, Mrs. Mary McGrath, Mrs. McFarland, Mrs. John Nood, Mrs. V. Nadstank, Mrs. Albert O'Brien, Miss Anna O'Brien, Mrs. E. A. Pruit, Mrs. Edward Quinn, Mrs. Martin Petzel, Mrs. Walsh and Mrs. Thompson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jackson (Miss Maude Durbin) have taken up their residence at 225 Cooper street in Peoria, Ill. Miss Durbin's romantic marriage occurred recently while she was traveling in the east. She is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Durbin and was one of the most attractive girls of the younger social set.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Brown and son, Keith, are home from Pendleton, where they have been the past two weeks the guests of Mr. Brown's brother, Captain C. A. Murphy. While there they attended the marriage of Miss Mabel Bickers to Otto Smith, which was a conspicuous event in Pendleton society. Miss Bickers, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Bickers, formerly resided here, Mr. Bickers being at one time superintendent of the boys' training school.

Friends here of Miss Inatha Irvine, daughter of Rev. J. H. Irvine, were pleased to learn of her appointment as an instructor at Garfield school for the ensuing year.

Dr. and Mrs. George H. Alden received the faculty members of Willamette university and their wives at their home last night. The early part of the evening was devoted to discussion of business matters, a pleasant social hour following.

The university has been especially fortunate in its selection of its faculty this year, several of its more loyal and progressive members of past year's service being retained, who, affiliated with the recently appointed members all of whom are well known educators, it is expected that Willamette will witness one of its most successful years.

Those present last night were: Professor Matthews, Professor and Mrs. F. Von Eschen, Professor and Mrs. M. E. Peck, Professor and Mrs. Robert Walsh, Mrs. Stella Chappel, Miss Alice Page, Professor Wallace McMurray, Professor and Mrs. Ira Morton, Professor and Mrs. Thompson, Professor Sherman, Miss Elliott, Dr. and Mrs. Richard Avison, Mr. and Mrs. Swarthout and Miss Junia Todd.

Mrs. J. B. Craig and daughter, Miss Bernice Craig, are home from a delightful week of shopping and entertainment in Portland. They were guests at the Imperial.

Mrs. H. L. Studley, of Eugene, will arrive in Salem tonight and will be entertained by Mrs. Armin Steiner as her house guest for several days.

Members of the Eastern Star lodge enjoyed a pleasant social afternoon in their rooms Tuesday, Mrs. Paul Hauser, Mrs. Emma McCarter and Mrs. Clara Olson, investing as hostesses.

Brilliant red dahlias were arranged with greenery in decorating, adding a lovely touch of color to the reception room.

Readings from James Whitcomb Riley, "An Old Sweetheart of Mine," and "Countryman From Philosophy," gave much pleasure. A large number were present.

One of Jason Lee Memorial Sunday school's most popular classes is the Mizpahs, composed of young married people, with Mrs. M. B. Paranganagan as teacher.

They are invited to spend the evening Wednesday, the 16th, at the home of their teacher, 346 South Twenty-third street.

Mrs. A. A. Lee is entertaining her sister, Miss Helen Atwood, and Miss Anna Nelson, of Spokane. Both are graduates of the Deaconess' hospital of Spokane, and leave in a few days to enter a training school of Seattle, where they will finish their courses. Miss Atwood is well known here, being the daughter of Mrs. M. J. Atwood, formerly residing in Salem.

Mrs. S. M. Frey and daughter, Miss Margaret Frey, who have been the house guests of the Z. F. Moody's at their beautiful Court street home, leave tonight for their home in Pasadena. Mr. and Mrs. Moody have now with them their son's wife, Mrs. Z. A. Moody and grandson, Zenas, of Ashland. They will return home next week.

Mrs. Frey and her daughter have been popular guests, Miss Frey making scores of friends among the younger social set, who sincerely hope to have the pleasure of having her among them again.

The George E. Waters have Miss Leora Cass Beer, the well known dramatic critic of the Oregonian, and George L. Simonds, of Portland, as their week-end guests.

Dr. Orison Sweet Marden, famous American author and editor, says:

"Make a business of trying to establish a model home where every member of your family will be happy, bright and cheerful. Fill it with bright, cheerful music. Physicians are employing music more and more because of its wonderful healing properties.

"If there are no musicians in your family, get a graphophone, a piano-player, or some other kind of automatic musical instrument. There is nothing like music to cheer up and enliven the home and drive dull care, the blues and melancholy away.

"Music tends to restore and preserve the mental harmony. Nervous diseases are wonderfully helped by good music. It keeps one's mind off his troubles and gives nature a chance to heal all sorts of mental discords."—Dr. Orison Sweet Marden.

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Seventeen members of the King's Herald class of the First Methodist church were guests of Mrs. A. A. Lee yesterday afternoon, who entertained for them in Wilson park. Miss Elliott assisted her in serving refreshments and in supervising the games.

The girls of the E. T. Barnes' store spent an enjoyable evening this week at the home of Miss Inge Fisher, 475 South Fourteenth street, who entertained in honor of Miss Mildred Hawthorne, who has accepted a position as bookkeeper in the office of Mark Siddall. Miss Hawthorne has been with the Barnes store for the past five years.

The evening was spent in vocal and instrumental music, after which dainty refreshments were served. Those present were: Miss Hawthorne, Emma Muths, Alyce Hollister, Geneva Enos, Mable Gardner, Etta Mulvey, Harriet Swiencink, Muriel Staley, Florence Cunningham, Florence Smith, Elizabeth Bayley, Ione Fisher, Marie Hoydebo, Delia Spaulding, Etzel Hixon, Mary Henningsen, Viola Fisher, Mrs. S. B. Combs, Mrs. W. H. Fisher.

Mrs. Charles A. Gray will return to Eugene Monday, after a summer's stay in Salem as the guest of her son, George W. Gray. The opening of the college year at the University of Oregon claims Mrs. Gray's attention at this time, she being a chaperone at the Chi Omega sorority house.

Mrs. Gray resided in Salem for many years, occupying a prominent place in society. A charming and gracious woman, she has hosts of friends here, who have appropriated her for many pleasant and attractive affairs given during her stay.

In celebration of the third birthday of her son, James W., Jr., Mrs. J. W. Church presided at one of the prettiest of recent children's parties Tuesday afternoon.

Assisting in entertaining were Miss Margaret Goodin and Miss Mary Tal-

madge, Miss Goodin presiding at the piano as the small guests marched to their places at the daintily appointed table which was centered by the birthday cake bearing three twinkling candles in tiny rosebud holders. A pink parasol suspended above, held the attractive favors, pink roses decking the table, completing the pink color motif.

Luxurious games and pastimes filled a delightful afternoon which was enjoyed by the following small folk: Rosalind Van Winkle, Maxine Glover, Bernice and Katherine Mulvey, Ethelwyn Kelly, Margaret Goodin, Mary Talmadge, Edna and Elton Von Eschen, Dick Goodin, Howard Baker, Linden Harris, Donald and Dorothy Church, Elmer Kelly.

As the wife of the resident dean of the Theological Seminary of Willamette university, Mrs. H. J. Talbot will occupy an attractive place in local social and educational circles.

Dr. and Mrs. Talbot arrived in Salem Thursday, Dr. and Mrs. Kimball leaving then for their new home in Pasadena, California. They are delighted with their new location, finding Salem's streets, beautiful homes and gardens a source of genuine inspiration.

Mrs. Talbot is a member of a well-known southern family and received her education in an exclusive girls' school in Louisville, Kentucky. She is a charming example of the woman of the southland, cultured, intellectual and gracious, with ideas and standards happily combining those of the old fashioned and modern woman. Taking a sincere personal interest in young people and their activities, she will undoubtedly endeavor herself to the students of the university. She is an ardent advocate of sororities and fraternalities and may possibly lend her assistance in inaugurating them in Salem's historical institution, as suggestions to that end were considered last year.

The Talbots came to Salem from Salt Lake City, where for the past ten years Dr. Talbot was superintendent of missions for the state of Utah, going there

from Portland, Oregon, where he occupied the pulpit of the First Methodist Episcopal church. Both he and Mrs. Talbot are interested in church and civic improvement work. They have one daughter, Mrs. L. F. Steele, of Portland, who like her father is a graduate of Depeau university.

While not a suffragist, believing that desired results could be accomplished with women occupying a less conspicuous place, Mrs. Talbot believes that having the privilege thrust upon them, as it were, they should utilize their voting privileges in assisting in securing laws for the country's betterment.

Dr. and Mrs. Talbot will occupy the handsome apartments occupied by the Kimballs at the college.

Mrs. R. A. Harris, daughter, Miss Averil Harris, and son, Ross, have returned home after spending the summer in the Middle West, visiting several states.

Returning home Thursday, after an absence of several years, James Mott, son of Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Mott, is being welcomed by hosts of friends here.

Upon leaving Stanford university, where he was a popular Sigma Chi man, Mr. Mott left for New York City to enter Columbia university. Receiving his degree from that institution he attended the American Academy of Dramatic Art, the second foremost school of acting. Graduating from there he entered upon his chosen life's work, the past four years recording many successes. His first year of acting was with a large New York company. Playing with them in a long run in New York City, he also accompanied them on a tour through the New England states. Later he played a leading part at the Liberty theater in Savannah, Georgia, where critics proclaimed him the greatest character actor who had ever visited that city. He afterwards toured in

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