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### OPERA SEASON

### IS OPENED WITH GREAT SUCCESS

Robin Hood Staged and Sung in Excellent Style

Imperial Filled With Enthusiastic Audience to Greet Boston English Opera Co. — Favorites of Last Year and New Members Score Triumph.

Last evening spent with the Boston English Opera Company in the shades of Sherwood Forest with the bold Robin Hood and his bowmen will linger long in memory with St. John music lovers. It marked the triumphant return of this company, which had gained such a hold here on the initial visit last year. And the triumph was won not on former popularity alone but through sterling work. Friends and favorites of 1919 are still on the company's roster and there are new faces and charming personalities both among principals and chorus. There was special interest in the new members and there can be but one verdict, that they greatly strengthen the organization in comparison with last year.

DeKoven's Robin Hood proved a happy choice for the opening night. The Imperial was filled with a splendid audience ready to appreciate and commend the performance. The hearty, sustained applause, the many encores and the several curtain calls told their story as to that.

Joseph Sheehan was not in the cast

last evening, but his confrere, Ralph Brainerd, sang the title role as Robin Hood. It was his first appearance here and he carried his audience to enthusiasm over his rich tenor voice and his art in both singing and acting. He had several appealing solos and his clear, resonant tones were in happy blending with the other good voices in the many duets, trios, quartettes and choruses of this bright musical gem among operas. Mr. Brainerd scored a decided success throughout.

Bertram Gottra, one of last year's company, sang the part of the Sheriff of Nottingham. He made it a vehicle for capturing comedy work and his mellow bass voice was heard with pleasure in the music of the part. Mr. Gottra's "Sheriff" was the best he has yet given St. John.

A new male principal is Lynn Griffin. He played Sir Guy, the loutish aspirant to the title of Huntingdon, and did it well. He has a pleasing tenor voice and, as well, showed himself a good actor. One of the big welcomes of the night was that accorded to Stanley Deacon, who won everybody in the previous evening with his glorious baritone, his engaging manner and his acting capability. It must have pleased him greatly to hear the rousing applause he received. As Little John he sang the music in "Brown October Ale." This was given with a swagger and dash that won all. The long sustained note at the end recalled Martha of last year. Mr. Deacon seems to have the happy faculty of continuing over his work. One could get that he was enjoying it as much as were those beyond the footlights. He was heard with keen pleasure in the concert numbers as well as in his solos.

Harold J. Geis was warmly welcomed again. He played Will Scarlet. To him fell those fine solos "The Armorer's Song" and the "Old Cross Bow" and in each his voice and art were well displayed. They were well sung indeed, and his mellow and powerful voice was given good opportunity, which was taken advantage of greatly to the pleasure of all.

Wm. R. Northway, another favorite of last year, played "Friar Tuck" and a joyous soul he was. He gave a light touch to his work and was always popular. St. John greets Alice May Corley with acclaim. A contralto of excellent quality and range, she has added material strength to the musical equipment of the company and her captivating personality and stage presence completed her undoubted success on her initial appearance here. As Alan-a-dale, the audience enthused over her singing and acting and "O Promise Me" won an ovation. Her singing of this number was very fine, particularly in the second verse her rich voice and artistic rendering of the solo proved outstanding features of the evening. So, too, in the "Legend of the Chimes," Miss Corley has won St. John's musical people, of that doubt.

Another new member of the company, Miss Helene Morrill, soprano, was the cast as Maid Marian. Vivacious in her acting, she carried the part with excellent taste. Her voice is of very fine quality, rich and sweet and of much power. She had a good deal to do, and did it all with grace and charm. Her most taking number was in the forest scene where, to music accompaniment, her clear notes held everyone in tense interest and delight.

Miss Elaine DeSelle was heartily welcomed as Dame Pucelle. She was a favorite of last year and renewed her former success last evening in acting and singing. Miss Clara Shear, another new member, played her daughter Annabel. She is a charming actress with excellent voice and won her way to the favor of the audience.

In all, the company is stronger than last year. The chorus is large and trained artistically. The balance is excellent, the volume very large and they sing with precision and artistic taste. Robin Hood was splendidly staged, was costumed richly and with a large and very fine orchestra everything went with pleasing swing. It was a most enjoyable evening.

The company will repeat Robin Hood on Thursday evening and at the Saturday matinee. Now that St. John has heard it once, the reason of the double repeat is seen, for many more will want to hear it. Tonight will be I Pagliacci and Caverella Rusticana, with Mr. Sheehan, Hazel Eden and Mr. Deacon in principal roles.

### EPWORTH LEAGUE ELECTS OFFICERS

The annual meeting of the Epworth League of the Fairville Methodist church was held last night with the honorary president, Rev. Thomas Marshall, in the chair. After the usual reports were received, the balloting for officers for the year was conducted, resulting in Miss Hazel Kelly being elected president; Miss Edna Shaw, first vice-president; Miss Hazel Hinton, second vice-president; Miss Viola Craft, third vice-president; Miss Vivian McColgan, fourth vice-president; Robert Scott, fifth vice-president; Miss Stella Kirkpatrick, treasurer; Harry Sweet, secretary. Miss Gladys Shaw, the retiring president, addressed the meeting and was later complimented upon the success of her management during the year, the sum of \$128 having been raised and used for various social purposes.

### Australian Restrictions on Wool Exports

Sydney (N.S.W.), May 10.—Premier William Hughes submitted to the Central Wool Committee a scheme providing that the 1920 Australian wool clip shall not be exported prior to October, 1920, and that there shall be no auction sales of Australian wool in London from September, 1920, to May, 1921. He also has proposed that there shall be no auction sales in Australia until next October. The premier explained that the required control of the Australian wool clip could be exercised by retaining the customs regulations prohibiting the export of wool unless approved.

### SCHOOL BOARD FACES PROBLEM OF NEW BUILDINGS

An addition to the secretary's staff, an increase of a dollar a night to the male instructors of the evening classes in the city schools, a proposal that the scholars of the Millidgeville school be brought to the city schools and a consideration of the proposed sites of the new schools in Carleton and the North End, were among the matters before the board of school trustees at the regular meeting held last night.

Dr. A. F. Emery, chairman, presided and there were also present Mrs. E. R. Taylor, Mrs. Richard O'Brien, H. Colby Smith, Thomas Nagle, J. D. P. Lewis, George E. Day, E. H. W. Ingraham and Michael Coll.

Applications for positions on the local teaching staff were received from Miss Edna D. Shaw, J. B. Carr, Miss E. G. Peterson, Stanley S. Machum and Miss Gertrude Shay. These were received and filed.

An application for a position as janitor was received from William Harris, an original of the 26th Battalion. This was received and filed.

Resignations were accepted from Miss M. Constance Coster of Albert school; Miss Louella B. Chapman of Victoria Annex and Miss Cora A. Bennett of Albert school.

Notification was received from the D. S. C. R. hospital that Dr. J. D. Bond, janitor of the King Edward school, had been admitted on May 4 for treatment. Dr. Bridges reported that the janitor's wife is now doing most of her husband's work and that a man superintends the heating of the building.

The report of Secretary A. Gordon Leavitt was taken as read. In taking up the report of the finance committee, which met during the afternoon, the application of Miss Audrey Mullin of Newman street school, for a share of the increase granted the teachers, while she was absent on leave, was not approved.

The recommendation that a stenographer be employed to assist Secretary Leavitt and Miss Reed was left to the chairman and the secretary to report on.

The two teachers of the evening classes, who had not been considered in recent salary increases, were granted \$1 extra a night more; W. S. McDermott and Rex Cormier are the instructors.

Miss Harding, secretary of the Provincial Chapter, O. D. E., wrote that the Brunswick Chapter wished to donate a library to the La Tour school, West St. John on Empire Day, May 23. The matter was left to the visitors to that school and the superintendent.

Dr. Bridges reported on his recent visit with Dr. Emery to the Millidgeville school, finding everything in good condition but the outbuildings. There were fourteen pupils enrolled and ten in attendance, covering all grades from one to seven. Miss Jean McAfee is the teacher. There has been some difficulty in getting the teachers to board in Millidgeville. It has been suggested that the school be closed and the scholars brought to the city.

George E. Day reported progress on the matter of securing a site for the proposed new Newman street school, but considered the price asked by the landowners as high.

Dr. Emery said he preferred a site in Adelaide street.

The committee working on this matter was authorized to go into the subject further and report at a special meeting of the board in two weeks' time.

Mr. Day reported that it would cost from \$5,000 to \$10,000 to repair the roof and walls of the Winter street school. It was decided to have an architect draw up plans and specifications for all the improvements needed and call for tenders.

The chairman reported that the boys' playground in the High School yard was in very poor condition and would cost \$400 to put it in repair. He asked the members of the board to inspect it.

Mr. Day reported that the Dufferin school had gained some 1,200 square feet in a proposed exchange of land between the school trustees and Armstrong & Bruce.

The matter was left to the consideration of the building committee and the visitors to that school.

The visitors to the West End schools were given authority to go into the subject of property and lands in the West End, suitable for the erection of a new school building.

The secretary was authorized to notify the common council that there is a vacancy on the board, caused by the death of J. V. Russell, an appointee of the council.

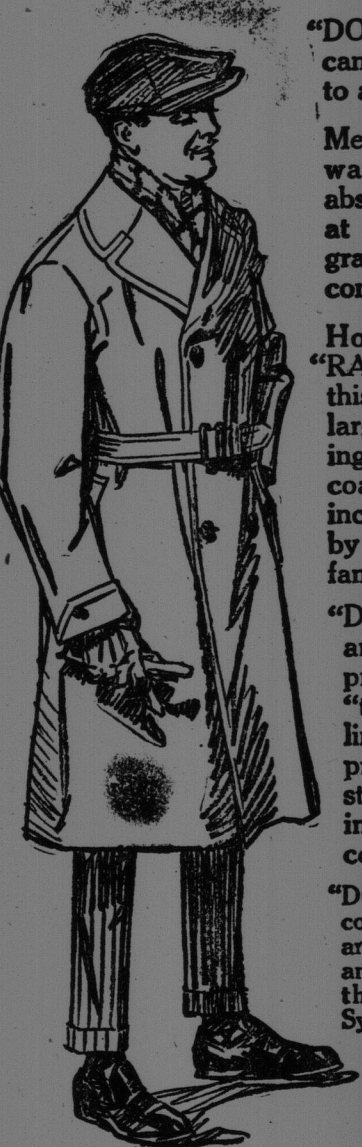
### EAST END LEAGUE

The East End Improvement League held a meeting last night in Thorne Lodge, with David Ramsay in the chair. There was a large attendance and a great deal of interest was shown in the work which is being done. It was announced that the St. John Clerical Association had kindly consented to present their minstrel show again for the benefit of the league. The show will be put on in St. Vincent's auditorium towards the last of the month.

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### Confession of Gluck, Head of Band of New York Messengers

(New York Times.)

In the most remarkable confession thus far obtained before United States Commissioner Alexander Gilchrist, Jr., in the secret hearings in the Arnsfeldt-Sullivan & Co. bankruptcy proceeding, Joseph Gluck, admitted leader of a band of dishonest messengers in the financial district, who stole more than \$1,500,000 worth of securities from brokerage houses in the last year, told of the organization of his band, the manner in which he delivered \$600,000 worth of the stolen securities to "Nicky" Arnsfeldt and "Nicky" Cohen, fugitives from justice, and the case with which the securities were obtained.

He said that out of the \$600,000 worth of securities he turned over to the master crooks, who later disposed of them through loans by banks and other brokerage houses to the brokerage house of David W. Sullivan & Co., of New York and Washington, he received only \$20,000 in cash, and admitted that out of that amount he gave only \$9,000 to the "boys" who actually stole the securities for him.

He said he organized his band of dishonest messengers before he met Arnsfeldt and Cohen a year ago this month, and revealed for the first time that a youth named Harry Wolf had obtained more than \$20,000 worth of stolen securities from him before Cohen was introduced to him by a middle-aged man

named "Bill" Stahl, whose home is in Plainfield avenue, Hoboken.

The witness also told another interesting incident in connection with a charge of extortion lodged against "Big Bill" Furey as the result of a visit Furey and a mysterious "Count Carrigan" made to the store kept by Gluck's father at Second avenue and Fifth street several months ago. Gluck swore before the grand jury that Furey and the "Count" posed as United States marshals at the time, and extorted from him an automobile, valued at \$2,700; a diamond ring valued at \$1,700, and \$2,000 in money, which he drew from the bank.

His confession revealed that the "Count" who is said to be a well known figure in the "white light" district, also got from him about \$85,000 worth of securities, which young Gluck had concealed in his father's store.

It is known that detectives throughout the country have been on the lookout

for the "Count," whom Gluck describes as a man about six feet tall, with a "very dignified appearance." He was frequenter of many of the hotels in the "white light" district, until he learned that Gluck had confessed. Then he disappeared.

### CONFESSED TO KILLING.

New York, May 10.—Benjamin Simmer, twenty-one, a telegraph messenger, entered the Bronx detective bureau today and confessed, the police said, to the killing of Patrolman Henry Immer of the Bronx Park station, February 2. The officer was shot five times while he attempted to arrest two men who he discovered robbing a store in the Bronx.

A case of liquor, consigned to a person who is not considered a resident of the city, was seized at the Canadian Express Company's office, King street, by Inspector Kerr yesterday afternoon.

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### MUTT AND JEFF—THERE'S SOME DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 80 VOLTS AND 10,000 VOLTS

By "BUD" FISHER

