

"BEN HUR" AT THE GRAND BECOME & REVEL DRAMA PRODUCTION IS MARVELOUS

Simonides Suggests Strength of an Irving. Messala Is Fiery and Handsome as Apollo.



ACTRESS WHO PLAYED THE ROLE OF ESTHER IN "BEN HUR"

The unexpected happened at the Grand Opera-house last night—"Ben Hur" became drama. Cheerfully as one went to renew acquaintance with its sumptuous spectacle, with the great race on the Antioch Ingleside, and the rest, one expected only the panoramic excitement from "Ben Hur."

Good luck, extreme good luck in the Ben Hur. In a Simonides who suggests even an Irving, a handsome and fiery Messala, and the drama was there. There is also a Sheik Iderim who clinches the illusion, and a capital Maluch. Not to speak of the horses and a leading camel, which are all that can be asked for.

Good it is that "Ben Hur" does not depend upon its women. They sell things like the Esther at church bazaars, Miss Rosmore is the Kremer adventures in Egypt's garb, and the mother of Herod simply cries for black alpaca. Again, Daisy Robinson is genuinely in the picture as Tirzah—put there is so little of her, and the Amrah of Stella Boniface Weaver falls well into line. But the women count for little, luckily, but unkindly do not account for that little.

Age before beauty, Mr. Ethier, and Mr. Robert McWade's extraordinary Simonides comes first. The part, played wholly sitting down, offers comparatively few opportunities, but when they come, Mr. Wade enriches the play with a "portrait of intense interest. One would like to see him as a Shylock, as King Lear, for his Simonides is of the fiber that makes these. His facial drama is subtly and powerfully interesting, from his admirable gentleness as the Jew looks upon his daughter, to the gamut of expression as he regards the claimant Ben Hur. He has an equally admirable elocution, has this actor, clear, musical and most expressive. Extraordinary clarity, tenderness, naturalness, characterize the whole performance. Possibly one could take exception to Mr. McWade's rather chummy make-up, capably drawn as it is, but one would be indeed captivated to quarrel with this portrait on any other ground.

Mr. Ethier, on the occasion of the first local production of "Ben Hur" the Messala of the cast, is this year the Ben Hur. Mr. Ethier is almost too beautiful to be true. Apollo should be looking for another place. Mr. Ethier in evidence. He is the handsomest actor known to local ken, and his face is not his only fortune. From neck to heel you see his kind more frequently at the Orpheum—perhaps Mr. Worthington owns the least most like Mr. Ethier—you remember them in "The Eternal Feminine." But Mr. Ethier can act, and his Ben Hur is a delightfully virile and spirited affair. Actually the Helen scene becomes real as he faces the angry, striding, ominous day where human cattle, chained to an ear, roam mad and die. A better Esther and the little love-making would be as convincing, the same with the star, who is sufficient, but painfully undistinguished. But in picture and drama Mr. Ethier wholly satisfies.

Julius McVicker's Messala is also happily keyed. Strong, passionate, insolent, he makes the figure of the Roman stand out very vividly from the canvas. Henry Weaver is also a capital Sheik Iderim, and the rest of the male cast all effective. Mabel Mortimer is the Esther. By her voice, a rarely beautiful one, she should be singing and dancing, and in anything that Miss Mortimer could act. She looks well, however.

As to the rest, the ballets are just as beautiful, the chariot race just as exciting, and the scenery just as orientally splendid as before—with the drama thrown in. The "house" was large and delighted.

BLANCHETTE PARTINGTON. California. Every member of the company billed as "Fulton's Grand Widows" which began a week's engagement at the California last night, works hard to entertain with more or less success. The aggregation of talent contributes two sketches called "The Widow's Wedding Night" and "The Sign of the Light" besides several vaudeville stunts, two of which are good. These are Bush and Gordon in a humorous tumbling act, and Pinar and Walters, who play an act on several instruments. The leading woman, Miss Guichard, is handsome and makes a stunning figure in her startling costumes. She is full of vivacity and her voice, though lacking in quality, is pleasing to hear. Mae Fair is a sprightly soubrette, with hair as black as the raven's wing, and her songs are well rendered. In line with the burlesques of the day there are two Hebrew comedians in the show, the cleverer of the two being Charles Burkhardt, who knows his business. With his partner, Murray Simons, he plays a game of pool that is quite funny, but much of their work could be cut out without injury. The two singing comedians on the bill belie their title in both particulars. There are several pretty girls in the chorus, who change their costumes no less than seven times in the action of the burlesques. Most of the songs are new, which cannot be said of a majority of the jokes.

Majestic. The excellent company at the Majestic opened the week in a pleasing comedy entitled "The Lottery of Love," adapted from the French of "Bisson and Mars" by Augustin Daly. After the first act, by which period the comedy gets well under way, the fun begins to pile up like a football team upon a goal kicker. Notwithstanding its French origin, the plot is clear and wholesome to laugh at. The character of Doubledot is well suited to James Neill's temperament in light

APPEALS IS CONQUERED BY BUREAU OF TRADE FACTS German Physician Says Operations Are Un-necessary.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—A surgical operation is not necessary to save the life of a patient suffering from appendicitis. This important statement is made in a report to the State Department by Consul General Gumbel from Frankfurt, Germany. He says a remedy has been found which will cure without the use of the knife. It is named "Oolalang," and is pure silver, soluble in water.

Dr. Moosbrugger of Leutrich has used "Oolalang" for appendicitis, internally and also externally, with extraordinarily good results. Within two or three days after treatment a decided improvement was noticeable in inpatient cases. In cases where the peritoneum was inflamed the cure was very slow, often only after weeks of treatment, both internally and externally. With the exception of two very severe cases out of seventy-two treated, all were cured without operation. It cannot yet be stated how long the cure will last.

President Near Home. WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—President Roosevelt was transferred to the United States steamship Dolphin and, aboard that vessel left Wolf Trap light on the last leg of his journey to Washington at 12:40 o'clock this morning. He is scheduled to reach Washington to-day.

TODS PLAY BANDIT AND ONE IS WOUNDED Montana Boys Fool With Revolvers and Fatality May Result. Special Dispatch to The Call. KALISPELL, Mont., Oct. 30.—Ollie Simmons, a lad of 15, lies in a hospital here, hovering between life and death as a result of a gunshot wound mysteriously received at the home of his friend, George Bryant, a lad of the same age. The Bryant boy has not yet been arrested, but probably will be.

Six Men Killed. DES MOINES, Iowa, Oct. 30.—In a head-on collision to-night between two freight trains on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad at Casey, Iowa, six men were killed. They were: Fireman Ed Nelson, Engineer Bert Shields, Fireman William Marshall, brakeman Frank Johnson, all of Valley Junction, Iowa; Rev. J. W. Caldwell, Van Meter, Iowa; one unknown man. Caldwell was riding in the caboose.

Jury Fails to Agree. SAN JOSE, Oct. 30.—The jury in the case of the people against A. Wilbur Bloom, an ex-Congressional minister, charged with horse-stealing, failed to agree to-night and was discharged. The defendant is accused of having stolen a horse and buggy from Palo Alto several months ago.

Carpeteer Killed by a Fall. W. L. Adams, who resides in San Rafael and who has been employed as a carpeter at Polson-street wharf, No. 2, fell from a coal bunker in that vicinity yesterday afternoon. Adams was not dead when his companions picked him up, but he expired a short time afterward at the Harbor Receiving Hospital. His body was taken to the Morgue.

Be sure the voting machine counters cover the names of all candidates for whom you intend to vote. A method to prevent the registering of votes has been discovered. See page 5.

Braunhart Convalescent. Reports circulated last night that Supervisor Samuel Braunhart was critically ill are unfounded. He has been indisposed for several days, but is convalescent at the Alden Sanitarium.

CAPTAIN NEWTH ACCUSED.—On complaint of Richard Talbot, a member of the crew of the whaling steamer Jeannette, a warrant was issued for the arrest of Captain Newth of that vessel by United States Commissioner Hancock on a charge of beating and wounding on the high seas. Talbot deserted from the steamer at Seattle two weeks ago. He alleged that he was handcuffed, triced up and beaten cruelly. The warrant will be served by the United States Marshal as soon as the steamer arrives.

REDDING ANGLER BRINGS TO SURFACE WHAT MAY PROVE CLEW TO A FOUL MURDER HOOKS MAN'S OUTFIT

REDDING, Oct. 30.—E. Nelson, section foreman of the Southern Pacific at Morely, went fishing Saturday and made the strongest catch that has been recorded this season, and one that is looked upon as evidence that some one has met with foul play. Nelson was angling for trout in the stream just below Morley. He finally caught something that made him think he had hooked a whale. On bringing his catch to the surface Nelson was surprised to find that he had enough stuff to tog out the most fastidious gentleman dresser. Wrapped up in an ordinary green window curtain was a brand new suit of clothes, a new hat, shirt, pair of shoes and a necktie. The suit had evidently been worn, for in the pockets were found a couple of matches and a lead pencil.

Not long before this a rumor that could not be traced was to the effect that a hobo while drunk had boasted of having killed a man, undressed him and thrown his body and clothes into the river. Nelson's find may partly verify the tramp's statement.

ATTORNEY JOHNSON WANTS SOBER JURORS Says the Men Who Tried Emmons Disgraced Sacramento County. SACRAMENTO, Oct. 30.—E. J. Emmons, the Kern County State Senator, who was found guilty in the Superior Court on the charge of bribery for having accepted \$500 from building and loan associations to not bring in a report as the member of a committee of investigation denouncing such concerns, will know to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock whether he will be granted a new trial. District Attorney A. M. Seymour concluded his argument this forenoon in Judge Hart's department of the Superior Court, contending there had been no misconduct on the part of the jurors and reading authorities holding that the court had not erred in its rulings.

Attorney Johnson had a farewell say in the matter when he remarked: "When the time comes in California jurisprudence that my life and liberty depend upon the decision of a drunken jury, such as this one which has disgraced Sacramento County, I will rise up and plead guilty and throw myself upon the mercy of the Judge."

Judge Hart announced that he would give his decision at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

YOUTH RUN OVER BY WAGON.—A youth residing at 782 1/2 Harrison street, was run over by a wagon near the corner of McAllister and Harrison streets yesterday. He was removed to the Central Emergency Hospital, where Dr. Glover dressed his wounds, and he is now in the hospital.

SAITO MUST GO TO JAIL.—In the matter of the appeal of R. Saito from a judgment of conviction for importing Haru Takahashi, a female human being, for immoral purposes, the United States Circuit Court of Appeals yesterday affirmed the judgment of the lower court.

ARRESTED FOR CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—Wolf Schwartz, a teamster, was arrested by Special Officer Madison yesterday for cruelty to animals. Schwartz was driving, or rather trying to drive, a poor aged horse with a galled back and swollen limbs.

TRIES TO BOARD A MOVING CAR.—W. H. Helgeson, living at 920 Duane street, tried to board a moving car at Fourth and Mission streets yesterday morning and was dragged several yards before the car could be stopped. He was taken to the Central Emergency Hospital, where several stitches were taken in his head and face.

HOME LOTS TAKEN.—The United States Government has signified its intention of taking over two fifty-acre lots adjoining the Belmont Hotel on Harrison street. There are no improvements on the lots, and they have been utilized for the purposes of a promenade playground by the inmates of the home.

CONSIDERS ELEVATOR ORDINANCE.—The joint judiciary and license committee heard arguments yesterday for and against the proposed ordinance requiring elevators to be operated by competent and experienced persons and equipped with safety devices to be favored by the elevator operators' union.

FRINDS CLOTHES A STREAM

Redding Angler Brings to Surface What May Prove Clew to a Foul Murder HOOKS MAN'S OUTFIT

Discovery Recalls Tramp's Boast That He Had a Short Time Ago Taken a Life

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AMUSEMENTS. COLUMBIA SAN FRANCISCO'S LEADING THEATRE. Up to and including Saturday Night. MATINEE SATURDAY. ANDREW MACK In Edward E. Rose's Romantic Irish Play, THE WAY TO KENMARE A PRONOUNCED HIT.

CALIFORNIA BUSH STREET CHAS. P. HALL, Manager, Phone Main 127. THE EVENING—ALL WEEK. MATINEE FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY. THE FUMOUS EXTRAVAGANZA COMPANY. "JOLLY GRASS WIDOWS."

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GRAND OPERA HOUSE Curtain Rises at 8 o'clock Sharp. TWO WEEKS ONLY. Matinee Wed and Sat. Each Week—Electric Day Matinee Tuesday, Nov. 1. KLAW & BELLANGER'S STUPENDOUS

AMUSEMENTS. MAJESTIC Lesson and Manager. TO-NIGHT AND ALL THIS WEEK. Matinee Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. ...THE NEILLS... In Augustin Daly's Laughable Comedy, THE LOTTERY OF LOVE Thurs. Night—COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS' BIG THEATER PARTY.

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