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BY BLANCHE PARTINGTON.



POPULAR ITALIAN SINGER WHO GAINED FAME IN THE ROLE OF CARMEN.

throughout. The instrument will hardly be heard to best advantage in the Pavilion, but W. F. Skeele, who "opened" it in Los Angeles a few weeks ago, will exhibit its possibilities next Tuesday evening, when he will be heard in the following solos, that complete the programme of the leaguers' first concert: An opening march; the "Grand Chorus" in D of Gull-mant; "Barcarolle"; Lemare; "The Storm"; Lemmens; "Variations on a Scotch Air"; Buck, and the "Toccata," from the "Fifth Symphony" of Widor.

The above portrait of Estefania Collamarini, the popular Carmen of the last Tivoli grand opera season, is the charming singer's latest concession to the camera artist. She will appear again as Carmen this year, and will also essay the role of Delilah in Saint-Saens' "Samson and Delilah."

The following programme given by Mr. Sigmund Beel at New Bechstein Hall, London, on June 10, affords a very welcome assurance of the distinguished violinist's restored health. The London climate has not suited Mr. Beel like his native air of California, but he seems now to be quite well again, and hard at work which will be good hearing to his host of admirers here. Mr. Beel was assisted by Miss Ada Wright at the piano, and Henry Bird accompanist:

Sonata, piano and violin, Op. 20, Arthur Schopenhauer; violin concerto in D (Paganini); piano solo, Intermezzo (Schumann); (b) Scherzo (Mendelssohn); violin solo, "Chaconne" (Bach); piano solo, (a) Nocturne (Chopin), (b) Scherzo (Chopin); violin solo, (a) Romance (Sinding), (b) Passacaglia (Handel-Thomson); sonata in E minor (Mozart), piano and violin.

Californians in New York. NEW YORK, July 13.—The following Californians have arrived: San Francisco—E. L. Dow and wife, at the Imperial; Miss V. Foltz, at the Victoria; Mrs. M. A. Greenwood, at the Imperial; W. G. McCarthy, at the Burlington; D. E. Newell, at the Albert; J. H. Reid, J. Reid Jr., J. Reid and wife, at the Grand Union; F. Shaly, at the Ashland.

Los Angeles—G. Hockwell, at the Gillespie; E. W. Kilsay, at the Westminster; L. J. C. Spruam, at the Holland.

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Are You "Of the Old World"? Everything pertaining to the New World may be easily and cheaply seen at the Pan-American Exposition, and the best way to get to Buffalo is by the comfortable trains of the Nickel Plate Road, carrying Nickel Plate Dining Cars, in which are served American Club meals from 35c to \$1 each. Book free, showing pictures of exposition buildings. Hotel accommodations reserved. JAY W. ADAMS, P. O. Box 27, Crocker building, San Francisco, Cal.

Grand Canyon Excursion. On July 23 a special excursion rate of \$40 for the round trip, San Francisco to the Grand Canyon, Arizona, will be made. Leaving San Francisco at 8 p. m. on the 23d, you reach the Canyon for supper the 23d. No other sight is comparable to this, the grandest of nature's marvels. Ask at 641 Market street, the Santa Fe office, about it.

Best Way to the Yosemite. The Santa Fe to Merced and stage thence via Merced Falls, Coulterville, Hazel Green, Merced Big Trees, Cascade Falls and Bridal Veil Falls, arriving at Sentinel Hotel at 4 the next afternoon. This is the most popular route and the rates are the lowest. Ask at 641 Market st. for particulars and folder.

Cheap Rates for Epworth Leaguers and Their Friends. The Santa Fe will sell low rate tickets to all points July 12 to August 15 inclusive to holders of Epworth League tickets and friends accompanying them. Call at Santa Fe office, 641 Market street, or ferry depot.

Chicago and Return \$72.50. On sale July 20 and 21, the Union Pacific Railroad will sell round trip tickets to Chicago, good for 60 days, at rate of \$72.50. D. W. Hitchcock, General Agent, 1 Montgomery st., San Francisco.

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL

JOHN D. SPRECKELS, Proprietor.

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STRICTLY A LOCAL ISSUE.

B AFFLED in their efforts to obtain control of the machinery of the Republican party, and seeing defeat of all their political schemes staring them in the face, the bosses, who for so long a time have done politics for profit in this city, have now in their desperation turned to the Republican State Committee for assistance. It is their desire to get the State Committee to recognize their so-called County Committee as the body legally authorized to present to the Board of Election Commissioners on the part of the Republicans of San Francisco a plan for apportionment of delegates to the approaching convention.

In these efforts the bosses have been so far successful that the chairman of the State Committee has been induced to consent to issue a call for a meeting of that body. An issue is therefore raised which it behooves the members of the committee to study carefully. The gentlemen who compose the committee are to be called from their counties to interfere in the local politics of San Francisco. There is no State question involved in the campaign, nor is any State officer to be voted for at the election. Such controversies as exist are matters of what is strictly and exclusively San Francisco politics. Why then should the State Committee be called upon to decide them?

It is to be borne in mind there has been established by law a Board of Election Commissioners to settle any questions of this kind that may arise. The board is a part of the political machinery of San Francisco, and the members of it are much better fitted to deal with local controversies than are any set of men drawn from the State at large. There is no reason why men should come from their homes in far-away Modoc, or even from the nearness of Alameda, to interfere in San Francisco politics, any more than that San Francisco politicians should interpose in the politics of those counties.

While there are no reasons to justify interference on the part of the State Committee there are several good reasons why it should not interfere. In the first place by such action the State Committee would be involved in a broil from which it could not derive credit and might emerge with discredit that would seriously affect its efficiency in matters that rightly belong to it. The outsider who interposes in a family quarrel never gets thanks for his pains. In the second place such interference from outsiders would probably disgust many of the more independent members of the Republican party and thus endanger the whole ticket. It will hardly be denied by any sane man that the American people resent outside interference with local affairs, and such interference in San Francisco on the part of the Republican State Committee would go far toward bringing about a Democratic victory.

Finally, the State Committee should bear in mind this plain fact—there is no controversy among the Republicans of San Francisco; they are united and harmonious. The controversy that has been carried to the committee is one raised by Martin Kelly and Phil Crimmins, supported and assisted by W. F. Herrin, John C. Lynch, Jere Burke and other employes of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Not one of these men is in any sense a genuine Republican. They are in politics for what they can make out of it, and are even now scheming with Democratic bosses to do politics together. The claim of such men to control the Republican organization is so shamelessly impudent that it is not entitled to a moment's consideration.

The activity of the Southern Pacific officials and employes in supporting men like Crimmins and Kelly is in violation of the orders issued by President Hays, and he should certainly give his attention to it. If that order is not to be looked upon as a farce it should be promptly enforced.

THE GAME LAWS.

THE Marysville Democrat assumes that The Call opposes the protection of fish and game because we question the wisdom of a law which destroys all fish and game found on hand the first day of the close season. Such a regulation destroys food and causes a loss to the dealer. Precautions against accumulating a surplus stock in cold storage are just as easy as the tagging of such legitimate surplus as a dealer may carry over in the ordinary course of trade. Game laws should be rigid and rigidly enforced. It is even well to have laws that forbid entirely the taking of deer and large game for a period of three or five years, in order that it may multiply, and then the open season be thereafter limited, and killing restricted to the male animals.

It would be well if Legislatures would consult naturalists in the fixing of the open and close season for game. In California the altitude of our mountains counts for latitude, and the season of breeding has a wide range. A law that permits the shooting of deer and birds in the valleys is not applicable at the same date to the whole State. When spring is advanced and it is even summer in the valleys, the vernal season has not opened in the mountains. The present arrangement of the deer law permits the killing of deer at a season when the venison is not fit to eat, so that all taken is wasted, and the animals are practically killed for their hides. At the season when the venison is fit to eat, it cannot be taken without penalty. This misplacing of the shooting season does not preserve the deer, as the great bales of dried hides sold in this city prove.

The same criticism applies to the dove season. For years it has opened while the birds are still nesting. The result has been a great decrease in that game. The opening has now been set forward to August, which is an improvement.

To return to the deer season, prohibition of the sale of venison and of export from the county where taken has turned deer hunting into hide hunting. The limitation of the season's hunt to three deer per hunter is entirely ineffective, since there is no way of proving that more are taken, and the hunter is not likely to turn informer on himself. As has been frequently said our deer law is intended for an exclusive few, or to profit the hide hunter. The Legislature should consult naturalists and intelligent hunters in the different zones of altitude, and they would then prepare a law that would run not by county lines, but according to altitude, as the natural seasons go. Its effect would be to really preserve the game and permit the best use of that which is taken.

In a dead level State, where the seasons change at the same time throughout its area, one game law may apply to all parts, but it is not so here, either as to feathered or four-footed animals.

A woman in Kansas City who has applied for a divorce is said to have written to her lawyer the following instructions: "I have a very fine marriage certificate, with little Cupids on it and a ribbon attached, and I would like to have my divorce decree on parchment with a blue—no, a pink—seal; that would blend better with the parchment. I'd like pink ribbons, too, if you please."

A movement to raise money to erect a monument to Whittier was started in New England just about the time the hot wave struck that section of the country, but the promoters were not demoralized. On the contrary, they redoubled their efforts and urged everybody to subscribe to the fund because Whittier once wrote a poem called "Snowbound."

Despite the fact that Olney is quite an old man, some of the Boston papers declare he is a better leader than the Democrats can find anywhere else; and it may be so, for after four years of the boy orator it would not be too much of a reaction if the party went back to Methuselah for a change.

It is announced that the famous dispatch instructing Dewey "to capture or destroy the Spanish fleet" was written by Lieutenant H. W. Whittelsey, but the information comes too late to give the gentleman much of a boom. Still he may get a chance to write a magazine article.

Since Comptroller Dawes has resigned his office for the purpose of making a race for the Senatorship from Illinois, Senator Billy Mason will probably conclude that the best way to spend a vacation year is to make a tour of the country and get around among the boys.

Massachusetts is bragging because her prison census shows 483 less criminals confined this year than at the corresponding period of last year; but it is to be noted she has carefully abstained from counting how many criminals she has out of jail.

A dispatch from Europe announces that Queen Wilhelmina expects an heir to the Dutch throne to be born about Christmas time; and the way these European correspondents keep tab on things is remarkable.

BIRD-LIKE SADA YAGGO of Chrysanthemum Land GIVEN HARSH CRITICISM.

BY GUIARD.



ELSA VAN BRAHAM

OUR "Captious Critic" in the London Sporting and Dramatic News, this week, falls afoul of that charming little tea-house lady, Sada Yacco, whose first acquaintance with the stern world on the other side of the jade and pearl screen was made some two years ago in San Francisco. Sada Yacco and Otto Kawakami, the Ellen Terry and Irving of Japan, have recently been doing the drama as she is done in Japan for the benefit of Criterion patrons in London, and the critic caps his captiousness by a refusal to see good of any kind in the efforts of these stars of the Oriental stage. Good, that is, according to Occidental standards, and that there may be others he seems to find difficult of belief. Even for the music and dancing of these jewels of Asia he finds no word of praise, but the doubtful appreciation "that it may be simply perfect in Japan, but that I feel that I should need to be a Japanese to enjoy it," an attitude neither wise nor logical.

Not that it matters, for the quaint little company that we first greeted here on one never to be forgotten night in June, '98, at Maple Hall in the Palace Hotel, has received its full measure of sympathy and appreciation since that time. To any one present at that peach-blossom festival, that correct, ridiculous and charming affair, the future success of Madame Sada and her company in Paris was a foregone conclusion. The whole thing was as certainly and conventionally artistic as a Hiroshige drawing, with the same inspired and weird perspective, the same absolute loveliness of line and the same audacious brilliancy of color. From the get-go dance of Madame Yacco, an absolute music of movement, in which the slim, brilliant figure fitted, half bird-like, half like a butterfly against the still gold of the black edged screen behind, to the delicate melancholy of the symphonies of Japan played on the samisen and koto, and the crowning grace of the quaint ceremonies of the Chayouy—the ancient festival of the tea-drinking—the Japanese greeting to the West was a keen, artistic delight.

But one thing out of key was there, the unspeakable stinging of the De Reszke of Japan, Fujita. Of all amazing, hair-raising and incomprehensible performances that it has been my lot to hear, that was the worst, and so far as that goes the Englishman's attitude is readily understood—one is tempted to believe, indeed, that the London performance began with Fujita, and could readily sympathize with the critic if for him it had ended there. Fortunately for us Fujita came late on the programme. The audience had settled down into an inspired politeness of attention, suggested by a printed slip with minute directions for the etiquette of the affair, and had just attained a soothing belief in itself as a model of manners that even the most hypercritical maid of Nippon could find no flaw in, when Fujita happened along. It was the suddenness of the affair. Into the cherry-blossom daintiness and grace the little brown grotesque dropped like a frog in a bouquet of butterfies, and the newly acquired manners of the audience took rapid flight. It hid behind its shrieking neighbor, stuffed its handkerchief into its mouth in a vain attempt to smother its Olympic laughter, as Fujita howled and squealed and squirted out his song. But just the same the song had the artistic value of the grotesque, and only made the Japanese introduction to the West the more nationally characteristic.

Well, it is an old story now, how the Japanese actors played for three cents a performance at the beginning of the Paris Exposition, and ended at eight francs with Bernhardt and Rejane everyday spectators of their efforts. But we had the first hearing and sight of the unique entertainment, and gave the first god-speed to the quaint company.

Alice Taylor, another young Californian with histrionic aspirations, has just signed with Howard Hall for a season. The former leading man of the Alcazar and Central theaters will star during the coming season under the management of Charles Blaney, in a play entitled "The Man Who Dared," and Miss Taylor will be the leading ingenue of the company. The former Oakland girl had a considerable success in "The Prisoner of Zenda" in New York a short time ago.

CALIFORNIA GIRL WHO HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL ON THE STAGE.

Special Matinee at Columbia. Miss Blanche Bates will appear at a special matinee at the Columbia on Friday, July 13. Isben's famous play "Hedda Gabler" will be presented.

Among the several States and Territories Oklahoma shows the largest percentage of increase, according to the census of 1900.

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