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YSAVE, KING OF VIOLINISTS

Mansey Hall on Thursday Evening Next—His Farewell Visit.

The farewell visit of Ysave, the greatest violinist of the day, next Thursday evening, when he appears at Mansey Hall, giving an extremely interesting program, is arousing great anticipation among the music lovers.



well expressed in the following lines: "With singing heart I go to that land where falls no hail or snow. There everybody is happy—and no pain tears hearts that cry for ease, yet cry in vain. Above me hemlock boughs are whispering low. The love Pan taught them centuries ago, and apple orchards blanch to flower again. Their petals jeweled with heaven-sent April rain. As, spring herself comes dancing down his bow."

Miss Hope Morgan's Recital. Toronto's musical season will close with a farewell recital by Canada's famous soprano, Miss Hope Morgan. Her first appearance in this country before turning to England for her English season will be in Association Hall on Wednesday evening, April 4. Being preceded upon by her various friends and admirers, she has consented to give one more concert. This will give many the opportunity who were prevented from seeing her before. She shared the honor with Ysave in their joint concert at Mansey Hall recently. At one concert in St. James' Hall, London, it took two carriages to hold the flowers presented to her. The late Duke of Cambridge considered Miss Morgan the best soprano he had heard in recent years, and she was his favorite singer. One of Miss Morgan's coming appearances in England will be at Bamburgh Castle, on the occasion of the King's opening of the new almshouse at Newcastle. Miss Morgan will be the guest of Lord and Lady Armstrong, who are restoring the famous old castle. At a recital in Cannes, France, the Baroness of de ... was so carried away by Miss Morgan's singing that she pinned a diamond brooch on Miss Morgan's gown. The press of Great Britain and the continent, where she has appeared, have spoken in laudatory terms of Miss Morgan's wonderful voice, and many have been the offers tendered her to tour the world. Miss Morgan will be assisted by Herr Hans Dressel, cellist, and Howard Bright, baritone. Miss Morgan is under the direction of Dalton C. Nixon.

Murray Employes' Banquet. The second annual banquet of the Murray Publishing Company employes was held at the Headquarters Cafe Friday night. A pleasant time was spent in song and story, contributors to the program being Messrs. P. Booth, Sproule, Cooper, Clifford, Lively, Fisher, H. Booth, Lefebvre and Harding.

Glimpses of the Political Field

The short but racy history of the autonomy bill shows that at no time has the government been prepared to defend the measure on its merits. Cowardice has been the distinguishing feature of the introduction of the bill and of the later attempt to justify it. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was in the first place to introduce the bill before the general elections. He was afraid when he began the preparation of the bill to subject it to the full scrutiny of a full cabinet. He had it prepared at a time when two of his most powerful colleagues were absent. He introduced it to the house in a speech which conveyed no suspicion of the fact that public lands and public moneys were to be handed over to the support of separate schools.

When the storm broke forth there were two ways by which a strong and courageous prime minister might have tested public opinion as to the merits of the autonomy bill. He might have proceeded at once to appoint a successor to Hon. Clifford Sifton, thus opening up a constituency, or he might have appointed Hon. Charles Hyman minister of public works, a position which he has been filling almost uninterruptedly for the past two years, and sounded public sentiment in London. Sir Wilfrid has not had the courage to do any of these things. The most obnoxious of the separate school clauses were sneaked into the bill; the bill itself was sneaked thru the cabinet in the absence of those ministers who were most competent to pronounce upon it. Now it is being sneaked thru parliament in the absence of a minister of the interior and without that expression of public opinion which could be at once obtained by requiring a responsible minister to go back to his constituency for election.

The tactics of the ministry in connection with the bill are similar to those employed by the hierarchy which inspired it. "Lie low" was the motto of Sir Wilfrid Laurier when he found that he would have to deal with the question of autonomy for the territories. He gave the public no idea of what he proposed to do. Later, when he introduced the bill he endeavored in the most subtle way to convey to the public the impression that the minority in the west was getting nothing more than that which it enjoyed under the Northwest Territories Act of 1875. "Lie low" was the motto of Archbishop Langevin of St. Boniface thru the long years in which he was studying ways and means of securing separate schools and endowments of public lands and money for the minority for all time. He discouraged rather than assisted the establishment of separate schools in the territories, so that to-day there are less than a dozen Catholic separate schools in the territory which is about to be converted into provinces. Such was Archbishop Langevin's game. He wanted to go govern the situation that when autonomy was granted to the territories the government at Ottawa could point out that there were only a handful of separate schools in the territories and that they were far superior to the separate schools in other provinces. This argument has been played for all it is worth by defenders of the autonomy bill now before the house. Once separate schools are assured for all time to the minority of Alberta and Saskatchewan, there will be a different kind of separate schools out there and they will multiply with marvelous rapidity. Archbishop Langevin is commonly believed to be a hot-head, but in this case his policy has been clever and far seeing. He has waited his time to inaugurate parochial schools in the northwest, and it would appear that the time has just about arrived.

The Quebec Liberals are as puzzled over Sir Wilfrid Laurier's method of preparing the autonomy bill as members on the other side of the house. They freely admit that it was a high-handed piece of business to prepare and introduce the bill without consulting Fielding and Sifton, and without calling a caucus of Ontario members. All week feeling against the prime minister ran high among his Ontario followers. They were somewhat appeased by an assurance quietly circulated among them that Sir Wilfrid Laurier did not know himself that the separate school clauses were so comprehensive. They were given to understand that the settled policy of the government was to give the minority of the territories simply what they enjoyed under the act of 1875 that Hon. Charles A. Fitzpatrick was instructed to draft a bill in accordance with this policy, and that Mr. Fitzpatrick did something else. The Ontario members have thus been partially pacified at the expense of the popularity of the minister of justice. The explanation is not a very strong one. If Mr. Fitzpatrick did persuade the prime minister and other members of the cabinet that the bill went no further than the act of 1875, he must have a very poor opinion of the shrewdness of his colleagues. The explanation, if admitted, would make a sorry spectacle of Sir William Mulock and Hon. William Paterson, who was supposed to be keeping watch of the interests in the majority in the preparation of the bill. It is in short too much to believe. The cabinet as far as it was represented, knew what was being done and knew, moreover, why it was being done. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has for several days been trying to convince his western followers that the bill before the house confers no privileges on the minority which it does not already enjoy. He did not find them ready customers for gold bricks, and he was finally compelled to make some alterations. Mr. Fitzpatrick is not to blame. He did only what was determined in cabinet council; he should do it. It is further evidence of the cowardly tactics resorted to from the inception of the bill that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is trying to save his face with his supporters on Ontario, Nova Scotia and the west, by charging Charles A. Fitzpatrick with treachery to his trust.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE

Matinees Wednesday and Saturday. EVGS. Best Seats 75c, 50c, 25c. MATS. Best Seats 25c, Few Rows 50c.

WILSON BARRETT'S GREAT LENTEN PLAY THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

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NEXT WEEK—ADELAIDE THURSTON IN POLLY PRIMROSE—NEXT WEEK

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Whatever modification of the autonomy bill has been agreed upon, the revised clauses will not be made public until they are submitted to the house on the second reading of the bill. Some Ontario and western Liberals think substantial modifications have been made. They will soon find out their mistake. The week has been spent in an exchange of clauses which represents a mere quibbling over words. Mr. Fitzpatrick has rejected every overture from the westerners which meant a clear-cut cancellation of the section ending separate schools with public lands and money. If at last he has accepted a clause drafted by the westerners, or if the westerners have accepted a clause prepared by Mr. Fitzpatrick, the public may rest assured that the revised section has a sting in it somewhere. The compromise which Mr. Fitzpatrick and the western Liberals have tentatively agreed upon may be circuitous—but it will lead just where the section in its original clause led to. Mr. Fitzpatrick is a man of brilliant

legal attainments and rare cunning. He could twist nine-tenths of the lawyers of the house around his little finger, in juggling with legal phrases and make them think they had got the better of him. What can the western Liberals, unaided by expert legal ability, hope to do with such a man. They were foolish to ever begin the game of bandying legal phrases with the minister of justice. They should have made it known that the only way of remedying the clause was to cut it out altogether. When they undertook to engage in legal battle with Mr. Fitzpatrick they left themselves open to the fleeing which they get in the so-called compromise.

The government would be glad if in the future over section 3 of the separate schools clause the public would forget that the real principle of the bill remains unchanged. The principle of the bill is only indirectly related to the section which endows separate schools with public lands and money. The principle of the bill turns on the right of the new Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan to be their own masters in the conduct of their educational affairs, a right which is being violated by the terms of the autonomy bill. Extreme partisans from Ontario, Nova Scotia and the west are trying to make themselves believe that the only terrible part of the bill is that which gives separate schools a claim on public funds. They say they are willing that the minority should retain what it has provided it gets no more. This position is not tenable. If the Dominion has a right to establish separate schools in the new provinces, it has a right to provide for the maintenance of the schools. To establish the schools and at the same time make the starvation of the schools possible would be a piece of open hypocrisy. The minority with some reason might regard it as a gross breach of faith. The point is that the Dominion should not interfere at all in the educational affairs of the new provinces. That is the real issue, that is the only issue. Interference which fastens separate schools on the new provinces for all time is to be condemned more than interference which gives those schools a share of public support. One is stealing from the liberties of the public, the other is stealing from its pockets. The iniquity of section 3 of the separate schools clause is altogether apart from the great question of provincial rights which is now before parliament. The autonomy bill will continue to be objectionable so long as the question of education is re-

ferred to directly or indirectly in its clauses. Sir Wilfrid's chief difficulty in forcing the autonomy bill thru parliament will be from Ontario and the west. The difficulty will be less marked if Hon. Clifford Sifton can be induced to support the compromise clauses. The Ontario and western Liberals are watching Mr. Sifton closely. They think they can vote in safety for the bill if Mr. Sifton votes for it. If the former minister of the interior declines to accept the compromise, then Sir Wilfrid will have more trouble with the Ontario and western Liberals than he can well take care of. Much has been said of a possible complication of the crisis from Nova Scotia, but the Nova Scotian end of the country does not look equally. Trouble will come only from that quarter in the event of Mr. Fielding opposing himself to the bill, and there is nothing to point to such a danger. The Nova Scotian Liberals can vote for the autonomy bill much more safely than the Ontario Liberals. Logan of Cumberland, McDonald of Pictou, and possibly Lawrence of Colchester would be the only members likely to suffer for supporting the bill. The only apprehension the Nova Scotians have arises from the fact that protests are hanging over the whole eighteen of them. They may therefore be summoned to speedy judgment for their votes, unlike members from the other provinces who in the natural course of events will not have to face the people for another four years.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's failure to appoint a successor to Hon. Clifford Sifton is not less deserving of censure because cabinet material is scarce in the west. Where one man does not clearly and admittedly rise above other claimants to a portfolio a selection is difficult and dangerous. No man stands out in the west as distinctly pre-eminent. Walter Scott thinks he is as strong as Frank Oliver, Frank Oliver thinks he is as strong as Walter Scott, and Senator William Templeman thinks he is the equal of either of them. Templeman, the minister without portfolio for several years, has really occupied a position of degradation in the cabinet. He has never been given charge of a department during the absence of the regular minister, tho this is an honor usually accorded to ministers without portfolio. But Templeman has borne the humiliation meekly. He has been content to be the laughing stock of Parliament Hill. But now that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is confronted with the duty

of selecting a new minister of the interior, Templeman has bestirred himself and Liberals from the coast are backing his claims. British Columbia is getting very impatient over its lack of cabinet representation at Ottawa. The British Columbia delegation is emphasizing this fact to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and is pointing out furthermore that it would be safer to open a constituency in British Columbia than in Manitoba or the territories. These arguments might have some weight if Templeman was competent to fill the office which Sifton has vacated. There is sufficient doubt on this point to make the portfolio of the interior a choice between Oliver and Scott. One of these westerners will be taken into the cabinet with the chances somewhat in favor of the latter.

THE NEW EMPIRE—NEW YORK CITY.

The Hotel Empire, Broadway, Empire Square and 63rd-street, New York, so well and favorably known to the readers of this paper, has just completed improvements which make it, in every sense, a new hotel. The house has been practically rebuilt, new plumbing and new bath rooms having been put in. The building has been re-wired, and new electric light plant and fixtures have been installed. The house has been redecorated from cellar to roof, and every room in the building is newly and richly furnished. In fact, nothing has been left undone to make the Empire one of the most attractive, homelike and delightful hotels in the world. Every room has a telephone, electric clock and automatic lighting device. The Empire has always been noted for its excellent restaurant, good cooking and moderate charges. The rooms are large, beautifully furnished, and the rates are very reasonable. The hotel is very centrally located, within two minutes' walk of two subway and two elevated stations. All street cars either pass or transfer to the Empire, and any part of the city can be reached for one fare. It is within easy walking distance of the principal theatres and great department stores. Three of the newest and safest theatres in New York are within four minutes' walk. Readers of this paper visiting the Metropolitan will find no more desirable hotel to stop at than the Hotel Empire, which still continues as it has during the past few years, under the management of Mr. W. Johnson Quinn.

New Joint Stock Companies.

New joint stock companies have been chartered by the Ontario Government, as follows: The Dominion De Forest Wireless Telegraph Company, Ottawa; capital, \$1,200,000; directors, L. J. Lemieux, F. J. Humphrey, J. Cardinal and A. and E. Brassard. The Ontario & Quebec Navigation Company, Picton; capital, \$50,000. The Peninsular Tool & Specialty Company, Windsor; \$25,000. The Niagara Falls Grocery Company, Niagara Falls; capital, \$15,000. The People's Telegraph & Telephone Company, Maynooth; capital, \$40,000. The Essex Canning & Preserving Company, Toronto; capital, \$100,000. The Meaford Wheelbarrow Company; capital, \$60,000. The Foster Company, general merchants, Richards' Landing; capital, \$25,000. The J. T. Thompson Company, manufacturers of and dealers in tinware, St. Catharines; capital, \$50,000. The E. F. Mason Company, Peterborough, grocers and confectioners; capital, \$40,000.

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EVGS. 15, 25, 35, 50. MATINEES 15 and 25

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NEXT WEEK—"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY"—NEXT WEEK