

# Sousa's March Airs Help Comic Opera

By James Crawford

Sousa's music contributes less than either Smith's libretto or Kluge & Erlanger's production to the whole structural merit of "The Free Lance." It is rattling good music so long as it is aggressive of martial spirit, but in all other phases the composition is but slightly removed from mediocrity. When the piccolo ceases from tympanum-bursting and the drumsticks are at rest the auditor feels that the melody in hand lacks spontaneity of creation.

"The Free Lance" was presented last evening at the Van Ness Theater, and after an overture that was graphically illustrative of tramping troops and flying banners we were given an opening chorus sung moderately by mixed voices, which sounded competent, but flat. And right upon the heels of that came a soprano solo, with chorus, which ranged from brilliant allegro to most churchly andante and emphasized the composer's weakness for the abandoned swashbuckling effect. So it was throughout the opera. Fortunately the book consistently admitted of frequent introduction of Sousa's forte— which is the best thing he did, apart from his treatment of the soldier themes, was a quartet in the first act, in which the music was immeasurably aided by the comedy work of the singers.



NELLA BERGEN.

It is an old-fashioned comic opera story that Smith has written dealing with two impetuous potentates, each of whom, imagining that the other is opulent, seeks financial rehabilitation by a marriage between the son of one and the daughter of the other. Then we have the comic relief furnished by a goat herd and a goose herd, instead of by a sheep herd and a turkey herd, as in the dear old "Mascoffe." The title is comely, and, however, which is more than can be said for most comic operas of latter-day construction.

All the principal people are clever enough to make the stereotyped characterization interesting. Joe Cartwright, as the comic leader, is a princely disguise, is very funny, despite the fact that his concertina is not even hinted at. He sings a song entitled "Hair" that is one of the best of its kind we have seen in the theater this year. His roll in the fun-making is Jeanette Lowrie, a buxom young person who freely sacrifices personal grace to the good of the cause. She has a capitalizing "roll" while either speaking or singing, and she squints, twists her good-humored face into unlovely expressions and walks awkwardly—in brief, leaves nothing undone that might enable her to appear amusing.

The inevitable lovers—soprano and tenor, of course—are Nella Bergen and George Tallman, both of whom sing well in solo and concerto. Albert Hart, as one of the comic characters, is about six feet two and spare of limb and frame, and his physical imperfections are utilized for all they are worth by the true comic inspirations, George Schiller, the other hard-up monarch, is equal to the requirements, as are all the minor players, and there are many of them.

The chorus is shapely and well drilled in every way, and ensembles, especially in the first act finale, is a tremendous harmonic effect. As for costume and scenery, both are fresh and elaborate. Finer stage pictures have not been shown us since the Columbia days.

## FLORENCE ROBERTS AT NOVELTY

Florence Roberts opened at the Novelty Theater last night in "The Strength of the Weak," a play in which she has been appearing with much success all through the East and in which she has been seen for two weeks at the Columbia Theater just before the fire. As she looked over the footlights she must have felt for a moment as though she was back again in the theater, for the water, for the same clientele packed the house to bid her welcome. The applause was loud and long to greet the favorite, and she had to bow her thanks many times before the play was permitted to proceed.

It has been greatly strengthened and improved since it was last seen here. Miss Roberts as Pauline Darcy shows the same skillful touch in the lighter parts, and her dramatic climaxes retain all their interest without the ranting that tempts in the powerful scenes.

Lucius Henderson also received an ovation and his characterization of Tom Darcy was cleverly done. Thurlow Bergen as Richard Adams was more than satisfactory, while Charles Kent in the ungrateful part of the father showed a subtle interpretation of the character. Ruth Allen as Alice Newton, the tomboy school girl, was delightfully natural. The rest of the characters were well taken. The play fairly bristles with epigrams and intense situations throughout.

## COLONIAL THEATER

The Colonial Stock Company attempted a big thing when it deserted light comedy for the somber psychological drama "Kreutzer Sonata." By far the best opportunity for good acting is that of the heroine Olga. She is well personated by Liza Jewell in the rather sultry atmosphere of the play. Frank Bacon, as the American doctor, with his wholesome philosophy, is a really welcome relief. The same may be said of James Jeffrey, as the hit and German dressmaker. A feature of the play was the introduction of the little boy Karl, played intelligently by "Baby Myrtle."

Bessie Bacon, as Olga's sister, labored under the disadvantage of subduing her engaging personality to the victim part, and Maud Odelle had rather a thankless role as the disagreeable mother. A Burt Wesner as the jealous husband shows that he can take a serious work well. The part of the lover was well taken by Norval McGregor, and that of the father by W. C. Graves.

## NEW ALCAZAR THEATER

The Alcazar stock company appeared in "The Love Route" last night. This is a drama of Texas and involves the construction of a connecting link of railroad across the land of an obscure young woman, known as Miss Allene Houston. A brace of love stories are thrown in. There are cowboys, a road president, impersonated by H. D. Byers; a railroad secretary, who is represented by John B. Maher, an old fashioned Southern gentleman who is otherwise known as Walter Whipple and, especially, a young woman named Lily Belle Hazel (Daisy Lovering), who is glad she is where something is likely to take place. The setting of one scene is good enough to call forth applause, irrespective of any action.

## "THE POWER OF GOLD"

Walter Stanford's players commenced last night a week's production of the scenic melodrama entitled, "The Power of Gold," in the Central Theater. The story is one of a great wrong done by a man, and a young man who restores to the world his lost child, Laura Hudson did well in her impersonation of the adventures. Florence Chapman as Nora Donnelly, the lady's maid, was

## Orders Issued for Army and Navy

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 1.—Army orders: First Lieutenant Edwin D. Kilbourne, assistant surgeon from the General Hospital, Presidio of San Francisco, to Fort Brady for duty. Captain Edgar A. Fry, Thirtieth Infantry, for duty as quartermaster of the transport Sherman during the next voyage to the Philippines and return, relieving Captain Campbell E. Babcock, who will report to the depot quartermaster at San Francisco for temporary duty as assistant.

Navy orders: Commander C. F. Pond, detached from the Navy Yard at Mare Island, to command the Buffalo. Assistant Surgeon J. M. Minter, detached from the Naval Medical School, Washington, to the Naval Station at Guam. Assistant Surgeon J. F. Cohn, T. W. Ranson, C. K. Wain and H. Butts, detached from the Naval Medical School, Washington, to the Asiatic station. Assistant Surgeon F. Flint, detached from the Naval Medical School, Washington, to the Naval Hospital at Cananeo, P. I.

## PRESIDENT DEPRECATES SHIPPING BILL'S DEFEAT

Regards Action of Congress as Blow to Nation's Prosperity

OMAHA, Neb., April 1.—Representative E. P. Pollard of the First Nebraska District has received a letter from President Roosevelt thanking him for his support of the ship subsidy bill, congratulating him and other Western Congressmen upon the view they had taken of the situation and deprecating the defeat of the bill as a serious injury to the commercial interests of the United States. Following is an extract from the letter:

It is deeply depreciable to us as a nation that our shipping should be driven from the high seas, and it has thus been driven partly because our steamship lines are quite unable to compete with foreign steamship lines—English, German, French, Japanese—which are heavily subsidized by their Governments, and partly because the high standard of wages and of living which we exact for our seamen puts our shipmasters and shipowners at a disadvantage when forced to compete even with non-subsidized ships of foreign powers. This difference

applauded for her cleverness, and George Clancy as Sammy Snudge, the butcher boy, evoked many a hearty laugh.

# Hotel St. Regis

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth St., New York

THE management of the Hotel St. Regis wishes to correct the report in circulation that "only permanent guests are desired," by stating that transient patronage is particularly invited.

The dining-room tariff, plainly printed on the menu, is no higher than in other select hotels.

Rooms with Bath, - - \$5, \$6, \$8, \$10  
Parlor, Bedroom & Bath, \$14, \$16, \$20, \$25

ALL OUTSIDE ROOMS

## CHICAGO'S STREET CAR PROBLEM UP TO PEOPLE

Vote of Public Today Will Determine Transportation Question

## ISSUE A DIRECT ONE

Victory by Dunne Means Municipal Ownership of Two Systems

CHICAGO, April 1.—Chicago's street-car question, which has been before the public for the last ten years, will be settled at the polls tomorrow, at Mayor's election, if the voters adopt by referendum vote the ordinance recently passed by the City Council over Mayor Dunne's veto, granting twenty-year franchises to the two street-car companies.

If these ordinances fall of public adoption and Mayor Dunne, the Democratic candidate, is re-elected, efforts will be made at once, according to Mayor Dunne, to procure immediate municipal ownership of the street railroads. The Republican leaders express themselves as delighted with the letter printed today, in which the statement is made "by authority" that President Roosevelt is in favor of the election of Frederick A. Busee, the Republican candidate, for Mayor.

## MORE PAY AND LESS NAGGING THE DEMAND

Two Telephone Girls Are Dismissed for Loyalty to New Union

Two operators in the Bush-street exchange of the Pacific States Telephone Company were given the alternative yesterday of quitting the new union or of being discharged from the company. They refused to desert the organization and demissed followed.

This drastic ruling of the company has stirred the girls to a more vigorous campaign for a 10 per cent increase in pay which now averages from \$30 to \$45 a month.

The dismissed girls add two new arguments to the cause of the operators, and they will insist on the company taking the two back on its payroll before there will be peace.

W. J. Phillips, division manager of the company, said yesterday that the concern did not fear a strike, and belittled the reputed difficulties between the corporation and the divinites of the switchboard. But the divinites do not look on the matter so lightly as do their superiors. On Thursday the charter from the American Federation of Labor will reach this city and the union will directly affiliate with the San Francisco Labor Council. On Saturday night there will be a meeting of the girls, and then it is expected the real trouble will begin for the company.

"More pay and less nagging," is the slogan the maidens will carry into their war. At present the average pay of an operator of several years' experience is between \$30 and \$35 a month, while women who have been in the service for ten years or more are paid but \$45.

The day operators are engaged about eight or nine hours, while the night operators work ten or eleven hours. It is expected that of the 400 girls employed by the company over 250 will join the union. Last night Superintendent McNally had a conference with the chief operators and supervisors of the boards urging that they stand by the company in the trouble.

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## INDICTED CORPORATIONS WIN A PARTIAL VICTORY

Union Pacific, Short Line and Coal Company Gain Point

SALT LAKE, April 1.—The Union Pacific Railroad Company, the Union Pacific Coal Company, and the Oregon Short Line won a partial victory today in the Federal Court in a decision handed down in the coal cases by Judge J. A. Marshall.

The corporations were indicted last December by the Federal Grand Jury upon the complaint of D. J. Sharp, a local coal dealer, charging conspiracy.

Judge Marshall overruled the demurrer of the defendants to that part of the indictment charging conspiracy, but upheld that part of the demurrer bearing on violation of the interstate commerce act, declaring that section 3 of the act was vague and insufficient in that it did not specifically define the crime.

## REAR ADMIRALS MOVED

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Rear Admiral James H. Dayton, heretofore in command of the Philippine squadron, today assumed command of the Asiatic fleet as Rear Admiral Brownson, who has been ordered to this city to relieve Rear Admiral Converse, retired, as chief of the bureau of navigation, navy department.

## PLINT AND METCALF RETURN

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Secretary Metcalf and Senator Plint returned today from their trip to Cuba and Porto Rico, where they saw the target practice of the Atlantic fleet and inspected the naval stations at Guantanamo and San Juan. Senator Plint will remain here a month or so longer before going to California.

## PRESIDENT DECLINES TO SPEAK ON RAILROADS

In Letter to Illinois Body Which Invited Him He Explains

## VIEWS NOT CHANGED

Reiterates What He Has Said in Speech and Message

WASHINGTON, April 1.—President Roosevelt has decided not to accept the invitation of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association to deliver a speech at Springfield, Ill., on the railroad situation. He addressed a letter yesterday to C. H. Smith, president of the association, saying that he did not feel that he had anything to say at this time in a special address on this special subject.

The President has received a great number of requests for a statement by him, or a speech to be made by him in connection with the railway situation, but he informed his advisers that he did not deem it wise or proper to say anything with a view to helping the situation in Wall street and that he could only give expression to the definite and settled policy to be carried out wholly without regard to the exigencies of the moment, and as his views on the policy in question were already a matter of record it did not seem necessary at this time to repeat them.

The statement was made from an authoritative source today that "even a most cursory examination" of what the President has repeatedly said in speeches and messages will show the utter nonsense of supposing the Government has the slightest intention to effect any action which would invalidate the safety and stability of the railway securities now issued.

It was pointed out today in administrative circles that the President has made no reference in his speeches or messages to the question of the physical valuation of railroads. It can be stated on authority that the President will ask Congress at its next session for power to deal with the question of overcapitalization of railroads. A similar request was made at the last session, but favorable action was not taken upon it.

The President concludes his letter to Smith as follows:

"You will see in my two speeches and the two messages that I have said about all that I would say if I spoke now. As I said to your body the other day, I have already expressed again and again my views on this subject, and I am more firmly than ever convinced that these beliefs are wise and that the policy I recommended in my message at the opening of each of the last regular sessions of Congress must be carried out."

In those portions of his speeches and messages which the President marked he stated that he did not believe in government ownership of anything that could with propriety be left in private hands, and he particularly objected to government ownership of railroads.

His sole object was to obtain larger powers for the Government to regulate the conduct of the roads.

# The Emporium

## The Greatest Embroidery Sale

EVER HELD ON THE PACIFIC COAST

GREATEST in quantity offered—25,000 yards, actual measurement.  
GREATEST in values given—\$1.50 embroideries on sale at 35c.

Under ordinary conditions the values given in this sale would be remarkable—under the present conditions, in the face of a strongly rising market, they are simply phenomenal.

### The Embroideries Are

Edgings 4 to 18 inches wide. Corset Cover Embroidery.  
Insertions 2 to 12 inches wide. Waist Front Embroidery.  
Galloons 2 to 8 inches wide. Baby Embroidery.

All are beautiful in pattern, worked on fine cambric, Swiss and Nainsook.

### The Sale Prices

We have divided the entire quantity of 25,000 yards into three prices:

15c yd for embroideries worth everywhere from 25c to 35c and 40c.  
Beautiful embroideries worth 45c, 50c and 65c priced at . . . . . 25c yd  
35c yd for elegant embroideries worth 75c, 85c, \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50. All on sale in the Special Section.

Be on Hand Early

Do Not Miss This Sale

## CLAIMS POLICE TORTURED HIM TO GET CONFESSION

Chicago Charged With Murder of Actress Gives Sensational Testimony at His Trial

CHICAGO, April 1.—Leonard Leopold, one of the defendants in the Margaret Leslie murder trial, testified on the stand today that he had never known Margaret Leslie and had never seen her.

He said that he had been kept in the office of Chief of Police Collins many hours and was repeatedly kicked and throttled by the police because he would not admit he murdered the actress.

## ITALIAN WOMAN'S THROAT CUT AFTER QUARREL

Dead Woman's Brother Starts After Father With Knife on Learning of the Tragedy

NEW YORK, April 1.—The body of Mrs. Marie Tech, an Italian woman, was found today lying in the hallway outside of her apartment in Brooklyn. Her throat was cut and a bloody carving knife with which the murder was done lay beside her. A man's hat, said to belong to her father, Antonio Lancia, was found nearby. Lancia is missing. His son said that Lancia and his daughter quarreled over money.

On learning of his sister's death the boy took a big knife and started in search of his father.

## GREENE AND GAYNOR CASE BEING ARGUED

Men Convicted of Savannah Frauds Now in Eighth Year of Battle for Freedom

NEW ORLEANS, April 1.—Entering its eighth year of legal battle, the case of Benjamin D. Greene and John F. Gaynor, convicted of defrauding the Government of over half a million dollars in Savannah Harbor improvements, was called for argument today in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals upon a writ of error from the Federal Court at Savannah.

The argument for the defense had not concluded when court adjourned for the day.

## STATE'S LAST WITNESS DIES

Idaho, April 1.—The trial of Ed Wiley and Curley Howard on the charge of murdering a packer named Knudsen in the Salmon River country has been brought to an end by the death of Miss Rose Scott, the last of the State's witnesses.

## CARPENTERS AND PAINTERS STRIKE

Vancouver, B. C., April 1.—All carpenters and painters in Vancouver went on strike this morning and building operations are at a standstill. The men want \$1 a day increase in wages.

# THE VALUE OF PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE

Personal knowledge is the winning factor in the culminating contests of this competitive age and when of ample character it places its fortunate possessor in the front ranks.

The Well Informed of the World.

A vast fund of personal knowledge is really essential to the achievement of the highest excellence in any field of human effort.

A Knowledge of Forms, Knowledge of Functions and Knowledge of Products are all of the utmost value and in questions of life and health when a true and wholesome remedy is desired it should be remembered that Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., is an ethical product which has met with the approval of the most eminent physicians and gives universal satisfaction, because it is a remedy of Known Quality, Known Excellence and Known Component Parts and has won the valuable patronage of millions of the Well Informed of the world, who know of their own personal knowledge and from actual use that it is the first and best of family laxatives, for which no extravagant or unreasonable claims are made.

This valuable remedy has been long and favorably known under the name of—Syrup of Figs—and has attained to world-wide acceptance as the most excellent family laxative. As its pure laxative principles, obtained from Senna, are well known to physicians and the Well Informed of the world to be the best we have adopted the more elaborate name of—Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna—as more fully descriptive of the remedy, but doubtlessly it will always be called for by the shorter name of—Syrup of Figs—and to get its beneficial effects, always note, when purchasing, the full name of the Company—California Fig Syrup Co.—printed on the front of every package, whether you call for—Syrup of Figs—or by the full name—Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna.

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