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SUMMONS ELVES BY MAGIC WAND

Darrach's Impersonation of Prospero and Caliban Charms.

Prospero waved his magic wand last night over the audience that assembled in the makai pavilion of the Young Hotel to hear the farewell recital of Marshall Darrach, and, lo, the air was peopled with sprites and elves, with the most delicate fancies of the Elizabethan magician whose wand was his pen. The hoarse growling of Caliban mingled with the plaintive love tones of Miranda sighing for her Prince Charming, the noble Ferdinand. The solemn, majestic voice of Prospero dominated the twentieth century audience, and the trembling words of old Gonzalo, the faithful, awoke the affection of the people of today as it deserved that of his ancient friend of story. Jolly, drunken old Stephano aroused the same merriment last night that his impersonation undoubtedly did some odd centuries ago when he made his appearance in buskin and unreal make-up on the open-air stage of the outskirts of London with one Will Shakespeare as stage manager.

The selection by Marshall Darrach of The Tempest for his farewell recital last night was a happy one, for this most delightful of Shakespeare's comedies gives the impersonator wide range for the display of his talents while the great dissimilarity of the characters of the drama tax to the limit the flexibility of his remarkably persuasive voice.

Mr. Darrach's interpellations and interpretations as he proceeded with the rendition of The Tempest were not the least interesting part of the program. His naturalness and avoidance of stiffness and of posing combine with the charm of his rich voice to delight his hearers.

The character of Caliban, said Mr. Darrach in one of his explanations of the play, is one of the most significant of all of Shakespeare's characters. It is the only one that the dramatist absolutely originated. All the rest—Portia, Shylock, Hamlet, Macbeth and the host of others—are portraits either from the life of Shakespeare's time or from history. Caliban has no prototype; he was born in Shakespeare's imagination.

One other observation of particular interest, though one not original with Mr. Darrach, the impersonator made in the course of the program. Referring to Prospero's farewell incantation to the spirits and his abjuration of his powers over them, Mr. Darrach stated that this has a significance greater than appears on the surface. The Tempest was one of the last, if not the last, of Shakespeare's plays, and this farewell of Prospero to his familiars is believed by many of the Shakespearean critics to be also the farewell of the Bard of Avon to his art.

The best received impersonation of the program, one that won the hearty applause of the audience, was Mr. Darrach's vocal portrait of Caliban the monster of the isle, whose strange contortions, wild strivings against the bondage in which he was held by Prospero, vain efforts to understand the cursed fate that forced him to obey where he would rather have strangled, beastlike growlings and mutterings it took an artist to portray.

To change suddenly from the dulcet tones of Miranda to the hoarse grumbings of Caliban must have been a severe tax on the vocal chords of the impersonator, yet he shifted from one to the other without apparent effort, and then to the rich, low voice of Prospero, the light gibbering of Trinculo, the maddling jocularities of Stephano, the age-weakened tremulo of old Gonzalo. The characters of Ferdinand, Sebastian, Antonio and the other lesser characters of the Tempest were naturally much less difficult, and it sometimes took quite an effort of the imagination to transform the big, hearty man in evening dress on the platform into the airy Fairy Ariel—though, as to that, Mr. Darrach explained that he made no attempt to impersonate the sprite on account of certain physical defects that rendered him unsuited to the character.

All in all, Mr. Darrach delighted his audience with his recital of the play. He concluded by reciting three lyrics of his own composition that were not the least pleasing portion of the entertainment. Two of these, "A Shell and a Song" and "I Was Asleep" were delicate love songs, while the third, "Two Ways of Looking at Things," was humorous. Mr. Darrach said it was and he ought to know for he wrote it. Really, however, it was good, so his word may be taken for it.

Mr. Darrach leaves today on the Hiloian for the Coast, whence he will go East to conclude his engagements. Later in the year he starts on a trip around the world, to the westward, that may bring him to Honolulu again. Of this, however, he cannot speak with certainty now. He says, however, that he hopes some time, at least, to be able to visit again this city where he has been so well received.

BLIND PIGS INCREASE.

(Continued from Page One.)

But Kauai is not the only island that has blind pigs, as the figures of the department show. The \$20,000 increase on the books of the Internal Revenue Department is by no means represented on the books of the Territorial license collectors. Oahu has its share of illicit dealers, and it is probable that Hawaii is not far behind.

That \$20,000 increase means in part increased vigilance on the part of the collector. The year just past was Collector Drake's first full year, and he has made a good showing. But the figures also indicate that more liquor is being drunk in Hawaii than ever before, notwithstanding new laws intended to restrict the sale in intoxicants. This, however, may be partly accounted for by the increase in the population, particularly by the large number of soldiers who are now stationed here, few of whom are greatly averse to taking their bitters.

SCHOOL BOARD HOLDS MEETING

New Commission Convened and Prepares for Its Work.

The first session of the new Commission of Public Instruction, which came into being as the result of an act passed by the last Legislature, was held in the room of the Board of Education yesterday morning. The full membership of the commission was in attendance at the meeting—A. F. Judd and Mrs. May Wilcox, of Oahu; John T. Meir and Miss Ella H. Paris, of Hawaii; W. H. Rice, of Kauai, and W. O. Aiken, of Maui.

There was a disposition upon the part of the Commissioners to question the wisdom of the Legislature in circumscribing the authority of the Commission so, as Commissioner Rice, of Kauai, expressed it, the members "could only growl."

Superintendent Babbitt, who is vested with the title of executive officer of the Commission, stated that, in his opinion, the Legislature had made a serious mistake in abolishing the office of Normal Inspector, and he presented a plan by which he thought that the handicaps could be overcome. His idea is to have a supervising principal named, who would have authority over all the school principals, and make regular visits to all districts of the Territory.

The opinion expressed by the Commissioners was that too much authority has been delegated into the hands of the County Supervisors in the matter of school regulation and supervision. Superintendent Babbitt stated that aside from the supervision over teachers the only authority possessed by the Commission was distinctly of an advisory nature.

A resolution was prepared and passed providing that all teachers shall draw up a list of their requirements in materials and supplies, and it was also agreed that principals shall be provided with blank forms on which to make requisitions to the department.

The system for the substitution of a supervising principal in place of the Normal Inspectors will be arranged at a January meeting.

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