

MUSIC AND DRAMA

THE Henry Miller Associate Players in "The Servant in the House," whose extraordinary success at the Savoy Theatre, New York, is a matter of theatrical history, come to the Princess Theatre, Toronto, on February 1st for a week's engagement. This superior organisation and Mr. Charles Rann Kennedy's now famous drama should find warm welcome in Toronto. "The Servant in the House," by those remarkable qualities of thought, symbolism, originality and dramatic intensity, and that moral and spiritual uplift which characterise it, caused New York and Chicago critics to call it "the greatest drama of the generation" and "a work of art simple enough and sincere enough to touch the heart of the world." Mr. Kennedy's masterpiece comes to Canada after having received the unqualified endorsement of those supposedly anti-theatrical forces, the clergy, as well as the general play-loving public. No play ever before earned the commendation of being a tremendous moral and religious influence, while at the same time being an absorbing dramatic entertainment. The cast to be seen in Toronto is exactly the same as that of the Savoy Theatre, New York, including Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, Miss Mabel Moore, Mr. Walter Hampden, Mr. Tyrone Power, Mr. Arthur Lewis, Mr. Ben Field and Mr. Frank Mills.



Miss Edith Wynne Matthison

DR. HAM and the Executive Committee of the National Chorus have received widespread congratulations on the success of the two concerts given in Massey Hall, Toronto, last week. The chorus has attained the strength and beauty of tone which it has not equalled before and the interpretation is increasingly discriminating and musically. Miss Margaret Keyes proved as finished in artistic performance and as gratifying in temperamental charm as on her first appearance in Toronto at the Caruso concert. The New York Symphony Orchestra, under Mr. Walter Damrosch, was more magnetic than ever and proved its place anew in public appreciation. Toronto citizens gave a warm reception to both chorus and orchestra, recognising the success of Dr. Ham in building up this organisation and securing for his concerts such excellent metropolitan artists. Miss Helen Davies, the soprano soloist, a Peterborough pupil of the conductor, added to the laurels won two years ago.

THE evening of "Dramatic Episodes," to be given in Conservatory of Music Hall, Toronto, on Wednesday, February third by Mr. Sauter and Mr. R. S. Pigott, promises un-

usual interest. Two little plays will be introduced, the first a farce by Mr. Sauter called "The Prize," the other, "The Course of True Love," described as a Pierrot playlet, suggested by "L'Enfant Prodigieux," the pantomime which first brought Debussy, the French composer, before the world and gained him the Prix de Rome. Another interesting feature will be "The Vision of Sidney Carton" from "The Tale of Two Cities," given as a tableau vignette with music. Miss Margaret Pigott and Miss Laura Hughes will present monologues; Miss Brenda Smellie will recite the text of the Bjornson-Grieg melodrama, "Bergliot," and Miss Kenny will sing in costume, songs from popular light operas. Mr. Russell Marshall will be at the piano.

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THE plan for subscribers to the cycle of Mendelssohn Choir concerts opened this week at Massey Hall, Toronto, with the promptness and dexterity of arrangement which always characterise the dealings of the Executive Committee for this chorus. The interesting fact is revealed that about twenty per cent. of the subscribers are out-of-town patrons, many of them, indeed, coming from the United States. Last year, there were visitors from Cleveland, Rochester and Boston, who went back to Ohio, New York and Massachusetts, with tales of the Mendelssohn Choir and the great little man who leads it. These concerts have come to be recognised as international in importance and Dr. Vogt has no firmer friends and admirers than those across the border. With each year the public interest becomes more keen and vibrant, until the first night seems like an ovation to a victorious commander. It seems curious now, to look back to the first "Mendelssohn" concerts, good as they were, and compare them with the five nights of choral splendour which make February a memorable month in our musical calendar.

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THE matter of a national anthem is the cause of some speculation. The Toronto Mail and Empire comments editorially on our lack of this institution, admitting that Judge Weir's recent attempt to render Judge Routhier's "O Canada!" in English is not sufficiently robust. The editor concludes:

"We have not a national song yet. We certainly have not one that appeals to all classes and all origins with equal force. But we have in the tune of 'O Canada,' which combines sweetness with strength, the foundation for such a production. With perhaps a slight alteration Judge Routhier's verses could be made of general application, and then we should have both language and music that would be acceptable. To those who have the divine gift the opportunity to become famous by providing the verses ought to be very precious."

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MADAME NAZIMOVA has been booked by the Shuberts recently for a special engagement of three days at the Princess Theatre, Toronto, beginning on February 11th. This brilliant Russian artist will bring to Toronto her Bijou Theatre company and the special stage settings and effects necessary for her English repertoire. It is expected that the latter will include "The Doll's House," "Hedda Gabler," and her New York comedy success, "Comtesse Coquette."



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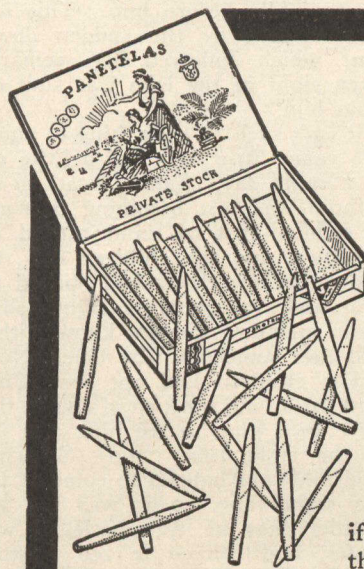
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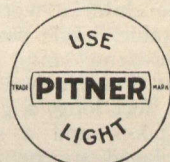
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